Did you know...
the difference between an Institutional Review Board (IRB) & a Tribal IRB?

An IRB is responsible for the ethical review and oversight of research for the protection of human subjects, otherwise known as research participants.

A Tribal IRB often assumes responsibility for the ethical review and oversight of all research occurring on tribal land; which includes the protection of human subjects, the Tribe, tribal communities, and tribal resources (including environmental, animal, plant and cultural resources).

Research Updates
From Heather Larsen, Research Specialist

SWO Research Office represented during the National Congress of American Indians' (NCAI) Mid Year Conference

In June, the 13th Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum (TL/SF) was held for one day during NCAI’s Mid Year Conference in Kansas City, MO. The TL/SF was created to provide an opportunity for researchers to present their findings for discussion with tribal leaders and other attendees. The SWO Research Specialist was privileged to attend the Tribal Leaders/Scholar Forum to share some of our experiences by participating on the Tribal Research Oversight panel. The presentation was co-presented with two staff members from the Collaborative Research Center for American Indian Health (CRCAIH), which is the grant that partially funds the SWO Research Office. The presentation focused on the importance of community education efforts in tribal communities that are building their research infrastructure. There was specific examples given of the SWO Research Office and the collaborative efforts developed with the CRCAIH during the presentation titled, “Paving a Path: Building Tribal Research Infrastructure through Community Engagement.”

Pictured left to right: Dr. Yvette Roubideaux (NCAI Policy Research Center), Melissa Buffalo (CRCAIH Community Engagement), Heather Larsen (SWO Research Office), Michaela Seiber (CRCAIH Regulatory Knowledge), and Kehli Henry (Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan)
Highlight of a Local Research Review Board (LRRB) member

In this month’s newsletter, we are highlighting another member of our Local Research Review Board. Sean Core, B.S. has close ties to the tribal community and has been in the Lake Traverse Reservation area since 2015. He is a current employee of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate as the Wildlife Biologist in the Natural Resources Department. He is also an adjunct instructor for the Sisseton Wahpeton College in the field of biology. In addition to his work in the fields of biology and education, Sean has over a decade of experience in the field of healthcare, beginning his career as a field medic in the United States Air Force. Sean obtained his A.S in Allied Health Science through the Community College of the Air Force before obtaining his B.S. in Biology minoring in both Chemistry and Business Administration from Colorado State University-Pueblo. He is currently completing his M.S. in Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology through Colorado State University. Sean’s research experience includes the synthesis of ligand compounds for use as artificial enzymes. Sean has been involved with the Local Research Review Board since 2016. He began his involvement with the LRRB because of his interest in healthcare related research, and wanting to make a positive impact on his community. We appreciate Sean’s contributions to the board through utilizing his areas of emphasis along with his passion for the protection of research participants!

Coming up:
Next month's issue will highlight another LRRB member so you can continue to learn about our board and their background.

Mission
The current mission of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Research Office is to enhance the tribal research infrastructure by continuing to build the research review capacity, education through community engagement, and exercising tribal sovereignty through research data management. The main objective of the Tribal Research Office is to improve the overall status of all Tribal members through relevant, tailored, and culturally sensitive research as outlined in the SWO Code Chapter 77 - “SWO Research Code.”