Proposal for Establishing

UWEC Department of Political Science Center for Global Politics (PSCGP)

1. Purpose and Functions

Vision

The Department of Political Science wishes to contribute to the goal of making UW-Eau Claire the Upper Midwest's premier institution for global learning. We believe the establishment of a Political Science Center for Global Politics (PSCGP) will enable us to consolidate our department’s international expertise, together with our teaching, research and communications, into a collective identity that will significantly enhance our ability to make such a contribution.

We envision the PSCGP as a vehicle for attracting new students to the study of global politics, students who will hopefully major or minor in our department’s programs, but who will also through this be attracted to study in other disciplines within the field of global studies. We hope the PSCGP can also become a resource for other departments and programs on campus as they internationalize their curricula. In these ways we believe we can help UWEC’s Council on Internationalization and Global Engagement (CIGE) promote and accelerate integrative global learning across our institution’s curriculum.

The Department of Political Science also believes this proposal dovetails with CIGE’s encouragement for UWEC’s departments and programs to construct plans to internationalize their curricula. In this sense, a PSCGP represents the next significant development in our department’s plan for internationalization.

Mission and Objectives

PSCGP will foster interdisciplinary education, scholarship and community outreach in the field of global politics by:

- attracting new students to the study of global politics
- encouraging the inclusion of global politics content and courses in interdisciplinary and integrative experiences, for example, in ‘bundled’ courses
- supporting collaborative research on global political issues
- providing opportunities for scholars and practitioners of global politics to visit and interact with students and the community
- encouraging global political awareness on campus through the organization of educational events and other extracurricular activity
- develop outreach to the local community on global political issues
- acting as a repository of information for students seeking advice on graduate programs in Political Science or pursuing careers within the field
Purpose & Function As They Relate To Goals Of The Centennial Plan

As declared in UWEC’s Centennial Plan, it is the vision of our institution that we become ‘the premier undergraduate learning community in the Upper Midwest, noted for rigorous, integrated, globally infused, undergraduate liberal education.’ To achieve this, the Plan has two foundational goals; the first to transform learning and the second to transform the University. To achieve our vision for truly transformative learning, the Plan focuses on three specific goals, one of which is to accelerate global learning. The Department of Political Science’s goal in establishing the PSCGP is thus to achieve exactly what the Plan has called for; ‘to [help] bring the world to our students and our students to the world.’

Through the coordination, development and innovation of integrative and purposeful educational experiences in the field of global politics, PSCGP will help our institution achieve Goals 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of its Centennial Plan. By encouraging a more internationalized culture on campus; by helping to recruit and retain more diverse faculty and staff; and by helping development programs that support faculty and staff and foster inclusivity, equity and diversity, PSCGP will also help our institution achieve Goal 4 of its Centennial Plan.

What Will We Do For Curriculum, Research And Service/Outreach?

I. Curriculum

Goal: To create and offer a curricular portfolio that promotes global learning and encourages purposeful and integrative learning.

Specific Offerings:

1. Majors: The Department of Political Science presently offers a Comprehensive Political Science major with an emphasis in World Politics. The potential exists to convert this into a Major in Global Politics
2. Minors: The Department of Political Science presently administers an interdisciplinary Minor in Global Studies
3. Certificates: The Department of Political Science presently offers a Certificate in International Affairs
4. Bundles: We can encourage the inclusion of global politics courses into bundles and other integrative learning opportunities
5. Immersion experiences: One of our faculty has received an International Fellows Program grant for 2014/15 to take three students to Indonesia to research on Islamic political parties. We will seek similar opportunities for our faculty and students. Political Science faculty will also be encouraged and supported in organizing faculty-led immersion programs
II. Research/Scholarship

**Goal:** Create an entity that promotes, encourages and supports collaborative, mindful and globally focused research and scholarship among our students, faculty and the wider community.

*PSCGP will:*

1. Serve as a unifying ‘global politics identity’ for our Political Science faculty when pursuing external funding or publications
2. Encourage, support and organize faculty-student research activities in the field of global politics.
3. Encourage research collaborations in the field of global politics
4. Serve as the forum for inviting relevant speakers, creating lecture series, hosting seminars, workshops or conferences in the field of global politics

III. Service/Outreach

**Goal:** Serve as the portal and source for creating and informing a community of globally aware, globally engaged citizens.

*PSGCP will:*

1. Work with UW-Eau Claire’s News Bureau to provide expertise on global politics
2. Publicize and showcase curriculum and research conducted within PSCGP’s portfolio (e.g. on a PSCGP webpage)
3. Create a website that serves as a central source and portal for information on campus and for community events related to the PSCGP mission
4. Collaborate with student organizations operating within PSCGP’s mission
5. Cooperate and collaborate with other campuses and institutes within the UW-system and with external organizations working in the field of global studies, eg. The Wisconsin Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies

2. **Organization Structure and Bylaws or Operating Procedures**

The membership will include faculty and staff from the Department of Political Science, as well as interested faculty and staff from across campus. Bylaws and operating procedures will be developed over time.

3. **Evaluation**

PSCGP will maintain a current webpage and links for communicating all PSCGP events, accomplishments and programs. For evaluation, PSCGP will provide a biennial report and then an institutional review every six years to the Provost and Vice Chancellor that would follow standard protocol for reviews.
4. **Support**

We have no working budget at this time but we anticipate that our future budget will involve federal grants, private funding and other sources. Proposed internal sources include, but are not limited to: differential tuition funding, ORSP student-faculty collaborative grants, the UW Foundation and an Alumni fund.

5. **Staffing**

The initial operating structure of PSCGP will be organized on a voluntary basis and will include a steering committee composed of a director, faculty from the Department of Political Science and several interested faculty and staff from across campus. It will also have an external advisory board. All faculty and staff positions will be reviewed within their respective departments according to the Departmental Personnel Evaluation Plans. Professional activities of an individual will be recognized depending on the emphasis, i.e., administrative service, research, and equitable to that occurring within their department/unit.

6. **Space**

PSCGP will be provided with an office within the Department of Political Science