

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
University Senate

Resolution on Revision of the HSU Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research
#33-12/13-Gahtan – May 7, 2013 – Second Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate of Humboldt State University (USHSU) recommends the attached revision (April, 2013) of the University's "Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research"; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the USHSU recommends the attached revision (April, 2013) of the University's "Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research" supersede the following three documents:

- *Policy for Protection of Human Subject in Research* (HSU, Office of the President) (Sept. 2007, rev. July 2010) (this policy is also referred to as the "IRB Policy")
- *Implementation of the Policy for Protection of Human Subjects in Research* (Sept. 2007, rev. July 2010)
- Executive Memorandum P98-3: "Human Subjects in Research" (May 4, 1998)

; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the USHSU supports the campus-wide educational opportunities, provided by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) in conjunction with the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, to inform faculty, students, staff, and administration of the changes in the Institutional Review Board's procedures and the need for compliance with Federal regulations, California State University, and HSU policy.

RATIONALE: Two policy documents currently apply to Institutional Review Board (IRB) activities at HSU, both approved in September, 2007. One is the IRB Policy itself (addressed in the first resolution listed above), the other is an "implementation" or "procedural" guide to the Policy (addressed in the second resolution listed above). The policies are out of date with current IRB practice at HSU and at other academic institutions, for example, by not including standardized training for human subjects researchers, and by requiring department chairs to decide when IRB policy applies to research done in their department. Both of the 2007 policy documents must therefore be revised. The revision of the policy (April, 2013) is shorter (4 pages versus 42 pages) because it does not replicate information from federal policy documents that is now contained in a mandated, standardized IRB training course. The revision of the policy (April, 2013) contains a procedural guide to assist IRB applicants in the application process, so the current stand-alone "implementation guide," aside from containing outdated information, is no longer needed. This revised IRB policy has been reviewed and approved by all current members of the IRB. The USHSU voted to reject an earlier version of this revised policy on May 1, 2012 (Resolution #38-11/12-EX), thereby leaving the 2007 IRB Policy in place. The current revision differs from the May, 2012 revision in several important ways: it (a) explicitly states an exception for teaching exercises within courses, (b) omits the previous companion "flow chart" for determining what activities require IRB review, since this flowchart contained errors, and (c) states the requirement to act in accordance with Tribal regulations when applicable. In addition, IRB members worked collaboratively to make wording changes throughout the document to improve its clarity and usability for IRB applicants.

University Senate: Passed unanimously, 05/07/13; forwarded as an emergency item
President Richmond: