IBC Meeting Minutes

Chair- Ken Bondioli
Research Safety- Abigail Fish
Thursday, June 18, 2026
1:30 pm via Zoom

Institutions *Louisiana State University Agricultural and Mechanical College (A&M)*
Louisiana State University Ag Center

IBC Members			
	Ken Bondioli	LSU Ag Center	Chair, Animal Expert
	Abigail Fish	LSU A&M	BSO, Administrator, Voting Contact
	Sarah Keeton	LSU A&M	BSO
	Sue Hagius	LSU Ag Center	Animal Expert, Lab Rep
	Michael Hooks	LSU A&M	Member
	Jong Ham	LSU Ag Center	Plant Expert
	Christy White	Pennington Biomedical Research Center	Non-Voting Member
	Jeff Davis	LSU Ag Center	Plant and Insect Expert
	Niranjan Baisakh	LSU Ag Center	Plant Expert
	William Doerrler	LSU A&M	Member
	Ramanuj Lahiri	National Hansen's Disease Program	Member
	Rebecca Christofferson	LSU A&M	Member
	Michelle Dennis	Our Lady of the Lake Hospital	Local Non-Affiliated Member
	Brent Stanfield	LSU A&M	Member
	Ryoichi Teruyama	LSU A&M	Member
	James Bush	Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana	Local Non-Affiliated Member

Members Present:	Ken Bondioli, Abigail Fish, Sarah Keeton, Sue Hagius, Michael Hooks, Ryoichi Teruyama, William Doerrler, Ramanuj Lahiri, and Rebecca Christofferson.	
Members Absent:	Christy White, Michelle Dennis, Jeff Davis, Brent Stanfield, Niranjan Baisakh, Jong Ham, and James Bush.	
Others Present:	Hao Ming	Assistant Professor, Department of Biological Sciences
	Bikram Subedi	Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences
	Shavahn Loux	Assistant Professor, School of Animal Sciences
	Achyut Adhikari	Professor and Associate Director, School of Nutrition and Food Sciences
	Tanisha Poston	Research Associate, Rangasamy Lab, Department of Pathobiological Sciences
	Daniel Leiva	PhD Candidate, Adhikari Lab, School of Nutrition and Food Sciences

Call to Order: 1:31 pm

Approval of Minutes from: March 12, 2026

Motion Made by:	Sue Hagius
Seconded by:	William Doerrler
Abstaining:	Ramanuj Lahiri

Business and Call for New Business

Discussion on new BSL-3 expert committee member. Samantha Clark and Wellesley Dittmar were recommended as options.

New IBC Registrations and Amendments for Review

Reg. #	PI Name	Affiliation of PI	Date Received	Title of Project	Reviewer 1	Reviewer 2
26017 (On Hold)	Bikram Subedi	Environmental Sciences	05/29/2026	Analysis of Chemical Contaminants Including Drug Residues in Surface Water and Wastewater	Michelle Dennis	William Doerrler

Project Overview: The overall goal of this project is to analyze surface water and wastewater samples for the presence of chemical contaminants, including PFAS, pesticides, phthalates, and pharmaceutical compounds. By measuring the levels of these contaminants in environmental water sources, the project aims to better understand potential exposure risks and the possible impacts these chemicals may have on human health, wildlife, and the surrounding environment.

Risk Assessment and Discussion: This project poses a moderate biosafety risk associated with handling and processing surface water and wastewater samples. Although the primary focus of the project is chemical contaminant analysis, these samples may contain unknown biological materials, including bacteria, viruses, parasites, or other microorganisms from human, animal, or environmental sources.

Potential hazards include exposure during sample collection, extraction, and processing, including contact with contaminated materials and splashes, droplets, or aerosols. Additional risks include chemical exposure to contaminants of interest, such as PFAS, pesticides, phthalates, pharmaceuticals, and solvents or reagents used during sample preparation and analysis. These risks are managed under BSL-2 containment using appropriate PPE, including gloves, lab coats, N95 respirators, and safety glasses, along with standard microbiological practices, surface decontamination, careful sample handling, and proper disposal of biological and chemical waste.

No significant environmental release or biosecurity concerns are anticipated. With these precautions in place, the project is considered to be of moderate risk and appropriately contained under BSL-2 practices.

NIH Guidelines: Not Applicable

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

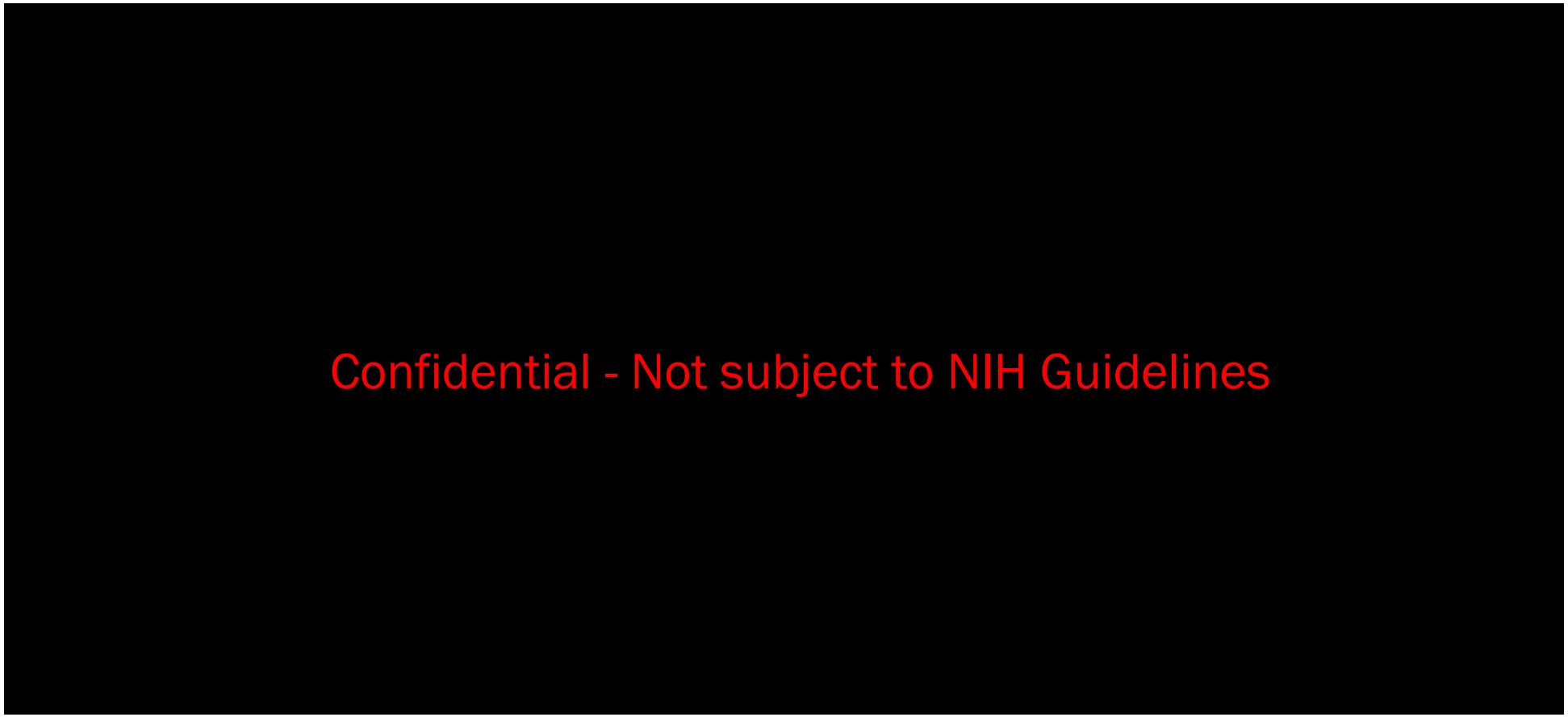
Training Requirements:

All personnel, including the PI, involved in this project must complete BSL-2 training in accordance with LSU's Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) and Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) requirements. All training must be completed before beginning work and refreshed as required by LSU policies and SOP

IBC Vote: **Approved at BSL-2 pending receipt of modifications**

Motion made by:	William Doerrler
Seconded by:	Abbie Fish
Abstaining:	None
Conflicts of Interest:	None

Requested Modifications:



•

Reg. #	PI Name	Affiliation of PI	Date Received	Title of Project	Reviewer 1	Reviewer 2
26021	Tirumalai Rangasamy	Pathobiological Sciences	04/29/2026	Bordetella Manipulation of Eosinophils Leads to Enhanced Pathology	Ramanuj Lahiri	Sue Hagius

Project Overview: This project...

Risk Assessment and Discussion: This project presents...

NIH Guidelines: TBD

Biosafety Level: BSL-2 and ABSL-2

Training Requirements: All personnel, including the PI, involved in this project must complete BSL-2 training in accordance with LSU's Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) and Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) requirements. In addition, all staff involved in animal procedures or husbandry must complete LSU's approved animal handling and species-specific training as required by the IACUC. All training must be completed before beginning work and refreshed as required by LSU policies and SOPs

IBC Vote: **Approved at BSL-2 and ABSL-2 pending receipt of modifications**

Motion made by: Ramanuj Lahiri

Seconded by: Sue Hagius

Abstaining: None

Conflicts of Interest: None

Requested Modifications:

- Section B. Project Description.
  - Project Goals. Please condense the information in this section into a brief summary of the project's overall goal, the specific research question being asked, and a brief statement on why the work is being conducted
  - Procedures and Methods. Please clearly describe what work takes place at what institution. Only work done at LSU SVM needs to be described in detail. Please describe the mice used in this work and indicate that they are transgenic mice previously generated at another institution. Please state that LSU will breed them if applicable. Please also add a statement that the bacteria were sent by a collaborator and clearly indicate that this is not a genetically modified strain of Bordetella. If any bacterial culture or other manipulations will be done at LSU SVM, please describe that work. Please also describe all animal work in detail, particularly as it pertains to Bordetella handling. Please describe the fate of the collected tissues at necropsy. Please add a sentence indicating that work at LSU HS has an approved IBC at that institution and includes the IBC number.
- Section C. Risk Evaluation
  - Biosafety. Please condense this information, focusing on biosafety-related procedures and the agent in question. Please be sure to describe PPE worn in the lab and when handling animals. Please indicate when a BSC is used. Please describe the training required for the work.
  - Biosecurity. Please condense this section and elaborate on how solid and liquid waste are discarded. Please also detail disposal of animal carcasses.
- Section D. Project Units.
  - Item 3. Transgenic animals. Please change no to yes and complete the corresponding section.
  - Item 8. Human pathogens. Please change no to yes and complete the corresponding section.
- Section N. Safety.
  - Administrative Controls. Disinfection/decontamination. Please uncheck betadine for animal carcasses. Item 5. Other administrative controls. Please condense this section.
  - Engineering Controls. Biosafety Cabinet. Please indicate if BSC in DLAM is located in containment suite or in general lab area.
  - PPE. Please indicate what type of gloves will be worn.

Reg. #	PI Name	Affiliation of PI	Date Received	Title of Project	Reviewer 1	Reviewer 2

26022	Hao Ming	Animal Sciences	05/06/2026	Establishing Bovine Granulosa Cell-Like Cells In-Vitro	Michael Hooks	Rebecca Christofferson

Project Overview:

This project aims to develop an in vitro platform for generating granulosa cell-like cells from bovine embryonic stem cells. Granulosa cells are important ovarian somatic cells that support oocyte development and reproductive function. This work will use a genetic approach involving inducible overexpression of WNT6A, a factor associated with granulosa cell identity and cell fate specification, to guide bovine embryonic stem cells toward a granulosa-like lineage.

The project includes the derivation and culture of bovine embryonic stem cells, the generation of WNT6A-expressing reporter cell lines using a replication-incompetent lentiviral vector system, and the evaluation of induced cells using imaging and gene expression analysis. Establishing this platform will support future studies of bovine ovarian development, reproductive biology, and the molecular mechanisms that regulate somatic cell differentiation.

Risk Assessment and Discussion:

This project presents a moderate biosafety risk associated with the use of third-generation, self-inactivating, replication-incompetent lentiviral vectors to genetically modify bovine embryonic stem cells. The work involves production of VSV-G pseudotyped lentiviral particles in 293T cells, transduction of bovine embryonic stem cells, and downstream analysis of WNT6A-expressing reporter cell lines.

Potential hazards relate to handling lentiviral particles, transduced cells, and contaminated materials, including possible exposure through direct contact, mucous membrane exposure, sharps use, or aerosol-generating activities. Additional risks include routine mammalian cell culture work and handling animal-derived biological materials. These risks are managed under BSL-2 containment through the use of a certified Class II biological safety cabinet for lentiviral and live-cell manipulations, appropriate PPE, standard microbiological practices, surface decontamination, and proper disposal of lentiviral and cell culture waste.

No significant environmental release or biosecurity concerns are anticipated. With these precautions in place, the project is considered moderate risk and appropriately contained under BSL-2 practices.

NIH Guidelines: Section III-D-1-a

Biosafety Level: BSL-2

Training Requirements:	All personnel, including the PI, involved in this project must complete BSL-2 training in accordance with LSU's Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) and Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) requirements. All training must be completed before beginning work and refreshed as required by LSU policies and SOPs.
IBC Vote:	**Approved at BSL-2 pending receipt of modifications**
Motion made by:	Michael Hooks
Seconded by:	Rebecca Christofferson
Abstaining:	None
Conflicts of Interest:	None

Requested Modifications:

- Section A. Project Information.
  - Room numbers. Please add the room number for the light microscope and autoclave.
  - Personnel. Please list the BSL-2 EHS-required safety training courses for the PI. When students or staff join the lab, please add them to personnel as an amendment.
- Section B. Project Description.
  - Procedures and Methods. Please indicate that bovine oocytes will be purchased from a commercial provider. Please indicate what work takes place in what lab, specifically the embryo culture room. Please clarify what work is done in the second-floor lab. Please spell out WNT the first time you use the gene name. Please describe how you isolate EGFP-positive colonies.
- Section C. Risk Evaluation
  - Biosafety. Please add the room number for the autoclave.
- Section D. Project Units.
  - Item 11. Please change no to yes and complete the corresponding section.
- Section F. Recombinant DNA.
  - NIH Guidelines. Please update to Section III-D-1-a
- Section N. Safety.
  - Administrative Controls. Stock Cultures. Please list room number for liquid nitrogen and -80 freezer.
  - Personnel Protective Equipment. Please describe the use of an N-95 under Section B. Biosafety. If N-95s are not used, please uncheck this box.

Reg. #	PI Name	Affiliation of PI	Date Received	Title of Project	Reviewer 1	Reviewer 2

26023	Jonthan Richards	Plant Pathology and Crop Physiology	05/04/2026	Functional Genomics and Molecular Biology of Fungal Pathogen-Plant Interactions	Ryoichi Teruyama	William Doerrler

Project Overview:	Due to insufficient information in the initial submission, the registration was returned to the PI for additional detail and revision before proceeding to full committee review.
Risk Assessment and Discussion:	The IBC determined that the application lacked sufficient information to complete a risk assessment; therefore, the registration has been placed "on hold" pending receipt of additional details.
NIH Guidelines:	To be determined
Biosafety Level:	To be determined
Training Requirements:	To be determined
IBC Vote:	**No motion was made. The protocol was placed "ON HOLD" pending receipt of additional information.**
Motion made by:	Not Applicable
Seconded by:	Not Applicable
Abstaining:	None
Conflicts of Interest:	None

Requested Modifications:

- Section A. Project Information.
  - Locations. Please add the room number for the autoclave.
  - Personnel. Please list BSL-1 EHS-specific training under specific training for all personnel, including the PI.
- Section B. Project Description.
  - Procedures and Methods. Please provide additional information on candidate genes and indicate what takes place inside a BSC. Please also describe containment practices for work with a blender.
- Section C. Risk Evaluation.
  - Biosafety. Please add a room number for the autoclave used for this work. If transport of material between labs and/or buildings is necessary, please include a statement on containment of waste during transport.
- Section F. Recombinant DNA.

- DNA/RNA Insert(s)/Deletion(s). Please provide additional information on candidate genes and specify gene product or potential product.

- Section N. Safety.
  - Disinfection/Decontamination. Please indicate what is used for routine cleaning and spills.

Reg. #	PI Name	Affiliation of PI	Date Received	Title of Project	Reviewer 1	Reviewer 2
26025 (Renewal)	Seetharama Jois	Pathobiological Sciences	05/31/2026	Molecular Mechanisms of Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor (EGFRs) Protein-Protein Interaction Inhibition by Grafted Peptides in NSCLC	William Doerrler	Ramanuj Lahiri

Project Overview:	Due to insufficient information in the initial submission, the registration was returned to the PI for additional detail and revision before proceeding to full committee review.
Risk Assessment and Discussion:	The IBC determined that the application lacked sufficient information to complete a risk assessment; therefore, the registration has been placed "on hold" pending receipt of additional details.
NIH Guidelines:	To be determined
Biosafety Level:	To be determined
Training Requirements:	To be determined
IBC Vote:	**No motion was made. The protocol was placed "ON HOLD" pending receipt of additional information.**
Motion made by:	Not Applicable
Seconded by:	Not Applicable
Abstaining:	None
Conflicts of Interest:	None

Requested Modifications:

- Section A. Project Information
  - Title. Please spell out NSCLC in the project title

    - Personnel. Please list EHS-specific training courses under specific training for all personnel and the PI.
- Section B. Project Description.
    - Project Goals. Please add a statement on the overall goal of the project followed by the specific objectives.
    - Procedures and Methods. Please indicate what work takes place in what lab and what occurs inside a BSC. Please briefly describe all procedures, including recombinant DNA work, transgenic animal use, cell culture, proximity ligation assays, flow cytometry, the antiproliferative assay, HPLC, mass spec, etc. Specifically include information on when potentially infectious material is inactivated for each procedure. Please elaborate on animal work, including blood collection, necropsy, tissues harvested, and downstream assays resulting from this work, and again indicate when potentially infectious material is inactivated. Please indicate the generation of lentiviral vectors you plan to use and provide additional details on shRNA use. Please elaborate on how you plan to identify the efficacy and specificity of peptides from mutant and knock-out models. Please include a statement on the safe use of chemotherapy drugs and attach the EHS-approved chemical handling protocol.
- Section C. Risk Evaluation
    - Biosafety. Please include relevant biosafety information in the attached SOP under the biosafety section. Please describe what PPE is worn in the lab versus what is worn when working with animals. Please indicate when a BSC is used. Please add safety information on lentiviral vector work.
    - Biosecurity. Please describe secure transport between labs and detail the handling of solid and liquid waste. Styrofoam is not an appropriate form of leak-proof containment because it is absorbent. Please also indicate how animal carcasses are handled.
- Section D. Project Units.
    - Items 2 and 3. Please change "no" to "yes" and complete the corresponding sections.
- Section M. Human or Primate Blood, Body Fluids, or Tissues.
    - Cells/Tissues/Other Potentially Infectious Materials. Please list all relevant cell lines. Several mentioned under procedures were not listed here, and several listed here are not mentioned under procedures. Please also add xenografted mouse tissue. Company. Please add Sigma as a source of cell lines. Please ensure containment, disposal, and destruction measures align with procedures listed under Section C. Biosafety and Biosecurity.
- Section N. Safety.
    - Administrative Controls. Other administrative controls. Blood samples collected from mice is not described under Section B. Procedures. Please remove the information from here and thoroughly describe it under Section B. Procedures.
    - Engineering Controls. BSC. Please update BSC certification information. Please add BSC information for DLAM if you will be using those BSCs.
    - PPE. Please check any additional PPE required when working with animals.

Reg. #	PI Name	Affiliation of PI	Date Received	Title of Project	Reviewer 1	Reviewer 2

26026	Shisheng Li	Comparative Biomedical Sciences	06/01/2026	Regulation of Transcription Coupled DNA Repair (TCR)	Sarah Keeton	Ryoichi Teruyama

Project Overview:

This project uses *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* as a model organism to investigate the molecular mechanisms that regulate transcription-coupled DNA repair (TCR). The work focuses on how RNA polymerase II and associated regulatory factors influence the recognition and repair of DNA damage that occurs during transcription.

Specific areas of study include the role of the RNA polymerase II stalk complex, interactions among TCR facilitators and repressors, and the contribution of the Tfb1 Pleckstrin homology domain to transcriptional lesion bypass and repair. This work will help clarify how cells maintain genome stability during active transcription.

Risk Assessment and Discussion:

This project presents a low biosafety risk associated with work involving *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, a nonpathogenic yeast commonly used as a model organism. The research involves genetic manipulation of yeast genes to study transcription-coupled DNA repair and transcriptional lesion bypass.

Potential hazards are limited to routine handling of yeast cultures, recombinant yeast strains, and contaminated culture materials. These risks are managed through BSL-1 containment practices, appropriate PPE, standard microbiological techniques, surface decontamination, and proper disposal of culture waste.

No significant human health, environmental release, or biosecurity concerns are anticipated. With these precautions in place, the project is considered low risk and appropriately contained under BSL-1 practices.

NIH Guidelines: Section III-F-8

Biosafety Level: BSL-1

Training Requirements: All personnel, including the PI, involved in this project must complete BSL-1 training in accordance with LSU's Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) and Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) requirements. All training must be completed before beginning work and refreshed as required by LSU policies and SOPs.

IBC Vote: **Approved at BSL-1 pending receipt of modifications.**

Motion made by: Sarah Keeton

Seconded by: Ryoichi Teruyama

Abstaining: None

Conflicts of Interest: None

Requested Modifications:

- Section A. Project Information
  - Personnel. Please list BSL-1 EHS-specific training courses under specific training for all personnel, including the PI.
- Section B. Project Description.
  - Procedures and Methods. Please indicate what work takes place in what lab, and if a BSC is used, please describe its use. Please update "yeast" to the scientific name. Please add a statement on secure transport of all biological material between labs. Please briefly describe yeast culture procedures, DNA repair assays, UV light assays, and indicate what kits are used to extract DNA. Specifically include information on when biological material is inactivated.
- Section C. Risk Evaluation
  - Biosafety. Please describe lab-specific training and add safety glasses to required PPE. Please move items 4-6 to Section C. Biosecurity
  - Biosecurity. Please move information on aerosol prevention to Section C. Biosafety. Please indicate if you keep an inventory of samples and how they are stored. Please also describe the management of that inventory. Please describe secure transport between labs and describe how solid and liquid biohazardous waste are handled. Please also include a statement on chemical waste and describe building and lab security measures.
- Section D. Project Units.
  - Item 7. Please change no to yes and complete the corresponding section.
  - Item 8. Please change yes to no.
- Section F. Recombinant DNA.
  - NIH Guidelines. Please update to Section III-F-8.
  - Release of Recombinant Organisms. Please delete statement on autoclaving cultures prior to disposal.
- Section N. Safety.
  - Administrative Controls. Disinfection/Decontamination. Please uncheck autoclave for solid waste and check stericycle
  - Other Safety Equipment. Please check fume hood if any of your labs contain a chemical fume hood.

Reg. #	PI Name	Affiliation of PI	Date Received	Title of Project	Reviewer 1	Reviewer 2

26027	Shavahn Loux	Animal Sciences	06/09/2026	Microbial Pathogens Associated with Equine Reproductive Disease	Sarah Keeton	Michael Hooks

Project Overview:	Due to insufficient information in the initial submission, the registration was returned to the PI for additional detail and revision before proceeding to full committee review.
Risk Assessment and Discussion:	The IBC determined that the application lacked sufficient information to complete a risk assessment; therefore, the registration has been placed "on hold" pending receipt of additional details.
NIH Guidelines:	To be determined
Biosafety Level:	To be determined
Training Requirements:	To be determined
IBC Vote:	**No motion was made. The protocol was placed "ON HOLD" pending receipt of additional information.**
Motion made by:	Not Applicable
Seconded by:	Not Applicable
Abstaining:	None
Conflicts of Interest:	None

Requested Modifications:

- Section A. Project Information.
  - Locations. Please add all room numbers associated with this work, including equine facility, storage rooms, the autoclave room, and those listed in the biosafety manual.
- Section B. Project Description.
  - Project Goals. Please update this section to include an overall goal for the proposed work followed by specific project goals and a brief statement on how you plan to accomplish the goal.
  - Procedures and Methods. Please indicate what work takes place in what lab and what occurs inside a BSC. Please briefly describe environmental sample collection and clarify what types of samples you collect. Be sure to include how you collect samples, how they are contained, how you transport, and indicate what PPE is worn while performing this work. Please describe how samples are handled once received in the lab. Plant samples are specifically mentioned, however there is no description of soil or water sample

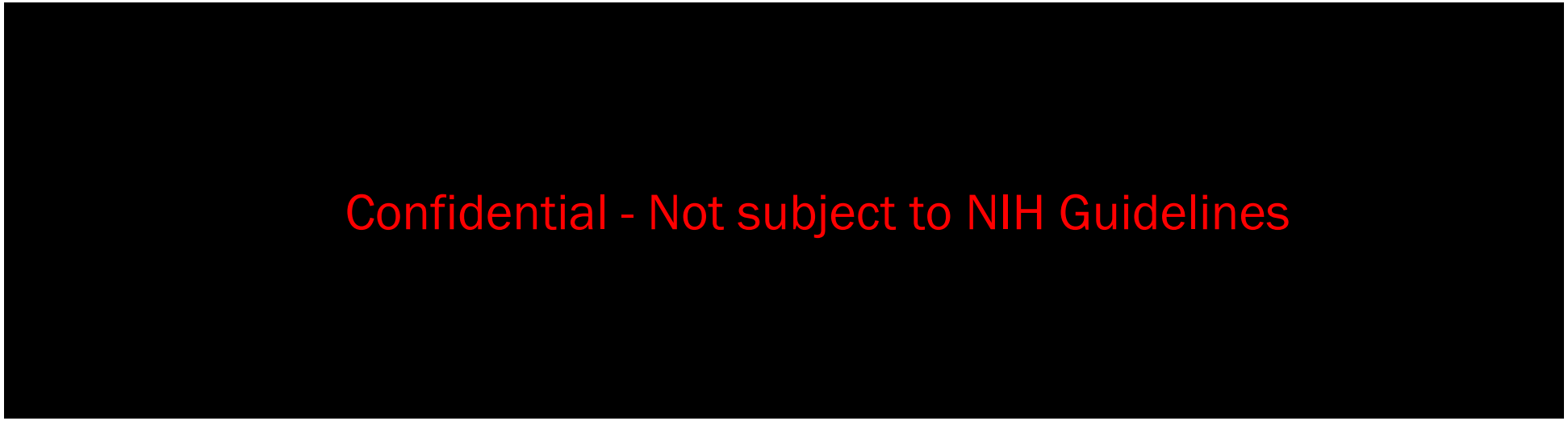
processing. Please also elaborate on horse sample collection and detail blood collection if you are harvesting your own PBMCs. Please elaborate on all procedures and include information on the safety measures in place, such as bacterial culture, the Kirby-Bauer test, sample processing, and primary cell culture. Please also describe any downstream processing, including PCR, western immunoblotting, microscopy, etc. Please clarify if you will have stocks of S. aureus, P. aeruginosa, and all animal pathogens listed under Section K. Please also describe work with these strains as applicable. Please provide additional details on how isolates from environmental samples will be handled before identification. For infection studies, please provide additional information on the organisms used.

- Section C. Risk Evaluation
  - Biosafety. Please indicate what PPE is worn in the field versus in the lab. Please elaborate on "infected animals". If animals are known to be infected with human or animal pathogens at the time of sampling, please describe the safety precautions. Please include long pants and long hair tied back as minimum entry requirements. Please condense the BSC information and include details on what work takes place inside the BSC.
  - Biosecurity. Please describe building security and update the training to include all EHS-required BSL-2 training. Please describe secure transport to and from the field and between lab spaces. Please indicate that any items that come in contact with biological material is discarded as biomedical waste.
- Section D. Project Units.
  - Items 8. Please change "no" to "yes" and complete the corresponding section for indicator strains.
  - Item 13. Please change "no" to "yes" and add the corresponding IACUC information.
- Section T. Environmental Samples.
  - Please ensure information in this section reflects all types of samples collected. Please also update ANSL to AFSL.
  - Item 5. Please ensure procedures mentioned here are described under Section B. Procedures.
- Section N. Safety.
  - Administrative Controls. Sharps. Please change no to yes and indicate the types of sharps used. Disinfection/decontamination. Please clarify animal waste disposal under Section B. Biosecurity.
  - Engineering Controls. BSC. Please add BSC certification date.
  - PPE. Please describe the use of shoe covers under Section B. Biosafety.

Reg. #	PI Name	Affiliation of PI	Date Received	Title of Project	Reviewer 1	Reviewer 2
26028	Achyut Adhikari	Nutrition and Food Sciences	06/10/2026	E. coli Survival on Produce Matrix	Sue Hagius	Sarah Keeton

Project Overview:	This project…
Risk Assessment and Discussion:	This project presents…
NIH Guidelines:	Not Applicable
Biosafety Level:	BSL-2
Training Requirements:	All personnel, including the PI, involved in this project must complete BSL-2 training in accordance with LSU's Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) and Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) requirements. All training must be completed before beginning work and refreshed as required by LSU policies and SOPs.
IBC Vote:	**Approved at BSL-2 pending receipt of modifications.**
Motion made by:	Sue Hagius
Seconded by:	Sarah Keeton
Abstaining:	None
Conflicts of Interest:	None

Requested Modifications:



Confidential - Not subject to NIH Guidelines

Reg. #	PI Name	Affiliation of PI	Date Received	Title of Project	Reviewer 1	Reviewer 2
26029	Sadiya Parveen-Nesson	LSUHS Microbiology and Immunology	06/10/2026	Role of Host Glutaminolysis in Tuberculosis Pathogenesis	Rebecca Christofferson	Abbie Fish

Project Overview:

This project investigates how glutamine metabolism affects macrophage responses during *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection. Primary bone marrow–derived macrophages will be infected with *M. tuberculosis* in vitro and treated with glutaminase-1 inhibitors to evaluate whether blocking glutaminolysis improves the ability of macrophages to control intracellular bacterial growth.

The study will assess how GLS1 inhibition influences bacterial burden, macrophage immune activity, and host gene expression during infection. This work is intended to clarify the role of host metabolism in tuberculosis pathogenesis and may help identify metabolic pathways that could be targeted to improve antimycobacterial responses.

Risk Assessment and Discussion:

This project presents a high biosafety risk associated with in vitro infection of primary macrophages with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. The work involves handling infectious Mtb cultures, infected bone marrow-derived macrophages, and contaminated materials while evaluating the effects of glutamine metabolism inhibitors on bacterial burden and host cell responses.

Potential hazards relate to exposure to infectious aerosols, droplets, contaminated cultures, and infected cell materials during infection, treatment, sample processing, and waste handling. These risks are managed under BSL-3

containment through restricted access, use of a certified Class II biological safety cabinet for all open manipulations, respiratory protection, appropriate BSL-3 PPE, standard Mtb handling practices, validated surface decontamination, and proper treatment and disposal of infectious waste.

No environmental release is anticipated when BSL-3 containment and institutional procedures are followed. With these precautions in place, the project is considered high risk and appropriately contained under BSL-3 practices.

NIH Guidelines:	Not Applicable
Biosafety Level:	BSL-3
Training Requirements:	All personnel, including the PI, involved in this project must complete BSL-3 training in accordance with LSU's Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) and Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) requirements. Personnel must also complete all required project-specific training for work with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and be approved for access to LSU Vet Med Room 3435A before beginning work. All training must be completed before initiating activities and refreshed as required by LSU policies and SOPs.
IBC Vote:	**Approved at BSL-2 and BSL-3 pending receipt of modifications.**
Motion made by:	Rebecca Christofferson
Seconded by:	Abbie Fish
Abstaining:	None
Conflicts of Interest:	None

Requested Modifications:

Confidential - Not subject to NIH Guidelines

Upcoming Meetings:	July 16, 2026 @1:30 pm via Zoom
Adjourned:	3:43 pm