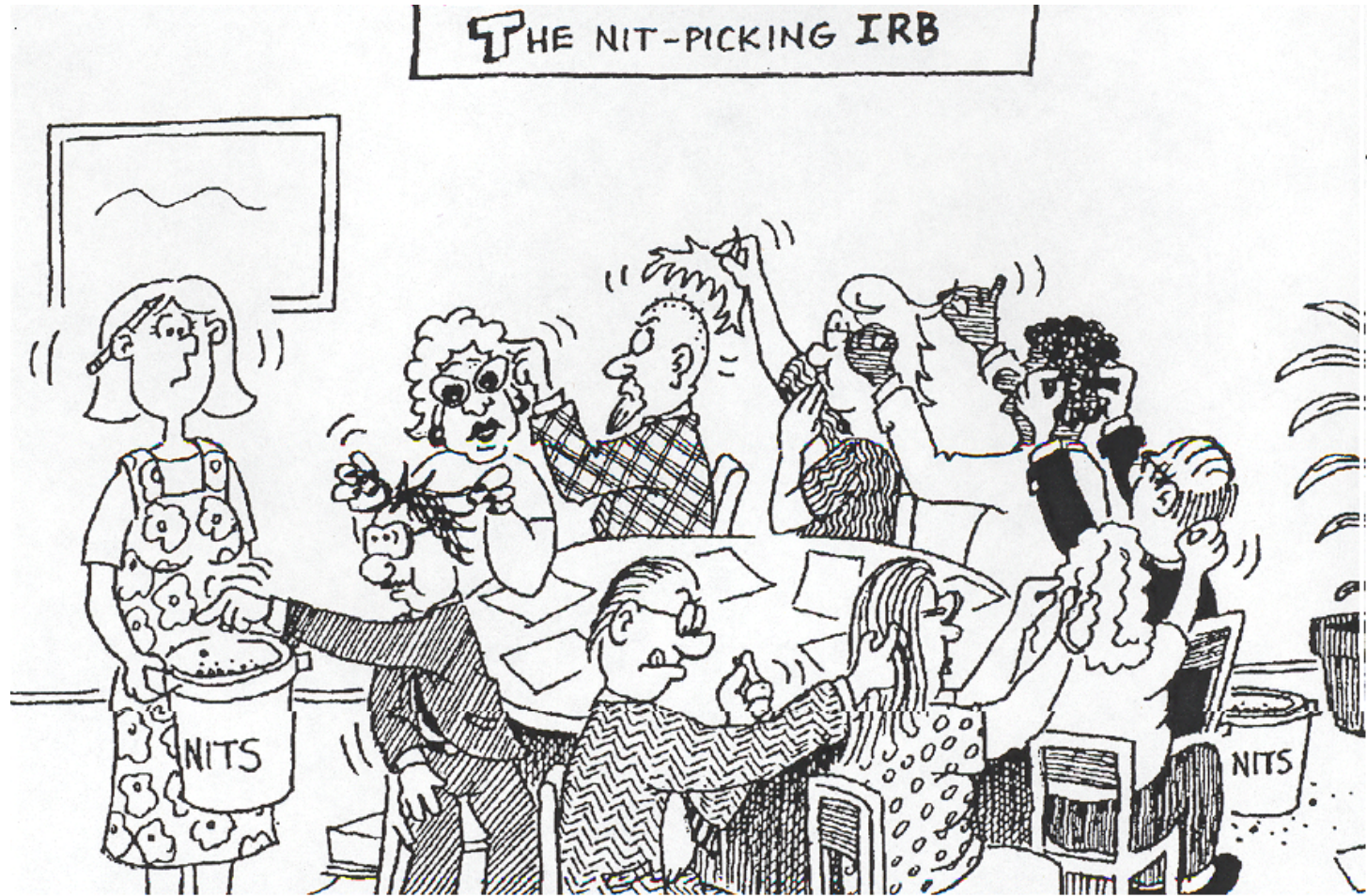


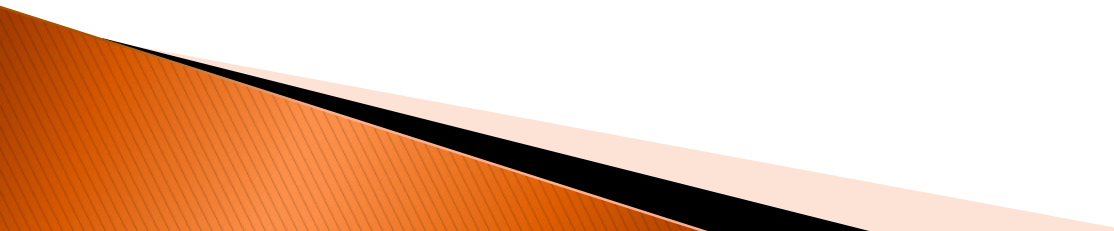
# Making an Application for Ethics Review

John Russell  
Chair, Langara College Research Ethics Board  
Member, Langara Department of Philosophy  
TCDC Sponsored Professional Development Talk  
April 30, 2019

# Meet the Langara REB!



# What you should learn today

1. How *to prepare* to make an application for ethics review to the Langara Research Ethics Board (LREB)
  2. What research does/does not require REB review
  3. What are the LREB review processes:
    - Full board review
    - Delegated review
    - Course-based Research review
  4. How to complete the LREB application
- 

# Things To Do Before Applying

- ▶ Better Call John!



- ▶ Local 5453, [jrussell@Langara.ca](mailto:jrussell@Langara.ca)

# More To Do Before Applying

Check application deadlines and LREB meetings 2018–2019

Deadline	Meeting
May 11	May 25
July 13	July 27
September 14	September 28
November 16	November 30
January 11	January 25
March 15	March 29

Tip: Check [RSAF Calls for Submissions](#) if applying for funds.

[Link to LREB Schedule](#)

# More To Do....

- ▶ Will you design your study to be eligible for delegated review?
  - Minimal risk + does not study vulnerable populations *may be eligible*.
  - For example: **anonymous surveys** that are **minimal risk** and **do not study vulnerable groups** will **typically not require full board review**.

# Another...

- ▶ Does the proposed research raise issues that should be discussed with your department?
- ▶ For example:
  - Will students in your own classes be the subjects of your research?
  - Will students in your own department or program be the subjects of your research?
  - Will the research require specific departmental resources?
- ▶ A good idea: consult with your chair/program director.

# One More...

- ▶ Plan to take the [TCPS2 on-line tutorial](#)





PANEL ON  
RESEARCH ETHICS

*Navigating the ethics of human research*

TCPS 2: CORE

## *Certificate of Completion*

*This document certifies that*

**John Russell**

*has completed the Tri-Council Policy Statement:  
Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans  
Course on Research Ethics (TCPS 2: CORE)*

Date of Issue: **9 October, 2015**

# Help Designing Research

Langara to hire:

1. Statistical Research Consultant
2. Qualitative Research Consultant


(1/8 FTE per consultant)

Available to all Langara staff: faculty and employees

Planned start: September 1, 2018



# Research Exempt from REB Review

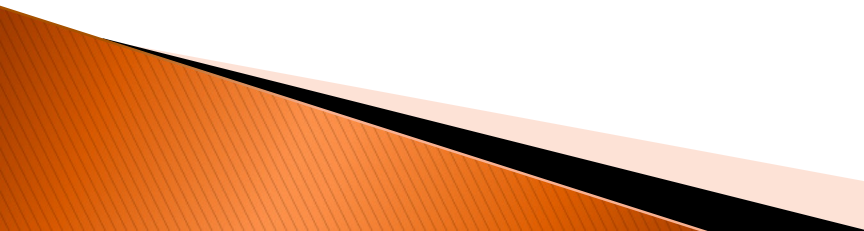
1. Research that relies exclusively on publicly available information
  2. Research involving observations of people in public places
  3. Research that relies exclusively on secondary use of “anonymous” information or biological materials
  4. Research “exclusively” for Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement/Program Review
  5. Creative practice activities
- 

# Exceptions 1–5 Clarified

Research and activities not requiring REB review:

1. Research that relies exclusively on publicly available information, if it
  - a) is legally accessible, and
  - b) is publicly accessible and there is no reasonable expectation of privacy. (*TCPS2*, Article 2.2)

Examples: Public archives, court decisions, media reports, gathering data on/from public "blogs," etc.



## 2. Research involving observations of people in public places, if

- no intervention or direct interaction by researcher
- no reasonable expectation of privacy
- data dissemination does not allow  
identification of specific individuals  
(*TCPS2*, Article 2.3)

Examples: acts or behaviour in a public natural environment.

3. Research that relies exclusively on secondary use of “anonymous” information or biological materials (Article 2.4)

“anonymous” = data/materials **never** had personal identifiers associated with them (*TCPS2*, p. 57)

Examples: questionnaires completed anonymously

**But**, research requires REB review if anonymous data can be used or linked to permit identification

#### 4. Research exclusively for Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement/Program Review (*TCPS2*, Article 2.5)

QA/QI/PR = Studies assessing the performance of an institution or its employees or students

Examples: course and program evaluations, staff performance reviews

## 5. Creative practice activities (*TCPS2*, Article 2.6)

“Creative practice activities” = process by which an artist makes or interprets art; study of how a work of art is created.

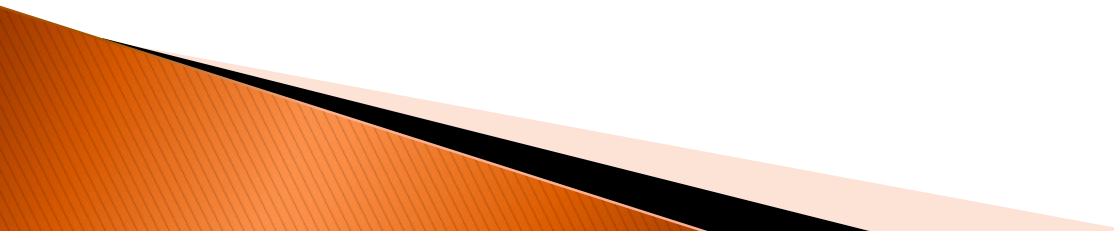
Examples: Portrait painting, analyses of an artist’s creative process, etc.



# Langara REB Mandate

- ▶ Reviews the ethical acceptability of all research involving
  - (1) collection of data from living humans (not including biological materials stored at Langara)
  - (2) conducted within Langara's "jurisdiction or under its auspices regardless of where the research is conducted." (See *TCPS2*, Article 6.1)
  - (3) "Research" = "an undertaking intended to extend knowledge through a disciplined inquiry or systematic investigation." (*TCPS2*, p. 15)

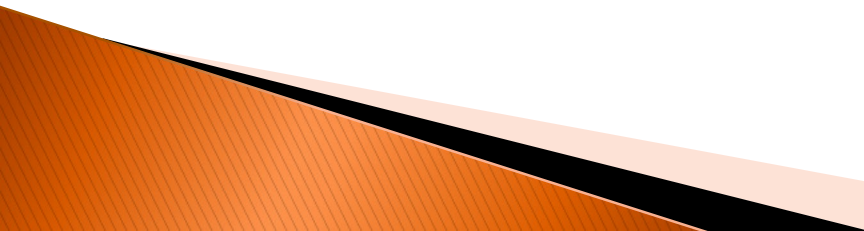
# LREB Jurisdiction

- Applies to all Langara faculty, staff, and students
  - LREB operates "independently" in its decision-making and is "free of inappropriate influence" (*TCPS2*, p. 62)
  - Reports to the Langara President.
- 


# Langara REB Review Process

1. Complete [Request for Ethics Approval Form](#)
2. Provide an electronic copy signed by relevant the Deans to LREB chair or administrator (Ramon Rodrigo) at least 14 days before [scheduled meeting](#).
3. The REB chair appoints a primary reviewer to present the Request for Ethics Approval.
4. The Langara REB deliberates and decides to i) Approve, ii) Approve subject to satisfactory responses to provisos, iii) Defer, or iv) Reject.
5. An appeal process exists if disagreement about an Langara REB decision cannot be resolved.
6. There is a process for amendments and annual renewals.
7. The Langara REB's administrative assistant is Ramon Rodrigo ([rrodrigo@langara.bc.ca](mailto:rrodrigo@langara.bc.ca), 604-323-5933).
8. See Langara Policy B5007 [Ethical Conduct for Research involving Humans](#)

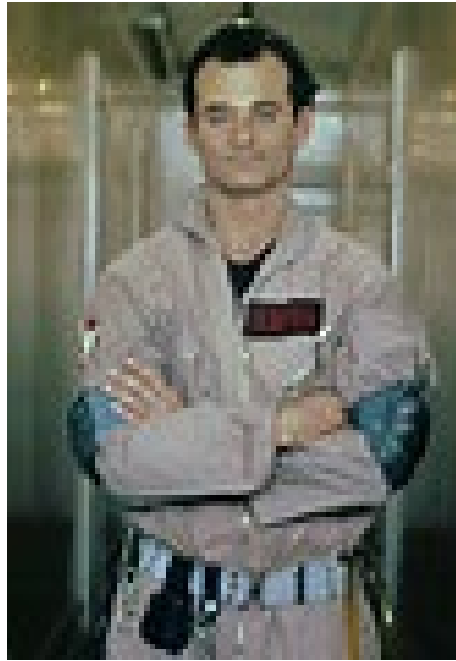
# Other Aspects of Review Process

- ▶ Ethical implications of research methodology discussed where ethically relevant (**bad science is often, maybe always, unethical**)
  - ▶ A “proportionate approach” to ethics review is taken
  - ▶ Researchers are invited to attend and present their studies if they wish, but cannot remain during deliberations
  - ▶ Deliberations and minutes are confidential; LREB members’ conflicts declared
- 

# Issues for Discussion

- ▶ Langara REB review is not strictly a scientific peer review process, but at a small institution is often the only opportunity for peer review.
  - ▶ Peer review is encouraged – see also qualitative/quantitative research consultants
  - ▶ Most studies are “minimal risk” but full board review is the default review process.
  - ▶ Others?
- 

# Who You Gonna Call?



Nope! Call the LREB Chair instead...

# Review of Course-Based Research

- Research designed by students solely for pedagogical purposes
- Must be minimal risk and not expose students to more than minimal risk
- Course syllabus will be reviewed by LREB chair or delegate
  - approval good for as long as the syllabus does not materially change
- See [application and related materials](#)

THE IRB WAS TAKING  
TOO LONG SO I DID THE  
SURVEY WITHOUT  
APPROVAL -

WRONG! YOU CANT  
BYPASS THE IRB!



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