

Rhode Island College  
Institutional Review Board  
2016-2017 Annual Report

**Committee Members**

Dr. Lisa Bain, CIS (Term 2014-17)

Dr. Amy Burns, External member (as needed for CF reviews) (Term 15-16)

Dr. Susan Dell, Special Education (Term 2013-16)

Dr. Andrea Dottolo, Psychology (alternate for Marco fall and for Weiss Spring) (Term 16-19)

Dr. Kevin O'Connor, Unaffiliated member (Term 2016-17)

Dr. R. Susan Pearlmutter, Social Work (Term 2016-19)

Dr. Cynthia Padula, Nursing, Chair (Term 2015-18)

Dr. Sylvia Ross, Nursing (Term 2015-18)

Dr. Marissa Weiss, Student Affairs (Term 2015-18)

**Meeting Dates**

Fall 2015: 9/18/15; 10/16/15; 11/20/15; 12/18/15

Spring 2016: 1/22/16; no February meeting held due to no proposals requiring committee review;  
3/18/16; 4/15/16; 5/20/16

Summer 2016: June 21, 2016

**Summary of Applications**

A total of 93 applications were reviewed: 59 original applications; 21 amendments; and 13 renewals.

Forty one of the 93 (44%) were submitted by students.

Fifteen of the proposals were funded (16.1%).

Numerous other projects were discussed with the IRB Chair and determined not to be subject to federal regulations.

**Unanticipated Problems/Adverse Event Reports**

No reports of unanticipated problems or adverse events were received.

### **Noncompliance Reports**

There was one instance of non-compliance involving a research protocol. Non-compliance was related to data that was collected without obtaining assent, as was specified in the procedure. The IRB members determined that the researcher: not be allowed to use the data that was collected; must inform the parents; would potentially be monitored in the future without notification.

### **Mandatory Research Ethics Training**

Investigators using human subjects are required to complete the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) on line training program. To date, 1, 567 faculty, students or staff have completed the required CITI training modules for human subjects. Of those, 928 were students completing the student class projects training module. Another 168 participants completed refresher modules.

### **Central Falls/ Rhode Island College Innovation Lab**

There was one proposal reviewed on behalf of the Central Falls School District.

### **Institutional Authorization Agreement**

One institutional authorization agreement was signed with Boston University.

### **Committee By-laws**

By-laws were reviewed with no recommendations for change.

### **Policies/Procedures**

Policies and procedures were reviewed with no recommendations for change.

### **Update**

Documentation to support a sole source agreement related to the Topaz software was provided to the required parties by the Chair. This was subsequently approved in early July 2016.

### **Committee Recommendations**

Committee members discussed ways to increase visibility and awareness of faculty and staff related to the role of the IRB, including perhaps posting information in weekly reports on a regular basis. This will be further explored.

**Respectfully submitted by Chair of the IRB, Cynthia Padula**