

Institutional Biosafety Committee

***Binghamton University***

***Meeting Minutes for***

***May 18, 2026***

**Approved:07/29/2026**

Attendees: Kelly Donovan, James Sobel, Karin Sauer, Lori Cole, Cláudia N. H. Marques  
Florence Varodayan, Sha Jin

Excused: Suzin Webb, Bridget Mc Cane-Saunders, Jeff Oliver

Guest: Heather Bragg (non-voting)

Recording secretary: Nancy Lewis (non-voting)

Note: K. Sauer left the meeting at 10:30; K. Donovan left the meeting at 10:46

- I. Call to order- IBC Chair Cláudia N. H. Marques called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. The Chair welcomed Florence Varodayan to the committee with appreciation for the expertise in animals and viruses that she brings to the IBC.
- II. Approval of agenda- Review of Insect Cell Based Protein Expression (020BIO00000276-PI Minfei Su) was added to the agenda. A motion to approve was made by L. Cole, seconded by C.N.H. Marques, and approved without dissent.
- III. Approval of minutes from April 10th, 2026-. A motion to approve as written was made by C.N.H. Marques, seconded by L. Cole, and approved without dissent.
- IV. Overview of active protocols-Nancy Lewis  
  
There are 71 active protocols  
Since April 10, 2026, 4 new protocols, 6 CRs, and 1 amendment were approved. 2 protocols were closed.
- V. Report from IBC Chair- Cláudia N. H. Marques  
  
Discussions are ongoing with LAR on facilitating ABSL 2 work with rats in Science V.
- VI. Report from BSO (John Kelly Donovan)  
  
Serum bank in Science III (Garruto lab) have been consolidated and in final clean up stages with all samples being either related or disposed, as appropriate.

## VII. New Items

### 1. AMEND202600000016:Amendment for 020BIO000000206 PI- Lisa Savage

The AVP for RESC, IBC Chair, and AV met with the PI to discuss the protocol which will be a pilot study involving 6 rats (4 experimental + 2 control) for data collection and grant proposal resubmission. The PI provided supporting documents and SOPs for committee consideration. The protocol involves injecting lentivirus into rats in a manner involving shp75NTR or shSCR (that requires ABSL 2 throughout the study (approximately 1 month)). The IBC reviewed all documents, discussed the protocol, guidance documents, and processes that would need to be implemented.

The PI will be instructed that the following modifications to the SOP provided by the PI and within in the protocol, as necessary, are to be submitted for review:

- Disposable caging with top secured closures is to be used.
- The PI is to consult with the Biosafety Officer and the AV on processes.
- PI and lab staff are responsible for cage changing and husbandry throughout this pilot study. Note that LAR staff will be trained after this pilot study has concluded at the determination of the AV and Biosafety Officer.
- A biosafety cabinet is to be relocated to the dedicated ABSL 2 animal (rat) room.
- Carcass disposal is to be in marked Biohazard bags.
- Room to be clearly marked as ABSL 2.
- It is to be noted throughout the protocol that all procedures are to be under ABSL 2. SOPS are to be updated to include all above processes at ABSL 2.

A motion was made by C.N.H. Marques to conditionally approve the study after modifications the (listed above) are successfully submitted for Designated Review and final approval. Designated reviewers will be the IBC Chair, AV/IBC member, Biosafety Officer/IBC member, and AVP RESC/IO. The motion was seconded by L. Cole and approved without dissent.

### 2. Safety Manual for Cell Culture 2026 (020BIO000000271) PI- Yizeng Li

This new protocol involves multiple cells line, plasmid insertion, and *E. coli* as one of the cell lines is classified as BSL 2, the entire protocol and processes are to be treated as BSL 2. S. Jin had no concerns. A motion to approve as submitted was made by C.N.H. Marques, seconded by L. Cole, and approved without dissent.

### 3. Host-streptococci interactions 2025 (AMEND202600000018) PI-Laura Cook

The amendment was submitted to add several pathogenic organisms for use in mice under ABSL 2. The PIs provide all SDS. S. Jin had no concerns. A motion to approve as submitted was made by C.N.H. Marques, seconded by L. Cole, and approved without dissent.

#### 4. Insect Cell Based Protein Expression (020BIO00000276) PI-Minfei Su

This new protocol involves use of plasmid transfection in cell lines and rDNA work with insects. C. N.H. Marques voiced no concerns with regard to human exposure and classified as BSL 1. A motion to approve as submitted was made by C.N.H. Marques, seconded by S. Jin, and approved without dissent.

#### 5. Review of current CR, initial protocol and amendments submissions (Nancy Lewis)

- 7 under review
- 4 in committee review, 1 pending clarification requested by the Chair
- 1 resubmission (exempt) pending approval (PI needs to complete OSHA BBP training and has been notified)
- 1 amendment-personnel changes only

#### 6. Committee construct

H. Bragg informed that OH&S representative on the IBC is retiring and that the committee position be held open until the replacement is hired.

H. Bragg informed one of the community members on the IBC is resigning and that the committee members assist in identifying potential replacements.

### VIII. Follow-up Items/Open Discussion

1. BSC-BME Science V 114-Nancy Lewis informed the IBC that Dr. Rao has been assigned this BSC by BME Chair Mahler

### IX. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn as submitted was made by C.N.H. Marques, seconded by J. Sobel, and approved without dissent. The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.