

## HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH

### Reasons for Policy

1. To protect the rights, dignity and health of human subjects used in research investigations while promoting free inquiry and research at the College.
2. To establish the appropriate institutional review boards and procedures as required by federal regulations.

### Definitions

1. *Research* means a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. Examples of activities that may fall under this policy include, but is not limited to, surveys, case studies, and experiments.
2. *Human subjects* are living individuals about whom an investigator (a professional or a student) conducting research obtains data through intervention or interaction with the individual or identifiable private information through any means.
3. *Intervention* means any physical procedures undertaken with the subject or any manipulation of the subject or the subject's environment for research purposes.
4. *Interaction* means any communication or other interpersonal contact between the subject and the researcher.

### Policy Statement

All research involving human subjects must be conducted using basic ethical principles. These principles include respect for persons, beneficence, and justice. Application of the basic principles to the conduct of research using human subjects leads to the following requirements:

1. All activities involving humans as subjects must provide for the rights, safety, health, and welfare of each individual.
2. Any direct or potential benefit to the subject and the importance of the knowledge gained must outweigh any inherent risk to the individual.
3. Participation in research must be voluntary and informed consent procedures must conform to the procedures authorized by the President.
4. The selection of all subjects must be done in an equitable manner that promotes elements of sound scientific research practices.
5. An individual does not abdicate any rights by consenting to be a research subject. A subject has the right to refuse to participate or may withdraw from research at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which the subject would otherwise be entitled.

6. Access to any data related to a human subject's participation in a college research study that may lead to the identification of the individual participant must be limited to authorized persons only.
7. Adequate measures must be undertaken to protect the privacy of subjects and to maintain the confidentiality of data. The primary responsibility for the protection of human subjects, and safeguarding information regarding human subjects obtained in the course of research, rests on the principal researcher, with support, approval, and monitoring by the College as set forth in the procedures established by the President.

All research utilizing human subjects must comply with federal regulation found in the Common Federal Rule and Title 45 Part 46 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These regulations require all human subject research be approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) before the research may be conducted. The IRB shall consist of the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, the Vice President for Administration/Chief Business Officer, the Dean for Enrollment and Student Services, the Director of College Effectiveness Assessment, and one neutral non-MCCC employee to be appointed by the President. The President shall authorize procedures and guidelines to ensure compliance.

Any willful violation of this policy will result in commencement of disciplinary proceedings, up to and including termination of employment or student dismissal.

Approved

Board of Trustees  
June 15, 2006