Request for Proposals
Opportunity in Support of
International Department to Department Partnerships

UW-Eau Claire’s Council on Internationalization and Global Engagement (CIGE) has been exploring the contributions that Department to Department Partnerships can make toward the university’s internationalization aspirations. Generally conceived, a Department to Department Partnership refers to the formal or informal relationships that a UWEC department can develop with a sister department at an institution outside of the United States. Specifically, the Council feels that closer, organic department-level relationships can have valuable benefits to students, faculty and programs in our and our sister departments.

As envisioned, such partnerships can involve a wide array of mutual benefits, including student and faculty exchanges, shared research, collaborative teaching and learning, and mutual understanding. By having a close relationship with another department, internationalization and global engagement can become part of departmental programming. This can increase the number of students globally engaged and studying abroad and become part of a department’s distinction; it can expose students to ideas and possibilities they may not otherwise have considered and provide students an opportunity to study abroad without losing time toward graduation. For example,

- **UW-Eau Claire’s Departments of Chemistry and Material Science** have a relationship with their peers at the City University of Hong Kong. The relationship has led to a semester-long student exchange program designed for upper level students from each school to seamlessly take courses and participate in collaborative research at the other. Academic expectations have been agreed upon and course equivalencies are being developed. Program growth, including faculty exchanges, are future possibilities.

- In order to create cooperative institutional ties, facilitate scholarly collaboration and promote mutual understanding, the **UW-Eau Claire’s School of Education** has been working with the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú to establish a framework for educational and scientific cooperation. The intent is for this to serve as an umbrella agreement under which multiple departments and programs can establish relationships to enable exchanges, collaborations and the pursuit of teaching and learning opportunities of mutual interest and in a global context. Academic expectations and course equivalencies are being negotiated.

- Having sent and received numerous students to/from the Universities of Aberdeen and Glasgow, with which UWEC has exchange agreements, **UW-Eau Claire’s Department of Geography and Anthropology** has embarked on an effort to build a relationship with the Departments of Geography at those two schools in order that we can maximally serve each other’s students.
To learn more about the potential of such partnerships, the Council wishes to encourage departments to identify and explore meaningful relationships with a sister department elsewhere in the world, with the goal of developing a perennial relationship designed to enhance departmental programming and distinction, and to increase the opportunities for student global engagement.

Toward these ends, and with financial support from the the UWEC Foundation, CIGE solicits proposals to support the exploration and development of Department to Department Partnerships. The Council received approximately $30,000 to support travel between representatives of sister departments who wish to develop such partnerships. Travel can be to be visit international partners or to bring them to campus. We funded 4 proposals and anticipate funding an additional 5-6 proposals for travel concluding by summer 2015.

**Application Process**

1. Cover memo from the department chair, with signature of support from the dean
2. Attached narrative, not to exceed 2-3 pages
   a. Description and purpose of expenditure
   b. Description and goal/outcomes of envisioned partnership
   c. How does envisioned partnership fit into internationalization/global engagement plans of department?
   d. Who benefits?
      i. Programs that target/benefit students who are not inclined to study abroad will be prioritized.
3. Attached budget – primarily for travel
   a. Evidence of department support
      i. Departments are expected to contribute $500 or 1/6th of total budget, whichever is lower.
   b. An example of non-travel support might be something like light refreshments if a visiting partner gives an open presentation on campus
4. 1-2 page follow-up report from the chair within a month after the trip
   a. How CIGE/Foundation support helped
      i. Results, expectations, program ideas, what next, etc.

**Priority deadline for applications:** Rolling deadline after that until funding is exhausted. For travel reports of Department to Department proposals that have been funded, please see links from the CIGE homepage.

Submit proposal as pdf to Kim Reed, CIGE Secretary at CIGE@uwec.edu.

Direct questions to Paul Kaldjian, CIGE Chair at kaldjian@uwec.edu.