

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date	09/05/2025
Meeting Location	Zoom
General Notes	The meeting was convened by the IBC Chair at 11:02 AM. The committee members introduced themselves. Lindsey Caesar - Amendment to Protocol # 10 (23-3544) Title: Fungal Collection, Growth, and Extraction Substances: Aspergillus brasiliensis CBS 101.740; RG-1; BSL-1 Aspergillus nidulans FGSC A4 ; RG-1; BSL-1 Working with a generated culture collection from Grand Caverns. The researcher is figuring out what to use them for, and screening to see if they can grow in the presence of heavy metals. The researcher wants to adjust the way they are growing the cultures. The protocol approved until October, 2025. Tillman and Love abstained. The Amendment approved as written with eight votes to approve, zero votes against, and two abstaining (Tillman and Love.) The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 12:16 PM.

Attendees

Committee Member	Attended?
Berndsen, Christopher E	Yes
Field, Amanda M	Yes
Hildabrand, Annette Krarup	Yes
Holton, Kortnie Elizabeth	No
Love, Michael Randolph	Yes
Morgan, Cynthia Southerly	Yes
Mullenax, Marcella R	Yes
Parker, Riley Timme	Yes
Rife, Terrie Kay	Yes
Sanson, Amanda Glenn	Yes
Tillman, Carrie Elizabeth	Yes

Additional Attendees

Additional Attendees

Lindsey Caesar Cindy Klevickis Morgan Steffen Wurch

Meeting Topics

Topic	Minutes	Status	# Yes Votes	# No Votes	# Abstained Votes
James Herrick's Lab Close-Out Letter	Dr. James Herrick submitted a letter to describe how he disinfected his laboratory from salmonella. Dr. Herrick followed established guidelines on disinfecting the lab. Dr. Herrick is retired from JMU as of August, 2025. The IBC will request additional details about the disinfecting protocol. More information is needed on the types of surfaces that were swabbed, and the sizes of the surface areas swabbed. The IBC Chair will reach out to Dr. Herrick for more information.	Completed	0	0	0

Topic	Minutes	Status	# Yes Votes	# No Votes	# Abstained Votes
Minutes from February 26, 2025 Meeting	Minutes from the February 26, 2025, IBC meeting were approved as written.	Completed	8	0	2

Topic	Minutes	Status	# Yes Votes	# No Votes	# Abstained Votes
NIH Policy on Posting Meeting Minutes	NIH now requires that approved IBC minutes will be publicly posted, effective July 1, 2025. Each researcher needs to be emailed to see if any information, such as propriety information, needs to be redacted. The minutes need to include BSL levels and substances worked with on protocols.	Completed	0	0	0

Topic	Minutes	Status	# Yes Votes	# No Votes	# Abstained Votes
Need a Plant Expert	There are two faculty members at JMU who are plant experts; the Biology AUH would like for them to wait until their 4th or 5th years before they join the IBC. The report to NIH is due by October 3rd - so the plant expert needs to be found by then. The IBC Vice Chair will reach out to Dr. Monroe for possible candidates.	Completed	0	0	0

Topic	Minutes	Status	# Yes Votes	# No Votes	# Abstained Votes
Policy for Institutional Biosafety 2204 up for Review	The Policy for Institutional Biosafety 2204 is up for review. Committee members should send suggested edits to C. Tillman who will email a reminder to the IBC. Any recommended edits will be sent to the institutional policy committee. C. Tillman will check with the Director of the Office of Research Integrity & Compliance to see what the deadline for comments will be.	Completed	0	0	0

New Protocols

Protocol #	Minutes	PI	Move to Status	# Yes Votes	# No Votes	# Abstained Votes	Reconciled
IBC-00000085	Title: <i>Undergraduate Research Projects involving Bordetella avium and/or Bordetella hinzii</i> Substances: B. avium 197N and B. hinzii SV2; RG-2; BSL-2 Working on bordatella avium (BA) because of Dr. Louise Temple. Louise is retired from JMU but is faculty emerita to help with this work. It is very rare for BA to infect humans - only immunocompromised humans. BA occurs in turkeys as a respiratory disease and results in great economic losses. This study is following up on on Dr. Temple's research from 2003. Samples will be obtained in Virginia from wildlife birds; the researchers are looking for BA and Bortadella Hinzii (BH). The researchers are purchasing clean litter to test if BA can be spread through litter. The IBC requested that the researcher clarify the research goals in the protocol. The researcher will use Dr. Temple's freezer samples and t streaks as controls. The waste needs to go to biowaste after autoclaving. JMU Housekeeping picks up biowaste in the bins. The researcher will put a sign on lab door, "No Housekeeping." Biowaste will go in Room 134. Farmers use oregano and lavender to fight BA - the researchers will test to see if this is effective. Protocol revisions will be posted to Mullenax and Hildabrand for their review.	Klevickis, Cynthia A	Modifications Required	8	0	2	Yes

Protocol #	Minutes	PI	Move to Status	# Yes Votes	# No Votes	# Abstained Votes	Reconciled
IBC-00000049	Title: <i>Tau Protein Expression in E. Coli</i> Substances: E Coli (DE3) strain, DH5 apla or TOP 10F; RG-1; BSL-1 The IBC members discussed that the protocol should be Exempt. In the future Exempt protocols be posted to the IBC Chair and Vice Chair for DMR. There are Exempt boxes in the protocol that should be checked. The researcher agreed to upload CITI Training documentation to the Attachments section of the protocol.	Rife, Terrie Kay	Modifications Required	7	0	2	Yes

Protocol #	Minutes	PI	Move to Status	# Yes Votes	# No Votes	# Abstained Votes	Reconciled
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IBC-00000052	Title: <i>CAS9/Luciferase/Beta-galactosidase Cloning into Eukaryotic Cell Lines</i> Substances: E Coli pSpCas9 (BB)-2A-Puro (PX459) V2.0; BSL-1; RG-1 Sk-N-MC and SH-Sy5y cell lines; BSL-1; RG-1 DH5 alpha, TOP 10F; BSL-1; RG-1 The researcher agreed to upload CITI Training documentation to the Attachments section of the protocol.	Rife, Terrie Kay	Modifications Required	7	0	2	Yes
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Protocol #	Minutes	PI	Move to Status	# Yes Votes	# No Votes	# Abstained Votes	Reconciled
IBC-00000082	Title: <i>Rife Storage Protocol (HeLa and PC12)</i> Substances: HeLa, PC-12 cells; RG-1; BSL-1 There were no reviewers' comments for this protocol. The IBC members voted to approve the protocol as written.	Rife, Terrie Kay	Approved	7	0	2	Yes

Protocol #	Minutes	PI	Move to Status	# Yes Votes	# No Votes	# Abstained Votes	Reconciled
IBC-00000043	Title: <i>Identification and characterization of novel disease resistance and susceptibility genes in tomato immunity against Pseudomonas syringae pv. tomato (Pst)</i> Substances: Aeromonas Hydrophila, Escherichia Coli, Klebsiella (all species except L. Oxytoca); RG-2; BSL-2 The principal investigator stated that this project is to determine if BSL2 bacteria will be more abundant in warmer water, and if blooms will continue to grow as water temperatures continue to rise. The investigator plans to culture samples, isolate bacteria and bring them into culture. The researcher will train student researchers about what the symptoms of exposure are - if they show symptoms they need to go to Dr. Switzer at UHC. The researcher will upload the safety forms every semester. Protocol revisions will be posted for Mullenax and Hildabrand to review.	Wurch, Morgan Michelle Steffen	Modifications Required	8	0	2	Yes

Approved Protocols

Protocol #	PI	Title	Date Approved	Next Review Date	Expiration Date
IBC-00000085	Klevickis, Cynthia A	Undergraduate Research Projects involving Bordetella avium and/or Bordetella hinzii	10/02/2025	10/02/2026	10/02/2028
IBC-00000049	Rife, Terrie Kay	Tau Protein Expression in E. Coli	09/10/2025	09/10/2026	09/10/2028
IBC-00000052	Rife, Terrie Kay	CAS9/Luciferase/Beta-galactosidase Cloning into Eukaryotic Cell Lines	09/08/2025	09/08/2026	09/08/2028
IBC-00000043	Wurch, Morgan Michelle Steffen	Isolation of unknown bacterial pathogens from aquatic ecosystems	10/17/2025	10/17/2026	10/17/2028