

Research Ethics Committee (REC): Biological and Environmental Safety (REC: BES) Meeting Minutes
02 October 2025

Venue: MS TEAMS Conference Call

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WELCOME: Dr D Rip and Mr WA Beukes

PRESENT: Dr NJD Verhoog, Dr D Rip, Prof SMJ Hemmings, Prof M Van de Vyver, Prof V Mavumengwana, Dr S Groenewald, Mrs N Sunday, Mrs FM October, Mrs J De Kock, Mr WA Beukes, Miss K Naicker, Mrs B Thompson-Graham

APOLOGIES: Prof SL Sampson, Prof K Storbeck, Dr JH Groenewald, Prof C De Beer, Prof WJ Goosen

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: 14 August 2025 - Approved

GENERAL MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

1. **First Aid Kits and their Accessibility** – The committee noted concerns regarding the accessibility of first aid kits in certain research environments. Alternative measures have since been implemented to ensure prompt access during emergencies, and engagement with the relevant Occupational Health and Safety structures is ongoing.
2. **New REC: BES Member** – The committee welcomed a new member who will formally commence participation in REC: BES activities from 1 January 2026.
3. **Welcome of returning REC:BES member** – The committee noted the return of a member following a brief absence from REC activities.
4. **Welcome of new staff member** – The committee acknowledged the appointment of a new permit compliance officer within the Office for Research Integrity and Ethics.
5. **SU collaborative projects with external research institutions** – The committee discussed research applications involving collaboration with external partner organisations. Appropriate ethics oversight arrangements were considered, and engagement with partner organisations is ongoing to clarify governance responsibilities. Feedback will be provided once these discussions are concluded

6. **Students listed as PI** – It was highlighted that in many of the applications, students are listing themselves as the PI. It was noted and going forward the forms will be adapted to ensure that PIs are aware that only SU-employed researchers, supervisors, staff, etc., should be listed as PI.

GENERAL MATTERS:

7. **SU-SAMRC projects**– The committee noted that ongoing efforts are underway to review and strengthen existing arrangements for collaborative research. This includes ensuring that appropriate governance structures are in place and that research activities are conducted in line with applicable standards. Updates will be provided to the committee once these processes have been concluded.

Application Number	Department	Project Title and Description	1st Reviewer Redacted	2nd Reviewer Redacted
1. BES-2025-33848		Redacted		
2. BES-2025-34423		Redacted		
3. BES-2025-34522		Redacted		
4. BES-2025-34165		Redacted		
5. BES-2025-33892		Redacted		
6. BES-2025-33359		Redacted		
7. BES-2025-34614		Redacted		
8. BES-2025-34505		Redacted		
9. BES-2025-9466		Redacted		
10. BES-2025-28523		Redacted		
11. BES-2025-32437		Redacted		

12. BES- 2025- 32836		Redacted		
13. BES- 2025- 30228		Redacted		
14. BES- 2025- 22531		Redacted		
15. BES- 2025- 26513		Redacted		
16. BES- 2025- 30573	Biomedical Science	<u>An RNA-based phenotypic assay for the diagnosis of antibiotic resistance in <i>Mtb</i></u> Progress Report Form Review outcome: Approved		
17. BES- 2025- 19360	Biomedical Science	<u>POI-HI-IMPACTB</u> Progress Report Form Review outcome: Rejected		
18. BES- 2025- 32783	Biomedical Science	<u>Evolution, biology and host-pathogen interactions of mycobacteria 2025.</u> Adverse Event Form Review outcome: Accepted		
19. BES- 2025- 25558	Biomedical Science	<u>REC BES: Targeted Sequencing to Enhance, Live, and Optimize Treatment of Drugresistant Tuberculosis - A Pragmatic, Implementation Evaluation</u> Adverse Event Form		

		Review outcome: Modifications Required		
20. BES- 2025- 32469		Redacted		
21. BES- 2025- 26446	Biomedical Science	<u>T cells in the placenta from women living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1</u> New Application Form Review outcome: Approved		
22. BES- 2025- 30533		Redacted		
23. BES- 2025- 28523		Redacted		
24. BES- 2025- 23928		Redacted		
25. BES- 2025- 16762	Physiological Science	Redacted		

End