The members of the EGSC Institutional Review Board met through a teleconference at 11 am on Wednesday, May 2, 2018. Participating in the discussion were James Brady, Florenta Sega and David Gribbin, IRB chair. Deborah Lee and Suella McCrimmon were absent.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss possible updates to the EGSC IRB Guidelines, which were last revised in November 2012. Mr. Gribbin noted that based on the discussion the members of the EGSC IRB had with President Boehmer on April 24, the board’s purpose and function statement was revised and that the revision of the statement makes a review of the guidelines necessary. Mr. Gribbin noted that because the College’s IRB is not staffed with a group of professionals dedicated to the IRB function, EGSC’s board lacks the federal credentials that are commonly maintained by a university IRB. The EGSC IRB therefore defers to external IRBs when an application for research involving human subjects is submitted to it by external researchers from universities or research organizations that maintain federal IRB credentials.

Because detailed IRB policies and guidelines are maintained by USG universities, EGSC IRB members agreed to investigate these policies and guidelines at Augusta University (AU), Georgia Southern University (GSU) and the University of Georgia (UGA). Mr. Bray and Dr. Saga will review AU materials and Mr. Gribbin will review UGA materials. In addition, he will ask Deborah Lee to review GSU materials. Revision of the EGSC IRB Guidelines will be based on its revised purpose and function statement and on its reviews of USG university materials.

The teleconference concluded at 11:20 am.

The next teleconference meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 16, at 11 am.

Minutes submitted by David Gribbin