

Institutional Biosafety Committee Annual Report, 2007-2008

Project Review Activities

The IBC met every other month during the fiscal year 2007-2008. There were 225 active research projects as of June 30, 2008. The two main classifications of rDNA projects are 1) Exempt from the NIH guidelines (Class F) and 2) Non-Exempt Projects (classified as Class D or E). IBC is also responsible for review and approval of projects with Biohazards. The breakdown of approved projects on file with the IBC is as follows:

Exempt	Class F	51
	Class F with Biohazards	23
Non-Exempt	Class D	12
	Class D with Biohazards	52
	Class E	57
	Class E with Biohazards	17
Biohazards only		13

The Chair of the IBC and the Biosafety Officer conduct the review of Exempt projects, and issue approval, which is reported to the IBC at a subsequent meeting. Non-Exempt projects are assigned for review by a subcommittee of three members and approval is issued by the full committee at a convened meeting. Approvals are granted for a period of three years and are contingent upon the successful completion of an annual update (annual questionnaire). Annual questionnaires and MUA amendments are reviewed by the Chair and Biosafety Officer; significant changes to the project require the submission of a new MUA application for approval by the full committee.

The following table indicates the breakdown of projects submitted for review during year 2007-2008. With the exception of five questionnaires still under review all other classifications have been approved.

Exempt	Class F	6
	Class F with Biohazards	3
Non-Exempt	Class D	2
	Class D with Biohazards	7
	Class E	7
	Class E with Biohazards	2
Biohazards only		2
Annual Questionnaires		185
Amendments		16

The IBC receives protocols from researchers at all Ithaca based Cornell colleges, the Geneva Agricultural Experiment Station, the Baker Institute for Animal Health, as well as the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research and the USDA, ARS laboratories (See table below for breakdown of MUA's submitted by college).

Department	College	MUA's
Animal Science	CALS	6
Applied & Engineering Physics	College of Engineering	2
Baker Institute for Animal Health		7
Biological & Env. Engineering	CALS	4
Biomedical Engineering	College of Engineering	4
Biomedical Sciences	College of Veterinary Medicine	18
Boyce Thompson Institute		7
Chemical & Biomolecular Eng.	College of Engineering	6
Chemistry & Chemical Biology	College of Arts & Sciences	9
Civil & Environmental Eng.	College of Engineering	1

Clinical Sciences	College of Veterinary Medicine	4
Crop & Soil Sciences	CALS	5
Ecology & Evol. Biology	College of Arts & Sciences	3
Entomology	CALS	3
Entomology - Geneva	CALS	5
Food Science	CALS	3
Food Science - Geneva	CALS	1
Horticultural Sciences - Geneva	CALS	6
Horticulture	CALS	3
Microbiology	CALS	8
Microbiology & Immunology	College of Veterinary Medicine	16
Molecular Biology & Genetics	College of Arts & Sciences	15
Molecular Biology & Genetics	CALS	14
Molecular Medicine	College of Veterinary Medicine	7
Natural Resources	CALS	1
Neurobiology & Behavior	College of Arts & Sciences	4
Nutritional Sciences	CALS	1
Nutritional Sciences	Human Ecology	6
Physics	College of Arts & Sciences	2
Plant Biology	CALS	5
Plant Biology	Arts and Sciences	7
Plant Breeding & Genetics	CALS	10
Plant Pathology	CALS	16
Plant Pathology - Geneva	CALS	5
Pop. Medicine & Diag. Science	College of Veterinary Medicine	10
Quality Milk Production Svc.	College of Veterinary Medicine	1

Cornell has laboratories (rooms) conducting research at Biosafety levels BL1, BL2 or BL3: the breakdown according to biosafety level is as follows: (351) laboratories operating at BL1; (154) laboratories operating at BL 2; (133) BL2-P level greenhouses/growth chambers; (28) BL2-N animal care facilities and (4) laboratories operating at BL 3.

Other Activities of the IBC:

Protocol Submission

Work continues on the development and refinement of the web based submission database.

Additional reviewer boxes were developed so that the Occupational Health Physician and the Green House Manager could add comments on MUA's pertaining to their field of expertise. This will also allow an outside reviewer should the committee need to go to an outside source for expertise.

A sub-committee has been created to address the revision of the MUA to create a document that asks questions more concisely, updated to reflect changes in use of rDNA, biohazards and nanotechnology and includes occupational medicine language. The goal is to have a document that is more user friendly and better meets the requirements of federal regulations.

Development of Guidance Documents

The following document has been written and approved and will be placed on the IBC website.

Guidance on the Use of Human, Primate, and Mammalian Cell Lines

Website Development

The IBC web site address is www.ibc.cornell.edu and the site was updated to comply with university web design guidelines. The site is now supported by RAIS. Updating and adding new content to the site is on-going.

Other Issues discussed at IBC meetings in FY08

The university will be opening BSL-3 labs in early FY 09. The IBC has been holding discussions on this throughout the year. Pat Meinhardt, Occupational Health Physician and Frank Cantone, Biological Safety Officer developed a draft of a revised MUA to address the health and safety issues. The IBC will now begin making their recommendations and revisions to this document. A separate application will be attached to the current MUA for those doing BSL-3 level research. The university is also in the process of hiring an Occupational Health Physician that would support the medical surveillance program that will be necessary for work in BSL-3 facilities.

The IBC was apprised of the regulations coming from the Office of Homeland Security dealing with chemical facilities and kept up to date with the data collection process. This process did not directly affect the IBC but keeping faculty informed allowed them to be a resource of information for their college.

E. Ray. Stinson provided updates on Biosafety Adverse Event Reports occurring at other institutions around the country. Regulatory processed were discussed, and outcomes of the regulatory inspections.

A. Leed, CALS Greenhouse manager informed the committee of a Rice Panicle Mite outbreak, the self reporting process and follow-up with USDA.

Discussions were also held on Xenotransplants (transplant of human tissue to mice), level of containment required and safety risks associated with the practice. Additionally an Embryonic Stem Cell Research Oversight Committee (ESCRO) has been created. The ESCRO has representation from the IBC and the IBC would always review research submitted to the ESCRO as it is a biohazard.

The IBC discussed use of potentially infectious materials in core facilities. This discussion is on going and a guidance document will be developed.

Committee Membership

3 individuals joined the IBC committee and a training session was held for them.

Professor David Soderlund took over the responsibilities of Chair in June 2006 and continues to chair the committee

The current committee membership is listed below:

Institutional Biosafety Committee

Membership List

Scott Butler sdb9@cornell.edu Lab Research member	Research Support Specialist I Clinical Sciences C2-004 Vet Med Center Ithaca, NY 14850	253-3285	2010
Cantone, Frank A. fac2@cornell.edu Biosafety Officer	Biological Safety Officer 395 Pine Tree Road, Suite 210 Ithaca, NY 14850	254-4888	
DeJong, Walter wsd2@cornell.edu	Asst. Professor Plant Breeding & Genetics 309 Bradfield Hall Ithaca, NY 14850	254-5384 255-4962	2009

Gan, Susheng sg288@cornell.edu	Assoc. Professor Plant Molec. Bio. & Hortic. 119 Plant Science Ithaca, NY 14850	255-6381	2010
Jennette, Paul jpj22@cornell.edu	Biosafety Engineer CVM Biosafety Program S2-060 Schurman Hall Ithaca, NY 14850	253-4227	2009
McDonough, Patrick plm2@cornell.edu	Assoc. Professor Pop. Med. & Diag. Science D2 030 Diagnostic Laboratory Ithaca, NY 14850	253-3900	2008
Menne, Stephan sm119@cornell.edu	Asst. Professor Clinical Science C2 011 Vet Med Center Ithaca, NY 14850	253-3280	2010
Michaels, Christy cmichael@dryden.k12.ny.us Non-affiliated member	Biology Teacher 5283 Brake Hill Road Homer, NY 13077	749-2776 844-8694 (work)	2009
Moseley Moore, Cathy cathy.moseley@lcsd.k12.ny.us Non-affiliated member	Enrichment Teacher 234 Durfee Hill Road Ithaca, NY 14850	533.4652 x 3286	2011
Parker, John isp7@cornell.edu	Asst. Professor, Baker Institute Animal Health College of Vet. Medicine Ithaca, NY 14850	256-5626	2009
Perry, Keith klp3@cornell.edu	Assoc. Professor Plant Pathology 210 Bradfield Hall 334 Plant Science (for mail) Ithaca, NY 14850	254-8243 255-9744	2009
Quaroni, Andrea aq10@cornell.edu	Professor Biomedical Sci T8 008 A Vet Research Tower Ithaca, NY 14850	253-3463	2008
Smart, Christine cds14@cornell.edu	Asst. Professor, Plant Pathology 213 Barton Lab. NYSAES, Cornell University Geneva, NY 14456	315-787-2441	2008

Soderlund, David dms6@cornell.edu Chair	Professor and Chair Department of Entomology Director, Northeast Regional IR-4 Program NYSAES, Cornell University Geneva, NY 14456	315-787-2364	2009
Whittaker, Gary grw7@cornell.edu	Assoc. Professor VM Microbio & Immun C4 127 Vet Med Center Ithaca, NY 14850	253-4019	2010

These positions will be permanently represented on the Committee:

Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Members

Meinhardt, Patricia, M.D. plm32@cornell.edu epidoc@twcny.rr.com	Director of Occupational Medicine 620 Gannett Health Center 125 Sunset Drive Ithaca, NY 14850	255-5155	
Leed, Andrew arl6@cornell.edu	Manager Tower Road Greenhouses Kenneth Post Greenhouse Ithaca, NY 14850	p. 254-7266 f. 255-4457	
Buhrman, Robert A. Ph.D. rab8@cornell.edu	Vice Provost for Research 222 Day Hall Ithaca, NY 14850	p.255-3732 f. 255-7200	
Long, Cathy cel3@cornell.edu	Associate Vice President, Research 222 Day Hall Ithaca, NY 14850	p.255-2946	
Stinson, E. Ray, Ph.D. ers39@cornell.edu	Assistant Vice-President Research Compliance Director ORIA 395 Pine Tree Road, Suite 320 Ithaca, NY 14850	p. 255-5398 f. 255-0758	