

Institutional Review Board Minutes

March 13, 2002

Members Present: Allen, Finney, Ferrari-Comeau, Kay, Lamb, Stewart, Wells, Woodward

0102-010 The committee identified a number of problems with the protocol. It did not contain a script for what the researcher was going to do or say after the videotape stopped. The applicants need to standardize what they are going to say to the participants between the time the videotape stops and when the participants fill out the questionnaires. Also, the description of the setting in which this study will occur is too vague. The applicants' consent form is inadequate insofar as the description of what will occur in the study is under described for the potential applicant. Another problem with the consent form has to do with the implications for not participating in the study. The sentence referring to "not adversely affect my care ..." is inadequate. Potential subjects need to know how this will affect a course grade or a course requirement for participating in a research study. The committee also raised questions about the extent to which coercion may enter into this study. In other words, will students feel pressure to sign up for this study to complete a course credit? It is not clear how students will sign up for either group or individual participation. The IRB committee was also concerned about potential selection bias in this study. The protocol was approved subject to revision.

At the end of the meeting, Allen noted that IRB guidelines call for some kind of follow-up report on approved studies. Few reports are ever submitted. He suggested that letters be sent to last year's applicants calling for a brief report on findings and dissemination.

The next proposed meeting is Wednesday, April 24, and 9 AM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50

Respectfully submitted,

John Woodward

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