

# RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE (REC)

## MEETING MINUTES

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022 | 11:00am Online Video Conference (via Zoom)

**PRESENT:** Melrona Kirrane (Chair), Michael Parkinson (Vice-Chair) Adam Platt (REC Administrator), Fiona Brennan (REC Secretary), Peter Nowlan, Mary Sharp, Anne Morrissey, Michael Breen, Bert Gordijn, Mengting Wang, Ellen Drumm, Damian O’Donohue, Gareth Jones, Kate Irving, Dónal Mulligan (FHSS F-REC Chair), Geraldine Healy (DPU), Joan O’Connell (DPU).

**APOLOGIES:** Brendan Egan, Andy Healy, Claire McCarrick, Silvia Rocchetta, Audrey Bryan, Aisling Ní Dhiorbhain (IoE FERP Chair).

**REVIEWED BY:** DCU REC

<b>AGENDA:</b>			
<b>1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b>			
<b>2. REC CHAIR UPDATE</b>			
<b>3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING OF 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022 &amp; MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</b>			
<b>4. FHSS F-REC CHAIR UPDATE</b>			
<b>5. AWB UPDATE</b>			
<b>6. REVIEW OF RESEARCH PROPOSALS</b>			
<b>7. AOB</b>			
<b>KEY COMMENTS/ACTIONS:</b>			
Agenda No.	Comment/Decision	Action	Timescale
1.	Agenda Adopted	N/A	N/A
2.	<p>The REC Chair provided an update to REC. The following are summations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The REC Chair, Secretary and Administrator met with the Faculty Ethics Research Panel Chair in the IoE to discuss the categorisation of risk of Undergraduate and Taught Masters research projects. The REC Chair, Secretary, and Administrator will be meeting with Kate Irving and Audrey Bryan to discuss the potential of a risk rubric that would help</li> </ul>	The REC Administrator to organise a meeting to discuss the risk rubric.	Prior to the next REC committee meeting.

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	<p>applicants and their supervisors identify whether their proposed project is low-risk or not.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The new REC amendment form and submission process is now live on the REC website and Research Ethics Application Portal on Loop.</li> <li>- The School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health Research Ethics Panel Chair (Dr. Mark Philbin), would like to invite an external speaker to present on vulnerability in the context of research. It is hoped that this would tie-in with Global Ethics Day on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October, 2022.</li> <li>- The REC Chair, Secretary and Administrator met with colleagues from the DPU to discuss the retention of REC records (e.g., application forms submitted to REC, tracker information, email correspondence with applicants, etc.).</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p> <p>The REC Chair will keep the committee informed of any developments.</p> <p>The REC Chair will keep the committee informed of any updates with regard to data retention.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>
3.	<p>The minutes from the previous full committee meeting (29<sup>th</sup> April 2022) were approved.</p> <p>A total of 8 amendments to existing protocols have been approved in the period of the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022 – 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>
4.	<p>The FHSS F-REC Chair provided an update to REC. The following are summations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 low-risk applications received and reviewed this month.</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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	- Following a query regarding the use of data for research purposes, that had been obtained via freedom of information, the FHSS F-REC will be developing specific guidance to researchers that can be shared with DCU REC.	N/A	N/A
5.	The Animal Welfare Body (AWB) met in the period since the last REC meeting.  An application, involving the use of animals for the production of antibodies, is anticipated to be submitted to REC for review at the next meeting.	N/A	N/A

**6. REVIEW OF RESEARCH PROPOSALS:** All REC Ref Numbers highlighted in **RED** were applications reviewed outside of usual REC meeting dates.

REC Ref No.	Comments	Decision	
2022_096	Approved	Approved	
2022_097	Requires clarification(s)	Pending Clarification(s)	
2022_098	Requires clarification(s)	Pending Clarification(s)	
2022_099	Requires clarification(s)	Pending Clarification(s)	
2022_100	Requires clarification(s)	Pending Clarification(s)	
2022_101	Requires clarification(s)	Pending Clarification(s)	
2022_102	Requires clarification(s)	Pending Clarification(s)	
2022_103	Approved	Approved	
2022_104	Requires clarification(s)	Pending Clarification(s)	
2022_105	Requires clarification(s)	Pending Clarification(s)	
2022_106	Requires clarification(s)	Pending Clarification(s)	
2022_107	Requires clarification(s)	Pending Clarification(s)	
2022_108	Requires clarification(s)	Pending Clarification(s)	
2022_109	Approved	Approved	
<b>KEY COMMENTS/ACTIONS:</b>			
Agenda No.	Comment/Decision	Action	Timescale

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7.	AOB - REC members based in the Faculty of Engineering and Computing (FEC) informed the committee that requests for expressions of interest have been circulated to members of the faculty. FEC will be looking for 3 representatives from each school in the faculty.	N/A	N/A
	<b>Next REC Committee meeting scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022</b>	N/A	N/A