

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** February 6, 2023

**TO:** Sara Hooshangi, Khushi Parajuli

**FROM:** Virginia Tech Institutional Review Board (FWA00000572)

**PROTOCOL TITLE:** Understanding the Barriers that Contribute to the Gender Gap in Computing in Higher Education

**IRB NUMBER:** 22-583

Based on the submitted project description and items listed in the Special Instructions section found on Page 2, the Virginia Tech Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) has determined that the proposed activity is not research involving human subjects as defined by HHS and FDA regulations.

Further review and approval by the Virginia Tech Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) is not required because this is not human research. This determination applies only to the activities described in the submitted project description and does not apply should any changes be made. If changes are made you must immediately submit an Amendment to the HRPP for a new determination. Your amendment must include a description of the changes and you must upload all revised documents. At that time, the HRPP will review the submission activities to confirm the original "Not Research" decision or to advise if a new application must be made.

If there are additional undisclosed components that you feel merit a change in this initial determination, please contact our office for a consultation.

Please be aware that receiving a "Not Research" Determination is not the same as IRB review and approval of the activity. You are NOT to use IRB consent forms or templates for these activities. If you have any questions, please contact the Virginia Tech HRPP office at 540-231-3732 or irb@vt.edu.

**PROTOCOL INFORMATION:**

Determined As: **Not Research**  
Protocol Determination Date: **February 6, 2023**

**ASSOCIATED FUNDING:**

The table on the following page indicates whether grant proposals are related to this protocol, and which of the listed proposals, if any, have been compared to this protocol, if required.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

Based on the information provided, it was determined that the intent behind the activities is quality improvement and quality insurance (e.g. improving retention of a program).

While the activities are a systematic investigation, the described activities do not meet the federal definition of generalizable at this time, and thus regulation 45 CFR 46 does not apply.

If intent changes in the future, please submit an amendment through protocol management and seek a new determination. This determination only covers what is described in the form.

| Date*      | OSP Number | Sponsor  | Grant Comparison Conducted? |
|------------|------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 06/23/2022 | P64EBNEQ   | National Science Foundation (Title: BCSER: Understanding the Barriers that Contribute to the Gender Gap in Computing in Higher Education.) | Not required                |
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\* Date this proposal number was compared, assessed as not requiring comparison, or comparison information was revised.

If this protocol is to cover any other grant proposals, please contact the HRPP office ([irb@vt.edu](mailto:irb@vt.edu)) immediately.