

Institutional Review Board

Minutes

October 10th, 2014

Present: Kirsten Wilbur, Joel Elliott, Troy Christensen, Jung Kim, Renee Houston, Tim Beyer, Justin Tiehen, Mita Mahato, Lisa Ferrari, Siddharth Ramakrishnan.

The minutes for the previous meeting (9/12/14) were approved.

Beyer gave a visual presentation leading the board through a review of the IRB Protocol Flowchart and discussing how to access the Alexandria drive and what sort of information should be stored on the drive. The presentation was aimed especially at familiarizing new members of the IRB with the process of protocol review.

Wilbur then gave a visual presentation reviewing changes that have been proposed to the IRB Handbook. The board took up the question of whether the current system, in which protocol approval lasts for 1-year before needing to be renewed, is overly burdensome for researchers and could be replaced instead by a 3-year period of approval. Ramakrishnan reported that several of our peer institutions have 3-year approval periods. Ferrari reported that the federal law requires 1-year periods in those cases in which federal funding is received, while noting that Puget Sound researchers do not presently receive such funding. A few concerns about the Handbook's presentation of information were mentioned, but the board's hope was that the proposed changes to the Handbook could be approved soon.

The question of what sort of oversight the IRB should have over oral histories was then taken up. Ferrari suggested that because this is something of a grey area, the board had room to exercise some freedom on the matter, while looking at how other schools handled it. As the meeting concluded, Ferrari announced that she would send out an email containing information on CITI (the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative) and with links to the courses an IRB member to complete to qualify as properly trained for the board.

Respectfully Submitted

Justin Tiehen