

Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes

IBC Meeting Date: April 14th, 2026

Location: Zoom

The meeting was called to order by James Vaughn at 11:35am and adjourned at 12:40pm. A quorum (n=5) was present for the entirety of the meeting. Yarimar Torres Rosado was the assigned note-taker.

In accordance with institutional policy and NIH Guidelines, this IBC meeting was not open to the public to protect proprietary information and ensure confidentiality of sensitive research data.

Per the NIH Guidelines, only information related to recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid research is required to be publicly disclosed in the IBC minutes. Discussions involving research that falls outside the scope of the NIH Guidelines, internal updates, and sensitive or administrative matters may be redacted.

Members Present:

Name	Role	Affiliation
James Vaughn	Chair	UNE Faculty
Jamie Vaughn	Ex-Officio	UNE Director of Animal Care
Bob Kennedy	Ex-Officio	UNE Director of Research Integrity
Igor Prudovsky	Scientist	Unaffiliated Member
Ronnie Souza	Ex-Officio	UNE Biological Safety Officer
Diana Goode	Scientist	UNE Faculty
George Allen	Vice-Chair	UNE Faculty
Derek Molliver	Scientist	UNE Faculty

Members Absent:

Name	Role	Affiliation
Richard Niles	Scientist	Unaffiliated Member

Guests Present:

Name	Title	Affiliation
Josh Mangin	RCR Training Manager	UNE Staff
Elizabeth Day	EH&S Staff	UNE Staff
Yarimar Torres Rosado	IBC Compliance Coordinator	UNE Staff

Discussion Items:

1. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

Date of Previous Meeting:	March 25 th , 2026
Motion:	Approved

For:	6	Against:	0	Abstain:	1	Recuse:		Absent:	2*
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*Dr. Molliver was not present during the discussion and vote of the minutes. He entered the meeting at 11:40am.

2. Biosafety Officer Report

[REDACTED]

3. Full Committee Review

Project Overview:		
Submission Type:	New Project	
IBC Protocol #:	032226-002	
Protocol Title:	Impact of microplastics on bacterial interactions with host cells	
Principal Investigator:	Kristin Burkholder	
UNE Campus:	Biddeford	
Category of Research:	Use of human cells/cell lines, use of non-recombinant infectious agents	
NIH Guideline Section:	N/A	
Risk Group:	Risk Group 2	
Proposed Biosafety Level:	BSL-2	
Proposed Animal Biosafety Level:	N/A	
IBC Member Conflict of Interest:	N/A	

IBC Discussion Summary:		
General Review Items	Verified	Remarks
PI has the appropriate expertise and training in biosafety	☒ Yes ☐ No	[REDACTED]
Laboratory staff have the appropriate expertise and training in biosafety	☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A	[REDACTED]
Facilities are appropriate for the proposed research	☒ Yes ☐ No	[REDACTED]
Procedures and practices are appropriate for the proposed research	☒ Yes ☐ No	[REDACTED]
Containment conditions are appropriate	☐ BSL-1 ☒ BSL-2	[REDACTED]

r/sNA Review Items	Remarks
Agent characteristics (e.g., virulence, pathogenicity, environmental stability)	N/A
Type of manipulations planned	N/A
Source(s) of the nucleic sequences (e.g., species)	N/A
Nature of the nucleic acid sequences (e.g., structural gene, oncogene)	N/A
Host(s) and vector(s) to be used	N/A
Whether an attempt will be made to obtain expression of a transgene, and if so, the function of the protein that will be produced	N/A

Infectious Agent Review Items	Remarks
Agent characteristics (e.g., virulence, pathogenicity, environmental stability)	[REDACTED]
Type of manipulations planned	[REDACTED]
Host(s) to be used	[REDACTED]

IBC Determination:

Motion:

- ☐ Approved as submitted
☒ Modifications Required (prescriptive/directive modifications are required to secure approval)
☐ Deferred (substantive information/clarifications requested)
☐ Tabled (postponed for future consideration)
☐ Disapproved

Vote Count:

For:	8	Against:	0	Abstain:	0	Recuse:	0	Absent:	1
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Modifications Required or Information/Clarifications Requested:

- [REDACTED]

5.

4. Other Discussion Items