

# IRB NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 1

February 2022

## Welcome to UNI's IRB News!

Welcome to this first edition of UNI's IRB News. Through this newsletter, our goal is to provide you with guidance, updates, and support in your research efforts and questions related to the IRB process. We also intend to showcase some of the research being conducted by our students and faculty! Stay tuned to the UNI IRB Newsletter and visit the [Institutional Review Board Home Page](#) for timely IRB guidance and highlights on campus research.

## New IRB Administrator

Lisa Ahern joined the RSP Office, as Associate Director, in November of 2021. Part of Lisa's duties include serving as the IRB Administrator. Please feel free to reach out to Lisa with IRB related questions at [Lisa.Ahern@uni.edu](mailto:Lisa.Ahern@uni.edu) or 3-6148.

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## Where to begin? Submitting an Application to IRB.

The spring semester is actively underway and many students are working on their applications and research protocols. If you or your students are preparing a submission to the IRB, a great place to start is the [RSP website](#). All [application forms](#) are online, along with [checklists and samples](#) to help you prepare. Students should be reminded to include their Faculty Advisor on the application form and all IRB-related correspondence. All Key Personnel working with the project must have their **Human Subjects Training** completed.

## Human Subjects Training

RSP offers certification for IRB training through an online course in Human Subjects Protections, hosted by the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI), based at the University of Miami. The program offers online courses that can be accessed by anyone affiliated with UNI. [This course fulfills the UNI IRB training requirement to participate in human subjects research.](#)

## Upcoming Research and Ethics Events - Register Today!

Save the date for upcoming events! IRB Chair, Dr. Todd Evans, will lead two IRB Tutorial Sessions to help guide you through the basic IRB Submission process at UNI. This is a great informational session to help you get your IRB questions answered!

Also coming up, are two great Ethics Events which focus on Quantitative Research and Ethics in Scholarship, Gender, Ethnicity and Power. Sign up below!



Upcoming Research & Ethics Events			
<b>How to Submit your IRB Application?</b>	<b>How to Submit your IRB Application?</b>	<b>Ethical Issues in Quantitative Research</b>	<b>Ethical Issues in Scholarship; Gender, Ethnicity &amp; Power</b>
<b>February 7, 2022 3:30-4:30</b>	<b>March 1, 2022 2:00 - 3:00</b>	<b>March 7, 2022 2:00-4:00</b>	<b>March 28, 2022 2:00-4:00</b>
<a href="#">Sign up Here</a>	<a href="#">Sign up Here</a>	<a href="#">Sign up Here</a>	<a href="#">Sign up Here</a>

## For Grad Students Conducting Research in PreK-12 Classrooms

UNI graduate students who are preparing to conduct research in a PreK-12 school where they work, should review the [PreK-12 Classroom Research Exemption Form](#) to determine if their research is exempt from IRB approval. This form may be used when the risks are minimal, the research is focused on normal educational practices, activities are not likely to impact student learning, sensitive data is de-identified and there is no sensitive data recorded by video or audio.

PreK-12 Research Exemption Forms should be sent directly to [Lisa.Ahern@uni.edu](mailto:Lisa.Ahern@uni.edu). A [Letter of Cooperation](#) from the study site must be included with the submission. All Key Personnel must have human subjects research training on file.




### New Around Campus - Meet Thaddeus Atzmon, Research Coordinator

[Thaddeus Atzmon](#) joined the UNI campus in August of 2021, as Research Coordinator for the Richard O. Jacobson Center for Comprehensive Literacy (JCCL). As the Research Coordinator, Atzmon aims to broaden the concept and understanding of the term “literacy” while also highlighting new literacy research for JCCL.

His scholarly works focus on understanding systems of oppression, ascribed racial identities and systemic racism. Atzmon is completing his Ph.D. in sociology at Texas A&M University where his work focuses on the systemic inequalities in education and the linkages of ascribed identities to race, class and gender. For more information about Atzmon, his interests and work, please visit his full bio on the [JCCL website](#). Welcome, Thaddeus!

## What *is* the IRB looking for when it reviews a protocol?

The IRB can only review the information that is actually submitted in the protocol. Therefore, an incomplete or inadequately prepared protocol will be returned to the investigator for revision/clarification and delay approval. A protocol should contain adequate information for the IRB to determine the following:

- Participation of all subjects is voluntary.
  - Rights and welfare of all subjects will be adequately protected.
  - Consent process will be conducted in accordance with Federal regulations.
  - Potential harms (risks) to the subjects are outweighed by the potential benefits to science and society. (Note: this determination can only be made if the protocol contains a clear and comprehensive description of the study procedures).
  - For more FAQ's visit the [IRB website](#).
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## PANTHER RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

There is SO MUCH great work and thought happening on the UNI campus! This section of future editions of IRB News is devoted to bringing you highlights of research conducted by faculty and students. **But first... we invite you to make a few suggestions!**

If you wish to share your work, or you want to make a suggestion of a student or colleague, please complete [this brief form](#). A member of the IRB staff will reach out to you to learn more about the effort.

## What's your bright idea?



## SUGGEST RESEARCH TO HIGHLIGHT IN THE NEXT IRB NEWSLETTER

## INSPIRE

## Student Research & Engagement Conference

**APRIL 11-12, 2022**

The INSPIRE conference is a great opportunity for students to share their hard work with others across campus and [INSPIRE](#) others!

Undergraduate and graduate students are invited to present projects related to research, scholarship, internships, and/or service learning. Currently, this is planned as a face-to-face event, but will be reevaluated as spring approaches.

**Open for submissions  
February 22nd.**

**Deadline for submissions  
March 11th.**

For more information, please contact  
Helen Harton or Windee Weiss.



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