Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Institutional Biosafety Committee
Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: 07/24/2026 **Meeting Time:** 2:00 PM
Meeting Location: [redacted]

Note: The approved meeting minutes will be posted publicly per the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Office of Science Policy (OSP) requirement NOT-OD-25-082. All information on matters not covered by the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules will be redacted as allowed in NOT-OD-25-082.

Call to Order:
The Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) met on 07/24/2026 [redacted].

The quorum required is 4. There were 5 voting members and 0 non-voting members present at the start of the meeting. Quorum was confirmed. An additional voting member and a non-voting member entered later, which are noted in the minutes.

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 PM.

Meeting Attendance:

Meeting Chair: Dr. Jeffrey Turner

Voting Full Board Members:

Name	Scientific Status	Affiliation Status	Attended by Teleconference?
Jeffrey Turner, Ph.D. (Chair)	Scientific, rDNA Expert and Animal Expert	Affiliated	Yes
Harshkumar Bhakta, M.S.	Scientific, EHS	Affiliated	Yes
Jonda Halcomb, Ph.D.	Scientific, Community Member	Non-affiliated	Yes
Yessenia Morris, B.S.	Scientific, Community Member and Animal Expert	Non-affiliated	Yes
Lee Lehman, M.S.	Scientific, Plant Expert	Affiliated	No
Boram Lim, Ph.D.	Scientific, Kinesiology	Affiliated	Yes

Voting Alternate Members: None.

Non-voting Members in Attendance:

Name	Scientific Status	Affiliation Status	Attended by Teleconference?
Mary Mantle, R.EEG T, REP T. CMEG	Scientific, Community Member	Non-affiliated	Yes

Members attending by teleconference were confirmed as able to actively participate.

Full Board Members Absent: Patrick Larkin, PhD

IBC Staff: John Scarpa, PhD
Guests: Dara Orbach, PhD (TAMU-CC, PI)

Conflict of Interest
Members are reminded to disclose any conflict of interest related to any of the items on the agenda. No conflicts.

I. Conflict of Interest
Members are reminded to disclose any conflict of interest related to any of the items on the agenda. The Chair called for any disclosures of conflict of interest. No conflicts were declared.

II. Minutes
Minutes from the June 26, 2026, meeting were reviewed.

The Chair invited additional comments, questions, and/or concerns. Hearing none, the motion to approve the June 26, 2026, minutes was made, seconded, and carried.

Vote Count	Vote Type	Comments
6	For	
0	Against	
0	Abstain	
0	Conflict of Interest	
0	Not present for Vote	

III. Old Business
None.

IV. New Business
Chair: None.

Education: None.

EHS: All Biosafety Cabinets (BSC) in use on campus passed at the annual inspection. [redacted]-up meeting will be held to discuss the autoclave coverage and service contracts (ORC will arrange).

Other: None.

V. New Studies

[redacted]

Ms. Mantle entered at 2:11 PM (no change in quorum).

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VI. Tabled Studies
None.

VII. De Novo Reviews

[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]h Protocol
Biosafety Level:	BSL-2

[redacted]

[redacted]

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IBC Number:	**TAMU-CC-IBC-2026-0114**
Protocol Title:	CHEM-4402 (Biochemistry II)
Principal Investigator:	Narayana, Narendra, PhD
Primary Reviewers:	Jeffrey Turner, PhD
Conflict of Interest:	N/A
Lay Summary:	Biochemistry II (CHEM-4402) is an undergraduate course with a laboratory component linked to the lecture. Through a series of laboratory experiments, students receive hands-on experience in commonly used biochemical and biological techniques to produce protein for in-class purposes. The overall goal of these laboratory sessions is to obtain purified Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP). This protein was first discovered in Jelly Fish and does not have any biological role except to fluoresce green light and is thus harmless. GFP has wide applications in cell biology and medicine. Unlike many proteins, GFP expresses very well in innocuous Escherichia Coli (E. coli) cells, so it serves as a model protein to train undergraduate students in the production and purification of a protein. These skills are necessary in biological chemistry. Students will use recombinant DNA technology to obtain GFP, that is, they will be able to produce GFP found in Jelly Fish without using them. The central dogma in Biochemistry - DNA to RNA to Protein - is the procedure adopted to prepare GFP. In line with this method, students begin with complementary DNA (cDNA) of GFP found in Aequoria Victoria (AV), a specific species in Jelly Fish. A small amount of AV cDNA given to each student groups will be amplified using PCR. Students will continue to use a variety of tools used to produce the protein with the help of molecular machineries present in E. coli cells. The successful production of the protein confirms the dogma mentioned above vividly to the students. Both the cells and the protein made are harmless. Biological and biochemical reagents are handled primarily by the instructor. Students are guided at every step during their experiments to adhere to safety practices to protect them from any hazards. Biochemical and biological safety protocols used in our laboratory are outlined in the safety section.
Biohazardous Agents:	Escherichia coli (non-pathogenic)

NIH Guidelines:	III-E, III-F: Cloning and vector construction in bacteria and yeasts
Submission Type:	Teaching/Training Protocol
Biosafety Level:	BSL-1

Reviewer had no comments or stipulations; all risks are mitagated with appropriate procedures and PPE. This is another protocol that uses the autoclave in TH 226, whichi is non-functional, as it is located outside the TH labs. The access issue needs to be resolved (swipe would be best) to limit to those that are trained to use an autoclave. It was noticed that the protocol in review is not showing the 13 lab documents that are associated with the protocol. They were added by ORC to assist the PI in submission. The labs were the same ones from the original protocol that is expiring.

The Chair invited additional comments, questions, and/or concerns. Having none, the motion to approve with a permit expiration date of three (3) years and an annual expiration date of one (1) year was made, seconded, and carried.

Vote Count	Vote Type	Comments
6	For	
0	Against	
0	Abstain	
0	Conflict of Interest	
0	Not present for Vote	

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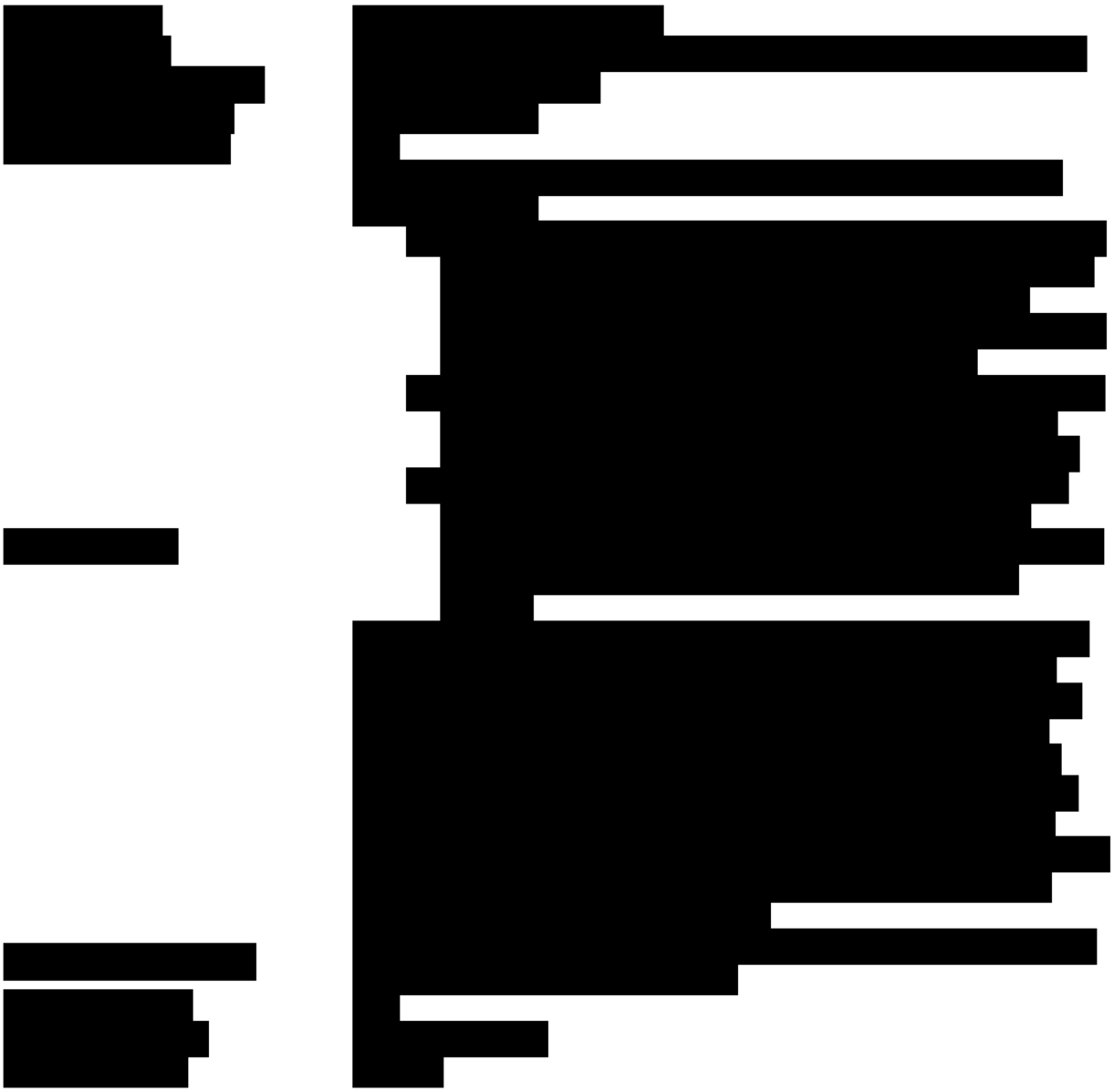
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IBC Number:	**TAMU-CC-IBC-2026-0104**
Protocol Title:	Copy of Storage Protocol - Tidal Hall
Principal Investigator:	Pavel, Ioana, PhD
Primary Reviewers:	Boram Lim, PhD
Conflict of Interest:	N/A
Lay Summary:	This protocol is solely for the purpose of storage. Any usage or handling of these listed agents is described in subsequent IBC applications. The agents will be stored in the communal Biosafety Level 2 (BSL2) Freezers area in Tidal Hall. The agents will be stored in an ultra-low temperature freezer (-70 °C to -80 °C), in the original, properly labeled containers having a double seal and the main investigator's name (as received from the vendor).
Biohazardous Agents:	Bacteria (Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Vibrio vulnificus, Vibrio alginolyticus, Escherichia coli (non-pathogenic), BL21(DE3)pLysS Competent Cells) and Human cell lines.
NIH Guidelines:	II-A-3: Use of human cells/cell lines or tissues (e.g. human blood, 293 cell lines, CSF), III-F: Use of recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules for detection (e.g. probes), III-E, III-F: Expression of recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules in cultured cells
Submission Type:	Holding Protocol (storage protocol, NO experimental procedures)
Biosafety Level:	BSL-2

No reviewer comments or stipulations. All risks mitagated with appropriate PPE and engineering controls.

The Chair invited additional comments, questions, and/or concerns. Having none, the motion to approve with a permit expiration date of three (3) years and an annual expiration date of one (1) year was made, seconded, and carried.

Vote Count	Vote Type	Comments
6	For	
0	Against	
0	Abstain	
0	Conflict of Interest	
0	Not present for Vote	



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VIII. Annual Reviews
None.

IX. Amendments
None.

X. Reportable Events
None.

XI. Lab Inspections
None.

XII. Biological Safety (BSR) or Chair Review

[redacted]

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XIII. Miscellaneous
None.

XIV. Closing Comments

[redacted] The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 PM.