

**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. *Department to Department relationships are specifically endorsed and encouraged in the 2016 [Academic Master Plan](#) as [Priorities and Actions](#) for promoting [globally-infused curricular and co-curricular experiences](#).*

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; it can provide students an opportunity to study abroad without losing time toward graduation, and; it can be developed in the context of a department's unique and discipline-specific considerations. For example,

- In order to create cooperative institutional ties, facilitate scholarly collaboration and promote mutual understanding, the ***UW-Eau Claire's School of Education*** established a framework for educational and scientific cooperation with the **Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP)**. This effort has grown into an umbrella agreement that invites broad participation from across the university. Since 2014, the ***Departments of Geography and Anthropology, Music and Theatre Arts, and Latin American Studies*** have joined ***Education Studies*** to become active participants in this effort through a wide array of student and faculty exchanges and collaborations.
- Having sent and received numerous students to and from the **University of Aberdeen**, Scotland (with whom UWEC has university-level agreement), ***UW-Eau Claire's Department of Geography and Anthropology*** has built and formalized a relationship with Aberdeen's Department of Geography to maximally serve each other's students. In addition to intentionally promoting semester-long studies abroad in each other's programs, faculty have visited each other's departments and are developing collaborative student field experiences and procedures for annual faculty exchanges.
- ***UW-Eau Claire's Department of Music and Theatre Arts*** have a relationship with their peers at the **Stellenbosch University Department of Music and Conservatoire**. The relationship began with an initial visit to South Africa by UWEC music faculty to develop a programmatic partnership and a student percussion ensemble to participate in an international chamber music festival. Since then, UW-Eau Claire and Stellenbosch have exchanged faculty for recitals and master classes and are exploring future exchange opportunities.

With the goal of developing a perennial and sustained relationship designed to enhance departmental programming and distinction, and to increase opportunities for student global engagement, the Council encourages departments to identify and explore meaningful relationships with a sister department elsewhere in the world.

Toward these ends, and with financial support from the UWEC Foundation, CIGE solicits proposals to support the exploration and development of Department to Department Partnerships. The Council aims to support travel between representatives of sister departments who wish to develop such partnerships. Travel can be to visit international partners or to bring them to campus.

Direct questions to Colleen Duffy, CIGE Chair at [duffy@uwec.edu](mailto:duffy@uwec.edu) or Paul Kaldjian, [kaldjian@uwec.edu](mailto:kaldjian@uwec.edu). Interested departments are strongly encouraged to contact Colleen Marchwick, Director, Center for International Education, [marchwcc@uwec.edu](mailto:marchwcc@uwec.edu), to learn about existing university-level agreements and relationships under which D2D collaborations can be developed.

### **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 1/6<sup>th</sup> 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

### **Follow-up expectations:**

1. 1-2 page report from the chair a month after the trip
  - a. to include results, expectations, program ideas, what next, etc.
2. 1-2 page report from the chair one year on (if initial trip was successful)
  - a. to include changes in department programming, participation, etc.