

SUNY Geneseo Institutional Biosafety committee Minutes
Jan 25, 2021

Meeting held on Zoom 10:00 am

Present: Kevin Militello (acting chair for meeting), Ed Beary, Eric Helms, Jani Lewis, Josephine Reinhardt, Chuck Reyes, Frank Blasioli, Anne Baldwin, Mark Grovanz (outside member), Laurie Cook (outside member), Harold Hoops

Call to order at 10:01

Welcomed Frank Blasioli as a new committee member.

Adopted minutes of Jan 29, 2020 by unanimous vote (8 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain).

Kevin Militello reported on the inspection of the BSC certification (1/14/21). All BSC passed certification.

Kevin Militello reported on the inspection of the two BSL-2 labs. The one in the Biology area of the ISC (ISC 305A, Lewis, primary user) is actively being used. The one in the chemistry section (ISC 327B, Pogozelski, primary user) is not actively being used but we want to keep it on-line for flexibility and as a backup. Both inspections were evaluated using the criteria approved by this committee and both passed.

Short forms of the following people were previously submitted and made available to all committee members before the meeting: Apple, Bosch, Bailey, Chang, Jamburuthugoda, Militello, Reinhardt.

There was a motion to accept all short forms (Apple, Bosch, Bailey, Chang, Jamburuthugoda, Militello, Reinhardt). There was some discussion about the need to have a physical signature and additional discussion, about point 4 under "Principle Investigator Affirmation". Discussion of these points was moved to new Business. There was a motion to "Move to approve all short forms pending proper signature and ensuring that all students receive the appropriate training as listed on the form prior to the students working in the lab." This was seconded and approved unanimously. (9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain).

The full registration form (long form) renewal for Lewis was previously submitted and made available to all committee members before the meeting.

The form had the following minor issues:

- 1) The method of liquid disinfectant on page 6 was not sufficient. Text should be added that all liquid waste will be treated with bleach not less than a 10% final concentration and for at least one hour before disposal.
- 2) The current certification date of the BSC needs to be added to page 6.

After evaluation there a motion was made and seconded that we “approve the form with the changes suggested above, pending proper signature and ensuring that all students receive the appropriate training as listed on the form prior to the students working in the lab.” This was seconded and approved unanimously.

New Business

1) We had some discussion about the present requirement for a physical signature on the registration forms. There was discussion about the use of a “verified signature”. Laurie told us about Brockport’s progress with the signature and suggested that typing in a name with “verified signature” added was not sufficient. However, scanning in a signature or scanning in the document after it has been signed were acceptable. Modifying the form to allow these options was moved, seconded and approved unanimously (9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain).

2) Another discussion centered around point 4 of section X in both the short and long forms. It currently states:

“4. All personnel have completed the College’s Laboratory Safety Training Program. Required annually.”

Concerns were raised about the investigator signing off for students who may have not done this at the time of submission (perhaps because they are about to join the lab). Also, it was unclear as to the nature of the training and how the records were kept. Our committee expects faculty who are training students for BSL-2 work to have a lab-specific training in Biosafety and to document the training. However, this line refers to general lab training which while necessary is not part of the charge of this committee. To clarify this, it was moved that the original Section X item 4. Be changed to.

“4. All research will be conducted in compliance with the College’s laboratory safety procedures.”

The motion was moved, seconded and unanimously approved. (9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain).

3) There was some discussion about missing forms. Mackenzie Geringer informed one member of our committee that she was not planning on doing work under the purview of the Geneseo IBC. The committee does not know if Sal Tarun and Hristina Nedelkovska are planning work that falls under our purview. In addition, we are missing the short form from Betsy Hutchison. After discussion the following policy was moved seconded and unanimously approved. “Short forms that are submitted after the IBC meeting can be approved by the chair of the committee. If longer forms are submitted after the IBC meeting, the committee chair should set up a meeting of the IBC committee to evaluate them before laboratory work can start.” (9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain).

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15.