

University of Rhode Island IBC

MEETING MINUTES

October 15, 2025

Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order on October 15, 2025 at 10:02 AM and a quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE

Voting Members Present:

Alessandra Adami
Joel Chandlee
Megan Dyer
Robert Ireland
Heather McClary
John McLane
Alan Rothman

Non-Voting Attendees, Staff and Guests Present:

Gwen Carrier
Allison Jedson

Recording:

Heather McClary

ITEMS

1 Welcome and Opening Remarks

2 Next Meeting Date and General Announcements

2.1 Next meeting date 11/12/2025 via Zoom if needed

2.2 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.

2.3 Welcome new members!

New members Alessandra Adami, Jack McLane, and Robert Ireland were introduced

3 Review of Previous Minutes

3.1 September 9, 2025 minutes

Review Type: Full Committee Review
Action: Approved
Effective Date: October 15, 2025
Vote: Total = 7; For = 3; Opposed = 0; Abstained = 4;

Discussion and Remarks:

Members that were not present at September meeting abstained from voting. Motion by JC to approve.

4 Continuing Education

No items

5 New Studies

5.1 [2290914-1] Pathogen detection and immunological characterization of wild birds

PI: Johanna Harvey, PhD
Reference Number: BI2526-008
Submission Type: New Project

Review Type: Full Committee Review
Action: Modifications Required
Effective Date: October 27, 2025
Project Status: Deferred - Modifications Required
Vote: Total = 7; For = 7; Opposed = 0; Abstained = 0;
Primary Reviewer: Jennifer Beninson
Secondary Reviewer: Megan Dyer

Discussion and Remarks:

BSL / ABSL / BSL-P: BSL-2

NIH Guidelines Section(s): N/A

New protocol investigating wild bird (waterfowl, shorebirds, and turkey) diseases and immunological responses, specifically host gene expression responses to infection (including HPAI) and other stressors. This is a collaboration with other institutions; Dr. Harvey's portion is bird swabbing, blood collection, and sample analysis.

Committee discussed narrowing down of potential species (to narrow down potential zoonoses). More details about PPE for field research are needed, as well as details about what agents / samples will be manipulated where. Committee discussed frequency and treatment of HPAI positive samples. The accompanying IACUC protocol will be reviewed this month. Several online trainings need to be completed. Several SOPs need to be updated / created / clarified.

Motion by MD to approve pending modifications.

5.2 [2368715-1] Engineered *Clostridium novyi*-NonToxic for Therapeutic Applications

PI: Kaitlin Dailey, PhD

Reference Number: BI2526-009

Submission Type: New Project

Review Type: Full Committee Review

Action: Modifications Required

Effective Date: October 27, 2025

Vote: Total = 7; For = 7; Opposed = 0; Abstained = 0;

Primary Reviewer: Heather McClary

Secondary Reviewer: Joel Chandlee

Discussion and Remarks:

BSL / ABSL / BSL-P:BSL-2

NIH Guidelines Section(s): TBD

New protocol to develop novel therapeutics for pancreatic cancer and solid tumors using oncolytic bacteria, specifically *C. novyi* non-toxic (cannot cause sepsis and bacteremia). PI will use CRISPR/CAS system to modify surface and secretion proteins to understand and modulate oncolytic activity.

Committee requested more information about spore and cell analysis and genetic modifications. PI also needs to provide more details about BSL-2 practices, PPE, waste inactivation, antibiotic/aerobic sensitivity testing, and transportation. More information about human cells (IRB oversight, storage term, MTA) needed. NIH Guidelines Section III-A does not apply here.

Motion by HM to approve pending modifications.

5.3 [2370179-1] Antibiotics Discovery from Marine Mollusk Symbionts

PI: Bailey Miller, PhD

Reference Number: BI2526-010

Submission Type: New Project

Review Type: Full Committee Review

Action: Modifications Required

Effective Date: October 15, 2025

Project Status: Deferred - Modifications Required

Vote: Total = 7; For = 7; Opposed = 0; Abstained = 0;

Primary Reviewer: Joel Chandlee

Secondary Reviewer: Heather McClary

Discussion and Remarks:

BSL / ABSL / BSL-P: BSL-2

NIH Guidelines Section(s): III-F

New protocol to discover novel antibiotics from isolates shipworm symbionts, using pathogenic bacterial strains for antibiotic screening.

Committee discussed potential pathogenicity of collected symbionts. rDNA work does NOT invoke pathogenicity (this was a typo), but committee requested more information about the process and analysis of outcomes. NIH Guidelines Section III-A does not apply here. Online trainings and SOPs need to be completed / updated. Clarification requested RE: what work is conducted in BSC (certification date needed).

Motion by JC to approve pending modifications.

6 Revisions

No items

7 Renewals

No items

8 Amendments

No items

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 Full Board or Expedited Review

13.1 [2335633-2] Evaluation of antimicrobial activities of molecules from natural sources

PI: David Rowley, PhD

Reference Number: BI2526-001

Submission Type: New Project

Review Type: Full Committee Review

Action: Approved

Effective Date: September 9, 2025
Project Status: Active
Project Expiration: September 9, 2030

13.2 **[336295-17] IBC: Use of human primary cells, cell lines, gene delivery and COVID-19 Research Specimens**

PI: Angela Slitt
Reference Number: BI1314-007
Submission Type: Continuing Review/Progress Report

Review Type: Full Committee Review
Action: Approved
Effective Date: October 1, 2025
Project Status: Active
Project Expiration: May 14, 2030

13.3 **[2349013-2] Female Energy Deficiency (fED) Project Follow-Up: 6-Month Outcomes of a Relative Energy Deficiency in Sport Education Program in Collegiate Female Athletes**

PI: Christie Ward-Ritacco
Reference Number: BI2526-004
Submission Type: New Project

Review Type: Full Committee Review
Action: Approved
Effective Date: October 1, 2025
Project Status: Active
Project Expiration: October 1, 2030

14 **Amendments Approved by Full Board or Expedited Review**

No items

15 **Administrative Approvals**

No items

16 **Terminations**

No items

17 **Adjournment**

Review Type: Full Committee Review
Action: Approved
Effective Date: October 15, 2025
Vote: Total = 7; For = 7; Opposed = 0; Abstained = 0;

Discussion and Remarks:

MD moved to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned on October 15, 2025 at 11:15 AM.