IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SARI TRAINING

The SARI program was designed to include interactive discipline-specific training in the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR), offered within PSU graduate programs and colleges. Programs and colleges each have a unique SARI Program Plan that describes how students will meet RCR training requirements. In ALL program plans, the majority of training occurs within the graduate program, department, or college; that is, no student may fulfill their SARI requirements entirely through externally-offered classes, events, or workshops. College officials and graduate program administrators may review their SARI Program Plan on the SARI ANGEL website (www.angel.psu.edu).

As the SARI program enters its second year, we are encountering students who believe they must obtain their five hours of discussion-based training entirely through ORP programs. This circumvents the important goal of providing students with an opportunity to engage in discussion about topics specific to their disciplines, since ORP workshops focus on topics of general interest to the University community.

Please review your program’s SARI plan to be sure that students are being directed to the educational opportunities described in the plan. SARI Program Plans describe the minimum training that students will receive; if students in your program are finding it difficult to meet their requirements, please consider offering additional training options. Such events might include:

- A faculty-led seminar or workshop. Many resources (articles, activities, PowerPoint presentations, videos) are available at http://www.research.psu.edu/training/sari
- Group viewing and moderated discussion of a recorded workshop, such as those found in the ORP workshops archive (http://www.research.psu.edu/training/research-protections-workshops/orp-video-archive). Note that viewing the video alone will NOT meet the requirements for a SARI training activity.
- A custom workshop for your program taught by ORP staff (subject to availability). This opportunity was announced in the most recent SARI newsletter (http://www.research.psu.edu/training/sari/about-sari)

SARI Program Plans may be modified at any time to reflect changing needs and resources; just contact SARI staff to have your changes reviewed and approved.

Some workshops offered by ORP can earn SARI participation credit, although this is restricted to graduate programs with this option in their approved SARI plan. ORP workshops are open to the University community and are designed to facilitate interactive discussion among participants, so seating may be limited at these events. Students hoping to earn SARI participation credit through ORP workshops should plan accordingly and arrive early. ORP workshops that may meet SARI requirements include:

- Brownbag Series workshops (open, limited seating)
- IRB101 Series workshops (pre-registration required)
- Survival Skills and Ethics Series workshops (pre-registration required). Additional workshops in this series have been recently added.

Details about all these workshops (and others), including links for pre-registration, are available on our website (http://www.research.psu.edu/training/research-protections-workshops/schedule).

As always, we are happy to answer questions and assist with SARI program planning. Contact Sharon (sps10), Brad (brw150), or Jessica (jrs5162) to let us know how we can help. Thank you for your support of this important initiative!