

***PENNINGTON BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE***

Dr. Diana Coulon
Dr. Timothy Heden

Dr. Stephen Hennigar
Dr. Abigal Fish (Non-Voting Member)

Dr. Jason Collier, Chair
Dr. Krisztian Stadler, Vice-Chair

Dr. Leonard Ezell, Community Representative
Jennifer Strickland, Community Representative
Dr. Christopher Morrison, Responsible Official

Dr. Stefany Primeaux
Dr. Erik Westin

Dr. Christy White
Dr. Sangho Yu

MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, October 9th, 2025
2:00 PM – B2001

Institution	<i>Pennington Biomedical Research Center Baton Rouge, LA</i>
Meeting Date	<i>Thursday, October 9th, 2025</i>
Meeting Time	<i>2:02 PM – 2:32 PM</i>
Meeting Type	<i>In person meeting</i>
IBC Members Present	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Dr. Jason Collier, (Chair)</i> <i>2. Dr. Krisztian Stadler, (Vice Chair)</i> <i>3. Dr. Christy White (Safety Officer)</i> <i>4. Dr. Erik Westin</i> <i>5. Dr. Sangho Yu</i> <i>6. Dr. Steven Hennigar</i> <i>7. Dr. Timothy Heden</i> <i>8. Dr. Stefany Primeaux</i>

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	9. Leonard Ezell (Community Non-affiliated Member)
IBC Members Absent	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Abigail Fish (Non-Voting Member) 2. Jennifer Strickland (Community Non-affiliated Member) 3. Dr. Diana Coulon (Animal expert)
Quorum	<i>Present</i>
Other Individuals in Attendance	<i>N/A</i>
Call to Order	<i>2:02 pm</i>
Conflicts of Interest	<i>The IBC Chair reminded all members present to identify any conflicts of interest as each registration is reviewed.</i>
Review and approval of previous meeting minutes	<p>September 2025</p> <p>Motion: Dr. Steven Hennigar</p> <p>Second: Dr. Sangho u</p> <p>All in Favor 9/9</p>

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Review of Prior Business	N/A
New IBC Registrations and Amendments for Review	
PI Name(s)	<i>Robert Kesterson PhD.</i>
Registration Number/Title	<i>Renewal Registration: R2508 Cancer precision medicine laboratory</i>
Project Overview	<i>This project studies the disease neurofibromatosis type 1 (NF1) that affects 1 in 3000 people worldwide. NF1 is a tumor suppressor gene wherein patients with mutations have cells that grow inappropriately and are characterized by multiple café au lait (light brown) skin spots and neurofibromas (small benign growths) on or under the skin, larger "plexiform" neurofibromas associated with large nerve bundles, and/or freckling in the armpits or groin. About 50% of people with NF1 also have cognitive deficits. We study mutations found in patients with NF1 by creating gene copies (cDNA) of the affected gene and comparing functional differences compared to the normal gene. We use cell lines and animal models that have been genetically modified to mimic the exact mutations found in patients in order to test novel therapeutics to treat the disease. In</i>

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	<i>some cases, the genetic change found in a patient is called a "variant of unknown significance" until our experiments test the hypothesis that the variant leads to a change in how the gene functions, thereby leading to a reclassification as a true "mutation".</i>
NIH Guidelines Section	<i>Section III-D-1-a; Section III-F-8</i>
Risk Assessment and Discussion	<i>The risk of bloodborne pathogen transmission is possible when working with human cell lines. There is also a low biosafety risk from working with bacteria and plasmids. The risk will be minimized through training, vaccination, engineering controls and proper PPE use.</i>
Training	<i>All required training courses are complete for all lab staff listed in the registration.</i>
Occupational Health Representative review (if applicable):	<i>All staff except for one have had high-risk bloodborne pathogen training and either received or formally declined the Hepatitis B vaccine. The person who has not had the training and vaccine is in the process of obtaining both.</i>
Biosafety Level Assignment	<i>BSL-1, BSL-2</i>
IBC Vote	<i>A motion was made and seconded to approve the registration pending changes or conditions to be met. All in favor 8/8 Conflicts of Interest: none* Dr. Westin was not present at the discussion</i>

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Modifications Requested	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>Minor clarification requested on room numbers.</i> 2) <i>Minor change requested for waste decontamination.</i> 3) <i>Include how cell lines are inventoried.</i> 4) <i>Remove fume hood information since it is not being used.</i> 5) <i>Clarify source of DNA vectors.</i> 6) <i>Correct the NIH Guideline listed.</i> 7) <i>Include all bacteria in the microbial section.</i> 8) <i>Reword a confusing statement on cleaning.</i> 9) <i>If the project doesn't involve genetically modified animals, uncheck the box and remove any mention of animal work. If animals are still part of the project, explain how they're used and reference the Escaped Rodent SOP.</i>
Other Business	
Energy, Coast and Environmental Building labs moving to PBRC	<i>The labs will not be coming to PBRC A second opinion said they do not need to leave their building.</i>

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Review of Toxin SOP	<i>Updated the Toxin SOP and shared the edits with suggestions. A formal SOP will be sent via email for final review and approval.</i>
Adjournment	<i>The IBC Chair moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:32PM. Next Month's Meeting will be scheduled for November 13th at 2 pm</i>