

**Rowan University
Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: January 16, 2026
Meeting Time: 11:31 AM – 12:07 PM
Meeting Location: Microsoft Teams
Chair: Dr. Kevin Currie

Voting Members:

Member	Role/Expertise	Present	Excused
Dr. K.C.	Chair	x	
Dr. L.P.	Scientist		x
Dr. B.W.	Scientist	x	
Dr. C.K.	Scientist	x	
Dr. M.F.	Plant Expert	x	
Dr. E.M.	Animal Expert	x	
Mr. E.G.	Research Compliance Director	x	
Mr. T.B.	Biological Safety Officer		x
Mr. S.G.	Non-affiliated	x	
Mr. R.H.	Non-affiliated	x	

Guests: Ms. S.S. (Notetaker)

Quorum: The committee has ten voting members, and eight members were present.

- I. Call to Order and Conflicts of Interest
The IBC Chair called the meeting to order at 11:31 AM.
- II. Review and approval of agenda
The January 16, 2026 agenda was approved unanimously.
- III. Review and approval of prior meeting minutes
Motion: Approve the December 5, 2025 meeting minutes as written.
Votes: 6 For, 0 Against, 2 Abstain
- IV. Institutional Review Entity (IRE) - The Institutional Dual Use Research Contact (IDURC) did not receive any notifications about dual use concerns nor received any contact from researchers using select agents/toxins.
- V. Chairman's Report - An additional scientist member is being recruited.
- VI. Biological Safety Officer (BSO) / Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) Report
A. No report
- VII. Review of Prior Business
A. Chandler Lab - Amendment Approved December 8, 2025
B. Martinez Lab - Amendment Approved December 15, 2025
C. Wei Lab - New Projects Approved December 15, 2025
- VIII. New Business
A. Chang Lab Biological Registration
 - a. **PI:** Howard Chang
 - b. **Project Title and #:** The role of superoxide dismutase SOD-1 in microbe-gut-brain interaction, #60
 - c. **NIH Sponsored: Yes**
 - d. **Summary:** The project focus is how gut microbes influence gut-brain communication. The lab seeks to determine whether a neuropeptide functions as a signaling molecule between the gut and the nervous system to modulate the SOD-1 dependent response. Then how SOD-1 and glutamatergic signaling regulate behavioral response to microbes.
 - e. **Risk Assessment:** Biosafety Level 2
 - f. **Personnel Training:** Required laboratory personnel training completed: General Laboratory, Biological Laboratory, r/sDNA, and Hazardous Biological.
 - g. **NIH Guidelines Sections for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules:** Section III-F-3,5,6
 - h. **Committee Deliberation and Motion:** Requires modifications with full committee review:
 - i. Additional information on experience of Principal Investigator's work with BLS2 environment
 - ii. Specific information on DUR/PEPP Survey on risk benefit analysis

- iii. Summary of procedures for rDNA work including list of DNA vectors / transgene on Microbial Agents Survey
 - iv. Description of how worms will be handled after exposure and how contaminated materials are disposed
 - v. Details on how the genes are to be expressed
 - vi. Clarify if genetically modified *C. elegans* will be shipped
 - vii. Additional information on experimental procedures including risk management
 - viii. Provide map of expression plasmid
 - ix. Change Risk Assessment to 2
- Vote: 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained*

IX. For the Good of the Committee 12:02 PM

X. Meeting Adjournment: The IBC Chair moved to adjourn the meeting 12:07 PM.