

IRB Minutes

May 1, 2007, 3:00 p.m.

CMU 204

Present: Richard Adler, Jane Bergland, Karen Danbom, Lou De Maio, Britt Ferguson, Craig Haberman, Gary Nickell, Carol Okigbo, Lee Vigilant

Absent: Wayne Alexander

Guests: Deb White, Mark Hansel

Minutes from April 3, 2007. Karen Danbom moved approval of minutes. Gary Nickell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from April 17, 2007. There was not a quorum at this meeting. Karen Danbom moved, Carol Okigbo seconded to approve the comments and post them on the IRB website. Motion carried unanimously.

Lou De Maio made the following announcements:

1. Dr. Vigilant withdrew the sociology class research proposal that was submitted for full review and discussed at the last two meetings.
2. The web-based IRB proposal system will be ready to use in the fall in addition to the normal paper forms. By January 2008 only web-based submission will be used.
3. Lou De Maio has written to Vice President Midgarden asking for the appointment of Gary Nickell as assistant IRB director.
4. Continuing and completion reminders have been sent out. A reminder will be sent out in the fall.

Sociology/Criminal Justice DRC. Members of the DRC asked for more time to answer concerns raised during a site visit to the DRC. Not all IRB members were at the last two meetings to hear discussion on these concerns. DRC members were asked to leave the room so the IRB could discuss the issue. Lou De Maio gave an overview of his site visit. There is a continuing problem involved only one person reading and signing off on proposals. This issue was addressed with the DRC the previous year and had not been corrected. An exempt review was handled by the DRC that should have come to the IRB for a full review because it involved potentially sensitive topics. Richard Adler moved that the Sociology/Criminal Justice DRC be put on a one year probation, that they begin using a routing slip showing that two people have reviewed the proposal and the chair has signed. All of the Sociology/Criminal Justice DRC reviews will be brought to the IRB. Karen Danbom seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The IRB next discussed the proposal submitted by Deb White to the Sociology/Criminal Justice DRC that was approved for exempt status. Lou De Maio expressed his concern that the proposal was on potentially sensitive questions and should have been submitted as a full review. Richard Adler moved that Deb White re-submit her proposal for full

review. Jane Bergland seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The proposal will be handled retroactively.

The members from the Sociology/Criminal Justice DRC were asked to come back into the room. Lou De Maio explained the first motion that was voted on regarding the DRC. Mark Hansel raised concern on the evaluation of “psychologically sensitive matters” and the examples listed on the website. Lou De Maio said that this would be put on a future agenda to clarify. Deb White addressed the issue of the review that Lou De Maio had made on his site visit. Deb believes that some of the errors were honest mistakes and that the report should be modified to indicate the corrections. Deb also outlined why she believed that her proposal compared to other very similar proposals by TOCAR and the Alcohol group that were not submitted as full reviews. Lou De Maio stated the other motion that was made asking that she re-submit the proposal for a full review. Concerns were raised about inconsistencies in descriptions of full reviews on the website.

Lou De Maio told the IRB that the Vice President had asked him to poll the committee for a recommendation on the status of the committee. Lou De Maio recommended that it be reclassified to a “compliance” committee instead of a “university” committee. The Animal Rights committee is a compliance committee. Lee Vigilant asked Lou De Maio to explain his rationale for recommending a compliance committee. Lou De Maio said it would give the committee more stability with its membership. A concern was raised on how a grievance would be handled if the IRB was a compliance committee.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

*Karla Wenger, Secretary*