

**San Jose State University (SJSU)**  
**Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)**  
**March 13, 2026, Meeting Minutes**  
**Location: Zoom**

**Members present:** Savannah Conlon, PhD (BSO), Kevin McCluskey, PhD (Interim Chair), Skye Keltly, PhD (CHO), Alexander Payumo, PhD, Anantha Korrapati, MBT, Brandon Bonin, PhD, Cleber Ouverney, PhD, Edmund Tang, MS, Joe Grzywacz, PhD, Katy Kao, PhD, Larry Young, RVT, Miri vanHoven, PhD, Ningkun Wang, PhD, Wing Wan, Xiao Su, PhD,

Guest: Mark Barash, PhD

A Quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM

1. Biosafety Officer News

- Please reach out to BSO if you want to meet or have a conversation.
- In order to avoid the risk of BUAs expiring while a course is being taught, we are going to renew all teaching BUAs for Fall 2026 during spring semester 2026. This means there will be a lot of BUAs up for renewal in the April and May meetings. Please be prepared.
- BSO is currently updating the Google Drive. There were organizational items that needed to be addressed, such as sorting everything by last name, instead of first initial. Please provide feedback if you do not like something.
- Google sheets documenting all BUAs have been updated with current information and are available to use.
- An issue came up with a lab that was out of compliance with CITI training and Hepatitis B program participation forms.

2. IBC actions

- T. Arhar and E. Carroll renewed their BUA (03172025) and updated their personnel
- A. Ramasubramanian renewed his BUA (03142025) and updated their personnel
- P. Journey closed his BUA (01222024A) and disposed on his samples

3. Old Business

FS57 Committee Review with M. Barash re BUA 02212023A/Review of aerosol generation steps with Mark Barash (Associate Professor in Justice Studies, Forensic Science Coordinator)

- States that vortexing and centrifuging is occurring on the bench but that the tube is never re-opened again. They are stored in the fridge.
- States that the spraying of the blood samples with reagent occurs outside the BSC on the bench, but then the filter paper is moved back into the BSC. Then the chemical test is performed in the BSC.

- Larry: asks about if anyone had informed Mark about IACUC before
  - M. Barash says no. M. Barash says they use porcine and bovine samples

Barash departs as a guest and WW departs as he is the Forensic Science Technician

Forensic Science Teaching Lab Violations were discussed by the committee:

- BUA expired
- Instructors were not added to BUA
- Fresh human blood is being used
- Barash reported that other forensics classes are using fresh human blood
- All faculty have received a human biological sample cease use order from the Director of Environmental Health & Safety
- People who are willing to help with an investigation:
  - C. Ouverney
  - A. Korrapati
  - K. Kao
  - Y. Wang
  - A. Payumo (if needed)
  - L. Young (has investigation with investigation)
  - M. vanHoven (as ADR)

Non-voting Members depart (MVH, XS),

Discussions about changes to Forensic Teaching BUAs

- P. Knepper (Department Chair) will now oversee all of the Forensic Teaching Labs under one BUA.
- Knepper will screen all syllabi
- Teaching involving human body fluids will be ranked at BSL-2 level
- Big discussion point: will this generate aerosol-generating steps and need to switch rooms?
  - A committee member expressed the concern that cutting the blood stain could cause flaking.

Motion by Interim Chair:

- A motion to approve the revised BUA with revisions was put forward
  - Conditions: ensure classroom is safe for BSL2 work, ensure aerosol generating steps are contained, and resolve pending committee comments in the submitted BUA documents
- Motion by Interim Chair, second by C. Ouverney
  - The motion passes with all voting members expressing consent

BSL2 lab space

- HB207 is not a negative pressure space.

- EH&S feels confident that HB207 can be a BSL2 lab space with the condition that only small volumes of human body fluids are used in the lab.
  - CDC/NIH have alternative BSL-2 requirements for retrofitting existing facilities.
    - Blood or other specimens will be limited to 20ml aliquots.

Adjourn: 2:12PM