

June 12, 2014

MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty and Graduate Students
Subject: FSU Institutional Review Board (IRB)
From: Tom Blomberg

Over the past several weeks, we have encountered problems related to graduate student research and the IRB process. After considerable discussion, we have decided that in order to avoid future problems for our graduate students, we are instituting a policy where all research projects for area papers, theses and dissertations will be required to have IRB approval and Graduate School recognition of this approval. This documentation should be provided to Margarita prior to data collection or, for projects involving secondary data analysis, prior to any significant data analysis. Further, we recommend that faculty advise their students as to IRB related requirements for any study undertaken beyond area papers, theses and dissertations.

We believe this policy should avoid complications related to graduation and subsequent publications from various research efforts. The College is currently revising the Graduate Handbook to reflect this IRB policy.