

**Institutional Review Board (IRB)
Report to the Faculty
2008-2009**

The major work of the IRB is to review faculty, student and staff proposals for research involving human participants. We reviewed 5 proposals during summer 2008 (four from students and one from a faculty member), 38 proposals during fall 2008 (31 from students, five from faculty members and two from staff members), and 35 proposals during spring 2009 (24 from students, three from faculty members, and eight from staff members). We also reviewed 31 venture grant-related IRB proposals during the year. The table below summarizes those IRB proposals received from students in 2008-2009.

Table: 2008-2009 IRB Proposals from Students by Department and Semester*

<u>Department/Program</u>	<u>Summer 2008</u>	<u>Fall 2008</u>	<u>Spring 2009</u>	<u>Total</u>
Sociology	0	13	15	28
Psychology	2	5	4	11
Anthropology	2	3	5	10
Economics/Business	0	5	0	5
Asian Studies	0	1	0	1
Environmental Science	0	1	0	1
Feminist & Gender Studies	0	1	0	1
History	0	1	0	1
<u>Other</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
Department/Program Total:	4	31	26	61
<u>Other Proposal Sources</u>				
Venture Grants	0	11	20	31
Other Sources Total:	0	11	20	31
Total Student Proposals:	4	42	46	92

* The IRB also handled 33 miscellaneous requests and issues and reviewed and granted exemption to research projects by 22 Masters of Arts in Teaching students during the year.

We have also carried out the following work during the 2008-2009 academic year:

- Worked with departments, programs, classes, individual faculty and students as necessary to educate the campus about legal and ethical issues in human participants research (including speaking in two research methods courses);
- Substantially streamlined and improved the IRB main webpage, including adding two documents: “Things You Need to Know Before You Fill Out Your IRB Application Form” and “Speeding Up Your IRB Approval;”
- Developed an online survey consent paragraph template and a paper survey consent paragraph template; improved the parental consent form template;
- Created and posted the 2007/2008 Report to the Faculty;
- Reviewed the description of the IRB for the Faculty Handbook upon request of the FEC; and
- Began a discussion of how to weave IRB compliance into larger conduct processes on campus.

Beyond continuing to review proposals over the current year, our goals include the following:

- Develop a range of IRB consent forms for different situations; and

- Continue to improve the IRB website as necessary.

Our long-term goal remains in place: Ultimately, we want to bring CC human participants research into full legal compliance while placing the minimal possible burden on faculty. We also hope that the IRB can eventually be perceived as a source of support and education in the best liberal arts tradition, and not merely as a hoop to jump through.

We invite all students, all faculty members and staff members carrying out human participants research to contact Amanda Udis-Kessler, audiskessler@coloradocollege.edu, to find out whether your research requires IRB approval and how we can help you obtain that approval. In many cases, research is actually exempt from review; we can help you plan projects that are likely to be exempt. We also invite you to review the introductory documents on the IRB's home webpage (<http://www.coloradocollege.edu/dean/oir/irb/>) to determine whether your research project needs IRB review.

The due dates for IRB proposals for the 2009-2010 academic year are as follows:

Block 1: September 8	Block 3: November 3	Block 5: January 26	Block 7: March 30
Block 2: October 6	Block 4: December 1	Block 6: February 23	Block 8: April 27

In special circumstances, expedited review may be possible. Please contact Amanda if you are concerned about obtaining project approval outside the usual review cycle.

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Eric Popkin
Wilbur Scott (USAFA)
Barbara Whitten
Amanda Udis-Kessler, chair

P.S. Please note that earlier reports are available from Amanda upon request.