



ETHICS COMMITTEE Minutes

07 March 2023 9:30 – 11:00
MS Teams

Attendees: Peggy Seriès (Chair), Arno Onken, Björn Ross, Kia Nazarpour, Uta Hinrichs, Alexandra Birch-Mayne, Kirsten Unwin, Katarina Scaife (Secretary).

Apologies: Victoria Lindström

| | Summary | ACTION |
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| 1. | Approval of Previous Minutes The minutes of the previous committee were approved as a fair representation of the meeting. | |
| 2. | Matters arising from previous meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Plan Advice Qualtrics Form – Ongoing. BR was able to import and access the new form and move the ownership of the form to informatics. Action: BR to test and make edits to the form before being reviewed by the committee. • AI Interaction with hate speech on social media project – Ongoing. UH and ABM consulted with Lotte Segal (lead of SPS ethics) who advised against approving applications where there is no/retroactive consent and suggested a redesign. REC discussed the broader implications of approving the research to proceed with its current design, including potential benefits and risks, and what precedent would be set for future applications. The committee agreed that input from other ethics experts of different fields would be helpful to develop a process for ethics applications of this nature. KN noted that the significant impact of the decision warrants the decision is made above school level, however PS highlighted that there is no process to escalate applications for higher review. Until further discussion has taken place, the decision on the approval of the AI and hate speech project is on hold. Action: UH to arrange another meeting with Lotte including PS, ABM and BR. PS will escalate to college level after the meeting with Lotte. | BR UH/PS/BR & ABM |
| 3. | Application review – standing item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered in matters arising. No additional applications to discuss. | |
| 4. | Ethics Workshops – standing item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May Ethics Workshop / White Paper -- ABM has written a proposal but still needs to do the costings. The committee agreed that the white paper should be prioritised before the workshop. BR raised that the researcher to be employed should be the organiser of the workshop. All committee members agreed to gauge | ABM/PS |

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| | <p>interest in the 0.2FTE post proposed in the white paper. Action: ABM to finalise costings for the project and PS to email HoS (Jane Hillston) with the proposal for approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Autumn Workshop -- UH suggested some speakers for the workshop in autumn. The target audience for the workshop will primarily be students. The date has not been decided on yet. Action: UH to ask Atoosa Kasirzadeh in PPLS if she would like to be a speaker. BR to forward UH the invitations from last year. | UH/BR |
| 5. | <p>Application reference number in documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PS raised a conversation she had with VL regarding applicants confusing the RT number and Qualtrics reference number used on participation information sheets (PIS). VL offered to change the template PIS documents to remove confusion. REC agreed the changes should be made. Action: VL to update template PIS documents on Ethics pages to prompt applicants to list their 'reference number' rather than their 'RT number'. | VL |
| 6. | <p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None. | |
| 7. | Date of next meeting: Tuesday 04 April 2023, 0930-1100 | |