



Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2026

Location: Zoom Meeting

Time: 3:01 PM

IBC Members present

Sandra Arango-Caro	Human Subjects Expert
Bing Yang	Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acids and Pathogen Expert
Beth Elam Michaud	IBC Community Member (local)
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
Veena Veena	Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acids Expert
Brooke Schmitt	IBC Administrator, Non-Voting

IBC Members absent

Kevin Reilly	Plant Containment Expert
Mindy Darnell	Biological Safety Officer
Sona Pandey	IBC Chair
Ru Zhang	Plant/Lab Technical Expert

I. Old Business

A. Approval of Minutes – December 4th

1. 9-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:
 - o Doug Allen, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC22-0041
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:

- Ruth Kaggwa, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol - New) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0003

3. Annual Reviews that were reviewed and approved by the BSO or designee:

- Getu Duguma, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC24-0033
- Doug Allen, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC22-0072
- Malia Gehan, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC22-0009
- Sona Pandey, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC23-0065
- Russell Williams, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC23-0001
- Dmitri Nusinow, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC23-0061

4. Protocols Closed (at the request of the PI):

- Doug Allen, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol - Closure) IBC Protocol #: IBC21-0031
- Dmitri Nusinow, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol - Closure) IBC Protocol #: IBC23-0061
- Rebecca Bart, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol - Closure) IBC Protocol #: IBC23-0003
- Doug Allen, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol - Closure) IBC Protocol #: IBC22-0042
- Doug Allen, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol - Closure) IBC Protocol #: IBC21-0030
- 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.
IBC Decision	The IBC voted to contingently approve the protocol (9-yes 0-no/0-abstention).

Principle Investigator	Doug Allen
Protocol #	IBC25-0078
Title	Evaluation of Soybeans with Altered Malic Enzyme and Fatty Acid Synthesis Pathways
Protocol Description	Crossing transgenic soy that was created in a previous IBC protocol.
Types of Organisms	Plant
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)	None
IBC Decision	The IBC voted to approve the protocol (9-yes 0-no/0-abstention).

B. Amendments & Continuing Reviews of Approved Protocols:

None

C. Other Business:

None

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:07 PM.

Reviewed and approved by:


Sona Pandey (Jan 13, 2026 14:55:59 CST)

Sona Pandey, Ph.D.

Member, Principal Investigator

Institutional Biosafety Committee Chair


Mindy Darnell (Jan 13, 2026 14:34:10 CST)

Mindy Darnell, M.S.

Director, Environmental Health & Safety and Biosafety

Biological Safety Officer