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Research

Carleton Research Ethics Board Update

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with periodic updates on REB activities, new policies and forms, and other pertinent information to enhance your awareness of the ethical principles and best practices for conducting human participants' research. We also include guidance and support on how to prepare and submit your ethics applications, as well as how to manage your ongoing protocols.

New REB Chairs for a New Year

We are delighted to welcome, as REB Chairs for the coming year, Bernadette Campbell of the Department of Psychology and Andy Adler from Systems and Computer Engineering. Both Bernadette and Andy have served as Chairs in past and we are thrilled that they've agreed to serve for an additional year.

We also express our warm thanks to Augustine Park, from Sociology and Eva Kartchava, from Linguistics for their hard work as Chairs, as they finish their term at the end of June.

Some Reminders from Earlier Posts

Although we have issued guidance on these issues in past, we wish to remind researchers about them to help the review process go smoothly.

Phoning the REB Office: Because of the declining use of land-line telephones, we have decided to amalgamate into only one telephone number for the Ethics Office for human studies. While our preferred method of contact is by email (ethics@carleton.ca), you can also leave a message for us any time at x2517, or 613 520 2600 ext. 2517. Our consent form and other template documents have been revised to reflect this change.

Contact information for animal care and biohazards remains the same at AccBio@carleton.ca.

Course Based Applications: Course Clearance submissions to the REB are required when class-based exercises are intended to help students learn the skills of developing and doing research, that is, for pedagogical purposes. To ensure there are no delays, if possible, please submit your Application in advance of the start of term, that is, in August for the Fall Term and December for the Winter Term.

REB Forms and Templates: Forms and Templates are revised and updated from time to time with important new content. But we very often receive submissions that are prepared with out-of-date versions of these documents. So, if you use downloaded REB forms and templates, or if you make submissions by amending earlier documents, please check to ensure you are using the current version with up to date content.

Use of Personal Phone Numbers: We often see, usually in consent and recruitment forms and materials, researchers giving contact information, including their personal (non-Carleton) phone number or email address (for example, a personal gmail or hotmail address).

Our experience has been that giving participants or prospective participants this contact information can lead to serious problems, including harassment or other threats.

Accordingly, we strongly urge that researchers not use such contact information but use only your Carleton email address. If it is necessary to communicate with participants using phone or text, researchers should consider giving their personal number only to trusted individuals privately, but not make it available broadly by including it in consent or recruitment forms.





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