

For Information

S.04-79

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM  
OFFICE OF RESEARCH ETHICS

TO: Ms. Alison Watt, Director  
University Secretariat

FROM: Bruce Whittlesea, Chair  
Research Ethics Board (REB)

RE: Annual REB Senate Report  
2003/2004

DATE: September 21, 2004

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Dear Ms. Watt:

In accordance with Policy R20.01, "Ethics Review of Research Involving Human Subjects", section 3.6, I am submitting, on behalf of the Research Ethics Board, the annual report to Senate. The report spans the time frame September 1, 2003 to August 31, 2004.

Sincerely,

  
Bruce Whittlesea

Enclosure

/bjr



**Annual Report to Senate**  
September 1, 2003 – August 31, 2004

Regular meetings are held on the third Monday of each month. The REB (Research Ethics Board) Web site is located at:

<http://www.sfu.ca/vp-research/ethics/index.htm>

SFU Policy R20.01, "Ethics Review of Research Involving Human Subjects", defines the REB as 12 voting members and the Director of the Office of Research Ethics (DORE) as an *ex-officio* non-voting member. The 12 voting members are composed of six members elected by each Faculty, 3 members elected by Senate from the university at large, who may be faculty or staff, one student member and two members elected by Senate from the community outside the university.

**Members**

**Faculty Members (elected by Faculty)**

**Applied Sciences:**

Charles Krieger (Vice-Chair)  
School of Kinesiology

**Arts:**

John McDonald  
Department of Psychology

Bruce Whittlesea (Chair)  
Department of Psychology

**Business Administration:**

Steven Kates

**Faculty of Education**

Vacant

**Science:**

Lynne Quarmby  
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

**Three Members from the University Community At Large (Faculty or Staff)**

Adrienne Drobnies  
Research Grants Facilitator  
Faculty of Science

Felix Breden  
Biological Sciences

Maureen Hoskyn  
Faculty of Education

**Student Member:**

Spencer McGrath  
Molecular Biology and Biochemistry

Two Members from the Community Outside of the University

Lynne Kennedy  
William (Bill) Melville

Director, Office of Research Ethics  
Hal Weinberg

Ethics Officer  
Barb Ralph

**Resignations from the REB**

Joanna Lemay, student member, resigned January 2004.  
John Lowman, member of the University community at large, resigned June 2004.

**Expiry of Term**

Bruce Brandhorst, Faculty of Science member, term expired May 2004  
Rick Iverson, Faculty of Business member, term expired May 2004  
Daniel Cohn, Faculty of Arts member, term expired May 2004

**Re-appointed**

Adrienne Drobnies, Faculty of Science  
Lynne Kennedy, Community at large  
Charles Krieger, School of Kinesiology  
Bill Melville, Community at large  
Bruce Whittlesea, Department of Psychology

**Minimal Risk Applications Approved by the REB September 1, 2003  
to August 31, 2004**

Faculty - 116  
Graduate Students - 173  
Undergraduate Students - 67  
Post Doctoral - 3  
Staff - 6  
Other - 4 (these include visiting professors, visiting students, research associates)

**Non-Minimal Risk Applications Approved by the REB September 1, 2003  
to August 31, 2004**

faculty – 6; graduate students – 1

**Courses Approved by the REB under Policy R20.01**

The REB approved 40 course applications from September 1, 2003 to August 31, 2004.

**Conscience & Science: A Forum on Biotechnology, Ethics and the Future –  
Update**

Conscience & Science: A Public Forum on Biotechnology, Ethics and the Future was held at the Wosk Centre for Dialogue on April 28 and 29, 2004. The forum focused on bridging the gap between the implications of cutting edge research on humans, and the concerns of thoughtful lawmakers and scientists with respect to the current, potential and historical dilemmas of research ethics. Speakers included Sir John Sulston, Ph.D. (Nobel laureate and author); Senator Wilbert Keon, MD, FRCS©; (Cardiac Surgeon); David Suzuki, Ph.D. (Emeritus professor, UBC); Arthur Kroeker, Ph.D. (Canadian Research Chair BC Cancer Agency); Donald Riddle, Ph.D., (Chief Scientific Officer, Genome BC); Barry L. Beyerstein, Ph.D. (associate Professor, SFU); Maureen McTeer, MA, LLB, LLM (Health) (Barrister and Solicitor); Eugene Oscapella, LLB, LLM (Barrister and solicitor); David Bollier (Author, Senior Fellow, Normal Lear Centre for Communication, USC); Barbara McGillivray, MD, FRCS©, FCCMG (Professor, Medical Genetics, UBC); Hal Weinberg, Ph.D. (Director of Office of Research Ethics, SFU, Emeritus Professor, Kiniesiology & Psychology, SFU). The forum also included two students who debated the Pharmaceutical Control of Behaviour. Web-casting implemented by Apple Canada brought into the on-line discussions of students from two B.C. High Schools.

Sponsors of the forum included: Simon Fraser University, University of Victoria; Innovation and Science Council of BC; Apple Canada; MDS Metro; MSM Medtech BC; CTF Systems, BC; Pasta Polo; and Science World.

### **Actions and Issues**

The REB may give approval to generic unspecified projects within a course but will not give approval to multiple courses in the same application.

Projects using secondary data must include acceptable consent procedures in the protocol of the original project that included the possibility of use of the data in the way in which the current application for secondary use proposes, unless the data is in the public domain.

If students are approached or tested on school grounds, permission of the school district is required.

When a graduate or undergraduate student is shown as the principal investigator of an application, the supervisor of the student is always the co-investigator.

Amendments, which do not convert minimal risk applications to non-minimal risk, do not require REB ratification.

"Notification of REB requirements" letter will be sent to all applicants whose applications were reviewed by the REB and approved with specific contingencies. Compliance with contingencies is required within a specified time, after which approval is suspended.