**THE WISTAR INSTITUTE IBC 4th Quarterly Meeting Minutes**

**December 10, 2025**
**11:00AM – 12PM**
**Online Meeting**

**Members Present:** (Quorum = 6 members)
Qingsheng Li, IBC Chair, WI PI
Roma Maraj-Owen, WI Director of Laboratory Operations and Environmental Health and Safety
Michelle Ho, WI Biosafety Officer
Yulia Nefedova, WI PI
Sonali Majumdar, WI PI
Colby Maldini, WI PI
Denise DiFrancesco, WI Animal Facilities Director
Lauren Duffy, WI Animal Facilities Associate Managing Director
Rebecca Spangenberg, Non-Affiliated Assist. Prof.
Erick Gagne, Non-Affiliated Assist. Prof

**Members Absent:**
Paul Lieberman, WI PI
Peter Scarpati, WI VP Operations

**Guests Present:**
Cristina Brady, WI Environmental Health and Safety Manager
Brennah Murphy Britten, WI Research Compliance Coordinator

1.0 Call to Order
- 1.1 The meeting was called to order at 11:07 AM
- 1.2 Roma Maraj-Owen introduced Dr. Brennah Murphy Britten, who has joined the IBC Office.

2.0 Introduction of new IBC Chair
- 2.1 Roma Maraj-Owen introduced Dr. Qingsheng Li, who was appointed as the new IBC Chair.

3.0 Introduction of new IBC Member
- 3.1 Roma Maraj-Owen introduced Dr. Maldini as a new science member joining the IBC. Roma Maraj-Owen thanked Dr. Li and Dr. Maldini for volunteering their time and joining the IBC.

4.0 Review and Approval of Previous Third Quarter 2025 Meeting (September 10 2025) Minutes.
- 4.1 The committee was reminded that IBC minutes are made publicly available on the Institute's website.
- 4.2 Motion to approve was made by Roma Maraj-Owen, seconded by Denise DiFrancesco. Minutes of the Third Quarter meeting (September 10, 2025) were approved by those present at the meeting.

5.0 Discussion of observed Violations / Exposures (Michelle Ho, Biosafety Officer)
- 5.1 No observed violations.

6.0 Quarterly Review of Approved IBC Registrations during the Fourth Quarter of 2025 (09/09/2025-12/09/2025)
- 6.1 For the registrations listed below, the committee discussed, where relevant, the characteristics of the agent, the types of manipulations planned, the source(s) of the nucleic acid sequences, host(s) vector(s) to be used and whether there were attempts planned to

obtain expression of a transgene, and if so, the function of the protein that would be produced.

7.0 IBC Modernization to Align with NIH and Biosafety Oversight

7.1 The committee discussed the current regional town halls being conducted by the NIH which seek to improve and modernize the IBC.

7.2 No modernization plans have been finalized or formally published, besides the public posting of minutes.

7.3 It was noted that Wistar conducts regular lab inspections to maintain compliance with biosafety and containment standards. This is also a requirement of the IBC and why Wistar's Biosafety Officer and EHS Manager are part of the IBC and an invited guest, respectively.

8.0 Open Discussion –updating IBC operations

8.1 The committee discussed its plans for the coming year, which includes holding monthly meetings where IBC registrations will be discussed and voted on by the full committee.

8.2 It was noted that the updated IBC operations will support the IBC's continual compliance with NIH requirements as information is released by the NIH.

8.3 The committee discussed steps being taken to improve IBC processes and efficiencies.

8.4 It was emphasized that minor changes to IBC registrations, such as change in location or personnel, will still be handled by the IBC Office. Amendments with major changes will be discussed and voted on at the monthly meeting prior to researchers initiating work. Registrations will be sent to the committee a minimum of one week prior to the monthly meeting for review.

8.5 Monthly meetings will be held on the third Thursday of every month to synchronize with Wistar's monthly IACUC meetings, which occur on the fourth Thursday of every month.

8.8.8 One member asked for clarification as to when IBC meetings will be held during the months of November and December as the IACUC typically meets early during those months to accommodate the holidays.

8.8.9 It was stated that because the IBC and IACUC are now one office, these meetings will be coordinated as needed.

8.6 The Wistar IBC Manual will be updated to reflect these changes.

8.7 The Chair mentioned that the IBC Office has requested that IT create a centralized repository for registration submissions so that the IBC can have access to the most recent versions of the registrations. This project will be implemented in 2026.

8.8 The committee agreed that the updated IBC operations format will help facilitate timely IBC registration reviews and approvals.

8.0 The Meeting was adjourned at 11:31 AM

9.0 The next meeting will be January 15, 2026, time TBD pending polling with the committee.

## IBC Registrations Approved in the 4th Quarter

### New

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Salvino | 22509659 | Stable Cell line development | 2 | |

**Applicable NIH Guidelines:** Section III-F | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐

**Summary:** This lab seeks to utilize lentivirus packaging to produce target genes (such as PARP4) which will then be transfected into 293T or other human cell lines for cell-based assays, such as NanoBRET

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Herlyn | 22510661 | Melanoma drug resistance and metastasis models using mice and primary human melanoma cells and cell lines | 2 | |

**Applicable NIH Guidelines:** Section III-D | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐

**Summary:** This lab seeks to investigate and develop new therapeutics against drug-resistant melanoma and metastasis by studying specific cellular sub-populations and phenotypes. This protocol is to insert reporter genes (luciferase and mNeptune2.5) and barcodes into melanoma cells using a replication-incompetent lentiviral vector

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pallesen | 22510660 | Pallesen Research Program | 2 | |

**Applicable NIH Guidelines:** Section III-D | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐

**Summary:** This lab seeks to develop prophylactic and therapeutic treatments to combat various diseases. They will use commercially available DNA plasmids into which the lab will insert genes. Expression plasmids are amplified via bacterial culture and transfected into cell cultures, which will then be used to isolate purified protein. In some cases, lentiviral vectors will be used to stably express the desired gene products.

### Amendments

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nikonova | 22304593 | Assessing Chimeron's Bio ChaESAR technology in mouse models of disease | 2 | |

**Applicable NIH Guidelines:** Section III-F | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐

**Summary:** This lab seeks to test a novel RNA delivery platform (ChaESAR) by characterizing the biodistribution and kinetics of expression of the delivered genes in several *in vivo* disease models.

**Amendment Type:**
☒ Additional Vectors if similar to Original Vector's Competency
☒ Additional Gene Insert(s)/Protein to be Expressed
☐ Minor Change to the Experimental Design
☐ Change of PI
☐ Change of Personnel
☐ Change of Location
☐ Change to In Vivo and/or In Vitro Host(s) and/or Associated Protocol Number(s)
☐ Other

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Weiner | 22508657 | DNA delivery of monoclonal antibodies for prevention of antimicrobial resistant bacteria | 1 | |

**Applicable NIH Guidelines:** Section III-E | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐

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|---|---|
| **Summary**: This lab seeks to study the role of plasmid DNA encoded antibodies against microbial resistant bacteria. | **Amendment Type**:<br>☐ Additional Vectors if similar to Original Vector's Competency<br>☒ Additional Gene Insert(s)/Protein to be Expressed<br>☐ Minor Change to the Experimental Design<br>☐ Change of PI<br>☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location<br>☐ Change to In Vivo and/or In Vitro Host(s) and/or Associated Protocol Number(s)<br>☐ Other |

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Patel | 22301584 | DNA-encoded monoclonal antibodies targeting Staphylococcus aureus | 1 | |

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|---|---|
| **Applicable NIH Guidelines**: Section III-E | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐ |
| **Summary**: This lab seeks to study the role of different doses, regimen, and activity of plasmid DNA encoded proteins for potential protein replacement and immunotherapy against infectious diseases and primary deficiencies.<br><br>This PI submitted this amendment prior to leaving the Institute to transfer the registration to another PI and lab at the Institute. All changes to the amendment reflect this transfer. | **Amendment Type**:<br>☐ Additional Vectors if similar to Original Vector's Competency<br>☒ Additional Gene Insert(s)/Protein to be Expressed<br>☐ Minor Change to the Experimental Design<br>☒ Change of PI<br>☒ Change of Personnel<br>☒ Change of Location<br>☐ Change to In Vivo and/or In Vitro Host(s) and/or Associated Protocol Number(s)<br>☒ Other: updating contact information |

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Patel | 22404627 | Development of BSL2 pseudo viruses for mimicking emerging pathogens | 2 | |

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|---|---|
| **Applicable NIH Guidelines**: Section III-E | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐ |
| **Summary**: This lab seeks to develop lentivirus pseudoviruses encoding the surface glycoproteins of emerging viral pathogens for use in BSL-2 surrogate assays.<br><br>This PI submitted this amendment prior to leaving the Institute to transfer the registration to another PI and lab at the Institute. All changes to the amendment reflect this transfer. | **Amendment Type**:<br>☐ Additional Vectors if similar to Original Vector's Competency<br>☒ Additional Gene Insert(s)/Protein to be Expressed<br>☐ Minor Change to the Experimental Design<br>☒ Change of PI<br>☒ Change of Personnel<br>☒ Change of Location<br>☐ Change to In Vivo and/or In Vitro Host(s) and/or Associated Protocol Number(s)<br>☒ Other: updating contact information |

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Patel | 22404626 | In vitro and in vivo evaluation of nucleic acid-encoded monoclonal antibodies | 1 | |

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|---|---|
| **Applicable NIH Guidelines**: Section III-E | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐ |

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|---|---|
| **Summary**: This lab seeks to study the role of different doses, regimen, and activity of synthetic DNA- and RNA-encoded monoclonal antibodies<br><br>This PI submitted this amendment prior to leaving the Institute to transfer the registration to another PI and lab at the Institute. All changes to the amendment reflect this transfer. | **Amendment Type**:<br>☐ Additional Vectors if similar to Original Vector's Competency<br>☒ Additional Gene Insert(s)/Protein to be Expressed<br>☐ Minor Change to the Experimental Design<br>☒ Change of PI<br>☒ Change of Personnel<br>☒ Change of Location<br>☐ Change to In Vivo and/or In Vitro Host(s) and/or Associated Protocol Number(s)<br>☒ Other: updating contact information |

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lieberman | 22306597 | Development of Small Molecule Inhibitors of KSHV Using Mouse Model of KSHV Pleural Effusion Lymphoma Xenografts | 2 | |

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| **Applicable NIH Guidelines**: Section III-E | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐ |
| **Summary**: This registration seeks to construct a lentivirus that can be used to transduce human cell lines of interest to express reporter genes (luciferase and mCherry). These cells will then be used in xenograft models of lymphoma.<br><br>This amendment adds new lymphoma cell lines of interest which are either herpesvirus + or - | **Amendment Type**:<br>☐ Additional Vectors if similar to Original Vector's Competency<br>☐ Additional Gene Insert(s)/Protein to be Expressed<br>☐ Minor Change to the Experimental Design<br>☐ Change of PI<br>☒ Change of Personnel<br>☒ Change of Location<br>☐ Change to In Vivo and/or In Vitro Host(s) and/or Associated Protocol Number(s)<br>☒ Other: Addition of other cell lines |

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lieberman | 22310608 | Mouse xenograft models for study of EBV tumorgenesis | 2 | |

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| **Applicable NIH Guidelines**: Section III-E | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐ |
| **Summary**: This registration seeks to construct a lentivirus that can be used to transduce human cell lines of interest to express reporter genes (luciferase and mCherry). These cells will then be used in xenograft models of EBV-induced cancers.<br><br>This amendment adds a new lentiviral vector and selection markers | **Amendment Type**:<br>☒ Additional Vectors if similar to Original Vector's Competency<br>☒ Additional Gene Insert(s)/Protein to be Expressed<br>☐ Minor Change to the Experimental Design<br>☐ Change of PI<br>☒ Change of Personnel<br>☒ Change of Location<br>☐ Change to In Vivo and/or In Vitro Host(s) and/or Associated Protocol Number(s)<br>☐ Other |

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lieberman | 22310609 | Treatment of subcutaneous and orthotopic models of EBV+ gastric cancer | 2 | |

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| **Applicable NIH Guidelines**: Section III-E | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐ |

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|---|---|
| **Summary**: This registration seeks to construct a lentivirus that can be used to transduce human cell lines of interest to express reporter genes (luciferase and mCherry). These cells will then be used in subcutaneous tumor models of EBV-induced cancers.<br><br>This amendment adds a new lentiviral vector and selection markers | **Amendment Type**:<br>☒ Additional Vectors if similar to Original Vector's Competency<br>☒ Additional Gene Insert(s)/Protein to be Expressed<br>☐ Minor Change to the Experimental Design<br>☐ Change of PI<br>☒ Change of Personnel<br>☒ Change of Location<br>☐ Change to In Vivo and/or In Vitro Host(s) and/or Associated Protocol Number(s)<br>☐ Other |

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Liang | 22307603 | Targeting the host NDP kinase to abrogate viral dissemination | 2 | |

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| **Applicable NIH Guidelines**: Section III-D | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐ |
| **Summary**: This lab seeks to investigate the molecular mechanisms by which NDPK NM23-H2 regulates the production of virion particles and develop new therapeutics to target virus survival.<br><br>This amendment states that already approved viral vectors will be intraperitoneally injected (1x106 IU) into humanized murine models. | **Amendment Type**:<br>☐ Additional Vectors if similar to Original Vector's Competency<br>☐ Additional Gene Insert(s)/Protein to be Expressed<br>☒ Minor Change to the Experimental Design<br>☐ Change of PI<br>☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location<br>☐ Change to In Vivo and/or In Vitro Host(s) and/or Associated Protocol Number(s)<br>☐ Other |

| PI | Registration no. | Title | BSL | ABSL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Villanueva | 22410635 | Functional characterization of genes involved in melanoma | 2 | |

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| **Applicable NIH Guidelines**: Section III-D | **All required trainings are complete** Yes ☒ No ☐ |
| **Summary**: This lab seeks to determine the role of selected genes in melanoma and their potential roles in mediating therapeutic response.<br><br>This amendment adds several replication incompetent vectors and gene targets and a reporter gene | **Amendment Type**:<br>☒ Additional Vectors if similar to Original Vector's Competency<br>☒ Additional Gene Insert(s)/Protein to be Expressed<br>☐ Minor Change to the Experimental Design<br>☐ Change of PI<br>☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location<br>☐ Change to In Vivo and/or In Vitro Host(s) and/or Associated Protocol Number(s)<br>☐ Other |

## Reports

### Administrative Approvals

| PI | Registration no. | Title | Amendment Type |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tempera | 22401615 | Epigenetic Regulation of Epstein-Barr Virus Infection | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Tempera | 22401616 | Role of LMP1 in EBV Infection | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Nefedova | 22406631 | CRISPR KO of Anxa1 in mouse tumor cell lines | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Claiborne | 22408634 | Engineering a Functional Cure for HIV | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☒ Change of Location |

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| Nefedova | 22501639 | Regulation of tumor progression by myeloid cells | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Nefedova | 22501641 | Targeting SNPH in mouse cancer models | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Nefedova | 22501642 | Generation of murine CAR T cells | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Claiborne | 22501643 | Mouse models of autologous murine CAR T cell therapy | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☒ Change of Location |
| Aird | 22506652 | Metabolic landscape of cancer | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Herlyn | 22306596 | Melanoma drug resistance and metastasis models using mice and primary human melanoma cells and cell lines | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location<br>☒ Other: updating contact |
| Lieberman | 22306598 | A murine model of Primary CNS lymphoma (PCNSL), neuroinvasion, and neuroinflammation | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☒ Change of Location |
| Lieberman | 22401614 | Lentivirus production for delivery of shRNA into lymphoblastoid cell lines to study EBV latency | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☒ Change of Location |
| Lieberman | 22405628 | Recombinant Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV) for Gene Delivery | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☒ Change of Location |
| Nefedova | 22406631 | CRISPR KO of Anxa1 in mouse tumor cell lines | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Herlyn | 22412637 | Melanoma metastatic and therapeutic models using mice and primary human melanoma cells and cell lines | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Nefedova | 22501639 | Regulation of tumor progression by myeloid cells | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Nefedova | 22501639 | Regulation of tumor progression by myeloid cells | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Nefedova | 22501641 | Targeting SNPH in mouse cancer models | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Nefedova | 22501641 | Targeting SNPH in mouse cancer models | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Nefedova | 22501642 | Generation of murine CAR T cells | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Nefedova | 22501642 | Generation of murine CAR T cells | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location |
| Montaner | 22501640 | Luciferase lentivirus registration | ☒ Change of Personnel<br>☐ Change of Location<br>☒ Change of In Vitro Host |

**Chair or Designee Signature** **Date** 1/16/2025

QINGSHENG LI