

**San Jose State University (SJSU)**  
**Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)**  
**December 12, 2025, Meeting Minutes**  
**Location: Zoom**  
**Start time: 1:03 PM End time: 1:58 PM**

**Members Present:** Alex Payumo (joined 1:10), Cleber Ouverney, Edmund Tang, Yun Wang (alternate), Ningkun Wang (alternate), Anantha Korrapati (community member), Kevin McCluskey (Vice-Chair) and Maria Piccone (BSO, Chair)

**Guests Present:** Miri VanHoven, Skye Kelty, Joe Grzywacz (joined 1:05)

The notice of the meeting was publicly posted on the IBC, Office of Research website.

## **1. Biosafety Officer's News**

The BSO provided a summary of an incident that occurred in November in one of our classrooms, and reviewed the procedures for handling and reporting the incident.

Members were informed that the BSO has developed a draft of the SJSU Biosafety Manual, which has been reviewed by the College of Science Biosafety Committee. The BSO is currently incorporating the feedback received from the Committee.

## **2. IBC News**

The Chair provided an overview of the IBC 2025 activities and updates to the IBC operation (process and forms). Briefly:

- All IBC meetings were scheduled to avoid academic breaks, when members are not expected to work. No meetings were held during the winter break (January) or the summer break (June–July). No expedited meetings were conducted.
- Over 60 applications were reviewed, including 7 *de novo*, 2 closed, 1 paused, and 3 exempt Biological Use Authorizations (BUAs); the remaining submissions were renewals and amendments. BUAs were received from multiple colleges, including the College of Science, College of Engineering, College of Health and Human Sciences, College of Social Sciences, College of Education, and the Department of Nutrition. Most BUAs were submitted by the College of Science.
- Most BUAs were for BSL-2 rather than for BSL-1.
- Approximately equal numbers of research and teaching BUAs were submitted and reviewed.
- The Committee made significant progress in streamlining its processes by updating existing documentation and developing new documents designed to facilitate compliance and improve workflow.

Anantha Korrapati and Brandon Bonin joined the Committee as Community Members. Matthew Voisinet served as an interim IBC member (April–September 2025) representing the College of Science. After several years of service, Randy Kircher retired in December 2025.

The university IBC web page was updated to include relevant documents and revised forms.

The IBC meeting minutes were revised and updated according to the NIH Template for Minutes regarding NIH Notice NOT-OD-25-082: Promoting Maximal Transparency Under the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules.

The Chair thanked all IBC members for their valuable time throughout the year in reviewing protocols and attending the meetings.

Members were informed about the following IBC actions:

- **BUA#12132024C** (exp. date: 12/12/2025). “Flow Cytometry” course. Instructors: Andrea Cipriano, Dep: Obstetrics and Gynecology, Stanford School of Medicine; and Bree Grillo-Hill, Dept: Biology Sciences, College of Sciences. **The BUA was administratively paused on 11/19/2025.**
- **BUA#12132024A** (exp. date: 12/12/2025). “Advanced Biology Laboratory, Biol 239L” (spring semester). Instructor: Alex Payumo, Dept: Biology Sciences, College of Sciences. **Amendment (addition of Chinese hamster lung fibroblast cells, CCL-39 cells -BSL-1) was administratively approved on 12/4/2025.** Lab inspected on December 8, 2025. Training up to date.
- **BUA#12132024A** (exp. date: 12/12/2025). “Advanced Biology Laboratory, Biol 239L” (spring semester). Instructor: Alex Payumo, Dept: Biology Sciences, College of Sciences. **1st year Renewal -No changes to the protocol- was administratively approved on 12/5/2025.** Lab inspected on December 8, 2025. Training up to date.
- **BUA#12132024B** (exp. date: 12/12/2025). “Immunology Laboratory, Biol 107L” (spring semester). Instructor: Rachael French and Brian Trenchak, Dept: Biology Sciences, College of Sciences. **1st year Renewal -No changes to the protocol- was administratively approved on 11/19/2025.** Lab inspected on December 15, 2025. Training for all listed members is not up to date.
- **BUA#12132024E** (exp. date: 12/12/2025). “Microbial diversity in Mojave Desert soil and haloperoxidase producing bacteria associated with acorn worms”. PI: Sabine Rech, Dept: Biology Sciences, College of Sciences. **Amendment (new personnel) was administratively approved on 11/24/2025.** Lab inspected on September 18, 2025. Training up to date.
- **BUA#12132024E** (exp. date: 12/12/2025). “Microbial diversity in Mojave Desert soil and haloperoxidase producing bacteria associated with acorn worms”. PI: Sabine Rech, Dept: Biology Sciences, College of Sciences. **1st year Renewal -No changes to the protocol- was administratively approved on 11/25/2025.** Lab inspected on September 18, 2025. Training up to date.
- **BUA#12132024G** (exp. date: 12/12/2025). “Biochemistry Lab, CHEM 131B-02” Course (Spring/Fall semester). Instructors: Ningkun Wang, and Taylor Arhar, Dept: Chemistry, College of Sciences. **Amendment (addition of pET101/D-TOP0, addition of personnel, additional room) was administratively approved on 12/4/2025.** Lab inspected on November 17, 2025. Training up to date.

- **BUA#12132024G** (exp. date: 12/12/2025). “Biochemistry Lab, CHEM 131B-02” Course (Spring/Fall semester). Instructors: Ningkun Wang, and Taylor Arhar, Dept: Chemistry, College of Sciences. **1st year Renewal -No changes to the protocol- was administratively approved on 12/5/2025**. Lab inspected on November 17, 2025. Training up to date.
- **BUA#12132024D** (exp. date: 12/12/2025). “Characterization and changes in abalone microbiomes”. PI: Sonia Singhal, Dept: Biology Sciences, College of Sciences. **Amendment (update personnel) was administratively approved on 12/3/2025**. Lab inspection scheduled for 12/16/2025. Training up to date.
- **BUA#12132024D** (exp. date: 12/12/2025). “Characterization and Changes in Marine Microbiomes”. PI: Sonia Singhal, Dept: Biology Sciences, College of Sciences. **1st year Renewal -No changes to the protocol- was administratively approved on 12/4/2025**. Lab inspection scheduled for 12/16/2025. Training up to date.
- **BUA#12132024F** (exp. date: 12/12/2025). “The Role of Genetic and Environmental Context in Viral Adaptations”. Renewal (update organisms, genes, minor changes). PI: Sonia Singhal, Dept: Biology Sciences, College of Sciences. **Amendment (update personnel) was administratively approved on 12/3/2025**. Lab inspection scheduled for 12/16/2025. Training up to date.
- **BUA#12132024F** (exp. date: 12/12/2025). “The Role of Genetic and Environmental Context in Viral Adaptations”. Renewal (update organisms, genes, minor changes). PI: Sonia Singhal, Dept: Biology Sciences, College of Sciences. **1st year Renewal -No changes to the protocol- was administratively approved on 12/4/2025**. Lab inspection scheduled for 12/16/2025. Training up to date.
- **BUA04112025E** (exp. date: 4/11/2028). “General Microbiology, Micr 101L” (spring semester). Instructor: Cleber Ouverney, Walter Adams, Dept: Biology Sciences, College of Sciences. **Amendment (addition of instructor Dr. Leila Khatib) was administratively approved on 12/10/2025**. Lab inspected on November 26, 2025. Training up to date.

The Chair sought a motion to approve the IBC actions. The motion was seconded.  
**The committee unanimously voted to approve the actions.**

### 3. Old Business. Review of minutes from the previous meeting on November 7, 2025

The Chair sought a motion to approve the 11072025 minutes. The motion was seconded.  
**The committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes.**

### 4. New Business

**BUA#11082024A** (exp. date: 11/7/2025). “Molecular and cellular regulators of cardiac muscle cell division”. PI: Alex Payumo, Dept: Biology Sciences, College of Sciences. **Amendment**. This amendment required a full committee review due to the nature of the proposed changes, specifically the addition of replication-defective viral vector under Section III-D and because the changes fall under the scope of the NIH Guidelines.

*Primary reviewer: Cleber Ouverney - Secondary reviewer: Brandon Bonin*

**Applicable NIH guidelines: III-D, III-F**

**Biosafety level 2 (BSL-2)** – Adenovirus, Human cells, human-induced pluripotent stem cell lines

PI recused himself from the meeting.

Research involving cellular and molecular mechanisms in cardiac tissue (in progress). Research with potential biomedical applications.

Lab personnel wear appropriate PPE, such as gloves, lab coats, and eye protection, at all times. The lab has established procedures for decontamination and biohazardous waste disposal. Liquid waste is treated with bleach at a final concentration of 10% before drain disposal. Surfaces are decontaminated with freshly prepared 10 % bleach or 70% ethanol. Solid waste is autoclaved by the MSC staff. Procedures for aerosol containment include use of certified biosafety cabinet, capped tubes, seal tubes, rotors, and pipette tips with filters. Procedures for responding and managing spills are appropriate. Training, which includes Bloodborne Pathogen, CITI Initial Biosafety and r/s DNA guidelines, is up to date. The lab was inspected on December 8, 2025.

The following will be communicated to the PI:

- The IBC recommends not manipulating virus strains with different Biosafety levels in a biological safety cabinet at the same time because simultaneous handling may increase the risk of accidental "rescue."
- Freshly prepared 10% household bleach is recommended. Alcohol is NOT an effective disinfectant against AAV. Please review the surface decontamination procedures in the Main BUA, Biohazardous Materials and Waste Disinfection/Decontamination and Disposal section.
- In the section Health Status, Health Surveillance, and/or Immunization Program Section, Main BUA please provide a statement regarding the risk of AAV genome integration.
- In rDNA SOP, Citations Section, the links for Waste Disposal Guide for SJSU Laboratories and San Jose State University Biological Sciences Department Safety Rules for Teaching Laboratories, need to be updated. To be replaced with: [Hazardous Waste Management, Safety Sheet for Teaching Laboratories.pdf](#)
- In SOP for Work with BSL-2 agents, Citation Section, the link for San Jose State University Biological Sciences Department Safety Rules for Teaching Laboratories needs to be updated. To be replaced with: [Safety Sheet for Teaching Laboratories.pdf](#)
- In SOP for Work with BSL-1 agents, Citation Section, Citation Section, the link for San Jose State University Biological Sciences Department Safety Rules for Teaching Laboratories needs to be updated. To be replaced with: [Safety Sheet for Teaching Laboratories.pdf](#)

The Chair sought a motion to approve this amendment. The motion was seconded.

**The committee unanimously voted to approve the amendment** (pending the minor modifications listed above).

**NEW BUA.** "The Effect of Exercise on Postprandial Glycemic Control in Individuals with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus". PIs: Areum Jensen and Christopher Alcala. Dept: Kinesiology, College of

Health and Human Sciences. Lab is due for inspection. Training is up to date. Hep B vaccine was offered as part of the BBP program.

*Primary reviewer: Ningkun Wang - Secondary reviewer: Alex Payumo*

**Applicable NIH guidelines:** NA

**Biosafety level 2 (BSL-2) –Human Blood**

The purpose of this study is to investigate the effective control of blood glucose level with exercise in individuals with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM). Specifically, they aim to identify when to start exercise after carbohydrate intake in T2DM.

PPE includes lab coat and gloves. No biosafety cabinet is required. Solid waste is placed in red biohazard bags and disposed of by university technical staff. Single-use lancets are disposed of in sharps containers. No liquid waste is generated. Surfaces are decontaminated with 70% ethanol. There is no transportation of samples between campus labs. The required training, including CITI OSHA BBP and CITI Initial Biosafety, has been completed and is current. Hepatitis B vaccination is offered as part of the BBP program. Lab was last inspected on June 27, 2025, and is due for inspection.

The following will be communicated to the PI:

- In Main BUA, Section Protective Equipment, add safety glasses to the listed PPE.
- Main BUA, Section Laboratory Locations, indicates room YUH 242 but BSL-2 SOP for Work with Human Blood indicates YUH 242. Please clarify which room is approved for BSL-2 work specifically involving human blood. If the room is shared with other PIs, please provide a departmental letter for use of shared space/equipment.
- Typo- “lancels” should be “lancets.”
- The alcohol-based hand sanitizers must contain at least 60% ethyl alcohol to be considered effective disinfectants.
- The Main BUA, Health Status, Health Surveillance, and/or Immunization Program Section needs to be filled out, a requirement for the BUAs that pose a risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens. List high-risk groups (immunocompromised, pregnant) and include recommendations for them.
- Is there any participant category (Alzheimer's, pregnant, immunocompromised, etc.) or medical status (active cold, flu, fever, etc.) excluded from this work based on the medical questionnaire? The committee recommends that the protocol includes a statement informing participants that eligibility is determined by the medical questionnaire.
- In SOP for Work with Human Blood, the links for the university personnel page and Workers 'compensation Report are not working. To be replaced with: [University Personnel page](#) and [Workers' Compensation Report](#)
- Please contact EHS to schedule the lab inspection. This is a requirement for the approval of the BUA.