

Missouri State University
Institutional Biosafety Committee

MINUTES
February 18, 2026, 2:00 P.M.
Zoom meeting

I. Call to Order

Present: Keiichi Yoshimatsu, Amy Hulme, Stephanie Blake, Vivian Elder, Kyoungtae Kim, David Vaughan, Brian Greene (entered at 2:20)

Absent: Laszlo Kovacs

Guests: Johnna Pedersen, Adam Niesen, Natasha DeVore, Ryan Gordon

II. Protocols

a. Ryan Gordon (Bloodborne Pathogens) – “Bear Steps to Better Health: The Effects of a 4-week Walking Challenge on Body Composition, Muscular Health, and Metabolism”

- a. General overview - With this project, we aim to add to the discussion of exercise's impact on health and disease by examining the impact of a competitive, self-directed, 4-week walking challenge on muscular health (size and quality of muscle), body composition (weight, fat mass, muscle mass, distribution of fat and muscle), metabolism and blood sugar regulation (caloric expenditure, fasting blood sugar, HbA1c), as well as aerobic fitness.
- b. NIH Guidelines - This project does not use or incorporate any of agents, models, or protocols that are outlined in Sections III A-E of the NIH Guidelines and for this reason, it should be considered exempt.
- c. All training is complete.
- d. Personnel enrolled in OSHP.
- e. BSL2 labs are appropriate for work.
 - i. Yoshimatsu motioned to approve. Blake seconded. Approved – 6, Opposed – 0, Recused – 0

b. Natasha DeVore (Synthetic or Recombinant DNA) – “Protein Structure and Function”

- a. General overview - The purpose of my research is to investigate the structure and function of proteins either involved in health (canine or human) or that could be utilized for research purposes (jelly fish). These proteins are produced in *E. coli*, purified, and then characterized with assays. Often techniques such as X-ray crystallography or NMR will also be used to determine the three-dimensional structure.
- b. NIH Guidelines - these experiments fall under section III-E of the NIH Guidelines.
- c. All training is complete.
- d. Personnel enrolled in OSHP.
- e. BSL2 labs are appropriate for work.

- i. Kim motioned to withhold approval pending minor changes. Yoshimatsu seconded.
Approved – 6, Opposed – 0, Recused – 0

- 1. Changes needed - clarifying class numbers, clarification of protein species, and clarify BSL1 strains vs. BSL2.

- c. Amy Hulme (BSL2 & Synthetic or Recombinant DNA) – “Studies on early steps of HIV-1 replication”

- a. General overview - Studying the mechanism of viral replication in cultured cell lines to determine how cell proteins affect the process of infection.
 - b. NIH Guidelines - Section III-D-3-a
 - c. All training is complete.
 - d. Personnel enrolled in OHSP.
 - e. BSL2 labs are appropriate for work.

- i. Kim motioned to withhold approval pending changes. Blake seconded. Approved – 6, Opposed – 0, Recused – 1

- 1. Changes needed – inclusion of information on bacterial strain and vector.

III. Amendments

- a. 2025-07 Kim - (administratively approved)
- b. 2025-08 Smith – (administratively approved)

IV. Approve minutes from September 25, 2025 meeting

- a. Hulme, elder. All approved.

V. Miscellaneous

- a. Old Business – N/A
- b. New Business – N/A

VI. Adjournment

- a. Hulme motioned to adjourn. Elder seconded. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 2:44 P.M.