



3. New Business

A. Approval of Minutes: April 7, 2026

The April 7 meeting minutes were approved by a majority of the IBC. There were 3 abstentions from members who were not present at the April 7 meeting.

B. Approval of Minutes: April 15, 2026

The April 15 meeting minutes were approved by a majority of the IBC. There were 4 abstentions from members who were not present at the April 15 meeting.

C. Protocols – Full Committee Review

Protocol:	26-214	De Novo	Expiration Date:	6/12/2026
Title:	Understanding the neural basis of motivated behavior for homeostatic regulation			
PI Name:	Oka			
Brief Description of Project: Appetite represents an important basis of internal energy and water homeostasis. We want to understand how the brain processes appetite and reward to drive goal-oriented behaviors. We employ animal models to investigate the molecular and neural basis underlying appetite, primarily focusing on thirst and salt craving. Using variety of approaches: molecular biology, genetics, and neural manipulation tools (e.g. optogenetics and pharmacogenetics), we are currently pursuing the following questions:				
Neural processing of appetite- where and how are appetites encoded in the brain?				
Detection of internal need by the brain- how does the brain sense the need of the body?				
Sensory perception of reward signals- how do animals sense water and other reward cues?				
Through these key questions, our lab wants to understand the neural logic underlying central motivation and peripheral reward processing at the molecular, circuit, as well as behavioral levels.				
Biological Materials Review Summary: Our research includes the use of replication-incompetent viral vectors, human tissue samples, biological toxins, a BSL-2 microorganism, and animal models.				
NIH Guidelines:	III-D	Highest BSL Level:	BSL2 w/ BSL3 Practices	
Training: This protocol requires the following biosafety training: Comprehensive Biosafety (BSL2), annual Bloodborne Pathogens, Viral Vector and Biological Toxins Training. Personnel who have not completed the required training will not begin this work until all appropriate training has been completed and documented.				
Review Summary: All facilities, procedures, and practices have been reviewed by the IBC and are considered appropriate and acceptable.				
IBC Action/Decision: Pending Modifications - Subcommittee				
❖ The committee reviewed and unanimously deferred approval of this protocol pending implementation of the following modifications and subsequent review and approval by a subcommittee:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ PI must complete their pending safety training</li> <li>○ Provide additional details regarding handling of and in vivo administration in animals for the <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> work</li> </ul>				

▪ Note: If this stipulation is not completed prior to the protocol expiration date of 6/12/26, then the *S. aureus* work will be removed from the protocol to allow for protocol approval. This project must then be submitted as an amendment.

Protocol:	26-287	De Novo	Expiration Date:	6/10/2026
Title:	Protein Biosynthesis and quality control			
PI Name:	Voorhees			
Brief Description of Project: This project is to understand the molecular mechanism for how proteins are made and assembled, and the quality control pathways that recognize protein and RNA products that fail during this process in diseases such as heritable retinal blindness.				
Biological Materials Review Summary: The biological materials used in this project include bacterial and mammalian cells and replication-incompetent lentiviral vectors. The work involving mammalian cells is conducted under BSL-2 conditions. The work involving replication-incompetent lentiviral vectors is conducted under BSL-2 with BSL-3 precautions.				
NIH Guidelines:	III-D	Highest BSL Level:	BSL2 w/ BSL3 Practices	
Training: This protocol requires the following biosafety training: Comprehensive Biosafety (BSL2), annual Bloodborne Pathogens, and Viral Vector Training. Personnel who have not completed the required training will not begin this work until all appropriate training has been completed and documented.				
Review Summary: All facilities, procedures, and practices have been reviewed by the IBC and are considered appropriate and acceptable.				
IBC Action/Decision: Approved with Stipulation				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The committee reviewed and unanimously approved the protocol subject to the adherence to the following special stipulation, along with all standard stipulations:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ All personnel must complete the required biosafety training prior to starting work</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				

Protocol:	26-329	De Novo	Expiration Date:	6/12/2026
Title:	Mechanisms of DNA repair			
PI Name:	Semlow			
Brief Description of Project: Faithful maintenance of genome integrity during DNA replication and cell division is essential for the growth and survival of living organisms. DNA interstrand cross-links (ICLs) represent a particularly toxic form of DNA damage, as they block critical processes such as replication and transcription. The Fanconi anemia (FA) pathway plays a central role in ICL repair, and our previous work using <i>Xenopus</i> egg extracts demonstrated that it repairs colibactin-induced ICLs. However, the physiological consequences of colibactin-induced genotoxicity in mammalian systems remain unclear. To address this, we aim to investigate cellular responses to colibactin-induced genotoxic stress by co-culturing human cancer cell lines (HT29/HeLa) with colibactin-producing pks+ <i>E. coli</i> .				
Biological Materials Review Summary: Our research includes the use of <i>E. coli</i> (BSL-1 and BSL-2), insect cell systems, baculovirus, <i>xenopus</i> egg extracts, human cell lines, and replication-incompetent lentiviral vectors.				
NIH Guidelines:	III-D	Highest BSL Level:	BSL2 w/ BSL3 Practices	
Training: This protocol requires the following biosafety training: Comprehensive Biosafety (BSL2), annual Bloodborne Pathogens, Viral Vector and Agent-Specific Training. Personnel who have not				

completed the required training will not begin this work until all appropriate training has been completed and documented.
Review Summary: All facilities, procedures, and practices have been reviewed by the IBC and are considered appropriate and acceptable.
IBC Action/Decision: Pending Modifications - Subcommittee
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The committee reviewed and unanimously deferred approval of this protocol pending implementation of the following modifications and subsequent review and approval by a subcommittee:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Provide confirmation that the lab has an Exposure Response Binder for colibactin-expressing <i>E. coli</i>.</li> <li>○ For BSC nearing annual certification expiration, provide status update.</li> <li>○ Provide additional details regarding baculovirus work (Page 3).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Protocol:	25-395-A2	Amendment	Expiration Date:	10/12/2028
Title:	Dynamics of bacterial communities in complex fluids			
PI Name:	Datta			
Brief Description of Project: This is an amendment to add new strains of BSL1 and BSL2 microorganisms, procedures to include use of our bioprinter with BSL2 microorganisms in hydrogel, and a change of BSL1 microorganisms that were previously indicated as “storage only” to active use.				
Biological Materials Review Summary: Biological Materials added or moved to active use in this amendment include BSL1 microorganisms ( <i>E. coli</i> , <i>Agrobacterium tumefaciens</i> , <i>Raoultella planticola</i> , <i>Pseudomonas agglomerans</i> , and yeast) and BSL2 microorganisms ( <i>P. aeruginosa</i> ).				
NIH Guidelines:	III-D, III-E, III-F	Highest BSL Level:	BSL2	
Training: This protocol amendment requires the following biosafety training: Comprehensive Biosafety (BSL2) Training. Personnel who have not completed the required training will not begin this work until all appropriate training has been completed and documented.				
Review Summary: All facilities, procedures, and practices have been reviewed by the IBC and are considered appropriate and acceptable.				
IBC Action/Decision: Pending Modifications - Subcommittee				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The committee reviewed and unanimously deferred approval of this protocol pending implementation of the following modifications and subsequent review and approval by a subcommittee:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Clarification of risk mitigation strategies for inadvertent spills or equipment failures.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				

D. Protocols - Expedited Review

Protocol:	23-369-A15	Amendment	Expiration Date:	10/12/2026
Title:	Detection and characterization of bacteria in human samples and cultures.			
PI Name:	Ismagilov			
Brief Description of Project: This amendment includes additional materials for our project that aims to utilize model viral elements for MEM, extractions, and RT-qPCR experiments. Viral stocks may also be used to evaluate library preparation methods for testing of next-generation sequencing and low-level				

nucleic acid detection. This amendment also includes additional strains of previously approved replication-incompetent viral vectors.			
Biological Materials Review Summary: This amendment includes the use of murine norovirus CR6-infected mouse tissue samples (inactivation and nucleic acid preparation only; no culturing), CR6 viral isolates, and additional strains of replication-incompetent AAV vectors. All work is conducted under BSL-2 conditions.			
NIH Guidelines:	N/A	Highest BSL Level:	BSL2 w/ BSL3 practices
Training: This protocol amendment requires the following biosafety training: Comprehensive Biosafety (BSL2), annual Bloodborne Pathogens, and Viral Vector Training. Personnel who have not completed the required training will not begin this work until all appropriate training has been completed and documented.			
Review Summary: All facilities, procedures, and practices have been reviewed by the IBC and are considered appropriate and acceptable.			
COI/Recusal: R. Ismagilov was recused from the discussion of this protocol.			
IBC Action/Decision: Vice Chair Approved			
❖ The Vice Chair reviewed and approved the protocol subject to the adherence to the standard stipulations.			

Protocol:	25-065-A1	Amendment	Expiration Date:	5/12/2028
Title:	Viral Vectors for dissecting neural circuits for Social Interactions.			
PI Name:	Anderson			
Brief Description of Project: This amendment is to remove tetrodotoxin. The lab no longer has tetrodotoxin.				
Biological Materials Review Summary: Removal of tetrodotoxin.				
NIH Guidelines:	III-D	Highest BSL Level:	BSL2 w/ BSL3 practices	
Training: The protocol requires the following biosafety training: Comprehensive Biosafety (BSL2), annual Bloodborne Pathogens, Viral Vector, and Biological Toxins Training. Personnel who have not completed the required training will not begin this work until all appropriate training has been completed and documented.				
Review Summary: All facilities, procedures, and practices have been reviewed by the IBC and are considered appropriate and acceptable.				
IBC Action/Decision: BSO Approved				
❖ The BSO reviewed and approved the protocol subject to the adherence to the standard stipulations.				

Protocol:	25-261-A3	Amendment	Expiration Date:	5/12/2028
Title:	Engineering and evaluation of anti-viral therapeutics in vivo and in vitro			
PI Name:	Bjorkman			
Brief Description of Project: This amendment is to add an additional genetically modified cell line, BHK21, that will be used to measure the efficacy of therapeutic reagents and to perform electron microscopy experiments.				
Biological Materials Review Summary: This amendment involves the addition of a genetically modified animal cell line, BHK-21.				

NIH Guidelines:	III-D	Highest BSL Level:	BSL2 w/ BSL3 practices
Training: This protocol amendment requires the following biosafety training: Comprehensive Biosafety (BSL2) Training. Personnel who have not completed the required training will not begin this work until all appropriate training has been completed and documented.			
Review Summary: All facilities, procedures, and practices have been reviewed by the IBC and are considered appropriate and acceptable.			
IBC Action/Decision: BSO Approved			
❖ The BSO reviewed and approved the protocol subject to the adherence to the standard stipulations.			

Personnel/Admin Amendments

- 23-332 Rothmund (CLOSED)
- 23-334 Patke
- 24-247 Meyerowitz
- 24-294 Wei
- 24-383 Zhang
- 25-065 Anderson
- 25-271 Prober
- 25-347 Orphan
- 25-392 Asymptote

4. Other Business

A. IBC PAS

The BSO provided an update regarding the transition to the online IBC PAS system. IBC PAS testing is still underway and anticipated to begin with a soft rollout to PIs in June, a full rollout in July, and the first IBC meeting transitioned to the system to occur in September. IBC Member Training will be provided prior to the transition.

B. NIH Report Update – Needlestick

The BSO provided an update regarding the needlestick report that was submitted to the NIH in March 2026. The NIH acknowledged receipt of the formal report and advised no further action is required.

C. NIH Biosafety Modernization Initiative Timeline

The IO presented an overview of the timeline that NIH provided at a recent conference regarding the Biosafety Modernization Initiative.

D. Quarterly Report

The BSO presented the quarterly report to the committee with no pending significant issues to report.

E. CDPH Inspection

The BSO briefed the committee regarding the upcoming annual CDPH inspection set to take place in May 2026.

Next Meeting – June 2, 2026

Meeting adjourned at 3:33pm

Approved by the IBC 6/2/2026