I. INTRODUCTION

This policy describes the process of IRB review when the proposed research will involve more than one institution.

II. POLICY

1. Cooperative research projects are those projects which involve more than one institution. In the conduct of cooperative research projects, each institution is responsible for safeguarding the rights and welfare of human subjects and for complying with federal regulations. An institution participating in a cooperative project may enter into a joint review arrangement, rely upon the review of any other qualified IRB, or make similar arrangements for avoiding duplication of effort.

2. FSU may accept, for the purpose of meeting the IRB review requirements, the review of an IRB established under another DHHS Multiple Project Assurance (MPA). Such acceptance must be in writing, approved and signed by an official of FSU’s Office of Research, and approved and signed by correlative official of each of the other cooperating institutions.

Cooperative projects which are part of inter-institutional cooperative studies will be processed by the FSU IRB under the same guidelines as any other project. The approval by any extra-institutional cooperative IRB or Committee does not imply approval by the FSU IRB.

III. LEGAL SUPPORT, JUSTIFICATION, AND REVIEW OF THIS POLICY

BOG 1.001(3)(m), 45 CFR 46.117