

November 10, 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.

There are two items that require IRB approval.

1. In the original request for IRB approval, the application stated that faculty and student Email addresses would be collected from the institutions. These addresses would be used to provide logins and passwords so that the faculty and students could access the questionnaires on the Internet. The contractor that is administrating the surveys now wants the option of alerting faculty and students to the surveys by U.S. Postal mail and contacting survey participants who have not responded by telephone and U.S. Postal mail. They therefore wish to collect addresses and telephone numbers from the institutions. It is therefore requested that the collection of this information be added to the protocol.
2. In the original request for IRB approval the Program Questionnaire, Faculty Questionnaire and Admitted-to-Candidacy Doctoral Student Questionnaire were submitted. Some revisions to those questionnaires were made and they are now final. The revisions mainly involved editorial changes to make the questions clearer, requests for information on faculty research productivity, and a section in the faculty questionnaire that asks opinion on the characteristics of program quality. The Program Questionnaire, Faculty Questionnaire and Admitted-to-Candidacy Doctoral Student Questionnaire are submitted for approval.

A short questionnaire for programs in emerging fields is also included with this submission for completeness.

**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.