

**Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes
Translational Research Center – TR-315
May 21, 2026**

Minutes approved during IBC meeting held on 6/18/2026

Members Present (14): Dr. John Bates, Dr. Yolanda Griffin, Dr. Josh Speed, Dr. James Rowlett, Dr. Jamie White, Dr. Nathan Campbell, Dr. Laree Hiser, Dr. Brian Williams, Anthony Walters, Dr. Harry Pantazopoulos, Carla Brown, Logan Cowart, Gretchen Zmitrovich, Sharon Greer

Members Absent (3): Dr. Stephen Stray, Dr. David Thompson, Dana White

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order by Dr. John Bates at 3:02pm. Meeting held in the Translational Research building large conference room TR-315.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes from March 19, 2026 meeting presented for a vote. Motion to approve made by Dr. Laree Hiser and seconded by Anthony Walters. All in favor.
3. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **New Registration Updates:** Anthony Walters inspected the laboratories prior to amendment submission.
 - B. **3-year Renewals:**
 1. *IBC-00001068 (Kohtz)* - amendment has been completed.
 2. *IBC-00001075 (Keller)* – renewal completed and approved by designated member reviewers.
 - C. **Overdue Annual Continuing Reviews of Cayuse Protocols:** None to report.
 - D. **Protocol Closeout List:**
 1. Ritesh Tandon – CMB – 2023 – the materials in this lab have been transferred and awaiting information from Dr. Stephen Stray.
 2. Eva Bengten – CMB – 11/2025 – still in the process of disposing of materials from other protocol. Dr. Robinson, Interim Chair will be contacted regarding on how to move forward.
 3. *IBC-00001077 (Davis)* – Study is over and all work on this protocol has stopped.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

A. New registrations since last month

1. *IBC-00001184 (Natarajan)* – registration submitted on 5/7/26. Reviewers noted SOP's and BSO will need to be clarified. Dr. Josh Speed motioned to approve registration with minor changes and seconded by Dr. Laree Hiser. All voted in favor of approving the protocol registration.
2. *IBC-00001176 (Rajbhandari)* – registration submitted on 5/12/26. Dr. Laree Hiser presented a review. Due to lack of information throughout the registration, it is suggested the registration be moved to the June 18th IBC meeting. No votes taken.

B. 3 -Year Renewals:

1. *IBC-00001177 (Deer)* – renewal of registration submitted related to previous protocol # 00001072. Registration reviewed by Dr. Yolanda Griffin and Dr. Jamie White. Transportation and SOP's needs clarification. Protocol amendment and approved on 5/4/2026 by Dr. Bates. IBC inspection completed on May 8th and f/u inspection is scheduled for June 8, 2026.
2. *IBC00001067 (Raucher)* – designated member reviews by Dr. Nathan Campbell and Dr. James Rowlett. The Personnel section of the registration needs to be completed and clarification of which category is best BSL-1/BSL-2 due to use of human tumor cell lines.
3. *IBC-00001173 (Bates)* - submitted on 5/15/26 for designated member review. Dr. Yolanda Griffin reviewed with questions regarding agents and vaccines. Motion made by Dr. Nathan Campbell to table review and seconded by Dr. Laree Hiser. All in favor.

C. Overdue annual continuing reviews of Cayuse protocols

1. *IBC-00001077 (Davis)* – No active research for this protocol. Dr. Davis has no need of samples and is waiting on a response from external collaborators on what to do with existing samples.

5. PROCEDURES: No updates to provide at this time.

6. IBC MEMBERSHIP UPDATE: Logan Cowart will serve as the new VA representative to join the IBC committee along with Dr. Brian Williams from UMMC.

7. **Policy Update:** Dr. Bates sent out a draft IBC Training requirement policy for review concentrating on the following. The objective is to make sure all PIs are following the same guidelines and for laboratory personnel to reference.
 - **IBC Composition and Activities**
It is noted to add transportation/shipping and storage of biohazard material in the draft. Motion made to approve draft by Dr. James Rowlett and seconded by Dr. Nathan Campbell. All in favor. The draft will be sent to Dr. Gene Bidwell for review and approval. Dr. Bates will review the NIH guidelines and have an update by June's IBC meeting.
8. **BIOSAFETY OFFICER REPORT:** Anthony Walters presented biosafety report update. It was discovered G316 has a cooler that has mold during a routine cooler check and has been sealed off. Certain labs are covering up door windows, which is not allowed and will need to be addressed. Also, all old lab equipment will need to be removed.
9. **OTHER BUSINESS:**
 1. Members are reminded to submit NIH-style bio-sketches and CITI training certificates, preferably before the next IBC meeting scheduled for May 18, 2026.
10. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Josh Speed and seconded by Anthony Walters. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:02pm.