

# Institutional Biosafety Committee University of Nevada, Reno

## Meeting Minutes

January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026

### General Information

- The IBC Chair called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.
- Meeting minutes approved at the February 2026 IBC meeting
- [Meeting conducted via Zoom](#)
- Total voting members present: 6

### Voting Members Present

1. Cam Tran, Scientist/Chairperson, 014
2. Jung Hwan Kim, Scientist, 012
3. Any Martin, Biosafety Officer, Committee Contact, 010
4. Robin Trimble, Community Member, 008
5. Paul Brett, Scientist, 001
6. Won-Gyu-Choi, Scientist, plant expert, 002

### Voting Members Absent

1. Andrew Nuss, Scientist, 013
2. Benjamin Weigler, Scientist/Veterinarian/Animal Expert, 009
3. Claudia Rueckert, Scientist/Vice Chairperson, 003
4. Evan Colletti, Community Member, 004
5. Shailesh Agarwal, Scientist, 015

### Others Present

1. Kristin Eliassen, non-voting committee contact
2. Jenn Thornton, non-voting committee contact
3. Keith Kikawa, Lab Safety Group Manager, EH&S

# Agenda for Full Committee Business

## Minutes

### **Review and approval of minutes for the December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025 IBC meeting:**

There were no comments or concerns regarding these meeting minutes. A motion was made by 002 and seconded by 014 to approve them. The motion passed unanimously.

## Review Prior Business

None

## MOUA Reviews

### **Three-year Protocol Renewals**

#### ***Brett, Burtnick, B2025-41, Use of non-select agent Burkholderia to identify diagnostic/therapeutic targets, BSL-2 (COI: Brett)***

Renewal of B2023-10

Member 001 recused themselves due involvement with this research project. Committee members discussed this submission. There was a motion made by 002 and seconded by 008 to approve the protocol as revised. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Summary of work being conducted**

They aim to identify new diagnostic/therapeutic targets for pathogenic Burkholderia by generating different gene-specific mutants and characterizing the resulting host-cell interactions. They also plan to purify antigens from these mutants to further vaccine development.

They updated Dr. Burtnick from Associate Professor to Professor and added more information about their IACUC protocols

#### **Biosafety Level**

Work involving human material (primary cells, cell lines, blood, serum, etc) should be performed using BSL-2 practices and under BSL-2 containment. All individuals working with human blood, cell lines, and body fluids, as well as with retro/lentiviruses should complete their annual bloodborne pathogen training.

Work involving nonhuman primate blood should be handled with BSL-2 practices and BSL-2 containment as indicated and safety glasses must be worn at all times

when working in a biosafety cabinet to reduce the risk of splash exposure to material potentially contaminated with B-virus.

The researchers have indicated BSL-2 for their murine primary cell and cell line work, which is sufficient due to the use of RAW264.7 cells which have been immortalized using an oncogenic retrovirus.

#### **NIH guidelines**

They indicated Sections III-D-1, III-D-2, and III-F with Section III-F-6 and appendix C-II indicated.

#### **Last Assessment and biosafety concerns (look up incident reports)**

Last assessed 12/03/2024 by Andy Giddings. Biosafety concerns were regarding a biohazard bag used for exclusively non-biohazardous material and improperly labeled biohazardous waste receptacles which have been corrected as of 12/14/2024.

#### **New Protocol Reviews**

None

#### **MOUA Amendments**

None

#### **Designated Member Reviews (DMRs)**

None

#### **Closed Protocols**

None

# Agenda for Administrative Business

## Administrative Amendments

1. Kim, B2025-16, Establishment of a Biobank of human specimens from Renown for use in UNR Biomedical Research labs  
Amendment: Update to lab location
2. Riddle, B2024-15, Genetic studies in Mexican tetra  
Amendment: Updating study personnel
3. Pagilla, B2023-47, Measure microorganisms in water-not processed due to training records  
Amendment: Update study personnel
4. Tal-gan, B2023-20, Solving the Riddles of Interspecies Bacterial Communications  
Amendment: Update study personnel
5. Wickenberg [NCAR], B2023-16, Waterborne Bacteria Detection, Optimization, and Discovery  
Amendment: Update study personnel and lab location

## Other Business

None

## Meeting Close-out

Next meeting: February 11, 2026

Time adjourned: 3:14 p.m.