

Institutional Biosafety Committee Meeting

January 23rd, 2026

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Attendance:

Voting Members: Jennifer Skirkanich, Michelle Wien, Melanie Allen, Cecilia Sepulveda, Elizabeth Zodda until 2:20 pm, Joshua Shapiro, Adam Williamson.

Non-voting members: Sarah Robertson, Abby Gilman, Billie Jo Ember

Announcements: CITI training – all IBC committee members are up-to-date on compliance trainings, but there will be a review of CITI training modules to determine what training will be needed in the future.

This is the annual meeting to review non-exempt protocols.

Three protocols to review for today's meeting.

1. **Title:** Molecular and cellular studies of signal transduction in immune cells **PI:**

Adam Williamson

- a. Adam Williamson recused himself from this review
- b. A summary of project along with all relevant measures taken to ensure safety under IBC requirements was given before committee were asked if there were any questions regarding biosafety safeguards being taken. Committee reviewed protocol submitted prior to meeting and an inspection of the lab where work will take place was done.
- c. The committee was asked if anyone had questions after review. Once it was determined that there were no questions, committee voted and approved protocol.

2. **Title:** Metabolic and cellular investigation of learning and memory in *Drosophila melanogaster* **PI:** Hannah Shoenhard

- a. A summary of project along with all relevant measures taken to ensure safety under IBC requirements was given before committee were asked if there were any questions regarding biosafety safeguards being taken. Committee reviewed protocol submitted prior to meeting and it was noted in protocol what additional safeguards were in place in the lab to prevent lab specimens to be found outside of the lab and how the specimens were disposed of after research was completed.

- b. The committee was asked if anyone had questions after review. There were follow up questions regarding the specimens being used and what happens to the specimens that are in containment traps.
 - c. Committee approval is pending upon review of PI response to questions from Committee Chair. Administrative approval will be provided for exempt protocol, no committee meeting will be required for final approval.
- 3. **Title:** BIOL228L: Drosophila Neurogenetics **PI:** Hannah Shoenhard
 - a. A summary of project along with all relevant measures taken to ensure safety under IBC requirements was given before committee were asked if there were any questions regarding biosafety safeguards being taken. Committee reviewed protocol submitted prior to meeting and it was noted in protocol what additional safeguards were in place in the classroom that are similar to PI Shoenhard's lab research to prevent lab specimens to be found outside of the classroom and how the specimens were disposed of after research was completed. Additional discussion on how CO₂ is being used in lab but not the classroom was discussed as part of biosafety requirements. Specimens will be divided into smaller containments for each individual student to use in the classroom.
 - b. The committee was asked if anyone had questions after review. There were follow-up questions regarding the smaller containments for the specimens being used and how many specimens will be in each container. It was also discussed what other CO₂ options can be safely used in the classroom.
 - c. Committee approval is pending upon review of PI response to questions from Committee Chair. Administrative approval will be provided for exempt protocol, no committee meeting will be required for final approval.
- 4. Meeting was adjourned after review of the 3 protocols, 2:25 PM.