

Towson University
Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes
Date: 6/5/2025

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Time: 12:00 PM

In attendance:

John (Jed) Weldon (Chair, note taker)
Erin Harberts (member)
Kishana Taylor (member)
Robert McGown (external member)
Melissa Morland (external member)
Frank Hubbard Butler (EHS representative)
Jennifer Ippolito (OSPR representative)

Absent:

Elana Ehrlich (member)
Anne Estes (member)

The meeting began with a review of eight new/revised registrations. Comments below investigator.
rDNA registration forms

- Ibrahim
 - Part A: Physical containment should indicate BSL1
 - Part B: Relevant section of NIH guidelines should indicate III-E-2
 - Part B: Physical containment should indicate BSL1
 - Project summary should include some mention of Arabidopsis genetic modifications (from Part B)
 - Sign/date the form again, then have Peko sign/date the form.
- Soto
 - Part A: Relevant section of NIH guidelines should indicate III-F-8
 - Part A: Physical containment should indicate BSL2
 - Sign/date the form, then have John sign/date
- Tsuji
 - Jennifer requested information on KO mice (where? who? etc...)
 - Rooms should indicate 5130B (mammalian TC room)
 - Part A: Relevant section of NIH guidelines should indicate III-F
 - Part B: Relevant section of NIH guidelines should indicate III-D
 - Part B: Physical containment should indicate BSL2
 - Sign/date the form, then have Matt sign/date the form.
- Weldon
 - Room: 5130/B & 5322
 - Part A/B: Relevant section of NIH guidelines should indicate III-D
 - Sign/date the form again, then have Peko sign/date the form.

All rDNA registrations were approved pending modifications. Ibrahim - all approved, Soto - all approved, Tsuji - all approved, Weldon - Jed abstained, all others approved.

Infectious Materials registration forms

- Estes
 - Rooms: Include teaching lab space (5135/5141?)
 - Fix language in Safety Precautions – “BSL Type II laminar flow hood” should instead be “class II biological safety cabinet”
 - Sign/date the form again, then have Peko sign/date the form.
- Taylor
 - Rooms should indicate 5130/5124B
 - Sign/date the form again, then have Peko sign/date the form.
- Tsuji
 - Rooms: add 5130B
 - Sign/date the form again, then have Matt sign/date the form.
- Weldon
 - Rooms should indicate 5130B, but not 5322
 - Sign/date the form again, then have Peko sign/date the form.

All Infectious Materials registrations were approved pending modifications: Estes - all approved, Taylor - Kishana abstained, all others approved, Tsuji - all approved, Weldon - Jed abstained, all others approved.

After registrations were approved, several items were discussed:

Frank discussed EHS current priorities of developing new vivarium safety protocols and converting the vivarium to ABSL2.

Frank requested that faculty use the new IBC forms, linked here: <https://www.towson.edu/public-safety/environmental-health-safety/forms/>

Safety training of personnel was discussed. Frank suggested that Vector Solutions (formerly SafeColleges) safety training was best because EHS has access to training records. Erin indicated that she used CITI training modules. Frank confirmed that this training was fine, but EHS would like access to records. Jed suggested NIH laboratory safety training was also available.

A meeting was tentatively scheduled for the week before classes begin (Aug 18-22). A When2Meet poll will be sent out to schedule the exact date/time.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM