SAFETY Meeting Minutes
UAMS IBC

MEETING TIME RECORDS

Meeting start time: 7/10/2026 12:01 PM
Meeting end time: 7/10/2026 12:37 PM
Meeting type: Virtual

Name of Regular/Alternate Member	Status (Member or Alternate)	Present by Teleconference?
Ha-Neui Kim	Member	Yes
Matthew Jorgenson	Member	Yes
Robert Hunter	Member	No—voted via email
Kimberly Murphy	Member	Yes
Lindsey Clark	Member	Yes
James Douglas	Member	No
James Bishop	Member	No
Youssef Aachoui	Member	No
Jia Liu	Member	Yes
Yuet-Kin Leung	Member	Yes
Melaney Gee	Member	Yes
Mark Manzano	Member	No
Antino Allen	Member	Yes
KyoungHyun Kim	Member	Yes
James Townsend	Member	Yes
Shengyu Mu	Member	Yes
Kikumi Ono-Moore	Ex officio	No
Zhiqiang Qin	Member	Yes
Lawson Burmingham	Member	Yes
Andre Ewell	Member	No—voted via email

QUORUM INFORMATION

Number of SAFETY members on the roster: 19
Number required for quorum: 10
Quorum: Yes

All members present via teleconference received all pertinent material before the meeting and were able to actively and equally participate in all discussions.

ATTENDANCE STATUS AND VOTING KEY	
ABSTAIN:	Present for the vote but not voting "For" or "Against."
ABSENT:	Absent for discussion and voting for reasons other than a conflict of interest.
RECUSED:	Absent from the meeting during discussion and voting because of a conflict of interest.
SUBSTITUTION:	When regular members and their alternate(s) are listed in the ATTENDANCE table above and an alternate member serves as a substitute for the regular member this identifies the name of the alternate to indicate which individual is serving as the voting member for this vote. May be deleted if there are no substitutions.

GUEST NAMES
N/A

Previous Meeting minutes approved: Yes

REVIEW OF SUBMISSIONS

The review and discussion of the protocols listed below included the following elements: the agents involved and their characteristics; types of manipulations planned; the source(s) and nature of the nucleic acid sequences; the host organism(s) and vector(s) to be utilized; whether expression of a foreign gene is intended and, if so, the specific protein(s) to be produced; the containment conditions to be applied, including biosafety level and any special provisions; and the relevant sections of the NIH Guidelines.

All IBC members present were reminded to identify any conflicts of interest as each registration was reviewed.

For each protocol reviewed, it was confirmed that the Principal Investigator (PI) and laboratory personnel have received appropriate training in the safe conduct of research.

De Novo Review

1. Review of SPROTO202600000033

Title:	Intracellular Pathogen Infection (BP160)
Investigator:	Daniel Voth
Submission ID:	SPROTO202600000033
Description:	Our research is centered on how certain bacteria that cause pneumonia and interact with human lung cells. We focus on three pathogens—Coxiella burnetii, Staphylococcus aureus, and Acinetobacter baumannii—to understand how they infect cells and grow within the lungs. Using a combination of cell biology, molecular biology, and biochemistry, we examine bacterial interaction with human cells. Our experiments use mammalian cell lines, human cells lines, and human tissue. Characterizing how these bacteria behave in human lung tissue will improve our understanding of pneumonia and drive development of better treatments. The work described above falls within risk group 2 and is performed at BSL-2. Applicable NIH Guidelines include Section III-D1 and III-D2.
Agent Containment:	Biological Containment Levels: • Primary Human Tissue: BSL-2 • LukS (S. aureus toxin subunit): BSL-2 • HlgB (S. aureus toxin subunit): BSL-2 • LukF (S. aureus toxin subunit): BSL-2 • LukA (S. aureus toxin subunit): BSL-2 • Protective antigen (Anthrax toxin component): BSL-2 • LukB (S. aureus toxin subunit): BSL-2 • Lethal Factor (Anthrax toxin component): BSL-2 • HlgC (S. aureus toxin subunit): BSL-2 • Hla (S. aureus toxin): BSL-2 • Reovirus: BSL-2 • E. coli: BSL-2 • Legionella pneumophila strain LELA3118: BSL-2 • Legionella pneumophila strain GS3001: BSL-2 • E. coli: BSL-2 • Coxiella burnetii Nine Mile II (RSA439) BSL-2 Avirulent Derivatives: BSL-2 • Staphylococcus aureus: BSL-2 • E. coli: BSL-2 • Legionella pneumophila strain JR32: BSL-2 • E. coli: BSL-2 • Legionella pnuemophila (AA100) BSL-2 Derivatives: BSL-2

	• Staphylococcus aureus: BSL-2 • Acinetobacter baumanni: BSL-2 • Human Primary Cell Line: BSL-2 • NCI-H292: BSL-2 • THP-1: BSL-2 • HL-60 (Human Leukemia Cell Line): BSL-2 • A549: BSL-2 • HEK293T Human Cell Line: BSL-2 • Vero: BSL-2 • HeLa cells: BSL-2
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	• Section III-D-1 • Section III-D-2 • Section III-D

a. **Determination:** Modifications Required

b. **Required modifications:**
Please review and respond to comments throughout the protocol.

c. **Votes:**

For:	13
Against:	0
Recused:	0
Absent:	6
Abstained:	0

De Novo Review

2. Review of SPROTO202600000044

Title:	Characterization of mammalian COG complex-interacting Golgi trafficking machinery (BP188)
Investigator:	Vladimir Lupashin
Submission ID:	SPROTO202600000044
Description:	The research conducted in this laboratory focuses on understanding how proteins and lipids are transported within human cells, particularly through the Golgi apparatus, a central organelle responsible for processing, modifying, and sorting proteins for delivery to their final cellular destinations. Proper intracellular trafficking is essential for normal cell function, and defects in these pathways can contribute to a variety of human diseases, including congenital disorders of glycosylation and other conditions affecting cellular homeostasis. Current studies investigate the molecular mechanisms that

	regulate membrane trafficking, protein sorting, and glycosylation using established cell culture models, recombinant DNA technologies, advanced microscopy, and biochemical approaches. The research aims to identify the protein networks that coordinate intracellular transport and to understand how cells respond when these pathways are disrupted. The knowledge gained from these studies will advance our understanding of fundamental cellular processes and may provide insight into the mechanisms underlying human diseases associated with defects in membrane trafficking and protein glycosylation.
Agent Containment:	Biological Containment Levels: • E. coli: BSL-1 • Yeast: BSL-1 • hTERT-RPE1: BSL-2 • CHO: BSL-2 • HEK293T Human Cell Line: BSL-2 • HeLa cells: BSL-2
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	• Section III-F-3 • Section III-F • Section III-F-1

a. **Determination:** Modifications Required

b. **Required modifications:**
Modifications required. Please review and respond to comments throughout the protocol.

c. **Votes:**

For: 13
Against:
Recused:
Absent: 6
Abstained:

De Novo Review

3. Review of SPROTO202600000045

Title:	S. aureus pathogenesis
Investigator:	Mohamed Elasri
Submission ID:	SPROTO202600000045
Description:	The overall goal of this research is to understand how Staphylococcus aureus regulates virulence, stress adaptation,

	antibiotic tolerance, and biofilm-associated infection. S. aureus is an important human pathogen that can cause a wide range of infections, including skin and soft-tissue infections, device-associated infections, and invasive disease. Methicillin-resistant S. aureus strains remain a major clinical concern because of their resistance to commonly used antibiotics and their ability to form biofilms. This project focuses on bacterial regulatory pathways that contribute to S. aureus biofilm formation, persistence, antibiotic tolerance, and survival under host-associated stress conditions. Studies include the use of clinically relevant S. aureus strains, including methicillin-resistant and methicillin-sensitive strains, as well as genetically modified bacterial strains designed to evaluate the role of specific regulatory genes in bacterial physiology and pathogenesis. Genetic approaches may include deletion of bacterial genes and introduction of reporter systems, such as fluorescent or luminescent reporters, to monitor gene expression, bacterial growth, and biofilm development. Escherichia coli may be used as an intermediate host for routine recombinant DNA cloning. The research also includes evaluation of experimental anti-biofilm compounds for their ability to reduce S. aureus biofilm formation, improve antibiotic activity, and limit bacterial persistence. These studies are intended to support the development of new approaches for preventing or treating biofilm-associated S. aureus infections. Laboratory activities include standard microbiological, molecular biology, and imaging procedures, such as bacterial culture, recombinant DNA manipulation, PCR-based analyses, reporter assays, biofilm assays, centrifugation, and microscopy or luminescence-based imaging. When animal studies are included, they are conducted under an approved animal protocol and are used to evaluate bacterial biofilm formation, infection outcomes, and candidate anti-biofilm treatment approaches in vivo. All work involving S. aureus, genetically modified bacterial strains, recombinant DNA, and related materials will be conducted using approved biosafety practices and appropriate containment procedures. Personnel will follow institutional biosafety requirements, use appropriate personal protective equipment, and perform work in approved containment areas

	or biosafety cabinets as required. Work surfaces, equipment, and waste will be decontaminated according to institutional biosafety procedures.
Agent Containment:	Biological Containment Levels: • Animal Blood: BSL-2 • Animal Tissue: BSL-2 • Staphylococcus aureus: BSL-2 • E. coli: BSL-1
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	• Section III-D-1 • Section III-D

a. **Determination:** Modifications Required

b. **Required modifications:**
Modifications required. Please review and respond to comments throughout the protocol.

c. **Votes:**
For: 13
Against:
Recused:
Absent: 6
Abstained:

Amendment/CR

4. Review of SAMENDCR202600000069

Title:	Amendment/CR for SPROTO202500000033
Investigator:	Behjatolah Karbassi
Submission ID:	SAMENDCR202600000069
Description:	
Agent Containment:	
Applicable NIH Guidelines:	

a. **Determination:** Modifications Required

b. **Required modifications:**
Modifications required. Please review and respond to comments throughout the protocol.

c. **Votes:**
For: 13
Against:
Recused:
Absent: 6

Abstained:

REVIEW OF OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

Administrative approvals were acknowledged.

No other items were reviewed.