

Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2025

Location: Zoom Meeting

Time: 3:00 PM

IBC Members present

Sandra Arango-Caro	Human Subjects Expert
Bing Yang	Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acids and Pathogen Expert
Sona Pandey	IBC Chair
Kevin Reilly	Plant Containment Expert
Jim Cox	EHS Expert
Ross Johnson	Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acids Expert
Rosalee Knipp	IBC Community Member
Wendy Olivas	IBC Community Member (local)
Katie Siech	Biosafety Specialist
Mindy Darnell	Biological Safety Officer
Brooke Schmitt	IBC Administrator, Non-Voting

IBC Members absent

Veena Veena	Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acids Expert
Bing Yang	Plant/Lab Technical Expert
Beth Elam Michaud	IBC Community Member (local)

I. Old Business

A. Approval of Minutes – October 2nd

- 10-yes/0-no/0-abstentions.

B. Closed Items (Protocols fully approved between meetings):

1. Protocols or Amendments previously granted contingent approval by the full IBC where the PI responses were reviewed and approved between meetings by the BSO or designee:
 - Tessa Burch-Smith, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – New) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0004
 - Ru Zhang, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – New) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0062

2. Protocols or Amendments not meeting threshold of requiring full committee review based on NIH guidelines and DDPSC IBC Policy that were reviewed and approved by the BSO or designee:
 - Malia Gehan, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol - New) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0073
 - Tessa Burch-Smith, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – New) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0076
 - Kevin Cox, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – New) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0066
3. Annual Reviews that were reviewed and approved by the BSO or designee:
 - Bala Venkata, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC21-0070
 - Sona Pandey, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC22-0047
 - Sona Pandey, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC23-0064
 - Sona Pandey, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC22-0046
4. Protocols Closed (at the request of the PI):
 - Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol-Closure) IBC Protocol #: IBC23-0057

C. Open Items (Protocols reviewed by the IBC but not fully approved)

1. New protocols previously granted contingent approval by the full IBC where the PI responses have not yet been approved:
 - None

II. New Business

A. New Protocols

Principle Investigator	Dilip Shah
Protocol #	IBC25-0065
Title	Novel Plant Elicitor and heme-sequestering peptide technology for soybean cyst nematode (SCN)
Protocol Description	The general purpose of the experiments is to develop novel plant elicitors and heme-sequestering peptide technology for soybean cyst nematode control.

Types of Organisms	Plant, Insect
NIH Guidelines Agents	N/A
NIH Guidelines Section	N/A
Containment Level	BSL-1
IBC Review	The committee reviewed and discussed containment levels, personnel training, facilities involved, procedures and practices, agent characteristics (if applicable), and rsNA details (if applicable).
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The IBC requested additional details for the SOP. Specifically, they would like to see details regarding storage, transport and waste disposal. The PI is asked to add the agrobacterium strain they are using to the protocol and to change the plant biosafety level to BLP-2.
IBC Decision	The IBC voted to contingently approve the protocol (10-yes 0-no/0-abstention).

B. Amendments & Continuing Reviews of Approved Protocols:

Principle Investigator	Doug Allen
Protocol #	IBC22-0041
Title	Reducing Undesirable Carbohydrates During Seed Development
Protocol Description	Proposing to develop soybean lines with increased protein content by strategically altering carbon partitioning into storage reserves. For this amendment they are adding recombinant DNA material.
Types of Organisms	Plant
NIH Guidelines Agents	rsNA
NIH Guidelines Section	III-E-2
Containment Level	BSL-1
IBC Review	The committee reviewed and discussed containment levels, personnel training, facilities involved, procedures and practices, agent characteristics (if applicable), and rsNA details (if applicable).
IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The PI is asked to correct some typos in the amendment.
IBC Decision	The IBC voted to contingently approve the protocol (10-yes 0-no/0-abstention).

C. Other Business:

None

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:13 PM.

Reviewed and approved by:

Sona Pandey

Sona Pandey (Jan 8, 2026 10:57:26 CST)

Sona Pandey, Ph.D.

Member, Principal Investigator

Institutional Biosafety Committee Chair

Mindy Darnell

Mindy Darnell (Dec 17, 2025 10:55:04 CST)

Mindy Darnell, M.S.

Director, Environmental Health & Safety and Biosafety

Biological Safety Officer