



UNIVERSITY OF <sup>TM</sup>  
KWAZULU-NATAL  
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# Introduction to Research Ethics Leadership

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EDGEWOOD CAMPUS



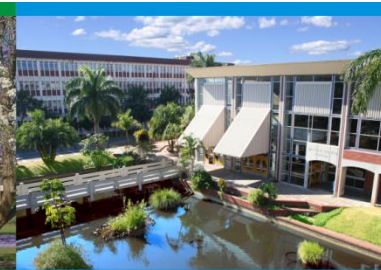
HOWARD COLLEGE CAMPUS



NELSON R MANDELA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



PIETERMARITZBURG CAMPUS



WESTVILLE CAMPUS

UKZN INSPIRING GREATNESS

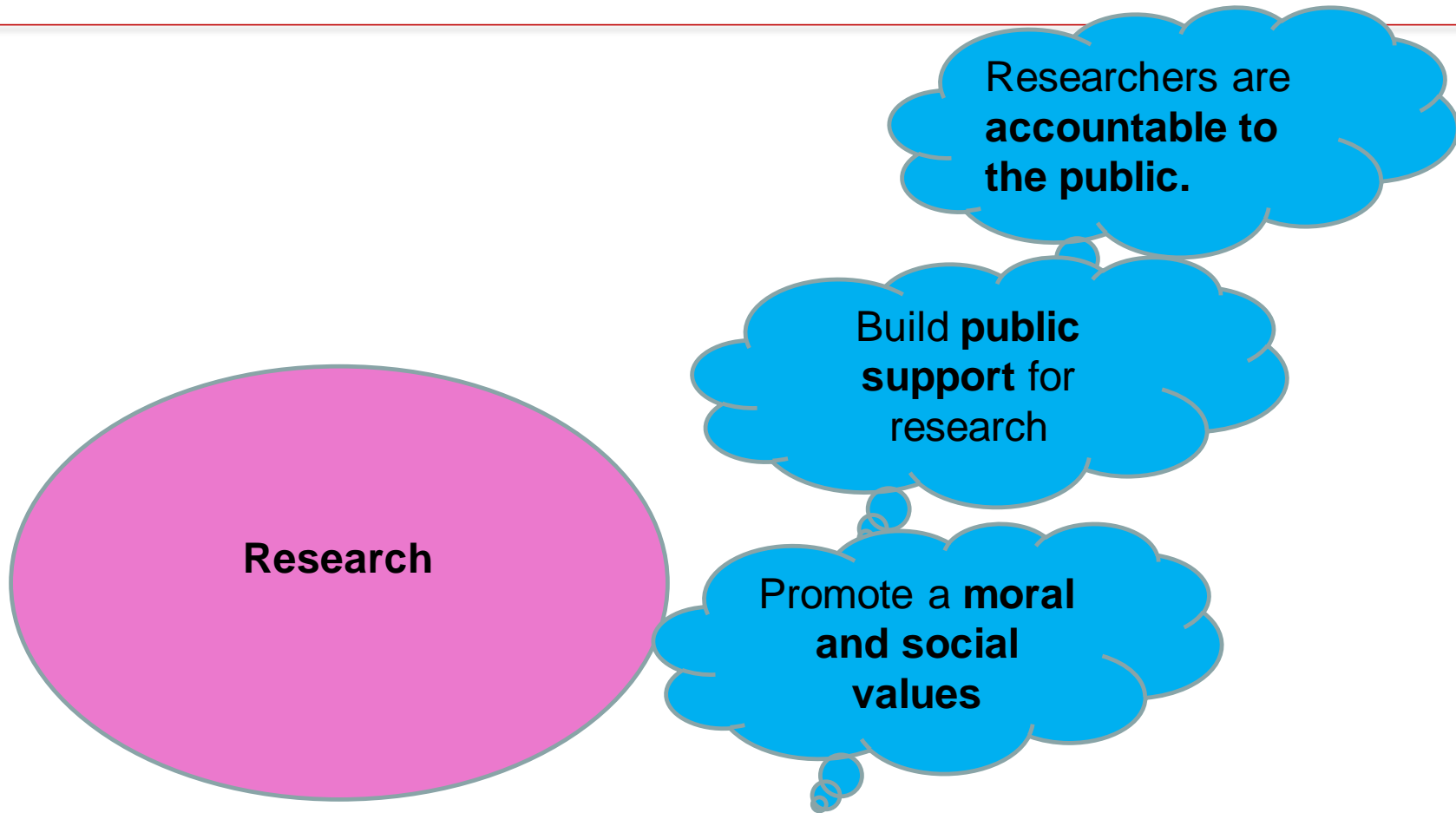
# Complexities in research ethics

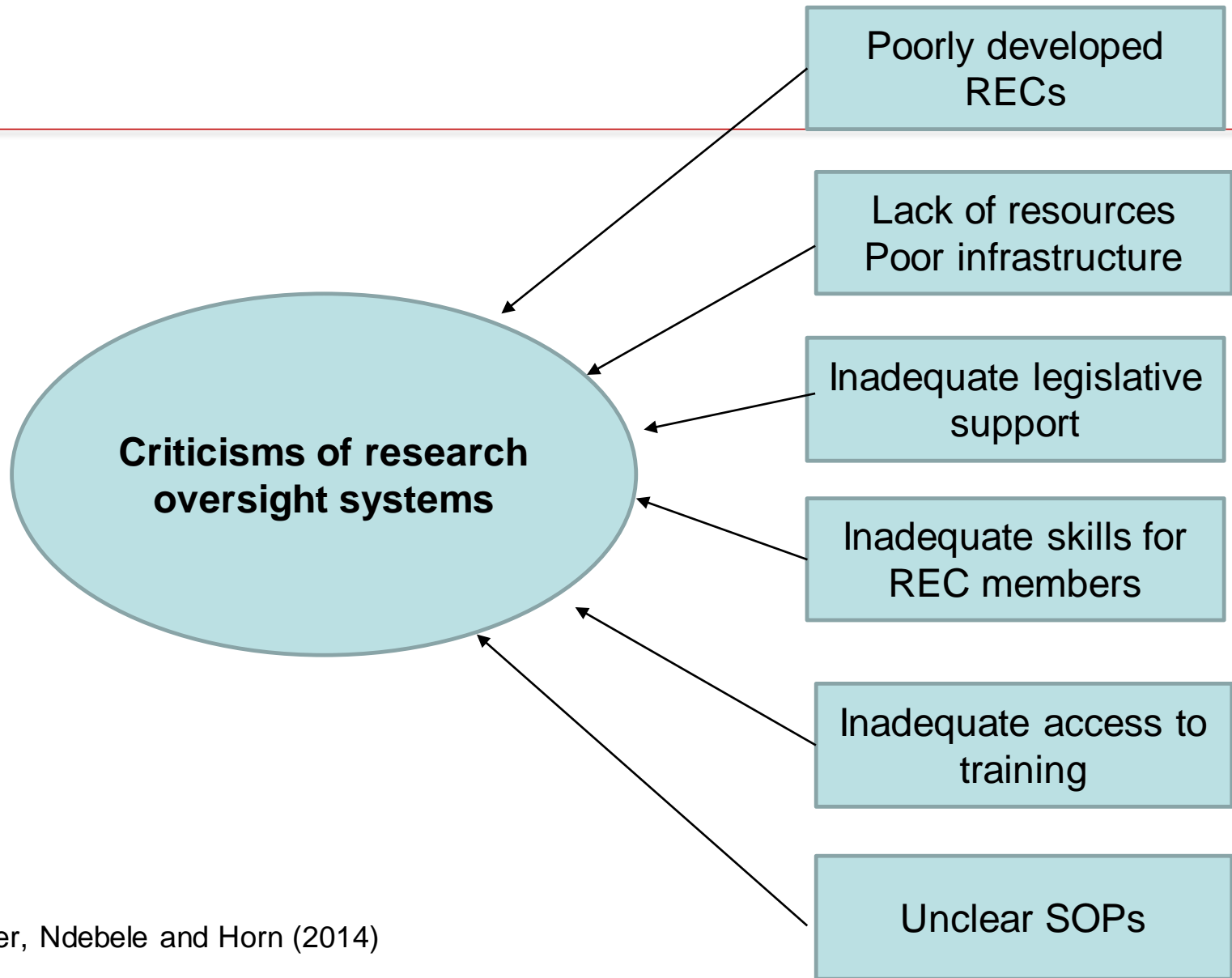
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# Research ethics

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- Kruger, Ndebele and Horn (2014)

# Purpose of the presentation

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- Defining leadership:
- Contextualising REC within an institution
- REC operationalization
- Support for REC functioning
- Note: layers of leadership

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- Ethics leadership – authenticity and validity - lived experience,
  - Interpretation or adaptation to local circumstances.
  - Need for ongoing skills development.
  - Building public trust.
  
  - Gabriele EF. (2011)

# Approach to leadership

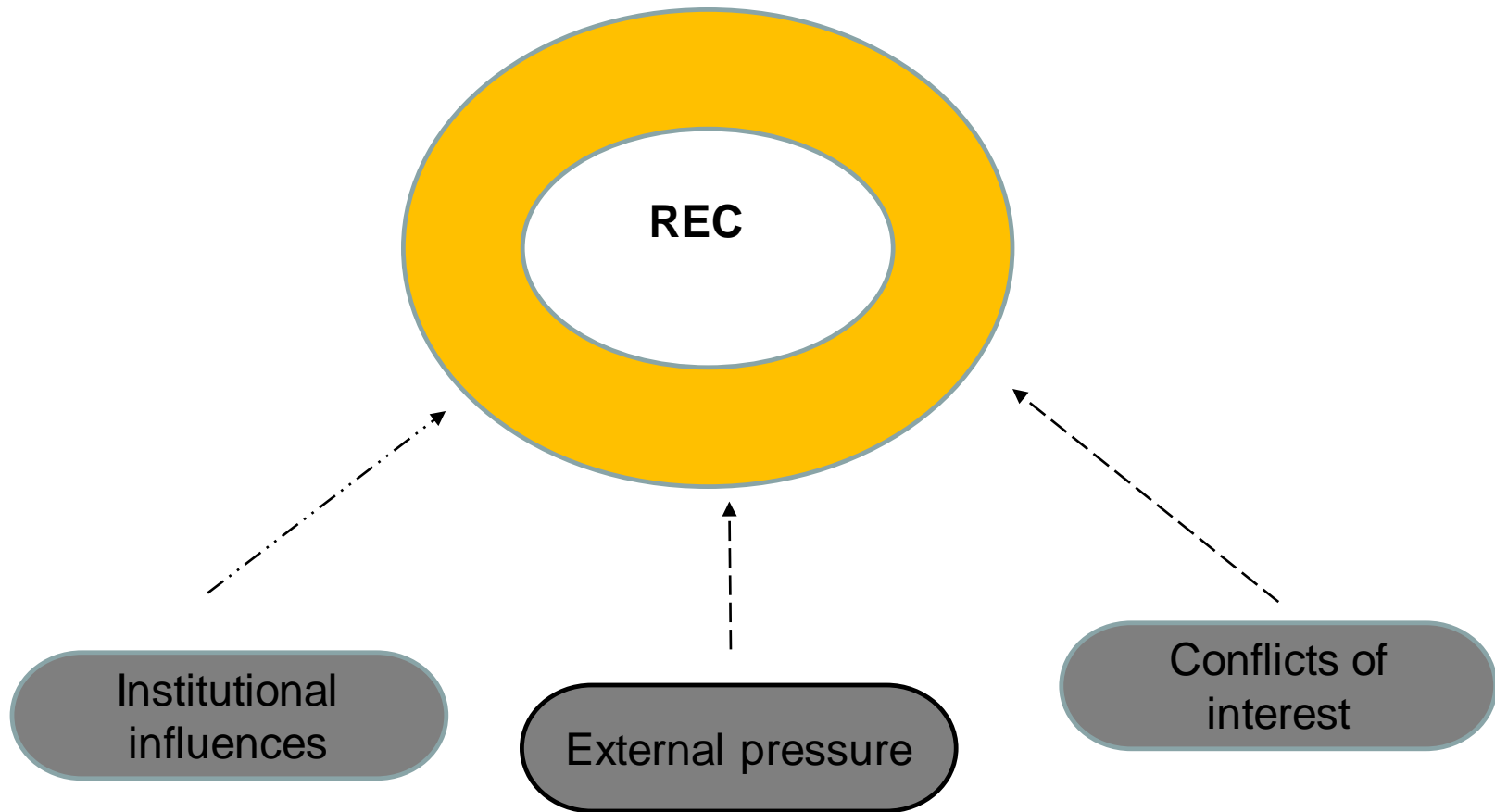


Gabriele EF. (2011)

# The role of the REC within an institution

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- REC independence?



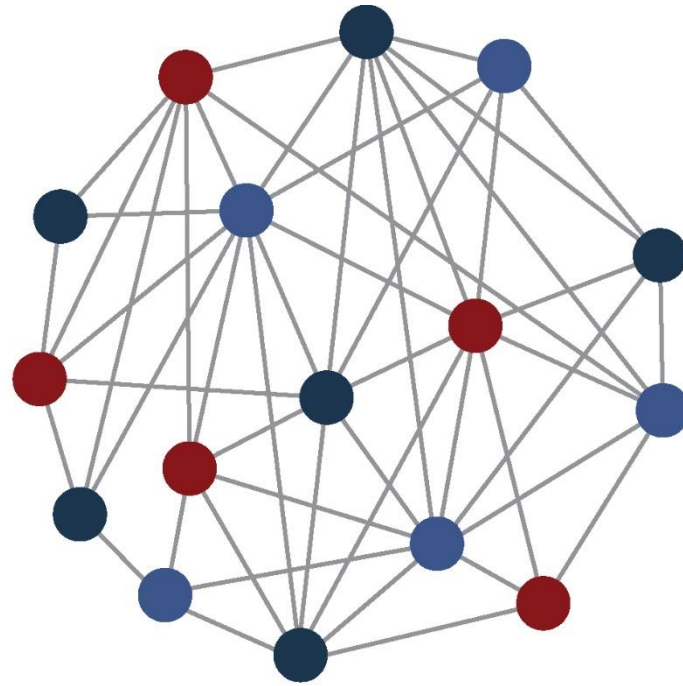


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- Negotiate the role of REC:
  - Bench-marking
  - Registration of the REC
  - Appointment of Chair and REC members
  - Accountability
  - Clear ToRs

# Support for the REC

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- Guidance and support
- Transparency and consistency
- Dedicated resources
- Operationalization
- Need for collaboration



# THE NETWORK REVOLUTION

<https://www.google.co.za/search?hl=en&biw=1486&bih=743&tbm=isch&sa=1&ei=dqIqWobbAouegAbOrbalDw&q=co-creating+knowledge+with+my+peers&>

# REC operationalization

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- Approval of applications for ethics clearance (research protocols).
- Issuing of ethics clearance letters.
- Oversight of the study.
- Suspension or termination of a study.
- Re-certification of ongoing studies.
- Approval of study amendments.

# Criticisms of RECs

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Narrow  
interpretation  
of research  
ethics

Outdated  
approach

Overly  
paternalistic

Obstructionist

# Capacity building

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- Continuing education and exposure to research ethics training
- SOPs with clear ToRs
- Provide support for research ethics training for researchers and students
- Building community trust

# The value of SOPs for REC functioning

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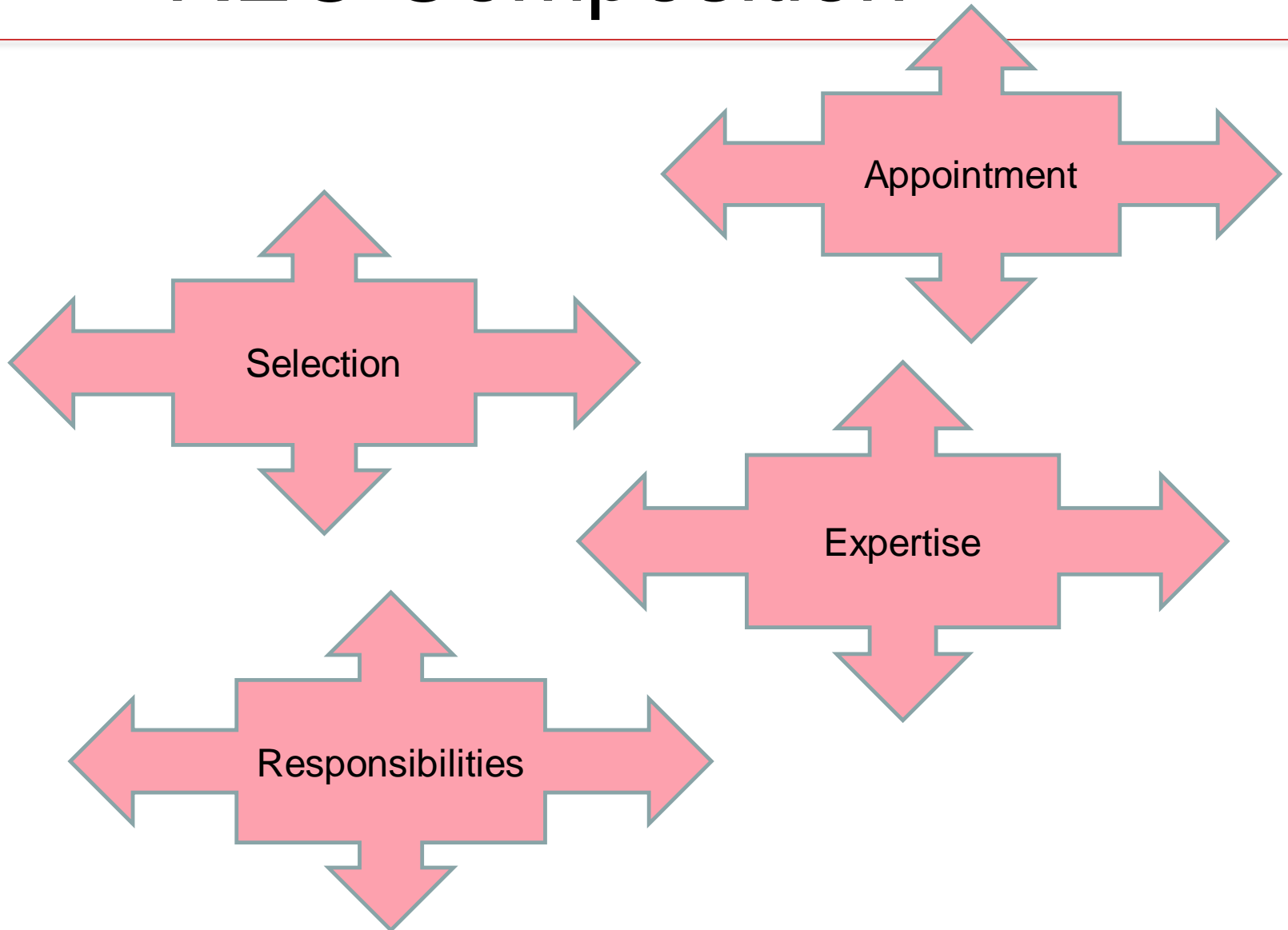
Role clarification

Harmonizes the review process

Use a reference source

Could improve public trust

# REC Composition





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- **Administrative aspects**
  - Daily functioning of the REC.
  - Process to receive applications for review
  - Processing of applications
  - Ensuring a reliable 'paper trial'
  - Information for meetings held: agenda, attendance, conflicts of interest, REC deliberations, decisions made.

# What Makes Good Research?

Good  
Science

- Problem selection
- SMART objectives
- Proper methodology
- Proper analysis

Good  
Ethics

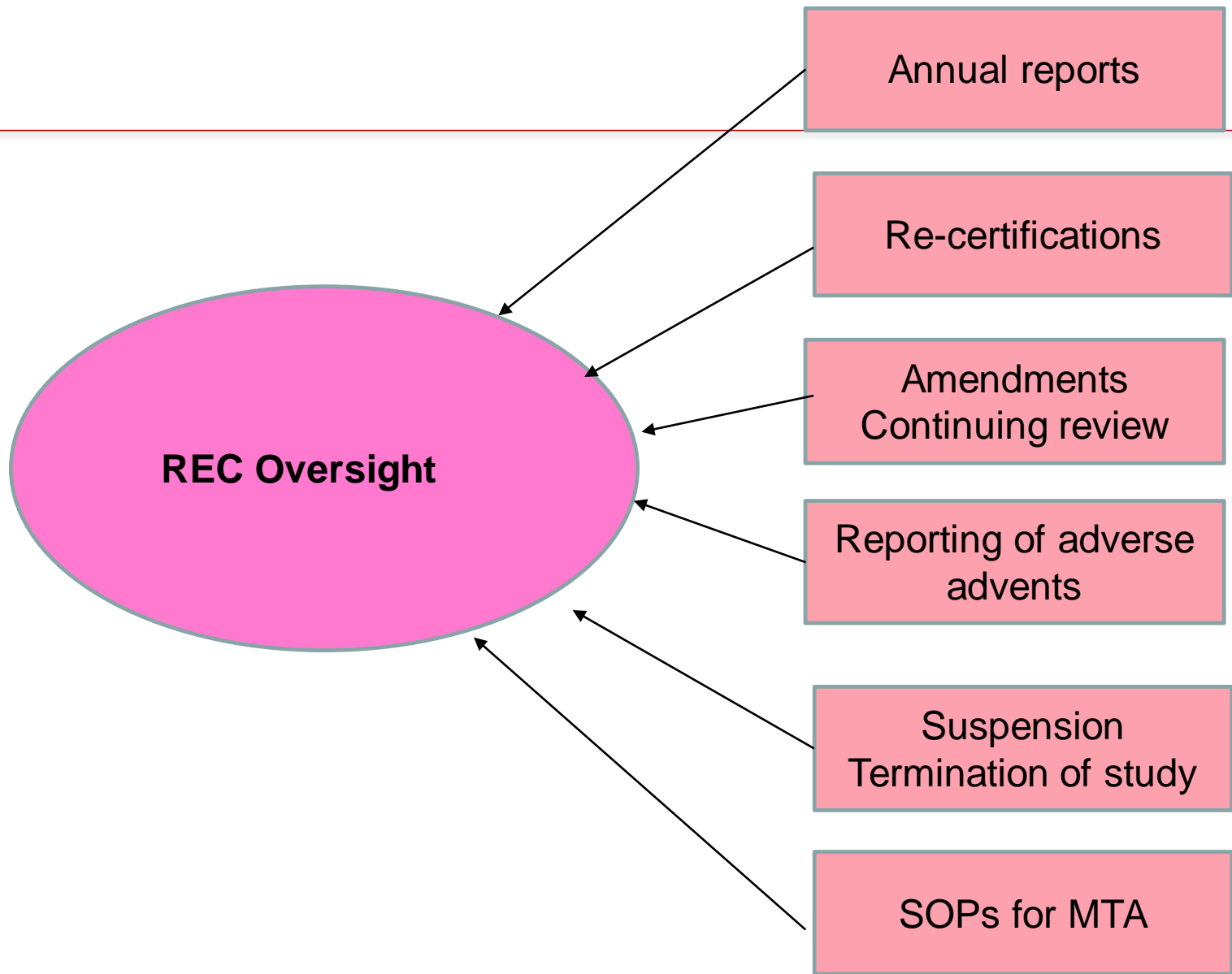
- Fair subject selection
- Favorable Risk-Benefit Ratio
- Independent Review
- Informed Consent

Source: <https://www.slideshare.net/ghaiath/lecture-18-research-ethics-1>

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## **Review Processes**

- Expedited
- Full Committee
- Risk-benefit assessment
- Communication
- Reports
- Feedback processes



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- Accreditation process
  - Complaints process
  - National oversight - NHREC



# References

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