Chair of Institutional Review Board (IRB) for Health Sciences

USC seeks a chair for the Health Sciences IRB, beginning January 1, 2019. The IRB chair reports to the Vice President of Research. In this compensated service role (payment as percent effort or as administrative stipend), the chair will enable clinical research at USC by ensuring that our research protects human subjects while supporting the quick and efficient initiation of research through informed and consistent review. The chair must be committed to making clinical research a strategic asset of the university, particularly toward increasing access to trials among patients from diverse backgrounds, and increasing our scientific understanding of how innovations in the health sciences can benefit society-at-large, as reflected in USC’s plan for Diversity and Inclusion in Research and Scholarship.

The chair should be an experienced IRB member and/or experienced in human subject protection, either at USC or elsewhere, who understands applicable regulations governing human subject research for clinical trials. The chair should exhibit strong skills and experience in leading committees, including facilitating discussions and efficiently guiding conversations toward resolution. The chair should be prepared to effectively and constructively explain IRB decisions to investigators when needed, while assuring that IRB decisions are upheld. The chair should also be flexible to adapt USC’s IRBs to new regulatory environments and sponsor expectations, through reliance agreements, single IRB, and flexibility initiatives to reduce review burdens, as well as support research collaborations across institutions, particularly with LA County Department of Health Services and Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles. The chair should also appreciate the need to balance risk and benefits through elimination of review steps that are burdensome to investigators, staff or IRB members, and which do not add benefit to human subjects. The chair must also be motivated to work collaboratively with the IRB staff, who report to the Senior Director of the IRB, and to work collaboratively with other entities involved in clinical research at USC.

Applications and nominations are welcome, which may be submitted to Kristin Craun, Senior Director of the USC IRBs by email (kristija@usc.edu) by August 21, 2018. Applications should provide a statement of interest and qualifications for the position, along with a CV. Nominations and applications will be reviewed by a search committee, including faculty from the Keck School of Medicine, Ostrow School of Dentistry and School of Pharmacy.

You may also contact Kristin Craun for a list of job responsibilities or for more information on the position.