Institutional Biosafety Committee
Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order on 2/24/2026 at 11:30AM. A quorum was present. The meeting was held via Zoom and in-person (Melville Library – 5th Floor, Room W5530). The meeting was open.

Attendance
Voting Members Present:
Rachel Brownlee
Nicholas Carpino
Jeronimo Cello
Jorge Escobar
Hwan Kim
Christopher Kuhlow
Natalie Osorio
Dafang Wang

Non-Voting Attendees, Staff and Guests Present:
Rebecca Dahl
Lu-Ann Kozlowski
Aimee Minton
Terrence Rusch

Recording:
Erin Augello

Items
1. **Meeting called to order at 11:30AM**

2. **Next meeting date and general announcements**

The next meeting date is 3/24/2026. Dr. Carpino surveyed the assembled group to assess any conflict of interest or quorum issues. Members should recuse themselves and leave the room or Zoom meeting during the review of a study on which they have a conflict of interest.

3. Review of minutes from last meeting

Review type: **Full Committee Review**
Action: **Approved**
Effective date: **2/24/2026**
Vote: **Total = 8; For = 8; Opposed = 0; Abstained = 0**

4. Continuing reviews requiring IBC review

This section was reviewed and noted by the committee.

5. New studies for committee review

a. PROTO202600001 Staphylococcus aureus

PI:	Hwan Kim
Submission Type:	Initial Protocol
Safety Review Type:	Biosafety
Funding:	Name: Stony Brook University, Grant Office ID: AWD00005087, Funding Source ID: Laufer Funded MRSA Project
Training:	PI and all laboratory staff have been trained
Applicable Section of the NIH Guidelines that the Research Falls Under	III-D
Containment Conditions:	BSL-2

Determination: Modifications Required

Modifications (If Applicable):

i. In Section: Basic Information
Item 4. Please provide a brief description of the rsNAM work that will be conducted in this protocol.
ii. In Section: Protocol Team Members
Item 1. Please indicate a role for H. Kim and whether he will be involved with procedures.
iii. In Section: Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment
Item 1. The response does not address the consequences of exposure related to human cell lines. Please revise to acknowledge that human cell lines may harbor latent or undetected bloodborne pathogens (e.g., HBV, HCV, HIV) and briefly describe the potential consequences of exposure to these agents.

Effective Date: 2/26/2026
Project Expiration: 2/25/2027

Votes:

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

b. PROTO202600002 Targeted gene therapies for kidney diseases

PI:	Ryan Williams
Submission Type:	Initial Protocol
Safety Review Type:	Biosafety
Funding:	Name: Dialysis Clinic Incorporated, Grant Office ID: N/A. Funding Source ID: 4231
Training:	PI and all laboratory staff have been trained
Applicable Section of the NIH Guidelines that the Research Falls Under	III-F
Containment Conditions:	BSL-2

Determination: Approved
Modifications (If Applicable):
i. In section: Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment
Item 4. Annual BSC certification is out of date. Please recertify and indicate new certification date.

Effective Date: 2/26/2026
Project Expiration: 2/25/2027

Votes:

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

c. PROTO202600003 Genetically modified mice in CKD

PI:	Shipra Agrawal
Submission Type:	Initial Protocol
Safety Review Type:	Biosafety
Funding:	Name: National Institutes of Health, Grant Office ID: 97604-1-1182891, Funding Source ID: 1R01DK133440-01A1; Name: Dialysis Clinic Incorporated, Grant Office ID: 102945-1-1195615, Funding Source ID: #C-4225 (906 Stony Brook University)
Training:	PI and all laboratory staff have been trained
Applicable Section of the NIH Guidelines that the Research Falls Under	III-E
Containment Conditions:	BSL-1

Determination: Modifications Required
Modifications (If Applicable):
i. In Section: Basic Information In Section: Basic Information

Item 4. The summary states the overall goal of the study but is overly brief and does not sufficiently describe:
(i) how podocyte specificity is achieved by the genetic modification
(ii) the general experimental approach beyond breeding (e.g., phenotypic analyses or disease models to be used), and
(iii) the overall scope of analyses to be performed.
Additional context is needed to clearly convey what will be done with the genetically modified mice. In addition, if mouse cell lines are going to be listed in the summary please list the specific ones that will be used and use "such as....".
ii. In Section: Protocol Team Members
Item 1. Please indicate a role for S. Agrawal and whether she will be involved with procedures.
iii. In Section: Funding Sources
Item 1. Please indicate missing grant ID.
iv. In Section: Genetically Modified Animals: DNA Source
Item 3. The response to the question regarding creation of a transgenic strain on site is correctly "No." Under NIH/IBC terminology, "creating a transgenic strain" refers to the on-site introduction of recombinant DNA (e.g., pronuclear microinjection, ES cell targeting, CRISPR/Cas9 embryo editing, or viral vector–mediated gene transfer). Breeding or crossing existing transgenic lines does not constitute creation of a transgenic strain for this purpose.
v. In Section: Rodent Gene Transfer: Transgenic Strain
Item 3. In this section describing compliance with the NIH Guidelines, the PI is not being asked to predict biological outcomes, assert safety of the gene, or claim absence of phenotypes or harm. This section should instead describe compliance in procedural terms—specifically, that the work involves breeding of existing germline-modified mice under BSL-1 conditions, with no on-site gene transfer, viral vectors, or pathogenic agents. Absolute statements regarding the absence of harmful effects should be removed.
Item 5. The PI does not adequately answer how the DNA was introduced. The response should state that the recombinant DNA was introduced during the original creation of the parental transgenic lines by the originating laboratory and that no gene transfer procedures are performed under this protocol.

Effective Date: 2/27/2026
Project Expiration: 2/25/2027

Votes:

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

d. PROTO202600004 Olfactory decision making

PI:	Diego Restrepo
Submission Type:	Initial Protocol
Safety Review Type:	Biosafety
Funding:	Name: National Institutes of Health, Grant

	Office ID: N/A , Funding Source ID: R01AG079193
Training:	PI and all laboratory staff have been trained
Applicable Section of the NIH Guidelines that the Research Falls Under	III-D
Containment Conditions:	BSL-2

Determination: Modifications Needed
Modifications (If Applicable):
i. In Section: Basic Information
Item 4. Due to work with rsNAMs, please add a brief description here of rsNAM work proposed in this protocol.
ii. In Section: Biosafety Summary
Item 1. Due to work with rsNAMs, choose the rsNAM tab from the drop down menu and provide the requested information on the new page(s).
iii. In Section: Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment
Item 1. The response does not address the question asked. Instead of describing biosafety measures, please revise to describe the consequences of exposure, including the low but real risk of insertional mutagenesis from AAV vectors and the potential consequences of exposure to bloodborne pathogens (such as latent or undetected bloodborne pathogens (e.g., HBV, HCV, HIV)) when working with human tissues.
Item 4. A BSC is applicable when using human materials (BSL-2) and there is a chance for exposure to BBP. Therefore, the information about the BSC to be used should be provided, including the date of most recent certification.

Effective Date: 2/26/2026
Project Expiration: 2/25/2027

Votes:

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

e. PROTO202600005 BIO205

PI:	Marvin O'Neal
Submission Type:	Initial Protocol
Safety Review Type:	Biosafety
Funding:	None
Training:	Protocol team member needs to complete EH&S training ELS 003, ENV 001, ENV 005.
Applicable Section of the NIH Guidelines that the Research Falls Under	III-E
Containment Conditions:	BSL-1

Determination: Modifications Needed
Modifications (If Applicable): Training needs to be completed.

Effective Date: 2/26/2026
Project Expiration: 2/25/2027

Votes:

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

f. PROTO202600009 Ren Lab

PI:	Kehan Ren
Submission Type:	Initial Protocol
Safety Review Type:	Biosafety
Funding:	Name: Research Foundation for The State University of New York, Grant Office ID: Funding Source ID: 1201644 Name: National Cancer Institute, Grant Office ID: Funding Source ID: 4R00CA289959
Training:	PI and all laboratory staff have been trained
Applicable Section of the NIH Guidelines that the Research Falls Under	III-D
Containment Conditions:	BSL-2

Determination: Modifications Needed
Modifications (If Applicable):
i. In Section: Basic Information
Item 4. Please provide a brief description of the rsNAM work that will be conducted in this protocol.
ii. In Section: Funding Sources
Item 1. Please provide requested sponsor's Funding ID.
iii. In Section: Risk Group and Containment Practices
Item 1. Change to RG3 due to use of Lentivirus derived from HIV.
iv. In Section: Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment
Item 1. The response does not address the consequences of exposure related to human cell lines. Please revise to acknowledge that human cell lines may harbor latent or undetected bloodborne pathogens (e.g., HBV, HCV, HIV) and briefly describe the potential consequences of exposure to these agents.

Effective Date: 2/26/2026
Project Expiration: 2/25/2027

Votes:

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

g. PROTO202600010 Cong Lab - Uro-Bionic IBC

PI:	Zhaoqing Cong
Submission Type:	Initial Protocol
Safety Review Type:	Biosafety
Funding:	Name: Stony Brook University, Grant Office ID: N/A Funding Source ID: Departmental Startup Funds
Training:	PI and all laboratory staff have been trained
Applicable Section of the NIH Guidelines that the Research Falls Under	III-D
Containment Conditions:	BSL-2

Determination: Modifications Needed

Modifications (If Applicable):

i. Item 4. The summary is clear and appropriate; however, please add a brief sentence describing the rsNAM work (i.e., the use of recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules), including the general purpose of these constructs.

ii. In Section: Funding Sources

Item 1. Provide Sponsor's funding ID

iii. In Section: Risk Group and Containment Practices

Item 1. Risk Group classifications apply to infectious agents, not to human cell lines themselves. So, the highest risk group level is RG1 for E. coli.

iv. In Section: Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Work Description

Item 2. Please indicate identity of “genes of interest” referred to in Item 1.

Item 3. Please provide a description of the “genes of interest” referred to in Item 1.

v. In Section: Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment

Item 1. The statement conflates Risk Group (RG) with Biosafety Level (BSL). Risk Group classifications apply to infectious agents, not to human cell lines themselves. Human cell lines should not be described as “RG2”; rather, they are handled using BSL-2 practices and procedures under Universal (Standard) Precautions due to the potential presence of latent or undetected bloodborne pathogens (e.g., HIV, HBV, HCV) as described in the protocol. The description should be expanded to briefly note the consequences of exposure to potential bloodborne pathogens associated with human cell lines (e.g., HIV, HBV, and HCV), such as systemic viral infection and long-term health sequelae. Please revise to include these consequences, not just route of infection.

Effective Date: 2/26/2026
Project Expiration: 2/25/2027

Votes:

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

6. Amendments requiring IBC review

a. AMEND202500027 Triennial review of 200060

PI:	Jessica Seeliger
Submission Type:	Amendment
Safety Review Type:	Biosafety
Funding:	None
Training:	PI and all laboratory staff have been trained
Applicable Section of the NIH Guidelines that the Research Falls Under	III-D
Containment Conditions:	BSL-2

Determination: Approved
Modifications (If Applicable):
i. In Section: Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment
Item 1. The protocol involves the use of THP-1 human cell lines. The exposure assessment should therefore address the potential consequences of exposure to human-derived materials, including the risk of bloodborne pathogens (e.g., HBV, HCV, HIV), consistent with standard biosafety guidance for work with human cell lines.

Effective Date: 3/4/2026
Project Expiration: 3/3/2027

Votes:

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

b. AMEND202600008 Addition of new transgenic mice

PI:	Michelino Puopolo
Submission Type:	Amendment
Safety Review Type:	Biosafety
Funding:	None
Training:	PI and all laboratory staff have been trained
Applicable Section of the NIH Guidelines that the Research Falls Under	III-D
Containment Conditions:	BSL-2

Determination: Approved

Modifications (If Applicable):
i. in Section: Amendment Request
Item 5. PI states what procedures will be done but does not describe the rationale for the changes to the protocol. Please provide a rationale for the changes.
ii. In Section: Protocol Team Members
Item 1. No information for role or involvement with procedures is provided for Gupta. Please provide information.
iii. In Section: Funding Sources
Item 1. Information is incomplete.
iv. In Section: Viruses or Prions
Item 1. AAV is BSL-1 (unless a Helper Virus is used).
v. In Section: Biohazards
Item 1. AAV is BSL-1 (unless a Helper Virus is used). Also, w-Agatoxin should be listed here. It is described in point 2 in this section
Item 1. Please confirm that toxins will not be injected in animals. If they are injected in the animals, please write YES in the table.
Item 2. The AAV description contains imprecise terminology. In particular, the use of the term "pseudotyping" should be clarified, as AAV is a non-enveloped virus and the process described reflects packaging of the vector genome into different AAV capsid serotypes rather than classical pseudotyping (e.g., VSV-G). In addition, replication-defective AAV vectors should not be described as non-infectious, as they are capable of infecting target cells and mediating gene transfer despite lacking replication capacity.
Item 2. Add a brief description of the listed toxins including how they are going to be used in this protocol.
vi. In Section: Risk Group and Containment Practices
Item 1. Change to "RG2" for toxins being used.
vii. In Section: Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment
Item 1. The exposure assessment is incomplete and should be revised.
AAV: While recombinant AAV vectors are replication-defective and not known to cause disease, the assessment should acknowledge the potential for insertional mutagenesis following accidental exposure, even if the risk is considered low.
Use of human cell line:
The protocol involves the use of HEK293 human cell lines. The exposure assessment should therefore address the potential consequences of exposure to human-derived materials, including the risk of bloodborne pathogens (e.g., HBV, HCV, HIV), consistent with standard biosafety guidance for work with human cell lines.
ω-Agatoxin: The protocol references the use of ω-agatoxin, but the exposure assessment does not describe the health consequences of exposure to this toxin. The PI should include a description of the known toxic effects of ω-agatoxin, similar to what is provided for tetrodotoxin and ω-conotoxins.

Effective Date: 3/7/2026
Project Expiration: 3/6/2027

Votes:

For:	8

Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

c. AMEND202600013 Triennial review for 216741

PI:	Jessica Seeliger
Submission Type:	Amendment
Safety Review Type:	Biosafety
Funding:	None
Training:	PI and all laboratory staff have been trained
Applicable Section of the NIH Guidelines that the Research Falls Under	III-D
Containment Conditions:	BSL-2

Determination: Approved
Modifications (If Applicable):
i. In Section: Exposure Assessment and Protective Equipment
Item 1. The protocol involves the use of THP-1 human cell lines. The exposure assessment should therefore address the potential consequences of exposure to human-derived materials, including the risk of bloodborne pathogens (e.g., HBV, HCV, HIV), consistent with standard biosafety guidance for work with human cell lines.

Effective Date: 2/3/2026
Project Expiration: 2/2/2027

Votes:

For:	8
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	1
Abstained:	0

7. Review of incidents
None

8. Review of other agenda items
None

9. Inspection results
All inspections and responses were summarized by Mr. Kuhlow and reviewed and noted by the committee.

10. Discussion items/readings (major and minor points of order)
None

11. **Meeting adjourned** at 12:40PM