

**LSU HSC-New Orleans Institutional Biosafety Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Wednesday, October 8, 2025

**Time:** 9:00AM-9:30AM

**Location:** Zoom

**Members present:**

1. Zea, *IBC Chair*
2. Aiyar
3. Birke, *Animal Containment*
4. Guidry
5. Siggins
6. Wang
7. Zabaleta
8. Yue

**Members excused:**

1. Catling, *IBC Vice Chair*
2. Didier Mejia, *BSO*
3. Curran, *Local Non-affiliated Member*

**Other Individual:** 1. Landry, *Research Compliance Analyst II, IBC/IACUC*

**Attendance:** 2. Fuselier, *Research Compliance Analyst II, IACUC/IBC*

9:02am **Quorum Present**

The IBC has 11 voting members and 6 are required to conduct business

9:02am **Call to Order**

The IBC Chair called the meeting to order

9:02am **Conflicts of Interest**

The IBC Chair reminded all members present to identify any conflicts of interest as each application is reviewed.

9:02am **Review and approval of previous meeting minutes**

- September 10, 2025

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried.

These minutes were posted on the ORS IBC webpage.

9:02am **Review of Prior Business**

- News from the NIH Office of Science Policy
  - The Committee received a memo from the NIH announcing the launch of a new biosafety modernization initiative. This initiative aims to strengthen biosafety policies, practices, and oversight to address evolving risks associated with rapidly advancing science and technology. NIH will update existing biosafety policy to ensure that research is conducted under “gold standard” biosafety conditions. Committee members were encouraged to review the statement issued by NIH Director Dr. Jay Bhattacharya and additional information available on the NIH OSP website.

**Institutional Biosafety Committee**

- Director of ORS search
- Dr. Porche informed the Committee that members will be invited to meet and speak with the candidates for Director of the Office of Research Services (ORS).

9:02am **New Business**

- No new business at this time

9:02am **Review of Incidents & Non-compliance**

• **Administrative Closures Due to Inactivity from September 10, 2025 to October 8, 2025**

Title	Number	PI Name	Review Type	Continuing Review Date	Expiration Date
<a href="#">Effect of Cartilage oligomeric matrix protein (COMP) on apoptosis in Colon Cancer</a>	7406	Nfonsam, Valentine	Full Committee	August 04, 2025	August 04, 2029

• **Protocols that are suspended, in “Grace Period” and destined for administrative closure:**

Title	Number	PI Name	Status	Continuing Review Date	Expiration Date
<a href="#">Immunology and Respirometry of Burn Wounds and TBI Murine Model</a>	5608	Smith, Allison	Designated Member Review	August 29, 2025	August 29, 2028
<a href="#">Role of DNA-PK in vascular inflammation</a>	5482	Boulares, Abdel	Designated Member Review	September 28, 2025	September 28, 2028
<a href="#">Breeding of mice for research on vascular disease and cancer</a>	5489	Boulares, Abdel	Designated Member Review	September 24, 2025	September 24, 2028

9:02am **Inspections/Ongoing Oversight**

• **EH&S**

There were no updates or issues to report from EH&S at this time.

9:02am **IBC Registrations & Amendments for Review**

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

<b>IBC #9463</b>	<b>SRP-001: A Non-Opioid and Non-Hepatotoxic Analgesic for the Treatment of Pain in the Context of Substance Use Disorder</b>
<b>PI Name</b>	Edwards, Scott
<b>Project Overview</b>	The study aims to evaluate SRP-001, an acetaminophen derivative, for its potential in treating alcohol and opioid use disorders. Research will assess effects on alcohol drinking, fentanyl

	self-administration, and pain sensitivity in animal models. The project seeks to address gaps in understanding substance-induced pain and to develop safer, more effective therapies for individuals with substance use disorders.
<b>NIH Guidelines Section(s)</b>	N/A
<b>Risk Assessment &amp; Discussion</b>	Personnel working in the laboratory will use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, lab coats or disposable gowns, and BSL1 rated biosafety cabinet.
<b>Training</b>	All institutional trainings required are complete for lab staff listed in the registration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COI in Research</li> <li>• Laboratory Safety</li> <li>• IBC Compliance</li> <li>• BBP High Risk</li> </ul>
<b>EH&amp;S Assessment</b>	The lab was inspected, and no deficiencies were found.
<b>Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable)</b>	N/A
<b>Biosafety Level Assignment</b>	BSL-1 ABSL-1
<b>IACUC status (if applicable)</b>	Application submitted and under review
<b>IBC Vote</b>	The IBC Chair determined that the application met all necessary requirements and was approved through designated member review (DMR). FCR was not required.
<b>IBC #9326</b>	<b>Geroprotective Precision Medicine Strategies in PWH that Use Alcohol</b>
<b>PI Name</b>	Welsh, David
<b>Project Overview</b>	The study will evaluate whether a probiotic and blueberry extract can reduce aging-related immune changes in people with HIV who consume alcohol. Researchers will assess effects on immune function, gut health, and inflammation using blood and stool samples, and apply computer modeling to identify which individuals benefit most. The goal is to develop safe, personalized strategies to improve health and quality of life in this population.
<b>NIH Guidelines Section(s)</b>	N/A
<b>Risk Assessment &amp; Discussion</b>	Personnel working in the laboratory will use an appropriate chemical fume hood, BSL-2 Biosafety cabinet and will use personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, lab coats or disposable gowns, eye goggles, and surgical mask.
<b>Training</b>	All institutional trainings required are complete for lab staff listed in the registration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COI in Research</li> <li>• Laboratory Safety</li> <li>• IBC Compliance</li> <li>• BBP High Risk</li> <li>• BioSafety Training: Shipping Biological Materials</li> </ul>
<b>EH&amp;S Assessment</b>	The lab was inspected, and no deficiencies were found.

<b>Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable)</b>	N/A
<b>Biosafety Level Assignment</b>	BSL-2
<b>IRB status (if applicable)</b>	Application Submitted and Under Review
<b>IBC Vote</b>	The IBC Chair determined that the application met all necessary requirements and was approved through designated member review (DMR). FCR was not required.
<b>IBC #9881</b>	<b>The effects of psychedelics on diabetic neuropathy</b>
<b>PI Name</b>	Nichols, Charles
<b>Project Overview</b>	The study will test whether microdoses of a psychedelic compound with anti-inflammatory and nerve-regenerative properties can reduce diabetic nerve damage. Diabetes will be induced using streptozotocin (STZ), followed by regular testing for pain sensitivity. All animals will receive a high-fat diet. Experimental groups will include controls, STZ-only subjects, and STZ subjects treated biweekly with saline, insulin, the psychedelic compound, or a combination of insulin and the psychedelic. The goal is to determine whether this treatment can reduce inflammation and promote nerve repair in diabetic neuropathy.
<b>NIH Guidelines Section(s)</b>	III-D-4-B
<b>Risk Assessment &amp; Discussion</b>	Personnel working in the laboratory will use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, surgical mask, lab coats or disposable gowns.
<b>Training</b>	All institutional trainings required are complete for lab staff listed in the registration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COI in Research</li> <li>• Laboratory Safety</li> <li>• IBC Compliance</li> <li>• BBP High Risk</li> </ul>
<b>EH&amp;S Assessment</b>	The lab was inspected, and no deficiencies were found.
<b>Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable)</b>	N/A
<b>Biosafety Level Assignment</b>	BSL-1 ABSL-1
<b>IACUC status (if applicable)</b>	Application submitted and under review
<b>IBC Vote</b>	The IBC Chair determined that the application met all necessary requirements and was approved through designated member review (DMR). FCR was not required.

- **Amendments and Renewals**

Title	Number	PI Name	Submission Type	Expiration Date	Amendment
<a href="#">Mechanisms of Prohealing Lipid Autocrines/paracrines of Macrophages and Nerves in Diabetic Wound Re-innervation</a>	7167	Hong, Song	Amended	April 27, 2029	Correction or clarification of protocol details
<a href="#">SARS-CoV-2 tropism in the brain and its relationship to COVID-19 pathogenesis</a>	2492	Lazartigues, Eric	Amended	November 11, 2026	Addition of experimental material
<a href="#">Interaction of cannabinoids and opioids on antinociception, learning, and performance behavior</a>	6699	Winsauer, Peter	Amended	February 19, 2029	Change in Personnel
<a href="#">Neuronal Activity-Regulated Glutamine Transporter</a>	9461	Erickson, Jeffrey	Amended	August 18, 2030	Correction or clarification of protocol details
<a href="#">Alcohol-induced injury to Heart</a>	5414	Paloczi, Janos	Amended	June 06, 2028	Change in personnel Addition of experimental material
<a href="#">Viral Oncology Research Lab – Human Tissues</a>	2470	Wood, Charles	Amended	December 21, 2026	Change in personnel
<a href="#">Arthrobrosis control using small molecule inhibitors of interleukin-11</a>	8006	Marrero, Luis	Amended	January 15, 2030	Correction or clarification of protocol details
<a href="#">Viral Oncology Research Lab – In Vitro Techniques</a>	2473	West, John	Amended	December 06, 2027	Change in personnel

<a href="#">The Effects of Metabolic &amp; Bariatric Surgery on Lipid Metabolism, MDSC, and Cancer Cell Biology</a>	5810	Sanchez-Pino, Maria	Renewed	October 05, 2028	
<a href="#">Novel Neuroprotective lipid mediators for Ischemic Stroke</a>	4639	Bazan, Nicolas	Renewed	November 01, 2027	
<a href="#">Intraoperative Fluorescence Image-Guided Assessment of Tumor Margins During Surgical Resection</a>	4746	Boudreaux, J. Philip	Renewed	October 05, 2027	
<a href="#">Cardiovascular effects of nicotine and high fact diet</a>	4789	Yue, Xinping	Renewed	November 01, 2027	
<a href="#">Chemoprevention of Breast Cancer by Targeting Glucose Metabolism with HJC0152</a>	7655	Shen, Qiang	Renewed	October 11, 2029	
<a href="#">Lactobacillus-vectored Alkaline Phosphatase to Mitigate Alcohol-Induced Leaky Gut and LPS Endotoxin Load in the Gut</a>	7645	Welsh, David	Renewed/Amended	September 16, 2029	Change in personnel
<a href="#">Animal Holding Protocol</a>	7986	Birke, Leslie	Renewed/Amended	December 20, 2029	Addition of experimental material
<a href="#">IRBP in the visual cycles and retinal diseases</a>	6453	Jin, Minghao	Renewed/Amended	December 19, 2028	Change in personnel

					Addition of experimental material
<a href="#">Targeting ADAM17 maturation in resistant hypertension</a>	2490	Lazartigues, Eric	Renewed/Amended	November 15, 2026	Change in personnel
<a href="#">Characterization of Paracrine Factors from Adipose Derived Stem Cells of Trauma and Burn Patients</a>	2495	Smith, Alison	Renewed/Amended	November 11, 2026	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.

9:08am

IBC #9872	Genetic approaches for the treatment of Usher syndrome
<b>PI Name</b>	Lentz, Jennifer
<b>Project Overview</b>	This project aims to develop therapies for Usher syndrome Type 1C, a genetic disorder causing deafness, imbalance, and progressive vision loss. A mouse model carrying the human 216A mutation found in Louisiana Acadian patients is being used to study disease progression and test potential treatments to prevent or reverse sensory impairments.
<b>NIH Guidelines Section(s)</b>	III-D-4a III-F-1
<b>Risk Assessment &amp; Discussion</b>	Personnel working in the laboratory will use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, lab coats or disposable gowns, head covers, face shield, 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.
<b>Training</b>	All institutional trainings required are complete for lab staff listed in the registration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COI in Research</li> <li>• Laboratory Safety</li> <li>• IBC Compliance</li> <li>• BBP High Risk</li> </ul>
<b>EH&amp;S Assessment</b>	The lab was inspected, and no deficiencies were found.

<b>Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable)</b>	N/A
<b>Biosafety Level Assignment</b>	BSL-2 ABSL-2
<b>IACUC status (if applicable)</b>	Application approved
<b>IBC Vote</b>	<p>The Primary Reviewer made a motion to assign the determination of Deferred for Information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Votes: 7/8 MRSA, 1/8 Approve</li> <li>• COI: None reported</li> </ul> <p>Following a duly called vote of the committee, Dr. Lentz's protocol, which was previously Deferred for Information, was approved contingent upon submission and approval of the requested revisions by the Primary Reviewer.</p>

9:30am **Adjournment**

The IBC Chair moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30AM. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, 2025, via Zoom.