

**The UNIVERSITY of WESTERN ONTARIO
SENATE**

**University Council on Research Ethics Involving Human Participants
(UCRE)**

Terms of Reference:

To advise the University Research Board on matters of policy pertaining to the ethics review of research involving human participants conducted by faculty, staff, students and post-doctoral fellows of The University of Western Ontario and research performed at The University of Western Ontario by investigators from other institutions.

The University Council on Research Ethics Involving Human Participants will:

Provide advice to the Office of Research Ethics and the Research Ethics Boards regarding the ethics review of research involving human participants to ensure that all research involving human participants is conducted in such a way as to protect the research participants and meet the requirements of the University, the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans, and all other relevant policies and regulations.

Provide advice to the University Research Board regarding the development of policies, procedures and guidelines to enable researchers to move forward in their research endeavors while protecting the rights and safety of human research participants.

Provide advice to the university community, its affiliated hospitals, university colleges and research institutes on how to better foster a culture of ethics as it relates to research involving human participants.

Hear procedural or jurisdictional appeals of decisions of the main Research Ethics Boards (REBs) in accordance with established appeal mechanisms.

Report on its activities to the University Research Board (URB), at least annually.

Composition:

Four faculty members, ideally at least one of whom has expertise in ethics as demonstrated through research, teaching and/or education, appointed by the URB:

three of whom conduct research involving human participants,
one of whom does not conduct research involving human participants, and

One faculty member from an Affiliated University College, appointed in consultation with the Principal concerned on a rotational basis (two-year terms).

Three members appointed by the Vice-President (Research & International Relations), to include:

one individual from outside the University Community,
one graduate student,
one post-doctoral fellow.

Ex officio:

Vice-President (Research & International Relations)
Deans of all Faculties
Scientific Director, Lawson Health Research Institute
Scientific Director, Robarts Research Institute
Chair, Health Sciences Research Ethics Board
Chair, Non-medical Research Ethics Board
Manager, Research Ethics (non-voting)

With the exception of the Manager, Research Ethics and the Chairs of the Research Ethics Boards, no member of UCRE may at the same time be a member of a Western REB or Sub-REB.

UCRE shall select a Chair from among its voting members for a two-year term, once renewable.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Membership Cycle: July 1 - June 30

Officers: Chair elected at the first meeting of Council after July 1 (term is two years)

Meetings: As required, but at least twice annually. An annual report is made to URB each Spring.

Secretarial Support: UCRE receives its administrative support from the Office of Research Ethics.

Revised: 2009 01

[Current Members](#)