September 2nd, 2019

To: All AUB Graduate Students Planning to Conduct Research Projects Involving Human Subjects.

From: The AUB Institutional Review Board (IRB)

Dear AUB Students,

The IRB at AUB is pleased to announce that a student support service is available. The service includes the following:

- Help students determine the right application for their study when needed,
- Provide initial IRB feedback on completeness of submitted application and documents within 24 hours,
- Guide students on regulatory requirements for consent documentation, recruitment advertisements, and recruitment scripts,
- Channel less than minimal risk studies (exempt/limited review) through a fast review process,

The IRB highly recommends that students select projects and thesis topics early on in the semester and work closely with their supervising faculty members to prepare IRB applications. This will help avoid delays in securing the needed IRB approval.

The IRB would also like to emphasize that securing a timely approval for student research projects is a joint responsibility between the faculty member, student, and IRB staff. Incomplete application or documentation delays the process.

The IRB highly encourages students to attend the IRB workshop “How to Apply for IRB Approval” offered in collaboration with GRADEX. The Graduate Council will inform students of the dates and times of the workshops.

Students who would like additional help with preparing their applications should contact Ms. Nour Bekhaazi nb85@aub.edu.lb in the IRB office for an appointment. The IRB offices are located on the 3rd floor of the Halim and Aida Daniel Academic and Clinical Center on Maamari Street.

Thank you.

Ali K. Abu-Alfa, MD, FASN, FAHA
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Director, Human Research Protection Program