



MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Alice P. Gast, *Vice President for Research
and Associate Provost*
Robert T. Haslam *Professor of Chemical Engineering*

77 Massachusetts Avenue, Building 3-240
Cambridge, MA 02139-4307
Phone: 617-253-1403; Fax: 617-253-8388
Email: gast@mit.edu

To: Department Heads, Deans, Laboratory and Center Directors
From: Alice P. Gast and Leigh Finn
Re: Institute requirement for training of human subjects and approval of all protocols involving the use of humans as experimental subjects
Date: June 23, 2006

As you are aware, last December we sent the attached memos to all faculty, research staff, and students engaged in research activities to remind them that they have an obligation to obtain approval from the Committee on the Use of Humans as Experimental Subjects (COUHES) before conducting any human subjects research and to have such approval renewed annually.

We would like to remind you that you, or a designee in your department, laboratory, center, or school must sign off on all COUHES applications. We believe that it is important for the Institute leadership to maintain this awareness of the human subjects research going on in their department, laboratory or school. We are now requiring that the department head, dean, or designee undertake and successfully complete the training for human subjects research in order to sign off on the COUHES applications. We hope that you will make every effort to seek the training in the near future; it will be required that the signatory be trained starting September 1, 2006.

We believe that it is important that the training for all persons using humans as subjects be as relevant as possible to their research activities. In order to facilitate this, we have contracted for a second human subjects course in social and behavioral research to complement the current course in biomedical research. Beginning August 1, 2006 individuals who undertake the COUHES training will be asked to successfully complete the course that is most pertinent to their activities. We encourage individuals who wish to take both the biomedical and social/behavioral research courses to do so.

MIT will also now require that all personnel involved in studies utilizing humans as subjects of research undergo recertification in human subjects research training every three years from the date of last approval.

We seek your support in ensuring that all your faculty, staff, and students adhere to these important policy requirements.



MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Alice P. Gast, *Vice President for Research
and Associate Provost*
Robert T. Haslam *Professor of Chemical Engineering*

77 Massachusetts Avenue, Building 3-240
Cambridge, MA 02139-4307
Phone: 617-253-1403; Fax: 617-253-8388
Email: gast@mit.edu

To: Faculty, research staff, graduate students and postdoctoral scholars engaged in research

From: Professor Alice P. Gast and Dr. Leigh Finn

Date: June 23, 2006

In December, 2005 we wrote to remind you of the importance of MIT's review of all research involving human subjects. MIT requires that the Committee on the Use of Humans as Experimental Subjects (COUHES) review and approve ALL research involving human subjects that is performed under the auspices of MIT.

The types of research that must be reviewed by COUHES include investigation of new drugs and medical, radiological, engineering, psychological, behavioral, sociological, and nutrition studies. This includes projects involving human tissues, blood, or images, and questionnaires, interviews, and other procedures.

COUHES approval must be obtained BEFORE any human studies are begun. Ethical and legal guidelines for conducting studies involving human subjects are explained in a training course. We believe that it is important that the training for all persons using humans as subjects be as relevant as possible to their research activities. In order to facilitate this, we have contracted for a second human subjects course in social and behavioral research to complement the current course in biomedical research. Beginning August 1, 2006 individuals who undertake the COUHES training will be asked to successfully complete the course that is more pertinent to their activities. We encourage individuals who wish to take both the biomedical and social/behavioral research courses to do so.

All personnel, including students, principal investigators, associate investigators, study coordinators, visiting scientists, consultants, laboratory technicians and research assistants who participate in any way in studies involving human subjects must take and pass the relevant course. Any individuals added to a project must pass the training course before participating in the study in any way.

If you have any questions, please contact Judy Medeiros-Adams, mede@med.mit.edu, (617) 253-6787.