Application for a Title IX Reporting Exception for Research

WSU researchers are required to report to WSU authorities certain disclosures about Sexual Violence against WSU students that research participants may make in the course of interviews. Information about researcher mandatory reporting obligations is available at https://www.wichita.edu/about/policy/ch_08/ch8_16.php. There is a very limited exception available to facilitate research in the area of Sexual Violence. Sexual Violence includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, unwanted sexual contact, sexual misconduct, domestic violence, relationship abuse, stalking (including cyber-stalking) and dating violence. Researchers who are conducting such research should consider whether to request from the WSU IRB approval for an exception to the normal requirement that a researcher report to the WSU Title IX Coordinator any disclosure about student-on-student Sexual Violence perpetrated against a WSU student.

Important:

1. Researchers should note that the Title IX reporting exception for research applies only to disclosures of student-on-student Sexual Violence incidents made during the research project for which it was approved and will not relieve researchers from other mandatory reporting responsibilities [link to handout] (e.g., for reporting of employee-on-student Sexual Violence, child abuse, abuse of an incapacitated adult, or hazing).

2. A Title IX reporting exception for research does not apply to minors (students under age 18).

3. A Title IX reporting exception extends to all researchers on the project for which an approval was granted, including staff and students named in the IRB application who are working on the project.

4. A Title IX reporting exception applies only to disclosures made during the research project for which it was approved. Disclosures made to researchers outside of the research protocols (e.g., to faculty during office hours or while providing academic advising) are NOT excepted from reporting requirements.

5. In order to apply to the WSU IRB for approval of a Title IX reporting exception, the applicant must be either a WSU faculty or staff member.

6. The WSU IRB will review all applications that include a request for approval of a Title IX reporting exception at the Full Board level (i.e., at a convened meeting of the IRB).

7. Upon receipt of an application that includes a request for approval of a Title IX reporting exception, IRB staff will forward a copy of the application materials to the WSU Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) for review. Their review will take place concurrent with the WSU IRB’s review of the application. The WSU IRB will not issue a final decision about the request for the use of human subjects in research, including the request of a Title IX reporting exception, until it has received the results of OIEC review.
8. If as part of an application for the use of human subjects in research the WSU IRB approves an exception for Title IX reporting, the researcher must provide all study participants with the information at https://www.wichita.edu/administration/oiec/

In order for the WSU IRB to consider a request for approval of a Title IX reporting exception, a WSU researcher must provide as part of the application materials a narrative addressing the following, and which is signed by the applicant.

Applicant’s Name

Research Project Title

a. Describe how the proposed research project involves Sexual Violence trauma.
b. Explain the basis for belief that data collection methods used in the context of the proposed research project may elicit a personal account of a sexual assault involving a WSU student.

c. Justify why the exception is appropriate for the research under review.
Signatures:
The undersigned accept(s) responsibility for complying with any conditions attached to an approval for a Title IX reporting exception for research.

_____________________________________________________ _____________________________
Signature of Applicant      Date