



**RHODE ISLAND
COLLEGE**

Annual Report

Institutional Review Board (IRB)

July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015

Submitted to: Ronald E. Pitt, VPAA

From: Christine A. Marco, IRB Chair

Date: July 1, 2015

Report Summary

- The IRB received 120 applications, including new protocols, renewals, and amendments to approved protocols. 35% involved pending or awarded grant funds. 53% involved student research.
- The IRB met monthly during the academic year (except October, March) and in June. Expedited reviews were conducted online between meetings.
- There were no study complaints or reports of unanticipated problems/adverse events.
- One inquiry about noncompliance and one instance of noncompliance occurred.
- 1372 faculty, staff, or students have completed the required CITI research ethics training modules to date.
- An Institutional Authorization Agreement (IAA) was signed with the Central Falls School District for RIC to serve as the CF District's IRB of record.
- A representative of the Central Falls School District was added as an alternate member to review research involving the CF/RIC Innovation Lab.
- The committee by-laws and Policies and Procedures Manual were updated.

Committee members

<i>Member</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Term</i>
Dr. Lisa Bain	CIS	2014-2017
Dr. Amy Burns (alternate)	Central Falls School District	2014-2015
Dr. Patricia Cordeiro	Education	2012-2015
Dr. Susan Dell	Special Education	2013-2016
Dr. Christine Marco, Chair	Psychology	2014-2017
Dr. Kevin O'Connor	Unaffiliated member	2014-2015
Dr. M. Patricia Quigley	Nursing	2012-2015
Dr. R. Susan Pearlmutter	Social Work	2014-2017
Ms. Lynn Wachtel	Student Health Services	2012-2015

Note: the June 2015 meeting included new members C. Padula, S. Ross, and M. Weiss, and excluded the outgoing members.

Meeting Dates

Fall '14: September 20, November 15, December 20

Spring '15: January 23, March 20, April 17, May 15

Summer '15: June 19

The October and February meetings were cancelled because there were no proposals that required full review. Expedited proposals were reviewed online during those months.

Summary of Applications

	Total	New	Renewal	Amendment	Funding	Student
Current Year	120	83 (69%)	17 (14%)	20 (17%)	42 (35%)	64 (53%)
2013-2014	87	62 (71%)	14 (16%)	11 (13%)	19 (22%)	34 (39%)
2012-2013	116	87 (75%)	8 (7%)	21 (18%)	22 (19%)	44 (38%)
2011-2012	80	54 (68%)	15 (18%)	11 (14%)	24 (30%)	21 (26%)

Note: The percentages for the "Funding" and "Student" columns are based on the total # of applications, not the # of projects. For example, grant funded research that was approved and later submitted an amendment during the same year is counted more than once.

Additional research projects were discussed with the Chair, were determined not to be subject to the federal policy, and are not included in these counts. . Forty-two applications (35.0%) involved internal or external funding that was pending or awarded at the time of review, an increase compared to prior years. Sixty-four applications (53.3%) involved student research, an increase compared to prior years: 11 Ph.D., 43 masters/CAGS, and 10 bachelors-level student applications.

Applications and other inquiries were received from faculty, staff, and students in departments representing all five schools on campus. Applications were received from:

- Anthropology
- Biology
- CIS
- Communication
- Counseling, Ed. Leadership, & School Psychology
- Educational Studies
- Elementary Education
- English
- Health & Physical Ed
- Learning for Life
- Math & Computer Science
- Music, Theater, Dance
- Nursing
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Special Education
- URI/RIC joint Ph.D.

Unanticipated Problems/Adverse Events Reports

No reports of unanticipated problems or adverse events were received.

Noncompliance Reports

There was one instance of non-compliance involving a research procedure that was not submitted for review. There was one inquiry from a researcher to discuss whether field observations made without IRB review constituted noncompliance.

Mandatory Research Ethics Training

All investigators using human participants are required to complete the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) online training program. To date, 1372 faculty, students, or staff members have completed the required IRB-related CITI training modules. Of them, 754 were students completing the student class projects training module. CITI training must be renewed every 5 years.

Central Falls/Rhode Island College Innovation Lab

The Central Falls School District and Rhode Island College completed an Institutional Authorization Agreement (IAA) for RIC to serve as the IRB of record for the CF School District.

Dr. Amy Burns was added as an alternate IRB member to represent the CF School District and to review projects conducted under the Innovation Lab.

Committee By-Laws

The IRB by-laws were updated to clarify language and to reflect current standards and practices. The updated by-laws will be posted on the IRB website.

Policies/Procedures Updates

Revisions were made to the Policies and Procedures Manual to clarify language and reflect current policies and practices. New sections were added regarding obtaining other approvals, the URI/RIC joint Ph.D. program, the Central Falls/RIC Innovation Lab, and RIC students as research participants. The updated manual will be posted on the IRB website.

Committee Recommendations

The committee would like to survey Topaz users for their feedback about it. The committee thought it better if it were conducted by someone outside the IRB.

The committee would like to offer an annual workshop on compliance topics.