

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

Meeting Date: July 10, 2026
Meeting Time: 11:02 AM – 12:53 PM
Meeting Location: Microsoft Teams
Chair: Dr. Kevin Currie

Voting Members:

Member	Role/Expertise	Present	Not Present
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. N.F.	Animal Expert	x	
Dr. M.A.	Scientist		x
Dr. J.L.	Scientist	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	
Dr. J.F.	Alternate - Scientist	x	

Guests: Ms. S.S. (Notetaker)

Quorum: The committee has twelve voting members, and nine members were present including the alternate scientist.

- I. Call to Order and Conflicts of Interest
The IBC Chair called the meeting to order at 11:02 AM.
- II. Review and approval of agenda
The June 10, 2026 agenda was approved unanimously.
- III. Review and approval of prior meeting minutes
Motion: Approve the June 5, 2026 meeting minutes as written.

Votes: 6 For, 0 Against, 3 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
 - A. Reminder to identify conflict of interest
- VI. Biological Safety Officer (BSO) / Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) Report
 - A. Report posted on Google Drive
- VII. Review of Prior Business
 - A. Segar Lab - Approved amendment 6/18/26
 - B. Rood Lab - Approved amendment 6/18/26
 - C. Neary Lab - Approved renewal 6/18/26
 - D. Galie Lab - Approved renewal 6/18/26
 - E. Holaska Lab - Approved renewal 6/24/26
 - F. Job Lab - Approved renewal 7/10/26
- VIII. New Business
 - A. Manners Lab - New
 - a. **PI:** Melissa Manners
 - b. **Project Title and #:** The effect of chronic stress on neuroinflammation, #83
 - c. **NIH Sponsored: Yes**
 - d. **Summary:** The lab focus is on the molecular mechanisms underlying the behavioral effects of chronic stress and how gene expression and molecular mechanisms are affected by disease state and drug treatment.
 - e. **Risk Assessment:** Biosafety Level 2
 - f. **Personnel Training:** Required laboratory personnel training: General Laboratory, Biological Laboratory, and Hazardous Biological
 - g. **NIH Guidelines Sections for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules:** N/A
 - h. **Committee Deliberation and Motion:** Requires modifications with designated member review:
 - i. Provide description of material transported and packaging
 - ii. Indicate where material is stored
 - iii. Complete of CITI training
 - iv. Indicate exemption on Section III-F
 - v. Add lab space
 - vi. Simplify Description of Experimental Procedures by removing unnecessary details

Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained

J.F. recused 11:45 AM

- B. Kim Lab - Renewal & New
 - a. **PI:** Minwook Kim
 - b. **Project Title and #:**
 - i. Cellular and molecular mechanisms regulating synovial joint development, #12

- ii. Functional cartilage tissue engineering for joint repair, #13
 - c. **NIH Sponsored: Yes**
 - d. **Summary:** The lab focuses on the cellular and molecular mechanisms regulating limb synovial joint formation and cavitation. The first project hypothesizes that joint cavitation is brought about by the coordination of microlumen formation and HA metabolism, leading to the creation of a synovial fluid-filled cavity needed for long-term joint function. The second project focuses on cell-based bioengineering strategies to repair cartilage.
 - e. **Risk Assessment:** Biosafety Level 2
 - f. **Personnel Training:** Required laboratory personnel training: General Laboratory, Biological Laboratory, and Hazardous Biological
 - g. **NIH Guidelines Sections for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules:** N/A
 - h. **Committee Deliberation and Motion:** Requires modifications with designated member review:
 - i. Clarification to risk assessment and PPE.
 - ii. Clarifications to Description of Experimental and Procedural Details to include potential biohazards and how mitigated.
 - iii. More specific on animal tissues
 - iv. Clarification on cartilage specimens
 - v. Clarification on Source Materials
 - vi. Clarification on Usage Summary
- Vote: 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained*

C. Wang Lab - New

- a. **PI:** Zhihong Wang
 - b. **Project Title and #:** Activation and regulation mechanism of the Raf kinase family, #18
 - c. **NIH Sponsored: Yes**
 - d. **Summary:** The project focuses on protein kinases that govern pivotal functions ranging from cell proliferation to migration to enhance understanding of cellular regulation and disease pathogenesis.
 - e. **Risk Assessment:** Biosafety Level 2
 - f. **Personnel Training:** Required laboratory personnel training: General Laboratory, Biological Laboratory, rDNA & sDNA Laboratory Research, and Hazardous Biological
 - g. **NIH Guidelines Sections for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules:** Section III-D-1, Section III-F-1,-2
 - h. **Committee Deliberation and Motion:** Requires modifications with designated member review:
 - i. Additional information in Description of Experimental and Procedural Details
 - ii. Additional information on standard SOP
 - iii. Inclusion of bacterial expression plasmids and maps
 - iv. Additional information on laboratory safety procedures
 - v. Update to Usage Summary
- Vote: 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained*

R.H. recused 12:32 PM

- D. Klase Lab - New
- a. **PI:** Zachary Klase
 - b. **Project Title and #:** The molecular pathogenesis of neuroHIV, #126
 - c. **NIH Sponsored:** Yes
 - d. **Summary:** The project describes the primary research focus of the Klase lab, which investigates the molecular mechanisms by which the HIV virus causes disease.
 - e. **Risk Assessment:** Biosafety Level 2+
 - f. **Personnel Training:** Required laboratory personnel training: General Laboratory, Biological Laboratory, rDNA & sDNA Laboratory Research, and Hazardous Biological
 - g. **NIH Guidelines Sections for Research with Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules:** Section III-D-1,-2,-3, Section III-E,-1, Section III-F-1
 - h. **Committee Deliberation and Motion:** Requires modifications with designated member review:
 - i. Inclusion of plasmid maps
 - ii. Indicate storage space
 - iii. Identify biosafety level for plasmids
 - iv. Clarification on treatment exposure
- Vote: 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained*

L.P. recused 12:42 PM

IX. For the Good of the Committee 12:52 PM

X. Meeting Adjournment: The IBC Chair moved to adjourn the meeting 12:53 PM.