ACADEMIC ALERT #2002-5

DATE: October 26, 2002

DECISION: Implementation of Academic Policy 303 on Research with Human Participants

In March 1990 the Faculty Senate recommended adoption of a policy on the protection of human participants in research and the formation of an Institutional Research Review Board (IRRB). The policy was adopted by the President's Cabinet in April 1990 and is administered by the Provost's Office.

In September 2001, the IRRB announced university-wide requirements for review of research involving human participants. The IRRB is requiring that:

- all students conducting such research for doctoral and masters theses must either declare that their studies are "exempt" or submit them for expedited or full review by the IRRB.
- faculty members whose research is funded by outside agencies or is not "exempt" must submit their studies to the IRRB for expedited or full review.
- assurance of protection of human participants in research done by students for courses must be assured by faculty instructors.

Please note that the IRRB will expand its requirements to faculty members whose research is declared as "exempt" in 2002.

Following are important documents that explain these procedures and their context in some detail. These will continue to be updated.

1. "Policies and Principles for Conducting Research" - a monograph which presents the ethical principles and guidelines that the IRRB will follow.
2. "Review of Student Research Involving Human Participants" – the forms which students use to submit their studies to the IRRB.
3. "Review of Faculty Research Involving Human Participants" – the forms which faculty members use to submit their studies to the IRRB.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Immediately

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