



Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2026

Location: Zoom Meeting

Time: 3:04 PM

IBC Members present

Sona Pandey	IBC Chair
Ru Zhang	Plant/Lab Technical Expert
Mindy Darnell	Biological Safety Officer
Rosalee Knipp	IBC Community Member
Katie Siech	Biosafety Specialist
Ross Johnson	Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acids Expert
Jim Cox	EHS Expert
Wendy Olivas	IBC Community Member (local)
Brooke Schmitt	IBC Administrator, Non-Voting

IBC Members absent

Beth Elam Michaud	IBC Community Member (local)
Kevin Reilly	Plant Containment Expert
Bing Yang	Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acids and Pathogen Expert

I. Old Business

A. Approval of Minutes – July 9th

1. 8-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:
 - Nadia Shakoor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – New) IBC Protocol #: IBC26-0048

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:
 - Getu Duguma, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC26-0011
 - Ru Zhang, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0038
 - Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0026
 - Kirk Czymmek, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC22-0045
 - Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC22-0010
 - Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0007
 - Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0041
 - Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0027
 - Sam Wang, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC22-0058
 - Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0025
 - Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0006
 - Ru Zhang, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0015
 - Ru Zhang, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Amendment) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0016
3. Annual Reviews that were reviewed and approved by the BSO or designee:
 - Ivan Baxter, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0049
 - Doug Allen, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC22-0041
 - Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0027
 - Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0025
 - Erin Sparks, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0048
 - Justin Conover, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0047
 - Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC22-0010
 - Ru Zhang, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0038
 - Ru Zhang, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0016
 - Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC #: IBC25-0029
 - Ivan Baxter, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC #: IBC23-0037



- Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC #: IBC25-0026
- Russell Williams, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC #: IBC25-0057
- Ru Zhang, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Annual Review) IBC #: IBC25-0015

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

- Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Closure) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0029
- Bala Venkata, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Closure) IBC Protocol #: IBC24-0029
- Bala Venkata, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Closure) IBC Protocol #: IBC21-0070
- Nigel Taylor, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – Closure) IBC Protocol #: IBC25-0027

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:
 - Sona Pandey, Ph.D., (IBC Protocol – New) IBC Protocol #: IBC26-0042

II. New Business

A. New Protocols

Principal Investigator	Nigel Taylor
Protocol #	IBC24-0058
Title	Logistics Hub- Work Order # DDPSC-GAO-2024-01-A, is made between: Bill & Melinda Gates Agricultural Innovations, LLC ("Gates Ag One"), and Donald Danforth Plant Science Center
Protocol Description	Provide cassava biological material management and logistics services to Gates Ag One.
Types of Organisms	Plant
NIH Guidelines Agents	rsNA
NIH Guidelines Section	III-E-2
Containment Level	BSL-1, BL1-P





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PLANT SCIENCE CENTER

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 asked for the P.I. to clarify if they will be using E. coli
IBC Decision	The IBC voted to contingently approve the protocol. (8-yes 0-no/0-abstention).

Principal Investigator	Tessa Burch-Smith
Protocol #	IBC26-0044
Title	Exploiting plasmodesmata to inhibit/enhance cell-to-cell movement and control plant disease
Protocol Description	Identifying targets of the movement protein of tobacco mosaic virus.
Types of Organisms	Plant
NIH Guidelines Agents	rsNA
NIH Guidelines Section	III-E-2
Containment Level	BSL-1, BL1-P
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 P.I. is asked to add another transgene and to add a risk associated with accidental exposure or release of rsNA material to the environment.
IBC Decision	The IBC voted to contingently approve the protocol. (8-yes 0-no/0-abstention).

Principal Investigator	Charles An
Protocol #	IBC26-0049



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Title	Discovery and Characterization of Genes and Networks Controlling Seed Quality Traits
Protocol Description	Characterizing transgenic/edited Arabidopsis and soybean plants generated by collaborative institutions to validate function of genes regulating soybean seed quality traits.
Types of Organisms	Plant
NIH Guidelines Agents	rsNA
NIH Guidelines Section	III-E-2
Containment Level	BSL-1, BL1-P
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 P.I. is asked to add a risk if accidental exposure or release of rsNA material to the environment.
IBC Decision	The IBC voted to contingently approve the protocol. (8-yes 0-no/0-abstention).

Principal Investigator	Ashley Snouffer
Protocol #	IBC26-0055
Title	Establishment and Innovation of Plant Transformation Pipelines
Protocol Description	Establish efficient plant transformation pipeline by development and application of genome editing technologies.
Types of Organisms	Plant
NIH Guidelines Agents	rsNA
NIH Guidelines Section	III-E-2
Containment Level	BSL-1, BL1-P
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).



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IBC comments (to be addressed by PI)	The P.I. is asked to add all plants to the plant table and to check mark that the rsNA material will be administered to plants and will cause permanent expression. They are also asked to add a risk if accidental exposure or release of rsNA material to the environment.
IBC Decision	The IBC voted to contingently approve the protocol. (8-yes 0-no/0-abstention).

Principal Investigator	Giles Oldroyd
Protocol #	IBC26-0066
Title	Comparative Developmental Mechanisms of Symbiosis-Induced Organogenesis
Protocol Description	Goal is to understand and engineer the developmental and molecular mechanisms underlying mutualistic and parasitic symbioses in plants.
Types of Organisms	Plant
NIH Guidelines Agents	rsNA
NIH Guidelines Section	III-E-2
Containment Level	BSL-1, BL1-P
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 P.I. is asked to add Arabidopsis to the plant table and to check the box stating, "One or more of the species is listed federally or locally as exotic, invasive or a noxious weed".
IBC Decision	The IBC voted to contingently approve the protocol. (8-yes 0-no/0-abstention).

Principal Investigator	Dilip Shah
Protocol #	IBC26-0050



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Title	Resistance of transgenic <i>Setaria viridis</i> lines overexpressing G-protein beta subunit to fungal pathogens
Protocol Description	Trying to determine if setaria lines generated by the Pandey lab exhibit resistance to two fungal pathogens.
Types of Organisms	Plant
NIH Guidelines Agents	rsNA
NIH Guidelines Section	III-E-2
Containment Level	BSL-1, BL1-P
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 P.I. is asked to correct their decontamination method to 10% bleach for at least 30 minutes and to walk through their process with the BSO. They are also asked to renew their permit for the fungal pathogens since it will be expiring soon.
IBC Decision	The IBC voted to contingently approve the protocol. (7-yes 0-no/1-abstention).

Principal Investigator	Sona Pandey
Protocol #	IBC26-0042
Title	Elucidating the effects of G β overexpression in development and stress responses of <i>Setaria viridis</i> , <i>Zea mays</i> , and <i>Sorghum bicolor</i> .
Protocol Description	Elucidating the effects of G β overexpression in development and stress responses of various plants.
Types of Organisms	Plant
NIH Guidelines Agents	rsNA
NIH Guidelines Section	III-E-2
Containment Level	BSL-1, BL1-P



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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)	No comments were made by the IBC.
IBC Decision	The IBC voted to approve the protocol. (7-yes 0-no/1-abstention).

B. Amendments & Continuing Reviews of Approved Protocols:

Principal Investigator	Doug Allen
Protocol #	IBC22-0041
Title	KSU-USB-Reducing Undesirable Carbohydrates During Seed Development
Protocol Description	Adding new rsNA constructs to the project.
Types of Organisms	Plant
NIH Guidelines Agents	rsNA
NIH Guidelines Section	III-E-2
Containment Level	BSL-1, BL1-P
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 P.I. is asked to correct the selectable markers question in the rsNA section.
IBC Decision	The IBC voted to contingently approve the protocol. (8-yes 0-no/0-abstention).



C. Other Business:

I will be sending out a poll for new IBC meeting dates and times.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:29 PM.

Reviewed and approved by:

Sona Pandey
Sona Pandey (Aug 18, 2026 16:53:01 CDT)

Sona Pandey, Ph.D.

Member, Principal Investigator

Institutional Biosafety Committee Chair

Mindy Darnell

Mindy Darnell, M.S.

Director, Environmental Health & Safety and Biosafety

Biological Safety Officer



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Final Audit Report

2026-08-18

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