

**West Virginia University
Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes
May 2026**

DATE: 6/1/2026

TIME: 3:02pm

LOCATION: BMRF 201 with a Zoom option

The April meeting of the West Virginia University Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) was called to order at 3:02 PM. The meeting was open to the public with public notification on the university's IBC website.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Committee members present at the meeting were (role/expertise noted, as applicable):

1. Matt Stinoski, Institutional Biosafety Officer
2. Josh Parenti, Associate Biosafety Officer
3. Mariette Barbier
4. Notashia Baughman, unaffiliated community member
5. Kathy Brundage
6. Tara Cotroneo, Animal Expert
7. Robert Gerbo
8. Eric Jeppesen
9. Karen Martin, IBC Chair
10. Jamie Moore
11. Chris Waters
12. Dylan Willis

Non-committee Members: Amy McCreary

A majority of the committee was present; therefore, a quorum was established.

Minutes: Meeting minutes from May were approved as written.

Discussion:

1. Dogs in lab

Update: The Biosafety office is currently working on an SOP and worksheet to share it with OAW, OLAR, IACUC and Radiation Safety regarding service dogs in laboratories. The BSO is currently working with Dr. Rio's lab to draft worksheets so her student can proceed with their work.

PROTOCOLS FOR REVIEW

Protocol # (New/Renewal/Amendment)	18-09-03 (renewal)
Protocol Title	Blank Lab Generic Protocol
PI Name	Blank, Melissa
Biohazards	<u>Recombinant nucleic acids</u> Type of genes: NA Type of vector: NA Applicable NIH guidelines: NA <u>Human, animal, or plant pathogens:</u> NA <u>BBP & OPIM:</u> Human urine, saliva, breath <u>Introduction into Animals:</u> Species: Material:
Proposed Biosafety Level	BSL2
Reviewer Summary	This renewal will cover studies with human samples that relate to abuse liability of nicotine and/or tobacco products. Human urine and saliva samples will be collected, tested and/or stored for additional analysis.

There was a motion to approve the amendment at BSL2, pending the IBC recommended revisions:

Page 2 - Update biosafety cabinet certification date.

Ella Cox needs to take the occupational health questionnaire <https://ohq.hsc.wvu.edu/>.

Page 9 - Fill out “pathogens associated with sample” column- state something along the lines of “if samples contain blood, they are potentially infectious with blood borne pathogens”.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Protocol # (New/Renewal/Amendment)	19-11-01 (renewal)
Protocol Title	Behavioral Effects of Chemotherapy.
PI Name	DeVries, Courtney

Biohazards	<u>Recombinant nucleic acids</u> Type of genes: Fluorescent protein (GFP, mCherry), cre recombinase Type of vector: mCherry, SV40 Applicable NIH guidelines: III-E <u>Human, animal, or plant pathogens:</u> NA <u>BBP & OPIM:</u> NA <u>Introduction into Animals:</u> Species: Mouse Material: AAV vectors
Proposed Biosafety Level	BSL2
Reviewer Summary	This renewal will explore global neuroinflammation that exacerbate the cognitive and affective disorders experienced by individuals undergoing chemotherapy and ways to reduce inflammation. It will utilize AAV and non-hazardous genes in a mouse model.

There was a motion to approve the amendment at BSL2, pending the IBC recommended revisions:

Page 2 - OLAR room listed as BSL3, not BSL3. It is BSL2

Personnel table - Courtney has taken training, please update.

Verify that V108 is still an ABSL2 room. Change, if needed.

Page 3 - check lab coats.

Page 5 - Pathogens assoc./pathogens screened don't N/A. Put None if they are not screened.

Material and Methods - add that human cells will be transferred to the vivarium using secondary containment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Protocol # (New/Renewal/Amendment)	19-12-02 (renewal)
Protocol Title	Circadian Influences on Chemotherapy Efficacy for Brain Metastases of Breast Cancer.
PI Name	DeVries, Courtney

Biohazards	<u>Recombinant nucleic acids</u> Type of genes: NA Type of vector: NA Applicable NIH guidelines: NA <u>Human, animal, or plant pathogens:</u> NA <u>BBP & OPIM:</u> Pleural effusion (breast cancer cells) <u>Introduction into Animals:</u> Species: Mouse Material: Human breast cancer cells
Proposed Biosafety Level	BSL2
Reviewer Summary	This research will determine if the Blood brain barrier (BBB) permeability is under circadian control and to use this knowledge to optimally time chemotherapy treatments to increase anti-tumor efficacy within brain cancers. Mice will be injected with human cancer cells for tumor growth. BBB permeability studies with chemotherapies will occur following tumor development.

There was a motion to approve the amendment at BSL2, pending the IBC recommended revisions:

Page 2 - OLAR room listed as BSL3, not BSL3. It is BSL2.

Personnel table - Courtney has taken training, please update.

Verify that V108 is still an ABSL2 room. Change, if needed.

Page 3 - check lab coats.

Page 5 - Pathogens assoc./pathogens screened don't N/A. Put None if they are not screened.

Material and Methods - add that human cells will be transferred to the vivarium using secondary containment.

How is PPE used for sample collection disposed of?

The motion was unanimously approved.

Protocol # (New/Renewal/Amendment)	22-10-04 (renewal)
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Protocol Title	Mechanism of myosin-7a regulation and Usher complex assembly.
PI Name	Rong, Liu
Biohazards	<u>Recombinant nucleic acids</u> Type of genes: Myosin 7-a, harmonin, sans Type of vector: <i>Baculovirus</i> Applicable NIH guidelines: III-D-3 <u>Human, animal, or plant pathogens:</u> NA <u>BBP & OPIM:</u> Peripheral blood, semen, saliva, menstrual blood, buccal swabs, touch samples, vaginal swabs, hair. <u>Introduction into Animals</u> Species: NA Material: NA
Proposed Biosafety Level	BSL2
Reviewer Summary	This renewal will evaluate the regulatory mechanism of myosin-7a, the major tension generating molecule responsible for hair cell mechano-transduction and hearing. The lab will purify myosin-7a using a baculovirus-insect cell protein expression system. Baculovirus is pathogenic for insects, but not capable of replicating in vertebrate cells.

There was a motion to approve the amendment at BSL2, pending the IBC recommended revisions:

Page 2 - Marissa Teng, Celine Chen needs to take the occupational health questionnaire <https://ohq.hsc.wvu.edu/>.

Page 3 - Disposable lab coats or laundered? If laundered, state that they will be cleaned utilizing a cleaner that follows Universal Precautions, such as Model or Massulo's.

How will biohazard waste be disposed of? Please check applicable boxes.

The motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL FOR ADJOURNMENT

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting if there were no further items for discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 PM.