

July 14, 2006

IRB Form #2
APPLICATION FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW

Project Title: An Assessment of Research-Doctorate Programs

PIN: BHEW-Q-03-02-A

Anticipated Date of Submission of Proposals to Sponsors: Proposals have been sent and were funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Science Foundation. A proposal is pending at the Department of Energy, and a proposal will be sent the United states Department of Agriculture in July 2006.

Other IRBs that will review this protocol, if any: Some universities may also wish to review the questionnaires and have them approved by their IRB Office

Detailed Research Protocol (may be provided in an attached file):

This is an addendum to the earlier request for IRB review.

In the earlier request for IRB approval for the Faculty and Student Questionnaires, we also included the Program Questionnaire, since it asked for aggregated data in gender, citizenship, and race/ethnicity. Since that data was aggregated, there was not need for a confidentiality statement on that questionnaire. However, we now plan to ask for gender, citizenship, and race/ethnicity data on an individual basis and this is a request for approval of the confidentiality statement that will accompany the data request. This data will be collected on a spreadsheet. A sample spreadsheet for an English program is included with this request. The confidentiality statement appears on the first sheet (Introduction) and the columns that request the data are in the faculty sheet (English Faculty). The confidentiality statement is as follows:

This survey is being conducted by Mathematica Policy Research (MPR), an organization experienced in the conduct of confidential surveys. This survey will be conducted over the Internet using a secure survey technology and all information that could be used to identify a respondent or link responses to individual respondents for any survey question will be maintained in storage that is secure. ALL INFORMATION YOU PROVIDE WILL BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL.

The information from your responses to this questionnaire will be compiled by Mathematica Policy Research and provided to the National Research Council for their analyses. The National Research Council staff who analyze the data will sign non-disclosure confidentiality agreements

to protect the identity of individuals participating in this survey. Any data, including race/ethnicity and gender, that is not currently available to the public will only be used in aggregated form that cannot be used to discern the identity of any survey participant in any report or presentation concerning the survey or in the public use file that will be made available to the public at the conclusion of this study.

Category of Research Applicable to the National Academies [delete those that do not apply]:

(3) Research on individual or group characteristics or behavior (including, but not limited to, research on perception, cognition, motivation, identity, language, communication, cultural beliefs or practices, and social behavior) or research employing survey, interview, oral history, focus group, program evaluation, human factors evaluation, or quality assurance methodologies that is otherwise not exempt from IRB review.

Explanation of Reason for Selecting the Indicated Category of Research: In the Assessment of Research-Doctorate Programs human subjects participate by completing a series of voluntary questionnaires.