February 23, 2007

Dr. Charlotte V. Kuh
Dr. James Voytuk
Committee on Women and Science in Engineering
Policy and Global Affairs Division
Keck 557 / Keck 556

Re: An Assessment of Research-Doctorate Programs (BHEW-Q-03-02-A)

Dear Charlotte and Jim:

On behalf of the Committee to Review Studies Involving Human Subjects, acting as the National Academies’ Institutional Review Board, I am pleased to inform you that your request presented in the February 22 Form #2 is approved.

Thank you for notifying me of the revised protocol involved in conducting the survey associated with the Faculty questionnaire. These changes raise no issues of concern to the IRB and constitute only a minor deviation from the previously-approved protocol.

If the research has not been completed by June 2007, the project shall be reviewed again at the Committee’s annual meeting to be scheduled in early summer next year. Otherwise, please notify me when the research has been completed.

Sincerely,

Ronald D. Taylor, Chair
February 22, 2007

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 of the Faculty Survey.

The Faculty Questionnaire has been distributed in electronic format and faculty are completing the instrument and sending it to the contractor, Mathematical Policy Research. On a few occasions faculty members had requested changes to their responses and have asked that new data be included. The contractor has opened some of the individual files for the corrections, but has found that it is more convenient to open all file and tell individuals who inquire that their file is open and they can make changes in survey information. This is a change in the procedures for the survey and we request that it be added to the approved protocol.

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.