



RESEARCH UPDATE

A WEEKLY COMMUNICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH & SPONSORED PROGRAMS

VOLUME 3: NUMBER 5

September 2, 2021

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **September Student Research Town Hall**

The next Student Research Town Hall is scheduled for September 28, 2021 from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. in Room 160. Dr. Adrienne Kania will provide a short presentation about ongoing research in Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine. Please contact [Dr. Stauss](#) for more information.

- **Research Laboratories Custodial Services**

The Research Laboratories have scheduled weekly custodial services on Saturdays from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. We ask investigators to not schedule laboratory activities during this time. Please contact the [Research Laboratories](#) for additional details.

- **Distinction in Research Path**

Students who are considering participation in the [Distinction in Research](#) Pathway should contact [Dr. Stauss](#) for more information. The Distinction in Research is an optional path that recognizes a high level of engagement by a medical student in research. Current 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year students who plan to or have previously participated in the Summer Research Experience may be eligible for admission into the pathway.

- **AACOM Annual Conference Call for Abstracts**

The abstract submission period for Educating Leaders 2022, the AACOM Annual Conference, is now open. Present your work during the nation's premier osteopathic medical education event from April 27-29, 2022, both onsite in Nashville, Tennessee and online from anywhere in the world. **Deadline for Abstract Submission is October 7, 2021.** [CLICK HERE](#) for Abstract Submission Information.

- **American College of Physicians: [ABSTRACT COMPETITION](#)**

The American College of Physicians New Mexico Chapter Scientific Meeting has announced the Call for Abstracts. This is an ACP Resident/Fellow member and Medical Student juried competition. **Deadline for Abstract submission is September 12, 2021.** The meeting will be held November 5-6, 2021 at the University of New Mexico Health Science Center, Albuquerque, NM. [Register for the Meeting HERE](#). There is no charge for Residents or Medical Students to attend the meeting. Please contact Colleen Keeku colleenkeekuacp@gmail.com with questions about the abstract competition.

- **Research Advisory Council Seeks Faculty Representatives**

The [Research Advisory Council](#) is seeking to fill vacancies for one Basic Science and one Clinical faculty representatives. These are elected positions. The elections are run by the Faculty Council. Interested faculty should contact Dr. [Miriam Donohue](#) for more information about the election. The RAC meets once a month for 2 hours.

- **AACOM Advocacy Day: October 6-7, 2021**

AACOM Advocacy Day will feature members of Congress, congressional staff, and government relations professional in virtual informational panels presenting on the state of Congress, effective advocacy and AACOM's public policy priorities. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

- **University of New Mexico 14th Annual Mentoring Conference**

The Mentoring Institute at UNM will hold its 14th Annual Mentoring Conference, "*Mentoring in an Interconnected World*" from October 18 – 22, 2021. The conference will host a broad constituency of higher education academic researchers, educators, community leaders, administrators, non-profit partners, government agencies, and other professionals. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

- **Distinguished Researcher Seminar to Feature Public Health Scholar: September 24, 2021**

Theresa Byrd, R.N., Dr.P.H., will present a talk on "What is Public Health: Research example AMIGAS" at noon on September 24, 2021 in Room 160. Dr. Byrd is Associate Dean and Chair of the Department of Public Health at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center, Lubbock, TX. The seminar will also be available on Zoom. A reception for Dr. Byrd will follow the seminar at 1:00 p.m. for those attending in person. *Dr. Byrd's visit is being hosted by the Department of Biomedical Science. The Distinguished Research Seminar Series is sponsored by the Office of Research.*

COMPLIANCE GUIDANCE FOR RESEARCHERS

- **The sIRB Mandate and the IRB Reliance Agreement**

Are you involved in a collaborative Human Subjects Research Project with another institution? If the answer is "Yes", then a reliance agreement is necessary. The Reliance Agreement becomes necessary when an institution relies on an external IRB that it does not operate for oversight of a human subjects research project. The need for such agreements arose when the NIH mandated a single IRB (sIRB) review for most multisite human subjects research. The goal of the sIRB mandate was to reduce administrative burden and shorten the time to approval of research without compromising human subjects protection or research oversight. The Reliance Agreement is then used to document the respective roles of collaborating institutions.

- ***When is a Reliance Agreement Required?***

An IRB Reliance Agreement is required whenever: (1) one institution is engaged in human subjects research that is subject to regulation, and (2) the IRB responsible for review of the research is not operated by the institution engaged in the human subjects research. While reliance agreements may take several forms, one of the most common applications involves collaborative research projects with investigators at different institutions. Requirements for Reliance Agreements are driven by the Common rule which states:

"For nonexempt research involving human subjects covered by this policy (or exempt research for which limited IRB review takes place pursuant to §46.104(d)(2)(iii), (d)(3)(i)(C), (d)(7), or (d)(8)) that takes place at an institution in which IRB oversight is conducted by an IRB that is not operated by the institution, the institution and the organization operating the IRB shall document the institution's reliance on the IRB for oversight of the research and the responsibilities that each entity will

undertake to ensure compliance with the requirements of this policy (e.g., in a written agreement between the institution and the IRB, by implementation of an institution-wide policy directive providing the allocation of responsibilities between the institution and an IRB that is not affiliated with the institution, or as set forth in a research protocol)."

○ ***Reliance Agreement Scope***

The scope of the IRB Reliance Agreements can range from a single study to very broad covering all research. At present, all of our reliance agreements are at the single study level. To this end, each project or study must have a separate reliance agreement.

○ ***Reliance Agreement Content***

The regulations do not specify exactly what should be in a Reliance Agreement, but typically they are concise documents. At a minimum, the agreement states that 1) the reviewing IRB will meet the human subject protection requirements of the relying institution's approved Federal Wide Assurance with the Office of Human Research Protection, 2) the reviewing IRB will follow written procedures for reporting its findings and actions to appropriate officials at the relying institution, 3) the reviewing institution will make relevant minutes of IRB meetings available to the relying institution upon request, and 4) the relying institution remains responsible for ensuring compliance with the reviewing IRB's determinations and assurances. More complex agreements may arise when the agreements involve matters including but not limited to financial arrangements, intellectual property, and proprietary information.

○ ***How to obtain a Reliance Agreement?***

Researchers at Burrell College who are involved in collaborative or multisite human subjects research shall contact the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs regarding the development of a reliance agreement. The ORSP will need the following information in order to develop the agreement:

- Name of the Reviewing IRB (Note: *This could be the Burrell College IRB that is being relied upon by the collaborating institution or the collaborating institution IRB which Burrell will rely on.*)
- Title of the Research Project
- A copy of the Final Approved IRB Protocol
- A Determination or Approval Letter from the Reviewing IRB. (Note: *A Determination Letter is needed if the project has been deemed by the reviewing institution to be Exempt. An approval letter is required if the project is non-exempt and has been reviewed by an IRB.*)

In summary, federal regulations require that the use of external IRBs be documented in a written agreement that defines the roles and responsibilities of each entity. The Reliance Agreement serves this purpose. It is the responsibility of researchers to inform the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs of all human subjects research involving multiple institutions and to obtain a reliance agreement for the project.

Contact the Office of Research with Any Questions
[Joseph N. Benoit, Ph.D.](#)
Assistant Dean for Research

MEETING DATES AND DEADLINES

- **American College of Physicians, New Mexico Chapter**
 - November 5-6, 2021
 - University of New Mexico Health Science Center, Albuquerque, NM.
 - Click [HERE](#) for Registration Information (*Free for Medical Students or Residents*)

- **OMED21**
 - October 23-34, 2021
 - Phoenix, AZ
 - Click [HERE](#) for More Information

- **Educating Leaders 2022, the AACOM Annual Conference**
 - April 27-29, 2022
 - Nashville, TN (onsite and online)
 - Click [HERE](#) for More Information

- **Institutional Review Board (IRB)**
 - September 27, 2021, 12:00-2:00 p.m.
 - *Last Day to Submit Materials for Meeting: September 14, 2021*
 - Email: IRB@bcomnm.org

- **Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)**
 - November 10, 2021, 12:00-1:00 p.m.
 - *Last day to submit materials for this meeting: October 28, 2021*
 - Email: Research@bcomnm.org

- **Research Advisory Council (RAC)**
 - September 24, 2021, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. (*Note: Due to the Distinguished Researcher Seminar at noon, the RAC meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m.*)

POLICY & REGULATORY UPDATE

- ***Burrell College New or Updated Policies and Procedures***
 - The Office of Research is currently conducting our annual review of all policies and procedures. We will update any changes in future editions.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES, MEETINGS, and NOTICES

- [NIH Weekly Funding Opportunities and Notices](#) – September 3, 2021
- American Osteopathic Association
 - [AOA Research Grants](#) for DOs, MDs, and PhDs
 - [Research Opportunities](#) for resident physicians, fellows and osteopathic medical students
- [Wells Fargo Philanthropic Services](#) (Search for Opportunities)

INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS

- ***Information on Publishing Venues***

- The Office of Research and the Burrell College Health Sciences Library are available to assist with any questions that you may have regarding appropriate places to publish your research.

RECENT AND FORTHCOMING SCHOLARLY WORK BY BURRELL COLLEGE RESEARCHERS

(Please email us with your news and we will add it to future Updates.)

Valencak, T.G., Csiszar, A., Szalai, G. *et al.* Animal reservoirs of SARS-CoV-2: calculable COVID-19 risk for older adults from animal to human transmission. [GeroScience \(2021\)](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11357-021-00444-9). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11357-021-00444-9>