



**Department of Politics and Government
FY23 Budget Narrative**

Accomplishments for FY22

1. The Department has achieved the following:
 - a. Student success:
 - i. Enrollment: Our one-year FTIC enrollment increased by 34% from 41 (2020) to 55 (2021) and transfer enrollment increased by 55% from 20 (2020) to 31 (2021).¹ The number of students in the Honors Program increased 21% (from 33 in F2020 to 40 in F2021).²
 - ii. Two graduate students, Sohel Rana and Grace Burgner published a book chapter and a journal article, respectively. Our faculty mentored or co-authored these publications with the students.
 - b. Faculty success:
 - i. Faculty promotions: Professor Michaelene Cox and Professor Tom McClure were promoted to the rank of Professor.
 - ii. Scholarly productivity: Our faculty members published 5 books/edited volumes and 18 single- and co-authored refereed journal articles and book chapters. They also gave over 30 presentations at national and international conferences. Dr. Ali Riaz presented the Distinguished Professor Lecture: “The Rise of Autocrats—Democratic Backsliding and the Middle Class.” Several faculty members made multiple media appearances and gave public talks.
 - c. New Strategic Plan: Our faculty have approved a new *Strategic Plan (2021-2026)* that aims to position the Department to be “among the best research and teaching departments” with “an internationally recognized faculty of scholars and teachers” and “to equip students to become active and informed citizens and to engage in civic and political life.”

Major Objectives for FY22

The major objectives for FY22 and our progress towards meeting these objectives appears below. It is important to note that the pandemic continues to affect faculty travel and student activities.

Objective #1: Program Review

Strategic Plan Alignment: POL Strategic Goals I, II, & III; CAS Strategic Focuses 1, 2, 3, & 4,

¹ “Fall 2021 Academic Profiles - Undergraduate Measures: Department of Politics and Government.” p.1.

² “Fall 2021 Academic Profiles - Undergraduate Measures: Department of Politics and Government.” p.5.

and Educate, Connect, Elevate Strategic Directions I, II, III, & IV

Rationale: The Department will undergo a program review in the 2022-23 academic year and submit a self-study report by October 2022. As part of the self-study, the Department is compiling and analyzing student learning data, identifying program elements that are working well meriting continuation, and specifying aspects of programs that can be improved.

Funding and progress: The Department has budgeted \$5,000 to support program review. The College also disbursed \$1,500 to the Department for program review.

Objective #2: Student Success

Strategic Plan Alignment: POL Strategic Goals I & III; CAS Strategic Focuses 1 & 4, and Educate, Connect, Elevate Strategic Directions III.B., III.C, & IV.B

Objective #2.1: Civic Engagement and Experiential Learning

Rationale: The Department's experiential and immersive learning opportunities focusing on civic and global engagement have been very successful. It will continue to offer these opportunities because they not only foster deep and enduring learning but also contribute to ISU's strategic goals in the areas of civic engagement, experiential learning, and internationalization.

Progress: In Fall 2021, two ISU Mock Trial teams participated in one virtual and two in-person competitions with a respectable record. In Spring 2022, the teams competed in three virtual tournaments, winning team awards at two events and individual awards at the third. Due to the pandemic, the OISP cancelled the Fair Trade Study Abroad program. The Department has developed two other alternative OISP-approved study abroad programs expected to be offered in academic year 2022-23. The Model UN program is being offered in S2022, and the Department is planning the Civic Engagement Trip to Washington, D.C.

Funding: To support these co-curricular programs, the Department SBCEd \$41,525 for FY22 activities. Due to the uncertainty created by the pandemic, the Department will submit an SBC request for \$38,000 to retarget civic and community engagement programs in FY23 in the event the planned programs are affected or cancelled. Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Noha Shawki, we received a Student Sustainability Fund Grant, which will be re-issued in FY23 due to the cancellation of the study abroad program.

Objective #2.2: The Expungement Clinic

Rationale: The Department offered the Expungement Clinic as a pilot program during the FY22 fall and spring semesters. The Clinic provides hands-on legal experience to Legal Studies students who assist low-income individuals seeking to expunge and seal old criminal records. This is consistent with ISU's strategic values of promoting social justice and civic engagement.

Funding and progress: To cover expenses related to the Clinic, the Department has secured funding from the Provost's Office in the form of instructional capacity (IC) funds in the amount equal to the compensation a faculty member receives for teaching two three-credit-

hour courses (about \$12,000).

Objective #2.3: Political Science Student Conference

Rationale: The Department has sponsored the ISU Conference for Students of Political Science during the past three decades. This national conference provides graduate and undergraduate students an opportunity to present their research.

Funding and progress: Due to the pandemic, the 2021-22 conference will be held virtually and limited costs are expected. As detailed below, the remainder of the \$5,000 allocated to the conference has been re-purposed for the recapitalization of faculty computers. No additional funding from the College or the Provost’s Office is requested.

Objective #3: Recruit and Retain a Diverse Student Body

Strategic Plan Alignment: POL Strategic Goals I & II; CAS Strategic Focuses 3 & 4; and Educate, Connect, Elevate Strategic Direction I.A & III.A.

Rationale: The Department is committed to recruiting high-achieving students from diverse backgrounds. Coordinating with Enrollment Management, the Department launched several initiatives, including offering scholarships to FTIC and transfer students, publishing new marketing materials, establishing a student ambassador corps, as well as producing videos to showcase Department programs and activities to prospective students.

Funding and progress: For this effort, the Department provides roughly \$20,000 from general revenue and scholarship funds to support summer advising and graduate and undergraduate students. No additional funding from the College or the Provost’s Office is requested.

Objective #4: Lab Computer Recapitalization

Strategic Plan Alignment: POL Strategic Goals I & II; CAS Strategic Focuses 1 & 2; Educate, Connect, Elevate Strategic Directions I.B & II.C

Rationale: As of July 2021, Seventeen (17) computers in Schroeder 216 (POL Computer Lab) were in use for 6 years and thirteen (13) others for 5 years. To enhance students’ academic experience, these aging computers need to be replaced for effective instruction in multiple classes.

Funding and progress: Thanks to support from the Provost’s Office and the College, the Department received \$20,597 in Academic Enhancement Fees (AEF) funds and \$5,220 from the College in 2021 to replace the thirty (30) aging computers.

Internal Reallocations and Reorganizations in FY22

Department/School:

Temporary Variance:

1. Due to COVID-19, \$61,525 in unspent operating funds were approved to be carried over from FY21 to FY22 through SBC. The specific items are:
 - a. \$5,000 were SBCed for program review;

- b. \$21,525 were SBCed for civic engagement activities in FY22;
 - c. \$20,000 were SBCed for faculty research and travel in FY22;
 - d. \$10,000 were SBCed for a speaker series in FY22;
 - e. \$5,000 were SBCed for the Political Science Student Conference and the student journal *Critique* in FY22.
2. In addition, \$20,000 were carried over through a multi-year SBC request submitted in FY20 for civic engagement activities in FY22.

Position Upgrade: Ms. Jennifer Han’s position has been upgraded from Office Manger to Office Administrator. Support for the upgrade came primarily from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Permanent Reallocation: None.

Funding:

1. **College:** The College provided \$4,000 in temporary funding to support the Mock Trial and Model UN programs, \$8,000 for faculty travel, \$1,500 for program review and \$5,220 to supplement the Academic Enhancement Fees (AEF) for replacing 30 aging lab computers.
2. **Provost:** The Department received or has been approved to receive the following funds from the Provost’s Office: \$20,597 in AEF funds to replace 30 aging lab computers, Instructional Capacity funds of \$85,388 (=\$58,924(IC) + \$24,732(Gen Ed) +1,732(Supplemental IC)), \$13,500 for the Winter Session and \$31,500 for the Summer Session. The Department has also received \$8,000 RERIP funds.
3. **Foundation (Unrestricted):** Since January 2020, the Department has used a total of \$20,7580 of Foundation funds to support student and student-centered activities, including recruiting two high-achieving new students (\$1,500), awards (\$15,558), student research (\$3,300), and Mock Trial (\$400).

Major Objectives for FY23

As noted, faculty travel and student activities continue to be affected by the pandemic in FY22. For instance, the OISP canceled our Fair Trade Study Program due to the high level of community transmission of COVID-19 in the host country. Likewise, faculty travel has been affected. Model UN and the Civic Engagement program in Washington, D.C. also face uncertainty with the spread COVID-19. Although the Model UN program is being offered in S2022, students may participate remotely. The Department has developed two other study abroad programs. As detailed below, the Department will submit an SBC plan for a total of \$66,000 (tentative) in the event co-curricular activities and faculty travel are affected. These funds will be used to support faculty searches, civic engagement and experiential learning programs, faculty travel and other department activities in FY23. Major objectives of FY23 are outlined below and a tentative SBC plan is presented in the next section.

Objective #1: Program Review and Program Development

Strategic Plan Alignment: POL Strategic Goals I, II, & III; CAS Strategic Focuses 1, 2, 3, & 4, and Educate, Connect, Elevate Strategic Directions I, II, III, & IV

Rationale: The Department will continue the program review in 2022-23 academic year and prepare a self-study report due in October 2022. As part of the self-study, the Department is compiling and analyzing student learning data, identifying program elements that are working well meriting continuation, and specifying aspects of programs that can be improved. In addition, our overall enrollment continues to be strong, despite the adverse effects of the pandemic. In particular, the Legal Studies program has been growing as the number of students enrolled in the major has increased over the years (41 in Fall 2018, 49 in Fall 2019, 53 in Fall 2020, and 74 in Fall 2021).³ To meet the goal of recruiting and retaining a diverse student body, the Department needs to provide support for summer advising and other related activities.

Funding: The Department will SBC \$10,000 to support program review and program development. No additional funding from the College or the Provost's Office is requested.

Objective #2: Recruit Tenure-line Faculty and Non-tenure track Faculty

Strategic Plan Alignment: POL Strategic Goal I and Strategic Goal II; CAS Strategic Focus 1 and 3; Educate, Connect, Elevate Strategic Direction I.B

Rationale: Due to a resignation and a retirement, the Department needs to recruit two tenure-line faculty, one in Legal Studies and one in Public Administration. The successful Legal Studies candidate will offer instruction critical to the Legal Studies Program, such as the required courses of Litigation I and Litigation II. The successful candidate for the Public Administration position will specialize in behavioral public administration and will be a scholar who can offer key courses of the Public Service sequence and statistics and conduct research on public policies. Due to program growth, we also need to recruit four part-time NTTs to offer such courses as Law Office Technology (LGS 313), Probate Law (LGS 319), Litigation I (LGS370) and Litigation II (LGS371).

Funding: The start-up package is \$7,500 per new tenure-line hire with a total of \$15,000 for both positions. In addition, the Department will SBC \$5,000 for two searches to supplement the recruitment funds allocated by the Provost's Office.

Objective #3: Student Success

Strategic Plan Alignment: POL Strategic Goals I & III; CAS Strategic Focuses 1 & 4; and Educate, Connect, Elevate Strategic Directions III.C & IV.B

Funding: To support these student success programs in FY23, the Department will submit an SBC request for \$39,000.

Objective #3.1: Immersive Learning, Civic Engagement, and Global Engagement

Rationale: The immersive learning and engagement opportunities offered by the Department have been very successful. We intend to continue offering these opportunities because they not only foster deep and enduring learning but also contribute to ISU's goals in the areas of civic engagement, immersive learning, and internationalization. These experiential programs include Fair Trade Study Abroad in Costa Rica, Model UN, Mock Trial, the Civic Engagement program in Washington, D.C., the Renewing Illinois Summit

³ "Fall 2021 Academic Profiles - Undergraduate Measures: Legal Studies." p.2.

at Southern Illinois University, and the Political Science Student Conference. The Department has also developed two new OISP-approved study abroad programs: the World Water Week and the Slow Food Movement, which are scheduled for Fall 2022. Many of these programs focus on global justice and DEI.

Objective #3.2: The Expungement Clinic

Rationale: The Expungement Clinic was piloted as a part of two credit-generating courses. The Clinic provides hands-on legal experience to Legal Studies students who assist low-income individuals seeking to expunge and seal old criminal records. The Clinic gives these clients access to employment, rental housing, and lending opportunities necessary for moving forward with their lives. This venture, a collaborative project with the Bloomington office of Prairie State Legal Services, is significant in several aspects. First, it provides students with immersive learning through researching individual cases and drafting court documents. Second, the Clinic supports an objective of the ISU strategic plan: in that it fosters civic engagement by involving students and faculty in local outreach, deepening student involvement in activities that prepare them for lifelong learning and success. It also contributes to ISU's strategic value of promoting social justice. Although 182 law schools provide clinical opportunities to their students, a recent survey revealed that only 34 undergraduate institutions offer legal clinics. This represents less than 4% of the 913 paralegal education programs offered in the United States.

Funding: To cover expenses related to the Clinic, the Department has secured the funding from the Provost's Office in FY22 and FY23 in the form of IC funds in the amount equal to the compensation a faculty member receives for teaching two three-credit-hour courses (about \$12,000).

Objective #3.3: Political Science Student Conference

Rationale: The Department has sponsored the ISU Conference for Students of Political Science during the past three decades. This national conference provides undergraduate and graduate students an opportunity to present their research. Due to the pandemic, the 2021 and the 2022 conferences are virtual events but we plan to host an in-person conference in FY23.

Objective #4: Summer Stipends

Strategic Plan Alignment: POL Strategic Goals I & II; CAS Strategic Focuses 1 & 3; and Educate, Connect, Elevate Strategic Direction I.B

Rationale: Several faculty members work over the summer on a variety of tasks, including assisting the Department Chair in carrying out administrative tasks, advising graduate and undergraduate students, participating in recruitment, conducting assessment, reporting, and placing interns. The Department does not have permanent funds to support these tasks. It is important to ensure that faculty who assume these additional responsibilities over the summer are compensated.

Funding: We request that \$15,000 in permanent funds be allocated to the Department for summer

stipends for the associate chair, the graduate director, the Legal Studies advisor, and the assessment director.

Objective #5: Immersive Active Learning and Civic and Global Engagement

Strategic Plan Alignment: POL Strategic Goals I & III; CAS Strategic Focuses 1 & 4; and Educate, Connect, Elevate Strategic Directions III.C & IV.B

Rationale: As indicated in Objective #3, the Department has several successful programs that provide students with experiential and immersive learning opportunities at home and abroad. The annual expenditure of these programs ranges between \$45,000 and \$60,000 (e.g., \$46,570 in FY18; \$57,487 in FY19; \$47,353 in FY20) (Note: We did not have Model UN, the DC Trip and Illinois Summit in FY20 due to COVID-19). There is no permanent funding for these programs, and the Department has relied on CAS funding, SBC funds, scholarship funds, and annual general revenue to support these programs. This funding model is unpredictable and unsustainable.

Funding: While the Department should have sufficient funds for these civic engagement programs in FY22 if its SBC plan is approved, it is important to put it on record that a permanent funding of \$50,000 is needed.

Tentative SBC Plan for FY23

Due to COVID-19, an estimated \$66,000 in unspent operating funds will be included in an SBC request to support various activities in FY23. These unspent funds include \$8,000 RERIP. The specific items are:

- a. \$10,000 for program review and program development;
- b. \$5,000 for faculty search;
- c. \$39,000 for civic engagement and immersive learning activities;
- d. \$11,000 for faculty research and travel;
- e. \$1,228 got IDC.