

**University of Dundee**

**GENETIC MODIFICATION AND BIOLOGICAL SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**(CITY CAMPUS)**

A meeting of the Committee was held on 24 Feb 2010 at 11am in JBC-2L3-206. The meeting closed at 12 noon.

Present: Prof D van Aalten (Convener), Dr A Cecile, Ms E Emslie, Dr I Ellis, Ms L Grayson, Dr N Helps, Prof I Nathke, Dr A Knebel, Dr L Newman, Dr P Robertson, Dr I Scragg, Dr P Taylor and Dr S Wyllie.

**MINUTE**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1. Apologies</b> Received from Dr A Javelle.	
<b>2. Welcome</b> Prof van Aalten opened the meeting.	
<b>3. Minute of previous meeting</b> Approved.	
<b>4. Matters Arising</b>	
4.1 Training DVD. LG updated members on progress.	Ms Grayson and Dr Scragg to continue production.
4.2 Annual review of risk assessments. Prof van Aalten introduced Paper B: a colour coded list of PI's .  Ms Grayson reported on the current situation since some PI's have responded since she prepared Paper B. 68 PI's were e-mailed. 11 PI's are not working with genetically modified organisms. 9 PI's have up to date risk assessments. 10 PI's have submitted risk assessments for review. 8 PI's are in the process of updating their risk assessments. 30 PI's have not responded and 2 of these PI's (Geoff Gadd and Sonia Rocha) have not submitted a risk assessment for several years.  Some members commented that they did not receive the e-mail asking them to review and update their risk assessments.  Dr Scragg commented that it would be difficult for the University to evidence compliance with the Regulations given the high rate of non response by PI's and this may lead enforcement action by the HSE at their next inspection.  Prof van Aalten asked Ms Grayson to re-send the e-mail to PI's and to copy in Biological Safety Advisers. He asked	Ms Grayson to re-send e-mail on behalf of Prof van Aalten asking PI's to complete or review risk assessments.  Biological Safety Advisers to 'chase up' PI's in their Divisions.

<p>Biological Safety Advisers to go around PI's asking them to complete, or review their risk assessments.</p>	
<p>5. Review of new risk assessments.  Members reviewed the following risk assessments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. USOGMM1132. Dr Sam Crouch. Biological and structural functions of the Myc oncoprotein. Class 2 (transferred from Medical School, GM 197). Approved.</li> <li>2. USOGMM1133. SCILLS. Exploration of the p97 and UBX-Protein interaction networks and identification of novel p97 Targets. Class 1. Approved.</li> <li>3. USOGMM1134. Dr Mikael Bjorklund. Growth regulation in multicellular organisms. Class 1. Approved, subject to greater detail on nature of inserted human genetic material</li> <li>4. USOGMM1135. SCILLS. Expression and purification of recombinant proteins using E.coli, insect cells and mammalian expression systems. Class 1. Approved.</li> <li>5. USOGMM1136. Dr N Leslie. Engineering expression of signalling proteins for the study of PTEN and PI 3 kinase signalling. Class 1. Approved.</li> <li>6. USOGMM1137. Dr Emma Warbrick. Development of high affinity aptamers. Class 1. Approved.</li> <li>7. USOGMM1138. Prof Irwin McLean. Unravelling genetic defects that cause inherited human skin disease. Class 1. Approved.</li> <li>8. USOGMM1139. Prof Tracey Palmer. Overproduction of proteins for in vivo interaction studies and for protein purification. Class 1. Approved.</li> <li>9. USOGMM1140. Prof Tracey Palmer. Mutagenesis of E.coli. Class 1. Approved.</li> <li>10. USOGMM1141. Prof Tracey Palmer. Analysis of protein secretion and protein targeting in Streptomyces coeliclor and Streptomyces lividans. Class 1. Approved.</li> <li>11. USOGMM1142. Prof Tracey Palmer. The use of Staphylococcus aureus. Class 2. Approved, subject to greater detail on planned experiments. Falls under existing HSE notification.</li> </ol> <p>Ms Grayson reported that she plans to update the Fast Track form since it is too restrictive for Class 1 work with harmful inserts (eg oncogenes) and mobilisable plasmids.</p>	
<p>6. Update on new Biological Agents Regulations.</p> <p>Dr Scragg informed members that new Regulations will be released soon for formal consultation. He has seen a draft version and, by and large, they should simplify risk assessments for work with wild type human and animal pathogens and genetically modified micro-organisms. All current work with human and animal pathogens and gmo's will need to be re-notified under Transitional Provisions so it</p>	

<p>is important that risk assessments are up to date. However, if work is not re- notified under Transitional Provisions then it will incur a cost. The HSE have to cost recover so it is likely that notification fees will increase, and there will be charges for inspection, investigation and written advice.</p> <p>Dr Scragg reported he plans to meet with colleagues so that Universities make a concerted response to the proposed Regulations, especially on the issue of notification of Class 2 work with unscreened human materials eg human cell lines.</p> <p>Dr Scragg suggested that he and Ms Grayson should organise the re-notification of work under the Transitional Provisions unless there are significant implications for the College in which case Dr Scragg would organise a meeting of the Committee. Members agreed.</p>	
<p><b>7. Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>11am, Weds 25 Aug 2010.</p>	