

Newly Formed Institutional Review Board (IRB)

What is an IRB?

The U.S. Code of Federal Regulations addresses the protection of human research subjects and outlines the role of an Institutional Review Board (IRB). An IRB reviews research studies to assess safety, privacy, confidentiality concerns as they relate to the research that is being considered. The IRB also determines what information should be provided to the potential research participant and approves the consent document that is to be used before the study is started. The IRB can approve or modify studies to ensure that they include proper protections, or disapprove any study that poses excess risk to a research subject. The main purpose of the IRB is to protect the rights and welfare of research subjects who participate in research studies.

What Does an IRB Review?

The IRB reviews each research study proposal to ensure that the risks are appropriate in relation to the benefits and that there are safeguards in place to address risks encountered in the research. The regulations requires an IRB to specifically review various aspects of a research study such as the study design, risk vs. benefit, the informed consent document and process, privacy protection, and confidentiality.

Who Serves on the IRB?

Current IRB members include: Alissa Sheftic, Director, Institutional Research; Jeff Noel, Senior Data Analyst; Kathy Burnett, Coordinator, Institutional Research and Office of the President; Amy Scrima, Psychology Instructor; Chris Roddy, Executive Dean, Arts & Sciences and Accreditation; Chuck Jordan, English Instructor; Denise Scameheorn, Department Chair, Social Sciences; Kamala Chancellor, Student Services Assistant, Bertrand Crossing Campus; Kathy Stady, Smith-Dahmer Associates; Ken Flowers, Department Chair, Technologies; Michelle Stone, Sociology Instructor; Paige Eagen, Chemistry Instructor/Director, Title III, Tanya Sobaski, Nursing Instructor; Vivien Cardelli, Transitional Studies/Reading; Nancy Johnson, Director, Student Support Services; and Anne Tews, Director, Financial Aid.

When Does the IRB meet?

The IRB meets bi-monthly, on the first Friday of every month, from 12:30 – 2 p.m. in C-203 on the Napier Avenue Campus (the Egg Room). Upcoming meetings: August 3, October 5, and December 7.

Please contact Alissa Sheftic, director of institutional research, if you have any questions or would like further information about the IRB at extension 6749 or asheftic@lakemichigancollege.edu

Also, as a reminder, updates are continually being posted to the IR portal, please check back frequently for new information at www.lakemichigancollege.edu