

Members Present: Richard Belgrave, Ishita Mukerji, Harry Acosta, Stefan U. Pukatzi, Mark Emerson, Maria D. Lima, Rawlston D. Crowther, Abigail Nwaohuocha (non-affiliated)

Attendees (Non-voting): Lhamo Tshering, EHOS manager

Absent: Danielle Nicholson (non-affiliated)

The meeting was called to order at 10:11 AM and reviewed the intent and purpose of the meeting. This meeting was first of the reconstituted Institutional committee (IBC) made necessary as a result of retirements and institutional, changes.

1. Introductions.

The meeting was held in person and on Zoom. All members were introduced with Abigail Nwaohuocha (non -affiliated community member) joining after technical difficulties. Ishita Mukerji (associate Provost Research) Thanked the group for service and reiterated the importance of ensuring compliance with regulations and standards.

2. IBC Committee roles and responsibilities

Mr. Rawlston Crowther will serve as the IBC administrative contact and will address IBC related issues addressed to the EHOS office. (EHOS@ccny.cuny.edu). The role of The IBC was outlined for the members.

The IBC oversees the safe conduct of research involving biological agents, recombinant DNA, and other potentially hazardous materials, ensuring regulatory compliance and protecting researchers, the public, and the environment.

- Review Research Protocols: IBCs evaluate proposed studies involving recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules, infectious agents, select agents, and other biohazardous materials to assess risk levels and determine appropriate containment measures
- Ensure Regulatory Compliance: IBCs verify that research aligns with NIH Guidelines, CDC and USDA select agent regulations, and other applicable federal, state, and local requirements

- Assign Biosafety Levels (BSL): The committee determines the appropriate BSL designation (BSL-1 through BSL-4) for each research protocol based on the risk profile of the biological agents involved
- Oversee Facilities and Containment Standards: IBCs assess whether laboratories, equipment, and operational procedures meet the required physical and procedural containment standards for safe research
- Approve and Register Select Agent Research: IBCs review and approve the use, transfer, and storage of select agents and toxins, ensuring all necessary registrations with federal agencies are completed before research begins
- Monitor Ongoing Compliance: IBCs conduct periodic inspections and reviews of active research to confirm continued adherence to approved protocols and biosafety standards

IBC Committee Management too.

The IBC MTeams will be created and used as the platform for IBC communication and shared resources. Mr. Rawlston Crowther is the IBC contact for information and other purposes.

Meetings will be pre-schedule quarterly to better meet the scheduling needs of the group. Should it be necessary, a meeting will be called outside of the schedule to address emergent issues.

A question was asked what if a committee member submits a protocol for review. The question was answered that the committee member would have to step out of the room until voting was completed as that is a conflict of interest for a committee member to vote on their own protocol

3. Adjournment

- Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:47AM