

SUNY Geneseo Institutional Biosafety committee Minutes
Jan 27, 2022

Meeting held on Zoom 10:15 am

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

Call to order at 10:06

Adopted minutes of Jan 25, 2021 and Feb 25, 2021 by unanimous vote (7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain).

Kevin Militello reported on the inspection of the BSC certification. 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.

Kevin Militello reported that he made an effort to get the cover page form all faculty in Biology. The cover page basically asks if the faculty member are doing research that is subject to the Geneseo IBC.

We received coverpages from the following faculty, none of which are doing research covered by the Geneseo IBC, although some of whom have done such work in the past. They do not have to file either short or long forms.

Apple
Bosch
Chang
Gerringer
Tarun

A motion to accept all forms was made, seconded, and passed unanimously (8 for, 0, against, 0 abstentions).

We received short forms from the following faculty:

Jamburuthugoda
Lewis
Reinhardt

A motion to accept all short forms was made, seconded, and passed unanimously (8-0-0 for Jamburuthugoda and Lewis and 7-0-1 for Reinhardt).

Travis Bailey furnished a long form. The initial submission was missing a few pieces, so we reviewed the revised form.

The committee noted that the entry on Section VI solid lab wastes are stated as red bagged. They don't need to be and probably should not be.

In section VIII, room numbers: the ultracold freezers are mentioned but not given room numbers. The room numbers for freezers are 305E and 204A and should be added.

A motion to accept the form after the above revisions, seconded and passed unanimously (8-0-0)

Betsy Hutchison furnished a long form.

The committee noted that the entry on Section VI solid lab wastes are stated as red bagged. They don't need to be and probably should not be.

Under section VIII, Room ISC 305 should be further specified (e.g. 305E)

There was discussion on section V, 2., centrifugation using sealed rotors or safety caps. These are not required for BSL-1. The form is a little misleading in that it asks if they are available, not whether they would be used. They ARE available but not required and probably not easily available. So, it is appropriate that Dr. Hutchison selected "No" although a NA form entry might more appropriate after form revision.

A motion to accept the form after the change in red bagged wastes and further details on room 305 are added was made, seconded, and passed unanimously (8-0-0).

Kevin Militello furnished a long form.

In section V, number 5, Militello selected No when he probably should have checked "NA"

In section VI, the last line "other..." needs to be checked. (The description is already in the box, so its oversight on the form.)

Dr. Militello ask for an exception to allow him to treat cell extracts of the BSL-2 *T. brucei* as BSL-1. These extracts do not contain live organisms and therefore are not infectious.

The committee asked for more information on how the samples were treated to ensure that there were no live cells.

There was a discussion if this is even necessary, as the assumption that extracts of BSL-2 cells should not be considered as remaining BSL-2. But the committee felt that this was making this exemption formally was not unduly burdensome and was the conservative position.

A motion to accept the form and the exemption after the change in section V, number 5 and further description of how the extracts were prepared and the cells killed. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously (7-0-0).

Hristina Nedelkovska has not yet submitted a cover page or form. The IBC chair does not think it will require the whole committee to meet. He will contact everyone if this should be necessary.

New Business:

Kevin Militello suggested a systematic revision of the forms. This will include, but is not limited to changing the names of contacts for the IBC. The plan is to put the forms on Google docs and to consider revising them. The committee will meet via zoom to evaluate these revisions sometime during the spring semester.

Harold Hoops, currently vice chair, is rotating off the committee. The committee recommends that Josie Reinhardt be appointed to the position. The committee also thinks that a new member should be chosen. The chair will look into this.

Adjourned 1:19 pm