Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Institutional Biosafety Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, August 11th, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.

Available via Teams

The IBC has 8 voting members.

Members present:	Guim Kwon (Animal Expert), Chin-Chuan Wei, Cinnamon VanPutte, Sol Martinez, Brendan McKee (local non-affiliated member), Paul Lega, Ambre Boggs, Ellie Buchholz
Members excused:	Darron Luesse (IBC Chair, plant expert), Keith Zarcynski (local non-affiliated member), Andres Durantini, Susanne DiSalvo
Members absent:	None

The IBC Interim Chair (Dr. Kwon) called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm.

I. Announcements

Welcome new IBC members Dr. Sol Martinez and Dr. Susanne DiSalvo. Dr. Martinez is the Associate Research Director at NCERC. Dr. DiSalvo is an Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director in the Department of Biological Sciences. Dr. DiSalvo will also be taking over as Biosafety Officer since Tom Fowler has retired.

II. Consideration of Minutes of January 12, 2026, Meeting

Dr. Wei moved to accept the meeting minutes. Dr. VanPutte seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by all with no abstentions.

III. Consideration of Application

Brenda del Moral
IBC Protocol #26-0720-BD1 (KB #0189)
Exploring behavioral changes and neural routes of infections caused by periodontal bacteria

The IBC Admin shared her screen and noted that this is a new SIUE researcher conducting animal research and opened the protocol up for discussion.

The IBC Chair noted that this is a protocol out of the Dental School and is studying how this bacterium affects mice's brains. Several members had a little difficulty following the process as written and questioned how long the mice would be infected during this process. It was noted that the proposed plan of use section did not specifically state the volume for each mouse.

One IBC member wanted details on how much waste will be generated and how it will be disposed of.
Another IBC member pointed out that the PD gave specific answers in her response to Paul Legas' questions. The IBC member went on to state that the waste generated in this application is typical for an IACUC protocol and would be placed in a bleach solution. All

the rooms in the Dental School have BSL2 signs up already. After each experiment, the cages and equipment would be autoclaved and cage washed.

Paul Lega noted that the PD did an excellent job responding to his questions. He also clarified that the bacteria are not resistant to bleach.

The IBC Admin asked the committee what they would like to do for next steps.

All members agreed that they were comfortable approving the application but would like clarification on the people handling the BSL2 and waste procedures/product. It was pointed out the PD is in the same lab space with an experienced researcher in the same discipline who is also an IBC member, and that will be valuable if the PD has questions.

The IBC admin stated the committee can vote to approve pending the submission of minor revisions/clarifications.

The IBC chair motioned to approve the application pending minor revisions. Dr. Wei seconded the motion. The application was approved pending minor revisions with no abstentions.

An IBC member suggested that in the future, if the IBC has an application that involves animals, that the IACUC protocol could be reviewed alongside the IBC application. This would be helpful since some things are left out of the IBC application with it focusing on the bacteria rather than the number of animals. The IBC chair noted that it would be helpful and went on to state they would not necessarily need all the IACUC protocol details but the framework so they are not guessing/filling in the blanks themselves. The IBC Admin noted that the next time we have an IBC application with animals, she can reach out to the PI before the meeting to confirm they are okay with their IACUC protocol being shared with the IBC members.

The IBC admin also mentioned that if any members have tips for writing an IBC application or specific details they would like to see in an application, please email them to the IBC admin. It might be helpful to put a guide sheet together for new IBC applicants.

The IBC admin made the committee aware of a renewal protocol recently submitted and that it will need to be reviewed at the next meeting in September.

Applicable regulations – OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogen Standard (29 CFR 1910.1030) and CDC/NIH Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL)

IV. New Business

There was no new business.

V. Old Business

There was no old business.

VI. Adjournment

Dr. VanPutte moved to adjourn the meeting. Brendan McKee seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m.