LSU Health NEW ORLEANS
Institutional Biosafety Committee

LSU HSC-New Orleans Institutional Biosafety Committee
Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, October 14, 2026
Time: 1:03 PM – 2:42PM
Location: Zoom

Members Present:
1. Zea, *IBC Chair*
2. Siggins
3. Caro, Animal Containment
4. Baker
5. Didier Mejia, *BSO*
6. Guidry, *Local Non-affiliated Member*
7. Mason, *Local Non-affiliated Member*
8. Zabaleta
9. Yue
10. Foster
11. Wang

Members Excused:
1. Catling, *IBC Vice Chair*
2. Aiyar

Other Individuals Attendance:
1. Constans, *Director ORS*
2. Landry, *IBC Manager*
3. Fuselier, *IACUC Manager*
4. Pourciau, *Affiliated EH&S*
5. Burkett, *Affiliated EH&S*

1:02pm **Quorum Present**
The IBC has 13 voting members and 7 are required to conduct business

1:03pm **Call to Order**
The IBC Chair called the meeting to order

1:03pm **Conflicts of Interest**
The IBC Chair reminded all members present to identify any conflicts of interest as each application is reviewed.

1:03pm **Review and approval of previous meeting minutes**
- September 9, 2026

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried.
These minutes were posted on the ORS IBC webpage.

1:05pm **Review of Prior Business**
- Draft NIH Policy for Research Involving Biohazards:

- The committee was informed of proposed changes to the NIH Policy for Research with Biohazards. Members were encouraged to review the proposed changes and submit comments to NIH. Potential impacts to institutional policies were discussed, including a proposed four-year Assurance Document submission cycle and a three-year maximum duration for IBC protocols.

- Kuali Education – "Protocols Assigned to Me" and "Submit Review"
  - Committee members received guidance on using the Protocols Assigned to Me tab in Kuali, including how to use Submit Review to clear completed assignments and reduce unnecessary email notifications. Members were also shown how to determine whether they are assigned as a Primary or Secondary reviewer by accessing the General Action Items section.
- IBC Committee Workload
  - Dr. Constans reported that he had met separately with Dr. Zea and Didier Mejia to assess the committee's workload. While the volume of email notifications was identified as a potential concern for some members, a review of the number of protocols and assignments indicated that the overall workload was appropriate for the BSO and other committee members.

1:12pm **New Business**

- ORS Organizational Chart and Reorganization
  - Dr. Joseph Constans provided an overview of the ORS organizational redesign, which is intended to improve service efficiency, strengthen research administration, and enhance regulatory compliance. He reviewed the establishment of three new units (CTO, Research Information Management, and Research Compliance Office) and announced the following leadership appointments: Dr. Ame Stormer (HRPP), Ms. Ann Clesi (Grants Compliance), Ms. Kristen Henderson (CTO), Dr. Taylor Fuselier (Research Information Management and IACUC), and Dr. Remi Landry (Research Compliance and IBC). Unit managers will be responsible for departmental performance and process improvements in coordination with the Executive Director.
- Amendment Review Process
  - The committee discussed delays in amendment approvals caused by action items unrelated to the submitted amendments. After discussion, the committee agreed that protocols should be reviewed in their entirety, even if doing so extends the overall amendment review and approval process.
- Vacation schedules and Chair Coverage
  - The committee discussed the upcoming first week of November, when both the Chair and Vice Chair would be unavailable. As no policy currently addresses simultaneous absences, the committee voted for Dr. Aiyar to provide coverage. However, he was unavailable, and Dr. Zabaleta was identified as the next individual in line based on committee seniority to provide coverage.

1:32pm **Review of Incidents & Non-compliance**

- **Administrative Closures Due to Inactivity from September 9 to October 14, 2026**

Title	Number	PI Name	Review Type	Continuing Review Date	Expiration Date
Assessing drug discrimination through changes in ultrasonic vocalization in adult rats	5160	Nichols, Charles	Renewed/Amended	July 31, 2026	July 31, 2028
Interaction of Biopsychosocial Stress, Alcohol Misuse, and Post-Acute Neurobehavioral Sequelae of COVID-19	4557	Ferguson, Tekeda	Renewed/Amended	August 15, 2026	August 15, 2027

- **Protocols that are suspended, in "Grace Period" and destined for administrative closure:**

Title	Number	PI Name	Review Type	Continuing Review Date	Expiration Date
Neuronal Activity-Regulated Glutamine Transporter	9461	Erickson, Jeffrey	Amended *Renew+Amend under review*	August 18, 2026	August 18, 2030
Neuroinflammation in CKD	5653	Mohandas, Rajesh	Amended	August 30, 2026	August 30, 2028
Serotonin receptor mediated intraocular pressure assessments	7578	Nichols, Charles	Renewed	September 03, 2026	September 03, 2029
MDR2 KO model of Hepatocellular Carcinoma	7748	Skill, Nicholas	Renewed	September 16, 2026	September 16, 2029
The effects of psychedelics on diabetic neuropathy	9881	Nichols, Charles	Initial	October 02, 2026	October 02, 2030

1:33pm **Inspections/Ongoing Oversight**

- **EH&S**
  - Nothing to report at this time

1:33pm **IBC Registrations & Amendments for Review**

- **Applications and amendments determined by the Chair or IBC Analyst that do not fall under the NIH Guidelines for FCR**

IBC: #11342	Investigation of Retinal DHA Regulatory Proteins Using Conditional Mouse Models and Cell Culture Systems
PI Name	Bazan, Nicolas
Project Overview	This research aims to better understand how the retina uses the omega-3 fatty acid DHA to maintain healthy vision and protect against age-related macular degeneration (AMD), a leading cause of vision loss. Researchers will use genetically modified mice and laboratory-grown retinal cells to identify the cells and proteins involved in DHA transport and the production of natural protective molecules. The findings may improve understanding of how retinal cells respond to stress and injury and help guide the development of future treatments to preserve vision.
NIH Guidelines Section(s)	III-F-8 Appx C-VII

Risk Assessment & Discussion	Personnel working in the laboratory will use an appropriate BSL-2 Biosafety cabinet, chemical fume hood, and will use personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, eye goggles, head cover, surgical mask, and lab coats or disposable gowns.
Training	All institutional trainings required are complete for lab staff listed in the registration: • COI in Research • Laboratory Safety • IBC Compliance • BBP High Risk • Shipping Biological Materials
EH&S Assessment	The lab was inspected, and no deficiencies were found.
Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable)	N/A
Biosafety Level Assignment	BSL-2 ABSL-1
IACUC status (if applicable)	Applications approved
IBC Vote	The IBC determined that the application met all necessary requirements and was approved through designated member review (DMR). FCR was not required.
IBC: #11391	Mechanisms in alcoholic osteopenia
PI Name	Pedersen, Kim
Project Overview	This research investigates how alcohol use contributes to bone loss and increases the risk of osteoporosis and fractures, particularly among individuals living with HIV. Researchers will study bone-forming and bone-resorbing cells, mouse models, and samples from rhesus macaques exposed to alcohol and infected with SIV, a virus that causes an immune deficiency similar to HIV in humans. The study will examine how alcohol-related changes, including the effects of acetate and epigenetic modifications to DNA, influence bone health. Findings may help identify new strategies to prevent or reduce alcohol-associated bone loss.
NIH Guidelines Section(s)	III-F-8 Appx C-VII III-F-8 Appx C-VIII
Risk Assessment & Discussion	Personnel working in the laboratory will use an appropriate BSL-2 Biosafety cabinet, chemical fume hood, and will use personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, eye goggles, face shield, surgical mask, and lab coats or disposable gowns.
Training	All institutional trainings required are complete for lab staff listed in the registration: • COI in Research • Laboratory Safety • IBC Compliance • BBP High Risk • Shipping Biological Materials
EH&S Assessment	The lab was inspected, and no deficiencies were found.
Occupational Health Representative	N/A

review (if applicable)	
Biosafety Level Assignment	ABSL-2 BSL-2
IRB and IACUC status (if applicable)	Applications approved
IBC Vote	The IBC determined that the application met all necessary requirements and was approved through designated member review (DMR). FCR was not required.
IBC: #10566	Characterization of Adenoid and Tonsil Hypertrophy in Pediatric Patients
PI Name	Chatterjee, Sabyasachi
Project Overview	This research examines whether vitamin D levels are associated with inflammation and enlargement of the tonsils and adenoids in children. Researchers will analyze blood and tissue samples from children undergoing tonsil or adenoid surgery to measure vitamin D, interleukin-6 (IL-6), and other biological markers. The findings may improve understanding of how vitamin D and inflammatory processes contribute to tissue enlargement and related health concerns, including breathing difficulties during sleep and recurrent infections.
NIH Guidelines Section(s)	N/A
Risk Assessment & Discussion	Personnel working in the laboratory will use an appropriate BSL-2 Biosafety cabinet, chemical fume hood, and will use personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, eye goggles, face shield, surgical mask, and lab coats or disposable gowns.
Training	All institutional trainings required are complete for lab staff listed in the registration: • COI in Research • Laboratory Safety • IBC Compliance • BBP High Risk • Shipping Biological Materials
EH&S Assessment	The lab was inspected, and no deficiencies were found.
Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable)	N/A
Biosafety Level Assignment	BSL-2
IRB status (if applicable)	Application submitted (under review)
IBC Vote	The IBC determined that the application met all necessary requirements and was approved through designated member review (DMR). FCR was not required.

- **Amendments and Renewals (September 9, 2026 to October 14, 2026)**

Title	Number	PI Name	Submission Type	Expiration Date	IBC Amendment - C01 Description

A Novel Role of Protein S in Blood Coagulation	10926	Majumder, Rinku	Amended	July 15, 2031	Change in experimental design Addition of experimental material
Oncolytic HSV therapy for cancer	10410	Kaur, Balveen	Amended	March 31, 2031	Addition of experimental material
pIgR Mice Breeding Colony	8352	Welsh, David	Amended	March 06, 2030	Change in personnel
Lactobacillus-vectored Alkaline Phosphatase to Mitigate Alcohol-Induced Leaky Gut and LPS Endotoxin Load in the Gut	7645	Welsh, David	Amended	September 16, 2029	Change in personnel Change in study location/facilities
LSUHSC-NO Comprehensive Alcohol-HIV/AIDS Research Center-Animal Core	10837	Simon Peter, Liz	Amended	June 23, 2031	Change in personnel
Synaptic Transmission in Cerebellum, Cellular Mechanisms Underlying the Long-Term Potentiation of GABA Release	10632	Liu, Si-Qiong	Amended	June 01, 2031	Addition of experimental material
Novel therapeutic investigations for stroke	5651	Biose, Ifechukwude	Amended	August 31, 2028	Addition of experimental material
Characterization of Inflammatory Markers of Serum Samples in Trauma and Burn patients	10285	Smith, Alison	Amended	March 12, 2031	Change in personnel
Viral Oncology Research Lab – Human Tissues	2470	Wood, Charles	Amended	December 21, 2026	Admin update
Chronic Inflammation, iNOS Production of NO, and Intestinal Obstruction in CF	8487	Wang, Guoshun	Amended	April 14, 2030	Change in personnel
Sex differences in metabolism	9716	Wiese, Carrie	Amended	September 08, 2030	Addition of experimental material
CARC Analytical Core	4450	Siggins, Robert	Amended	June 15, 2027	Change in personnel

Role of Neuropeptides in Stress-Induced Escalation of Alcohol Drinking	4457	Gilpin, Nicholas	Amended	August 15, 2027	Change in personnel
Molecular Profiling and Biomarker Discovery	5033	Adamec, Jiri	Amended	February 09, 2028	Change in experimental design Change in study location/facilities
Role of alpha2 adrenergic receptor antagonism in treating misuse of fentanyl adulterated with xylazine	9419	Pahng, Amanda	Amended	August 18, 2030	Addition of experimental material
Alcohol-induced injury to Heart	5414	Paloczi, Janos	Amended	June 06, 2028	Change in personnel
Development of Vapor Inhalation Chambers for Drug Self-Administration in Rodents	4887	Gilpin, Nicholas	Amended	December 08, 2027	Change in personnel
Intraoperative Fluorescence Image-Guided Assessment of Tumor Margins During Surgical Resection	4746	Boudreaux, J. Philip	Close Request		
Interphotoreceptor retinoid-binding protein in retinal health and disease	2476	Jin, Minghao	Close Request		
SRP-001: A Non-Opioid and Non-Hepatotoxic Analgesic for the Treatment of Pain in the Context of Substance Use Disorder	9463	Edwards, Scott	Renewed	September 29, 2030	
Preclinical Medications Development Screening in Dependent, Affect and Pain Models of Alcoholism	5799	Edwards, Scott	Renewed	October 01, 2028	

Biomarkers for neonatal and pediatric gut inflammatory conditions	9980	Kim, Sunyoung	Renewed	October 28, 2030	
miRNA targeting of hypertension and metabolic pathways	7604	Lazartigues, Eric	Renewed	September 26, 2029	
Genetic approaches for the treatment of Usher syndrome	9872	Lentz, Jennifer	Renewed	October 27, 2030	
Cardiovascular effects of nicotine and high fact diet	4789	Yue, Xinping	Renewed	November 01, 2027	
The cellular and molecular basis of synovial joint disease and repair	7776	Marrero, Luis	Renewed	September 27, 2029	
ADHD and the influence of adolescent alcohol consumption on cognition and behavior	7627	Salling, Michael	Renewed	October 14, 2029	
Evaluation of BloodSTOP-iX for Wound Healing and Antibacterial Efficacy in MRSA-Infected Surgical Wounds Using a Porcine Model	9715	Smith, Alison	Renewed	November 07, 2030	
Chemoprevention of Breast Cancer by Targeting Glucose Metabolism with HJC0152	7655	Shen, Qiang	Renewed/Amended	October 11, 2029	Update in IACUC status or number Change in funding source or sponsor
Novel cell signaling in PANS syndrome patients	9921	Bazan, Haydee	Renewed/Amended	October 08, 2030	Change in personnel
The Use of BloodSTOP iX Trauma Matrix for Tissue Regeneration in a Porcine Burn Model	7549	Smith, Alison	Renewed/Amended	October 30, 2029	Change in personnel
Cloning and expression of ATPases	5994	Kim, Sunyoung	Renewed/Amended	November 20, 2028	Change in funding source or sponsor

					Change in study location/facilities Correction or clarification of protocol details Change in personnel
Indirect targeting Notch in triple-negative breast cancer	9760	Miele, Lucio	Renewed/Amended	September 26, 2030	Change in personnel
Novel Neuroprotective lipid mediators for Ischemic Stroke	4639	Bazan, Nicolas	Renewed/Amended	November 01, 2027	Change in personnel

- **Applications reviewed and Suspended (in Grace Period) by the Chair after modifications requested by FCR. Continuing IBC oversight is required with annual reviews.**

  N/A

- **Full Committee Review of applications subject to *NIH Guidelines and our Policies*. Continuing IBC oversight required.**

1:34pm

IBC #11281	NOLANETS Biorepository 2026
PI Name	Maluccio, Mary
Project Overview	Collection of human tissues from patients with rare cancers. Including but not limited neuroendocrine cancer. For future clinical and/or research purposes.
NIH Guidelines Section(s)	N/A
Risk Assessment & Discussion	Personnel working in the laboratory will use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, lab coats or disposable gowns, head covers, and surgical masks. All work involving biohazardous materials will be conducted within a certified Class II biosafety cabinet (BSL-2 rated) to ensure proper containment and minimize exposure risk.
Training	All institutional trainings required are complete for lab staff listed in the registration: • COI in Research • Laboratory Safety • IBC Compliance • BBP High Risk
EH&S Assessment	The lab was inspected, and no deficiencies were found.
Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable)	N/A
Biosafety Level Assignment	BSL-2
IRB status (if applicable)	Application approved
IBC Vote	The Primary Reviewer made a motion to assign the determination of Modifications to Secure Approval (MRSA).

		• Votes: 10/11 MRSA 1/10 Approve • COI: None reported Following a duly called vote of the committee, Dr. Maluccio's protocol was conditionally approved, pending submission and approval of the revisions requested by the Primary Reviewer.
	IBC #5043	Diagnostic and therapeutic approaches for the treatment of neuroendocrine tumors
1:46pm	**PI Name**	Lan, Michael
	Project Overview	This amendment adds an alternative approach to establish a neuroendocrine prostate cancer model. Researchers will introduce an AKT1 expression construct into prostate cancer cells to investigate whether AKT1-mediated survival signaling supports stable neuroendocrine reprogramming driven by INSM1. The study will evaluate how AKT1, a signaling protein involved in cell growth and proliferation, may help cells tolerate the cellular stress associated with neuroendocrine differentiation.
	NIH Guidelines Section(s)	III-D-1-a III-E-1 III-D-4
	Risk Assessment & Discussion	Personnel working in the laboratory will use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, lab coats or disposable gowns, head covers, and surgical masks. All work involving biohazardous materials will be conducted within a certified Class II biosafety cabinet (BSL-2 rated) to ensure proper containment and minimize exposure risk.
	Training	All institutional trainings required are complete for lab staff listed in the registration: • COI in Research • Laboratory Safety • IBC Compliance • BBP High Risk
	EH&S Assessment	The lab was inspected, and no deficiencies were found.
	Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable)	N/A
	Biosafety Level Assignment	BSL-2 ABSL-2
	IACUC status (if applicable)	Application approved
	IBC Vote	The Primary Reviewer made a motion to assign the determination of Modifications Required to Secure Approval (MRSA) • Votes: 11/11 MRSA • COI: None reported

		Following a duly called vote of the committee, Dr. Lan's amendment was conditionally approved, pending submission and approval of the revisions requested by the Primary Reviewer.
	IBC #11479	Prevalence of Serum Antibodies Against Human Papillomavirus in Stored Blood Samples from HIV Positive and Negative Individuals
2:02pm	**PI Name**	Hagensee, Michael
	Project Overview	This protocol is to test individuals serum for antibodies against human papillomavirus, HPV. HPV does not routinely grow in the laboratory. Virus-like particles can be produced that in a cell culture expression system that can be used as antigens for these assays. This protocol is to describe the production of the virus like particles and the testing of serum samples for antibodies against HPV.
	NIH Guidelines Section(s)	III-D-1-a
	Risk Assessment & Discussion	Personnel working in the laboratory will use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, lab coats or disposable gowns, head covers, and surgical masks. All work involving biohazardous materials will be conducted within a certified Class II biosafety cabinet (BSL-2 rated) to ensure proper containment and minimize exposure risk.
	Training	All institutional trainings required are complete for lab staff listed in the registration: • COI in Research • Laboratory Safety • IBC Compliance • BBP High Risk
	EH&S Assessment	The lab was inspected, and no deficiencies were found.
	Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable)	N/A
	Biosafety Level Assignment	BSL-2
	IRB status (if applicable)	Application approved
	IBC Vote	The Primary Reviewer made a motion to assign the determination of Modifications Required to Secure Approval (MRSA) • Votes: 11/11 MRSA • COI: None reported Following a duly called vote of the committee, Dr. Hagensee's protocol was conditionally approved, pending submission and approval of the revisions requested by the Primary Reviewer.
	IBC #11402	RSK2 regulates Integrin signaling via CAV1 phosphorylation in Glioblastoma
2:22pm	**PI Name**	Yang, Won Seok
	Project Overview	Glioblastoma is an aggressive form of brain cancer that is difficult to treat because cancer cells can spread into surrounding healthy brain tissue, making complete removal challenging. This research examines how two proteins,

	RSK2 and CAV1, may work together to help glioblastoma cells move and invade nearby tissue. The study will investigate how changes to these proteins affect cell signaling and the activity of integrins, which help cancer cells attach to and interact with their surroundings. Understanding these processes may help identify new approaches for preventing tumor invasion and improving future treatment strategies
NIH Guidelines Section(s)	III-E-1 III-F-8, Appx C-II
Risk Assessment & Discussion	Personnel working in the laboratory will use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, lab coats or disposable gowns, head covers, and surgical masks. All work involving biohazardous materials will be conducted within a certified Class II biosafety cabinet (BSL-2 rated) to ensure proper containment and minimize exposure risk.
Training	All institutional trainings required are complete for lab staff listed in the registration: • COI in Research • Laboratory Safety • IBC Compliance • BBP High Risk
EH&S Assessment	The lab was inspected, and no deficiencies were found.
Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable)	N/A
Biosafety Level Assignment	BSL-2
IACUC or IRB status (if applicable)	N/A
IBC Vote	The Primary Reviewer made a motion to assign the determination of Modifications Required to Secure Approval (MRSA) • Votes: 11/11 MRSA • COI: None reported Following a duly called vote of the committee, Dr. Yang's protocol was conditionally approved, pending submission and approval of the revisions requested by the Primary Reviewer.

2:42pm **Adjournment**

The IBC Chair moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:42PM. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, November 11, 2025, via Zoom.