

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

RUTGERS

Rutgers Environmental Health and Safety
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey • 27 Road 1 • Bldg. 4086
Livingston Campus • Piscataway • New Jersey 08854
732/445-2550 • FAX: 732/445-3109

April 28, 2006

Edward H. Hammond
Director
The Sunshine Project
P.O. Box 41987
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Hammond,

Enclosed please find copies of the minutes of the University Biosafety Committee meetings from May 2003 to the present, as requested in your March 15, 2006 faxed correspondence. Please note that we had a meeting on March 7, 2006 but the minutes of this meeting will not be approved until our next committee meeting and as such were not made available to you at this time.

For reasons of biosecurity, we have redacted information pertaining to our Select Agent Program from these minutes.

Rutgers University is registered with the CDC and is in compliance with 42 CFR 73. Please feel free to contact me at 732/445-2550 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Greg Lupinski
Manager, Health and Safety Services

cc: M. Quinlan
G. Arnold
File: Biosafety/Biosafety Committee/Records Requests

UNIVERSITY BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

November 1, 2005

Members Present:

Gail Arnold, Chair
Richard Ebright
Kate Gaioni
Mitch Gayer
Bob Harris
Ron Hart
Eric Lam
Greg Lupinski
Pat McIlroy
Lynne Pitcher
Lee Simon

Members Absent:

Carol Bagnell
Donna Caputo
Don Schaffner

Also Present:

Jeanne Boyer

I. Minutes of the June 29, 2005 Meeting

Minutes of the June 29, 2005 meeting were approved.

II. Business Arising From The Minutes

A. Biosafety Audit

REHS will follow up with committee members to schedule audits.

III. Review and Approval of Research Protocols Submitted Between June 29, 2005 and October 28, 2005

The Committee discussed the protocol review process

Mitch Gayer informed the committee that historically, the Biosafety Officer provisionally approved biosafety level 1 (BL-1) protocols, and the committee ratified them. It was suggested that a notation be included in BL-1 protocol summaries, that BL-1 requirements have been met.

Lee Simon requested a clarification of disposal methods used in the proposed protocols. If it is not specifically noted in protocol summary, it should be assumed that Greg has already approved the particular method of disposal.

The committee suggested a checklist of BL-1 protocols, indicating which ones are exempt. The protocol process will be reviewed as part of the biosafety audit.

A. Those Requiring the Committee's Ratification (rDnA, BL-1)

Dr. Pal Maliga (RD-05-014) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Dr. James Ammerman (RD-05-013) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Dr. Shawn Arent (BH-05-011) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Dr. Ron Hart (RD-05-015) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Dr. Cliff Wessel (BH-05-006) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1

B. Those Requiring the Committee's Approval (Biohazard, BL-2, LS)

Dr. Loredana Quadroa (RD-05-011) - conditional approval pending inspection of lab upon completion.

Dr. Bozena Michniak-Kohn (BH-05-008, 009, 010 & 011) - approval is granted for all 4 protocols at biosafety level 2

Dr. Audrey Minden (RD-05-012) - conditional approval pending inspection of lab upon completion.

Dr. Joachim Kohn 9BH-05-007) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

IV. Laboratory Inspections

No violations were found in the labs.

V. New Business

A. New Select Agent

Greg Lupinski reported that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services published an interim final rule in the October 20, 2005 Federal Register, adding the reconstructed 1918 pandemic influenza virus to the HHS select agents and toxins list. A letter will be sent to department chairs, under Dr. Furmanski's name, notifying them that this virus is considered a select agent and must be reported as such.

B. Bio-Assistant Software

Greg Lupinski informed the committee that REHS recently purchased software to track bio-agent use in the University. The secure software is able to track individual usage, maintain inventory, and identify protocols nearing expiration. Dr. Montville is not included in database since he is a registered user.

C. Cabinet Decontamination

Greg Lupinski will arrange a demonstration of a new way of decontaminating biosafety cabinets using vapor-phased hydrogen. Members of the biosafety committee will be invited to attend. This proposed method should be quicker than the traditional one, and offers less concern of exposure to formaldehyde. There is no clean up afterwards, and is more cost-effective in the long term.

D. Door Signs

Greg Lupinski informed the committee that REHS is preparing to change the biohazard labels used on door signs to alert emergency personnel. The BL-1 labels will be lettering only, and the BL-2 labels will contain the biohazard symbol.

A.

[REDACTED]

B. Dual Use

Mike Quinlan informed the committee that the National Institute of Health has not yet issued any formal guidelines for dual use research. The Biosafety committee endorses incorporating a dual use disclosure as part of grant application. Richard Ebright stated that his area uses the seven experiments of concern issued by the NIH as guidelines in reviewing protocols.

C. Biosafety Guide Revision

This issue has not been addressed to date.

III. Review and Approval of Research Protocols Submitted Between January 25, 2005 and June 28, 2005

A. Those Requiring the Committee's Ratification (rDNA, BL-1)

Dr. David Vicario (BH-05-004) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Dr. Barbara Zilinskas (BH-05-007) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Dr. Wendi Cohick (RD-05-005) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Dr. W.A. Meyer (RD-05-T-001) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Dr. Donald Kobayashi (RD-05-010) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1

B. Those Requiring the Committee's Approval (Biohazard, BL-2, LS)

Dr. Areil Igal (BH-05-005) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 2
Will work in Dr. Brasaemle's lab until lab is upgraded to BL-2.	
Dr. Guy Werlen (RD-05-009) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 2
Gail Arnold requesting further information regarding host of retro virus.	
Dr. Joachim Kohn (BH-05-003) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 2
Waiting for his lab to be approved for BL-2 work.	
Dr. Joseph Dixon (RD-05-006) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 2
Dr. Samuel Gunderson (RD-05-008) -	conditional approval is granted at biosafety level 2 pending further clarification. Confirm what the papillomavirus is contained in.
Dr. Linda Brzustowicz (BH-05-002) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 2

The following issues were also discussed:

- Summaries of new protocols requiring approval should be submitted to committee members in advance of the meeting. Currently, Greg submits protocols to Jean for her review, and any questions are referred back to the researcher.

- The definition of bloodborne pathogen on the ORSP checklist needs to be redefined. The specific language will be emailed to the committee for their comments.
- The committee recommended making biosafety training a requirement for *all* occupants working in a BL-2 lab. Mitch Gayer stated that EOHSI offers biosafety training in September and all are welcome to attend.

IV. Laboratory Inspections – [REDACTED]

V. New Business

A. [REDACTED]

B. Transgenic Plants

Scotts conducted an audit of the Horticulture Farm on Cook. There was a discrepancy regarding the amount of creeping bentgrass planted. On May 13th, REHS met with a USDA inspector; no violations were issued. REHS would like to more directly involved with the field trials in the future, and is in the process of contacting Scotts for more information.

C. Biosafety Program Audit

Mike Quinlan requested the assistance of committee members in conducting an audit of the biosafety program. Similar audits are conducted with members of the Radiation Safety and Occupational Safety committee members, in conjunction with REHS personnel. A copy of the completed audit will be presented to the President's Advisory Council of the EHSMS.

The following components will be audited. Several members have already volunteered their assistance.

- Committee
- Training – Carol Bagnell & Richard Ebright
- Protocol Registration – Mitch Gayer
- Transgenic Plants – Don Schaffner
- BL-2 Inspections – Gail Arnold
- Emergency Response – Lee Simon
- Select Agent Program
- Cabinet Certification Program
- Service Orientation

REHS will follow up with members to schedule audits.

D. Items of Future Consideration

A draft of a biosafety questionnaire for those working in a flow cytometry facility was distributed to committee members for their review. Any comments or suggestions should be forwarded to Greg Lupinski.

VI. Date, Place and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled for early October. In order to meet on a more frequent basis meetings are planned for October, December, February and May. An electronic meeting is set for over the Summer.

Ps committee/bsc0506

BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

January 25, 2005

Members Present:

Gail Arnold, Chair
Carol Bagnell
Richard Ebright
Kate Gaioni
Mitch Gayer
Bob Harris
Ron Hart
Eric Lam
Greg Lupinski
Patrick McIlroy
Lynne Pitcher
Mike Quinlan

Members Absent:

Donna Caputo
Lee Kerkhof
David Papi
Don Schaffner
Lee Simon

Also Present:

Jean Boyer

M. Quinlan announced that Amy Ryan resigned from Rutgers University, accepting a position with UMDNJ in Newark. Greg Lupinski has assumed the responsibilities of the Biosafety program.

Greg Lupinski introduced Jean Boyer, PhD, to the committee. Dr. Boyer was hired as a consultant to review research protocols and provide advice on appropriate biosafety practices in the laboratory.

I. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes of the September 23, 2004 meeting were accepted, except for a reference to the Sunshine Project. The minutes should be changed to reflect that the Sunshine Project is not a true biosafety committee, but a private institution established to ensure that minutes of biosafety committee meetings are properly noted.

II. Business Arising From the Minutes

A. Biosafety Guide Revisions

Greg Lupinski will have revisions to the biosafety guide available for review for the next meeting.

B.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

III. Review and Approval of Research Protocols Submitted Between September 23, 2004 and January 25, 2005

At the last meeting, the committee requested that the new protocols be discussed in more depth. Greg thanked Dr. Boyer for providing written detailed descriptions for the committee.

A. Those Requiring the Committee's Ratification (DNA, BL-1)

Gaeton Montellone (RD-05-001) approval is granted at biosafety level 1* "Lab personnel must obtain a DPT booster immunization if the last immunization was greater than 10 years old. Any proteins used for high level production must be sequenced and not characterized to determine the appropriate level of biosafety.

Donald Kobayashi (RD-05-002) approval is granted at biosafety level 1* The PI is using pJQ2005K, in which there was no information available. REHS will have to follow up on this.

Peter Kahn (RD-05-003) approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Hugo Dooner (RD-05-004) approval is granted at biosafety level 1* "Confirm if promoter is returned back into plant.

B. Those Requiring the Committee's Approval (Biohazard, BL-2, LS)

Wendie Cohick (BH-05-001) approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Eric Lam suggested updating the DNA and Biohazard Protocol Forms. A draft shall be distributed to the committee for review. Perhaps exempt protocols could assumably be approved at BL-1. Mike Quinlan asked Mitch Gayer's assistance in revising guidelines for approving protocols.

IV. Laboratory Inspections

Except for minor housekeeping issues, all BL-2 labs were found to be in compliance.

V. New Business

A. Dual Use/NIH Funding

Michael Quinlan advised the committee that the federal government has established a "National Science Advisory Board on Biosecurity" to address concerns for "dual use" research. Dual use research is considered to be life sciences research with legitimate purposes that may be used to pose a biological threat. This board, managed by the National Institute of Health, is in the process of developing national guidelines and a code of conduct.

The board identified seven types of experiments that would cause concern. Richard Ebright suggested that we incorporate these 7 areas of concern into a "yes/no" checklist for protocol review. If the PI answers yes, a further explanation would be required. It should include a certification statement signed by the PI. It

should be reviewed at the same level as a BL-2 protocol. A draft of the proposed checklist will be forwarded to the committee for review.

B. Biosafety Cabinet Policy: Natural Gas

Tabled until next meeting.

C. Items of Future Consideration

- a. Autoclave Challenges
- b. Decontamination of Equipment
- c. Flow Cytometry

Tabled until next meeting

D. Committee Composition

Greg Lupinski informed the committee that an updated list of committee members will be forwarded to the National Institute of Health. He asked that members review the current list included in handouts, and report any corrections to REHS.

VI. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be scheduled in June.

Ps committee/bsc0501

BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

September 24, 2004

Members Present:

Gail Arnold
Carol Bagnell
Richard Ebright
Kate Gaioni
Bob Harris
Patrick McIlroy
Lynne Pitcher
Mike Quinlan
Amy Ryan
Don Schaffner
Lee Simon

Members Absent:

Donna Caputo
Mitch Gayer
Ron Hart
Lee Kerkhof
Eric Lam
David Papi

Also Present:

Greg Lupinski

I. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes of the December 10, 2003 meeting were accepted.

II. Business Arising From the Minutes

A. Commercially Available Transgenic Products

The National Institute of Health declared that all transgenic products used for research must be registered. Amy Ryan had distributed a memo to researchers regarding this issue, but received no response. Commercially available transgenic products are used in the labs quite frequently, but the general consensus of the Committee is that these products have already been properly tested, and do not need to be re-evaluated. M. Quinlan suggested speaking with Dr. Eric Lam and others with transgenic plant experience to get their input.

B. Revision of the Biosafety Guide

Amy Ryan has been revising the Biosafety Guide and will present a draft to the committee. REHS will make it available on line.

II. Review and Approval of Research Protocols Submitted Between December 10, 2003 and September 23, 2004

A. Those Requiring the Committee's Ratification (rDNA, BL1)

David Denhardt (RD-92-022-R)
Bradley Hillman (RD-92-078-R)
Monica Driscoll (RD-93-019-R)
Edward Arnold (RD-93-059-R)
Pal Maliga (RD-94-004-R)
Bradley Hillman (RD-94-011-R)
Faith Belanger (RD-96-002-R)
Bradley Hillman (RD-98-012-R)
Xuemei Chen (RD-99-003-R)

approval is granted at Biosafety Level 2
approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
approval is granted at Biosafety Level 2
approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1

Those Requiring the Committee's Approval (Biohazard, BL-2, LS)

Xiao – A. Ryan had consulted with several committee members and Dr. Arnold Rabson prior to assigning an enhanced BL-2+ to Dr. Xiao's protocols.

Wagner – M. Quinlan and A. Ryan will reaffirm that Dr Wagner is properly trained to receive his materials in compliance with DOT requirements.

Carol Bagnell (RD-99-004-R)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Lena Brattsten (RD-99-010-R)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Ilya Raskin (RD-99-011-R)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Tamar Barkay (RD-99-012-R)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Tamar Barkay (RD-99-013-R)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Eric Lam (RD-99-016-R)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Tung-Ching Lee (RD-99-017-R)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Max Hagblom (RD-01-030-R)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Faith Belanger (RD-01-T-003-R)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 2
Ximing Guo (RD03-031)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
George Wagner (RD-03-032)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 2*
Gutian Xiao (RD-03-033)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 2**
Gutian Xiao (RD-03-034)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 2**
Elisabetta Bini (RD-04-001)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Donald Gerecke (RD-04-002)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 2
Donald Kobayashi (RD-04-003)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Laura Bianchi (RD-04-004)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Judith Storch (RD-04-005)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Gengyun Zhang (RD-04-006)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Edward Arnold (RD-04-007)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Edward Arnold (RD-04-008)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Coloban deVargas (RD-04-009)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Christopher Rongo (RD-04-010)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Ken Callanan (RD-40-F-001)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 2
Patrick Sinko (RD-04-012)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 2
Ronald Hart (RD-04-013)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 2***
Ronald Hart (RD-04-014)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Martin Yarmush (RD-04-015)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Dongming Sun (RD-04-016)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1
Christopher Rongo (RD-04-017)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 2
David Gruber (RD-04-021)	approval is granted at Biosafety Level 1

*Bushek – If the protocol involves just conducting PCR analysis and not replicating, the committee may downgrade to BL-1. Amy will follow up.

IV. Laboratory Inspections

A. Ryan reported that all BL-2 labs are inspected annually. In Dr. Kusnecov's lab, blood tubes were discarded in the chemical waste. All other labs were found to be in compliance. In addition to biosafety inspections, REHS also conducts routine lab inspections, and the researchers should be conducting quarterly self-inspections.

V. New Business

A. [REDACTED]

B. [REDACTED]

C. Sunshine Project Records Request

The Sunshine Project is a biosafety committee represented by various institutions. They had requested copies of our committee minutes to review. They felt there was inadequate discussion of the protocols reflected in the minutes. The committee approved including a detailed summary of the protocols as part of the minutes for future requests. However, researchers' names and any references to select agents will be blacked out.

D. Dual Use Research

Tabled until next meeting.

E. Biosafety Cabinet Policy: Natural Gas

Tabled until next meeting.

Membership will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Ps committee/bsc0409

BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

July 9, 2003

Members Present:

Gail Arnold, Chair
Carol Bagnell
Donna Caputo
Richard Ebright
Kate Gaioni
Mitch Gayer
Bob Harris
Ron Hart
Patrick McIlroy
Mike Quinlan
Amy Ryan
Don Schaffner
Lee Simon

Members Absent:

Lee Kerkhof
Eric Lam
David Papi

Also Present:

Dave Reimer
Greg Lupinski

M. Quinlan announced his new position as Interim Associate VP of Business Services. Although he will be serving in his new capacity, he will continue to retain the duties of the "responsible official", with Greg Lupinski and Amy Ryan as his alternates.

Bob Harris introduced his guest, Dave Reimer, a veterinarian with Animal Science.

I. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes of the May 7, 2003 meeting were accepted.

II. Business Arising From the Minutes

A. Report to NIH – Dr. Siegel

Amy Ryan updated the committee regarding the "missing" 12 vials of adeno-associated virus from Dr. Siegel's freezer. The NIH was notified, and a memo was received from them confirming receipt. Measures have been taken in Dr. Siegel's lab to tighten security.

B.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

III.

Review and Approval of Research Protocols Submitted Between February 5, 2003 and July 8, 2003.

A.

Those Requiring the Committee's Ratification (rDNA, BL-1)

Eric Lam (RD-91-013-R) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

David Denhardt (RD-92-022-R) - conditional approval*

Eric Lam (RD-92-060) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Alice Liu (RD-93-011-R) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Robert Neiderman (RD-93-013-R) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Joan Morrell (RD-93-022-R) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Lena Brattsten (RD-93-027-R) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Judith Storch (RD-97-002-R) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Dawn Brasaemle (RD-99-014-R) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Garth Patterson (RD-03-003) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Khew-Voon Chin (RD-03-004) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Charles Roth (RD-03-005) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Charles Roth (RD-03-006) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Randy Gaugler (RD-03-007) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Faith Belanger (RD-01-T-003-R) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Mark Plummer (RD-03-008) - N/A

Andrew Bush (RD-03-009) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Richard Padgett (RD-03-010) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Shengkan Jin (RD-03-011) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Lee Kerkhof (RD-03-012) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

G.M. Ghidui (RD-03-001) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Abram Gabriel (RD-03-014) - N/A*

Ronald Hart (RD-03-015) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Joachim Messing (RD-03-016) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Joachim Kohn (RD-03-017) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Paul Falkowski (RD-03-019) - approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Kay Biddle

*A. Ryan will check with Dr. Ghidui to ensure potatoes do not reproduce.

B.

Those Requiring the Committee's Approval (Biohazard, BL-2, t-Plant)

Suzie Chen (BH-03-003) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Patrick Sinko (BH-03-004) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Tamara Minko (BH-03-005) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Khew-Voon Chin (BH-03-006) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Shengkan Jin (BH-03-007) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Thomas Cook (BH-03-008) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Paul Takhistov (BH-03-009) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Thomas Montville (BH-03-010) - approval is granted at biosafety level 2

Ron Hart (BH-03-011)	-	see below**
Paul Thomas (BH-03-012)	-	approval is granted at biosafety level 2
Jun-Yan Hong (BH-03-013)	-	approval is granted at biosafety level 2

**Dr. Hart's protocol seeks to create DNA microarrays from virally encoded mRNAs of human pathogens. Dr. Ebright raised select agent concerns over use of monkey pox and denghi viruses. Dr. Hart's protocol was approved at biosafety level 2 pending additional information from him.

All researchers working with human blood must attend Bloodborne Pathogen training or their protocols will not be approved.

IV. Laboratory Inspections

All laboratories inspected were found to be in compliance.

V.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Committee/bsc0307

BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

May 6, 2003

Members Present:

G. Arnold, Chair
C. Bagnell
D. Caputo
R. Ebright
K. Gaioni
M. Gayer
R. Harris
R. Hart
L. Kerkhof
D. Papi
L. Pitcher
R. Puelle
M. Quinlan
M. Ryan
D. Schaffner
L. Simon

Members Absent:

P. McIlroy
J. Weis

Also Present:

T. Montville

Introductions

M. Quinlan introduced new members Rose Puelle and David Papi. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Report to NIH: Dr. Siegel

- A. Ryan notified the Committee that Dr. Siegel, of CMBN in Newark, reported that 12 vials of adeno-associated virus in his lab's freezer were missing. The freezer is not under his authorization, and lab personnel think it was autoclaved for disposal accidentally. The current stock is in a locked tool box; locked to the freezer. The NIH will be notified according to the "NIH Guidelines for Research Involving rDNA Molecules."

Committee/bsc0305

BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

December 11, 2003

Members Present:

Gail Arnold, Chair
Donna Caputo
Richard Ebright
Kate Gaioni
Mitch Gayer
Bob Harris
Ron Hart
Lee Kerkhof
Patrick McIlroy
Lynne Pitcher
Rose Puelle
Mike Quinlan
Amy Ryan
Don Schaffner
Lee Simon

Members Absent:

Carol Bagnell
Eric Lam
David Papi
Judith Weis

Also Present:

Greg Lupinski

I. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes of the July 9, 2003 meeting were accepted.

II. Business Arising from the Minutes

A.

[REDACTED]

B.

[REDACTED]

III.

Review and Approval of Research Protocols Submitted Between July 9, 2003, and December 11, 2003.

Amy Ryan informed the committee that REHS does have an APHIS permit on hand for Dr. Ghidui's transgenic field tests and everything is in order. All plants have been destroyed, since the field test has concluded.

D. APHIS Courtesy Permit - Dr. Ghidui

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

C.

[REDACTED]

B.

Those Requiring the Committee's Approval (Biohazard, BL-2, LS)

**Protocol will use only a protein from SARS virus, not actual SARS virus*

Stefan Sarafianos (RD-03-018) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 2
Nilgun Turner (RD-03-020) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 2
Richard Padgett (RD-03-021) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Nanjoo Suh (RD-03-022) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 2
Nada Boustany (RD-03-023) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Catherine Lawson (RD-03-024) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Andrew Bush (RD-03-025) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Dawn Brasaemle (RD-03-026) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 2
David Talaga (RD-03-027) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
C. Kalodimos (RD-03-028) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1
Joe Ramos (RD-03-029) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 2
David Schreiber (RD-03-030) -	approval is granted at biosafety level 1

Ken Callanan (RD-03-F-01) -
Mohamed Rafi (BH-03-014) -
Kenneth Lee (BH-03-015) -
Gregory Knipp (BH-03-016) -
Nilgun Tumer (BH-03-017) -

approval is granted at biosafety level 2
approval is granted at biosafety level 2
approval is granted at biosafety level 2
approval is granted at biosafety level 2
approval is granted at biosafety level 2

** Approval is granted at BL-2 due to large scale protocol*

IV. Laboratory Inspection

All laboratories were found to be in compliance.

V. New Business

A. Commercially Available Transgenic Products

Commercially available transgenic products (e.g. seeds) are now available for research purposes. Amy Ryan confirmed with NIH that recombinant DNA research with commercially purchased materials and research field-testing of such is still under the Committee's purview; and still has to be registered.

Richard Ebright suggested relating this information to Faculty and Staff via mass mailing.

B. Policy Drafts

Amy Ryan informed the committee that REHS has updated their website to include various policies. Please forward any comments to Amy within the next 2 weeks. Rose Puelle asked if there could be a separate policy for agricultural pathogens, environmental samples and insect use. It should be made clear that researchers should contact REHS before obtaining materials and beginning work.

C. Revision of the Biosafety Guide

The biosafety guide is up for revision, as there are items that are not included in the current version. For example, use of select agents are not included. Rose Puelle suggested including a section on field sampling. It was suggested to include biosafety guide on REHS website.

VI. Miscellaneous

Kate Gaioni informed the committee that Occupational Health and REHS are in the process of drafting a Reproductive Hazards Policy. Any comments can be forwarded to Kate.

Amy Ryan spoke of a new researcher in the university that will be working with a cell line infected with HTLV, an oncogenic retrovirus. Amy spoke with Dr. Arnold Rabson, an expert on HIV and HTLV, who thinks working at BL-3 is too strict. Amy is reluctant to approve at a BL-2+ without justification. The issue is not specifically addressed in BMBL. In the meantime, the researcher has approval to work in Dr. Robson's lab at BL-3. Gail Arnold suggested contacting the CDC for advice, and to collect data from peer institutions.