

University of Rhode Island IBC

MEETING MINUTES

July 15, 2026

Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order on July 15, 2026 at 10:00 AM and a quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE

Voting Members Present:

Ruitang Deng
Megan Dyer
Robert Ireland
Heather McClary
John McLane
Louise Paquin
Alan Rothman

Non-Voting Attendees, Staff and Guests Present:

Gwen Currier
Elizabeth Nadeau
Allison Jedson

Recording:

Gwen Currier

Voting Members Absent:

Jennifer Beninson
Joel Chandlee
Alessandra Adami

ITEMS

- 1 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
No items.
- 2 **Next Meeting Date and General Announcements**
August 12, 2026 @ 10am via Zoom.

- 2.1 **IBC members must not review, participate in the discussion of, or vote upon any research protocol for which they have a conflict of interest (COI) other than to provide requested information.**

3 Review of Previous Minutes

Review Type: Full Committee Review
Action: Approved
Effective Date: July 15, 2026
Vote: Total = 6; For = 6; Opposed = 0; Abstained = 0;

3.1 June 10 2026 IBC Minutes

Discussion and Remarks:

RI moved to approve minutes as written.

4 Continuing Education

No items.

5 New Studies

No items.

6 Revisions

No items.

7 Renewals

No items.

8 Amendments

8.1 [992933-14] Improve influenza vaccine efficacy with novel delivery and adjuvants

PI: xinyuan chen
Reference Number: BI1617-005
Submission Type: Amendment/Modification

Review Type: Full Committee Review
Action: Modifications Required
Effective Date: July 15, 2026
Project Status: Active
Project Expiration: January 25, 2027
Vote: Total = 7; For = 7; Opposed = 0; Abstained = 0;

Primary Reviewer: Ruitang Deng
Secondary Reviewer: John McLane

Discussion and Remarks:

Biosafety Level: BSL-1, BSL-2, ABSL-1, ABSL-2

NIH Guidelines Section(s): III-D

MD entered at 10:02 a.m.

The PI proposed to add one H1N1 and two H3N2 influenza viruses as well as mRNA vaccines. These mRNA vaccines will encode conserved influenza viral antigens. The PI also proposed to add rDNA based on a NIH just-in-time funding opportunity for a new project. This new project will be used to construct and express influenza conserved antigen-displayed FH VLPs. Influenza viruses listed in this protocol have relatively low pathogenicity and can be handled at BSL2 and ABSL2 conditions. mRNA molecules listed in this protocol pose minimal risks to human or animal health and can be safely handled in BSL1 and ABSL1 environment. Influenza virus inoculation into embryonic eggs, isolation and purification of influenza virus, influenza virus assays, nasal infection of influenza viruses in mice, handling of cages containing infected mice will all be handled in a biological safety cabinet.

There were some questions regarding how host cells provided by Trilink Biotechnology will be customized and how quality checks will be performed before using them. The PI should include this information. The PI should also clarify whether influenza vaccination is recommended on an annual basis for personnel using these agents. A motion was made to approve the amendment with minor modifications.

RD moved to approve pending modification.

9 Other Submissions

No items.

10 Adverse Events

No items.

11 Other Business

No items.

12 Office of Research Integrity Updates

No items.

13 New Protocols or Renewals Approved by Expedited or Full Board Review

No items.

13.1 [2389985-3] IBC: Development of biomaterial drug delivery systems

PI: Ting-Yu Shih, PhD

Reference Number: BI2526-012

Submission Type: New Project

Review Type: Full Committee Review
Action: Approved
Effective Date: April 20, 2026
Project Status: Active
Project Expiration: April 20, 2031

14 Amendments Approved by Expedited Review or Full Board Review

14.1 [2415508-2] SweetPea Trial (IBC)

PI: Brietta Oaks
Reference Number: BI2526-016
Submission Type: New Project

Review Type: Expedited Review
Action: Approved
Effective Date: April 10, 2026
Project Status: Active
Project Expiration: April 10, 2031

14.2 [2447582-1] Mutagenesis of metal handling genes using CRISPR/Cas9

PI: Caitlin Murdoch, PhD
Reference Number: BI2526-018
Submission Type: New Project

Review Type: Expedited Review
Action: Modifications Required
Effective Date: May 28, 2026
Project Status: Deferred - Modifications Required

14.3 [2144229-7] Stereotactic injections of modified AAV in rabbits

PI: Katharina Quinlan, PhD
Reference Number: BI2324-006
Sponsor: NIH
Submission Type: Amendment/Modification

Review Type: Expedited Review
Action: Modifications Required
Effective Date: June 29, 2026
Project Status: Active
Project Expiration: April 2, 2029

14.4 [2171363-4] Stereotaxic injection of recombinant AAV in mice

PI: Marin Manuel, PhD
Reference Number: BI2324-007
Submission Type: Amendment/Modification

Review Type: Expedited Review
Action: Modifications Required
Effective Date: June 30, 2026
Project Status: Active
Project Expiration: June 28, 2029

15 Administrative Approvals

15.1 [2089846-5] Impact of Waterbirds on Fecal Coliform Levels at Floating Gear Oyster Aquaculture Operations.

PI: Marta Gomez-Chiarri
Reference Number: BI2324-001
Sponsor: NRAC
Submission Type: Amendment/Modification

Review Type: Administrative Review
Action: Approved
Effective Date: June 30, 2026
Project Status: Active
Project Expiration: December 17, 2028

16 Terminations

16.1 [1701971-3] Influence of Inflammatory Immune Responses on Gene Expression Biodosimetry

PI: Michael Antosh
Reference Number: BI2021-004
Submission Type: Closure/Final Report

Review Type: Administrative Review
Action: Closed
Effective Date: April 13, 2026
Project Status: Closed - Project Complete

16.2 [1694171-3] Nutrition and Women Shellfishers (USAID) IBC

PI: Brietta Oaks
Reference Number: BI2021-005
Submission Type: Closure/Final Report

Review Type: Administrative Review
Action: Closed
Effective Date: May 22, 2026
Project Status: Closed

16.3 **[1322878-3] Magnesium intake and the risk of Type 2 Diabetes among women of reproductive age in Ghana**

PI: Brietta Oaks, PhD
Reference Number: BI1819-005
Submission Type: Closure/Final Report

Review Type: Administrative Review
Action: Closed
Effective Date: May 22, 2026
Project Status: Closed

16.4 **[1360552-8] PHAN Study (IBC)**

PI: Brietta Oaks, PhD
Reference Number: BI1819-008
Submission Type: Closure/Final Report

Review Type: Administrative Review
Action: Closed
Effective Date: May 22, 2026
Project Status: Closed

16.5 **[1778409-2] Method Comparison of Salivary and Hair Cortisol Concentrations - IBC**

PI: Brietta Oaks, Ph.D., MPH
Reference Number: BI2021-008
Submission Type: Closure/Final Report

Review Type: Administrative Review
Action: Closed
Effective Date: May 22, 2026
Project Status: Closed

17 **Adjournment**

Review Type: Full Committee Review
Action: Approved
Effective Date: July 15, 2026
Vote: Total = 7; For = 7; Opposed = 0; Abstained = 0;

Discussion and Remarks:

LP moved to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned on July 15, 2026 at 10:13am.