IBC Panel MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, August 04, 2026
09:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Teams

Members attending:

Arriaga, Berenice	Das, Siddhartha
Dupre, Jo Anne	Ibarra-Mejia, Gabriel
Joseph, Elaine	Moschak, Travis

Meeting was called to order at 9:06am by the Chair, Dr. Das

1. **Confidentiality of Panel Proceedings**

   The members of the panel and the people employed by the panel were reminded to maintain the confidentiality of the panel's proceedings unless such information is already made available to the public.

2. **Minutes**

   The committee reviewed the minutes from the June IBC meeting. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as modified; **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

3. **New Protocols**

   Protocol ID: 26-01-156
   Principal Investigator: Koculi, Eda
   Title: Studies of Ribosome Biogenesis

   A protocol involving Section III-F-6 was presented and issues such as rDNA, biological agents, safety and handling, and risk mitigation were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to conditionally approve the protocol; **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

   Protocol ID: 26-02-170
   Principal Investigator: Maldonado, Rosa
   Title: Immune and chemotherapeutic approaches against Leishmaniasis

   A protocol involving biological agents was presented and issues such as biological agents, safety and handling, and risk mitigation were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to conditionally approve the protocol; **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

   Protocol ID: 26-05-177
   Principal Investigator: Ouellet, Hugues
   Title: Role of the 2,5-diketopiperazine biosynthetic pathway in Mycobacterium tuberculosis

   A protocol involving Section III-D-1, Section III-D-2, and Section III-F-6 was presented and issues such as rDNA, biological agents, safety and handling, and risk mitigation were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to return the protocol for modifications; **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

   Protocol ID: 26-06-180
   Principal Investigator: Ouellet, Hugues
   Title: Adaptation of Mycoplasma bovis vaccine to Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae antigens

   A protocol involving Section III-D-1, Section III-D-2, and Section III-F-6 was presented and issues such as rDNA, biological agents, safety and handling, and risk mitigation were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to conditionally approve the protocol; **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

   Protocol ID: 26-06-182
   Principal Investigator: Tiwari, Sangeeta
   Title: IBC BSL2_ Developing assays and reporter strains to screen compounds against Mycobacterium tuberculosis (Mtb)

A protocol involving Section III-A-1a and Section III-D-1 was presented and issues such as rDNA, biological agents, safety and handling, and risk mitigation were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to table the protocol; **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

Protocol ID: 26-06-185
Principal Investigator: Silva Grijo Farani, Priscila
Title: Glycan-Based Biomarkers for the Diagnosis and Therapeutic Monitoring of Chagas Disease and Leishmaniasis

A protocol involving Section III-F-6 was presented and issues such as rDNA, biological agents, safety and handling, and risk mitigation were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the protocol; **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

Protocol ID: 26-07-227
Principal Investigator: Friedman, Alexander
Title: Defining the mechanistic role of striosomal microcircuits in decision-making

A protocol involving Section III-D-1 was presented and issues such as rDNA, biological agents, safety and handling, and risk mitigation were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to return the protocol for modifications; **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

4. **Procedural Amendments**

Procedural Amendments: (for the below-listed protocol(s), deliberation on a proposed change in procedures or location for a protocol that currently has a three-year approval period)

Protocol ID: 25-11-134
Principal Investigator: Eiring, Anna
Title: Disease progression and therapy resistance in myeloid leukemias

A protocol involving Section III-D-1, Section III-D-3, Section III-D-4, and Section III-F-6 was presented and issues such as rDNA, biological agents, safety and handling, and risk mitigation were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the protocol; **6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.**

5. **Discussion and Appropriate Action regarding the following matters**

   a. Biosafety Officer brief to IBC on Lab Safety Inspections, Lab Construction/ Modifications, spills/incidents

   The Biosafety Officer held a discussion regarding UTEP volunteers in research laboratories, emphasizing the need for training by principal investigators. [redacted].

   b. General Announcements.

   None

6. **Special Discussion**

A special discussion was held regarding the implications of the Office of Science and Technology Policy on the United States Government Policy for Stopping High-Risk Life Sciences Research.

7. **Meeting Reminder**

Reminder that the next meeting will be held on August 28, 2026

8. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:26am

A list of the Protocols approved and reports reviewed follows.

None