

# MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY

555 31st Street

Downers Grove Il 60515

## Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting Minutes

### Meeting Details

**Date:** August 18, 2025

**Time:** 2:02 P.M. – 2:28 P.M. Illinois / 12:02 P.M. – 12:28 P.M. Arizona

**Location:** Remote via Microsoft Teams

**Meeting Closed:** As a private institution, Midwestern University does not hold public IBC meetings. All IBC Meeting Minutes are available on the Midwestern University website.

**Members Present:** Nicholas F. Noriea (IBC Chair), Richard Laddaga (Biosafety Officer, Downers Grove), Adebayo Molehin (Biosafety Officer, Glendale), Karolina Klosowska, Jeremy Ellermeier, Agnes Pascual, Ogi Okwumabua, Robert Foreman, Allen Helm, and Kathleen Kennedy.

**Guests Present:** None.

**Staff Present:** Nicholas Cronk

**Members Excused:** Brian Wellensiek and Amanda Rice.

### Commonly Used Abbreviations

- IBC: Institutional Biosafety Committee
- BSO: Biological Safety Officer
- BSL: Biosafety Level
- PI: Principal Investigator
- IACUC: Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
- NIH: National Institutes of Health
- SOP: Standard Operating Procedure

## **Agenda Items**

- 1. Call to Order:** The Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Chair called the meeting to order at 2:02 P.M. Central / 12:02 P.M. Arizona. A quorum was present.
- 2. Member Conflicts:** The IBC Chair reminded attendees that any notes that they retain are subject to public disclosure. A statement was also made about conflict of interest and voting on research proposals as described in the IBC Charter. This includes sharing a grant or a familial relationship.
- 3. Review of Previous Minutes:** July 21, 2025 IBC Meeting Minutes. The committee voted 9 yes; 0 no; 1 abstained to approve the previous meeting's minutes.
- 4. Old Business:**
  - None.
- 5. Informational:**
  - Dr. Fernando Gonzalez, “Generation of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* strains expressing epitope tagged proteasomal proteins.”
    - i. Chair and BSO determined the project is Exempt from IBC oversight.
- 6. New Business:** Welcome new IBC Members; Dr. Adebayo Molehin (AZ BSO), Dr. Jeremy Ellermeier (IL Scientific Member), and Dr. Amanda Rice (AZ Local Unaffiliated Member).
- 7. IBC rsNA Applications:**
  - **Downers Grove, IL Campus**
    - i. Dr. Jeffrey Kurkewich, MWU File #IL-26, “ZEB2-Mediated Transcriptional Regulation of Hematopoietic Stem Cell Fate Determination and Leukemic Transformation.”
    - ii. The IBC Chair presented the review containing the following: risk assessment to determine the appropriate biocontainment levels, assessment of the facilities, procedures, practices, and training and expertise of personnel, agent characteristics, types of manipulations planned, source(s) of the nucleic sequences, nature of the nucleic acid sequences, host(s) and vector(s) to be used, and whether an attempt will be made to obtain expression of a transgene, and if so, the function of the protein that will be produced.
    - iii. The Primary Reviewer Form was shown.

- iv. All the required trainings have been completed.
- v. The IBC Chair made a motion to approve, pending the approval of the BSL-2 SOP, the IBC rsNA Application under NIH Guidelines Sections III-E-1 with containment of agents at BSL/ABSL-1 and BSL/ABSL-2.
- vi. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the IBC rsNA Application from Dr. Kurkewich.

## **8. IBC rsNA Change Forms:**

### **– Downers Grove, IL Campus**

- i. Dr. Michael Ebeid, MWU File #IL-01, “Development and Regeneration of mammalian cochlea.”
- ii. The IBC Chair presented the review containing the following: risk assessment to determine the appropriate biocontainment levels, assessment of the facilities, procedures, practices, and training and expertise of personnel, agent characteristics, types of manipulations planned, source(s) of the nucleic sequences, nature of the nucleic acid sequences, host(s) and vector(s) to be used, and whether an attempt will be made to obtain expression of a transgene, and if so, the function of the protein that will be produced.
- iii. The Primary Reviewer Form was shown.
- iv. All the required trainings have been completed.
- v. The IBC Chair made a motion to approve, pending the approval of the BSL-2 SOP, the IBC Change Form under NIH Guidelines Sections III-D-4-a, III-F-2, & III-F-8 with containment of agents at BSL/ABSL-1.
- vi. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the IBC Change Form from Dr. Ebeid.

## **9. Adjournment: 2:28 P.M. Central / 12:28 P.M. Arizona.**