

MINUTES OF THE
INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
In-person at Woody Hall Conference Room 355
September 18th, 2025
2:00pm-3:30pm

IBC Members Present

1. Derek Fisher (IBC Chair; gene drive modified organism expert)
2. Andrew Wood (BSO; plant containment expert)
3. Jennifer Harris (Animal containment expert)
4. Ami Ruffing (Environmental health and lab safety expert)
5. Sarah Kroenlein (Research Compliance)
6. Sarah Patrick (Local non-affiliated member, public health expert)
7. John Lenzini (Local non-affiliated member, environmental health expert)
8. Jacob Nordman (Human gene transfer expert; animal containment expert)
9. Judy Davie (Human gene transfer expert; animal containment expert)
10. Lahiru Jayakody (Gene drive modified organism expert)

Other Individuals in Attendance

11. Rachel Swetz, IACUC Coordinator, Office of Research Compliance (serving as minute taker)

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Fisher (Chairperson) called the meeting to order at 2:00PM with a quorum present. The IBC has 11 voting members, and 6 members are required to conduct business.

COMMITTEE INTRODUCTIONS

Members of the committee introduced themselves and Dr. Fisher thanked everyone for their willingness to serve.

COMMITTEE CHARGE & GUIDING REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

The committee discussed the guiding regulatory authorities, noting that new NIH guidance has come out in the recent months, and the committee is charged with upholding those regulations. SIUC IBC business will be conducted in-person. The committee discussed some focuses of the IBC including Recombinant DNA and biosecurity.

The committee also discussed the requirements for meeting minutes and committee roster composition. Committee members were encouraged to ask questions and participate in discussions.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

The committee determined that meetings will be held on the third Thursday of each month for the fall 2025 semester. Public attendance is allowed during portions of the meetings that aren't proprietary. Meeting dates, times, and locations will be posted online.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED IBC POLICIES

- Policy 100 – Regulatory Charge

Dr. Fisher provided a summary of the policy and opened the floor for discussion. The committee provided general reflections and made minor revisions. The committee added a definition for regulated activities and revised the regulated teaching or research activities to include “biological hazards.”

The committee raised questions about research that may be conducted by non-SIU personnel on SIU property in commercial spaces (e.g., SIU Research Park, Gower Translational Research Center). It is unclear to the committee how these situations may be handled in the future and who has oversight.

Dr. Fisher stated that the committee can touch base with the Vice Chancellor for Research as things progress with those SIU facilities, and the policy can be re-assessed if needed.

Dr. Davie moved to approve the policy with the above revisions and Dr. Nordman seconded the motion.

Total voting: 10 Approve: 10 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0

- Policy 200 – IO and SIUC

Dr. Fisher summarized the policy and opened the floor for discussion. The committee provided general reflections and made minor revisions. The committee added a definition for regulated activities and revised the regulated teaching or research activities to include “biological hazards.”

Dr. Patrick moved to approve the policy with the above revisions and Dr. Davie seconded the motion.

Total voting: 10 Approve: 10 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0

- Policy 210 – IBC Committee

Dr. Fisher summarized the policy and opened the floor for discussion. DF introduced the policy and opened the floor for discussion. The committee provided general reflections and made minor revisions. The committee added a definition for regulated activities and revised the regulated teaching or research activities to include “biological hazards.” The policies will also include links to other applicable policies as they are approved.

Mr. John Lenzini moved to approve the policy with the above revisions, and Dr. Jayakody seconded the motion.

Total voting: 10 Approve: 10 Oppose: 0 Abstain: 0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The administrative office will work on finding an appropriate and accessible document sharing platform for the committee, such as OneDrive or Teams. SIU D2L is no longer an option for committees.

Dr. Kroenlein announced the upcoming Let's Talk Research event for open data and open access resources, which will be held virtually on October 8th from 11am-12pm.

Dr. Wood requested that committee members send him a one-page CV so that he can update SIUC's listing on the NIH website. The Office of Research Compliance will also save a copy of the CVs for their files.

The IBC Chairperson moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:02PM. The next meeting is scheduled for October 16th, 2025, at 2pm in Woody Hall conference room 355.