During fiscal year 2015, the Department of Politics and Government has made significant progress in accomplishing its mission and meeting its goals in the undergraduate and graduate programs. Our faculty have achieved significant progress in research as demonstrated by the quality and quantity of scholarly publications and presentations. Several of our faculty have been invited to make presentations or conduct workshops at internationally renowned research and academic institutions. Our students study with faculty who are considered to be experts in different fields of the discipline and are engaged in a variety of meaningful service projects. The Department thus has made major strides in the achievement of its major goals and objectives at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

I: Goals and Objectives

*Educating Illinois* stipulates that the University mission aims to “promote the highest academic standards in teaching, scholarship, public service.” To achieve this objective, the Department’s approved goals and objectives for FY 2015 were as follows:

1. Consistent with College Strategic Focus 1 of facilitating academic excellence in developing rigorous academic program (Goal 1.1), the Department successfully completed the 8-year cycle program review of its graduate and undergraduate programs.

2. Consistent with College Strategic Focus 1 of facilitating academic excellence in developing rigorous academic program (Goal 1.1), the Department launched the new major in Legal Studies, which was approved by the IBHE in 2012.

3. Consistent with College Strategic Focus 1 of enhancing opportunities for co-curricular learning activities (Goal 1.2), the Department continues to sponsor co-curricular activities such as a student conference, Mock Trial and Model United Nations competitive teams.

4. Consistent with College Strategic Focus 1 of enhancing support for faculty and
student research and creative activity (Goal 1.3 and 1.4), the Department has promoted greater faculty and student involvement in scholarly and service endeavors.

5. Consistent with College Strategic Focus 1 of enhancing support for faculty research and creative activity (Goal 1.3), the Department has facilitated faculty’s pursuit of internal and external grants.

6. Consistent with College Strategic Focus 1 of enhancing support for faculty research activity (Goal 1.3), the Department has continued support for faculty travel to conduct and present research and creative works.

7. Consistent with College Strategic Focus 1 of enhancing support for faculty research and creative activity (Goal 1.3), the Department has continued support to journals edited by our faculty.

8. Consistent with College Strategic Focus 2 of enhancing the systems and infrastructure supporting academic excellence (Goal 2.2), the Department continues to support the Computer Lab in Schroeder Hall (SCH 216).

9. Consistent with the Values Statement of the College Strategic Plan (2010-2015) that underscores a strong liberal arts and sciences tradition to expand learners' horizons and provide a basis for continual learning, the Department has contributed to the development and delivery of the University's General Education program through the regular offering of Gen Ed courses.

10. Consistent with College Strategic Focus 4 of increasing mission-consistent outreach and partnerships with our on-campus and community constituencies (Goal 4.1), the Department continues to hold public lectures to promote disciplinary and inter-disciplinary knowledge.

11. Consistent with College Strategic Focus 4 of promoting the local, state, national, and international visibility of the College's programs, student successes, and faculty and staff achievement” (Goal 4.2), the Department continues to publish a high quality newsletter, improves and updates its website and disseminates the achievements of the faculty, staff and students through appropriate media outlets. The Department also uses social media to interact with alumni through its Facebook page.

I.A. Accomplishments of Goals and Objectives

1. The 8-year Cycle Program Review: The Department completed the 8-year cycle program review of its graduate and undergraduate programs. The process was led by the Department Assessment Director, Dr. Lane Crothers. The program review undertook a broadly consultative drafting process lasting more than a
year, which was then followed up with significant discussion at faculty meetings in Summer/Fall 2014. This program review is the culmination of a series of self-studies implemented by the Department, which include 1) program assessments in 2008, 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2014; 2) systematic curriculum review from 2008-11; 3) position audits of the Associate Chair, Graduate Director, Legal Studies Director and Internship Coordinator positions in 2010; engaged in a “closing the loop” summative assessment exercise in 2010; 4) a Department retreat about revising and adopting new Department Learning Outcomes (LOs) in 2013; 5) pilot assessment of those LOs in 2013; 6) a report on Recruitment and Retention of faculty; 7) a review of Department decision-making to the Department Strategic Plan; and 8) Department dialogue about the implementation of an enrollment management strategy.

2. **Addition of Legal Studies Major:** The Department launched the Legal Studies major in Fall 2014. The Major in Legal Studies is one of the five ABA-approved curriculum options designed to provide specialized knowledge and skills to prepare students for employment as paralegals. In August, ten freshmen and two transfer students entered the university as the first cohort. In October, two current ISU students changed their first major to Legal Studies, and two others adopted Legal Studies as a second major. In December, the first student of the Legal Studies major graduated from Illinois State University.

3. **Recognition of Model United Nations Team:** The Illinois State University MUN team was recognized as a “Distinguished Delegation” at the annual National MUN conference in New York City April, 13th – April 17th, 2014. This recognition reflects the participants' deep knowledge of the global issues they debated with other delegates, correct application of the rules of procedure, and their leadership in proposing creative solutions to critical global problems and in drafting working papers jointly with other delegates and working to create consensus around these working papers. The ISU team represented Nauru on one of the committees and spent spring semester 2014 researching Nauru’s position on three economic, social, humanitarian or security issues that were debated in the assigned committee at the Model UN Conference. These issues included a variety of global problems, such as disarmament and development, agricultural development and food security, the elimination of violence against women, and civilian capacity in the aftermath of conflict. Besides researching a variety of global issues and Nauru’s policy positions, students also studied the UN’s rules of procedure. The MUN program allows students interested in international relations and global issues to participate in the National Model UN (NMUN) simulation with graduate and undergraduate students from various universities from around the world. In 2014, twelve ISU students led by faculty advisor Noha Shawki of the Department of Politics and Government participated in the National Model United Nations simulation.

In addition to the above accomplishments, the Department has further demonstrated its commitment to its goals during FY15 by continuing/intensifying the
following efforts. In the **Department as a whole**, many accomplishments were made to support and enhance the goals and objectives of the Department, the College and the University. These include:

1. **Conference for Students of Political Science**: Under the leadership of Professor Gary Klass (now retired), the Department hosted the 22nd Conference for Students of Political Science in April, 2014. More than 50 graduate and undergraduate students from 18 universities and colleges participated in the conference and presented their research in 12 panels. The topics of these papers include electoral behavior, American legal issues, women and leadership, civil conflict, US international intervention, and the economy of developing countries, among others. James Kilgore, Research Scholar of the Center for African Studies at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, delivered the keynote speech titled, “Mass Incarceration in the US: Is the Tide Turning?” Best papers for graduate and undergraduate students, respectively, were selected by a panel of faculty and students for 2014 conference awards. Prizes included cash awards, and the best papers were published in the Department’s student online journal *Critique*.

2. Nine ISU students, under the supervision of Professor Carlos Parodi, participated in the 8th Annual Peru Study Abroad from June 3 to July 1. The focus of this year’s program was the development challenges facing Peruvians. The ISU team prepared an ingenious socio-drama to present Peruvians the S.W.O.T methodology to discuss the “Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats” of development. As in previous years, the team visited Villa El Salvador, Amauta, Huaquicha, Los Olivos, San Juan de Lurigancho, Lima-Centro, Miraflores, Barranco, Paracas, and Cuzco. With the pedagogy “Peru is the classroom and Peruvians the teachers,” the ISU team met with school and university students and faculty, community leaders, politicians, human rights activists, and city council members to discuss with them the development challenges they face as a community and as a country, in general. Based on the experience, the ISU team drafted a report which will be translated into Spanish and shared with our Peruvian counterparts.

3. **Electronic Journal for Students of Politics**: *Critique: A Worldwide Student Journal of Politics* was launched by the Department more than ten years ago. Since 2008, the journal has been indexed by the EBSCO database. The Fall 2013/Spring 2014 issue of *Critique*, edited by a board with Professor Julie Webber-Collins as the head of the board, published six award-winning papers from the 22nd Annual Illinois Conference for Students of Political Science. These essays covered topics including women in the judiciary, graffiti in Palestine, civil war in Lebanon, and sub-Saharan African Development.

4. **Department Brown Bag Seminar**: Under the leadership of Professor Lane Crothers, the Department continued its Brown Bag Seminars in Fall 2014. A number of Department faculty members presented their research findings,
including Professors Kerri Milita, Yusuf Safati, and Carl Palmer.

5. **Alumni Networking**: Expanding and consolidating relationships with alums has been a major objective of the Department. Under the leadership of Professors Nancy Lind and T.Y. Wang, the Department sponsored events during the 2014 Homecoming week. Several distinguished alumni and their guests were invited to attend the Alumni Day luncheon, including Jane Craddock Ryan ('82) and Frank McCune (MA, 1994). Additionally, the Department hosted several alumni to talk about their jobs and how the major prepared them for their careers. These include William Diggins (1994), Chief of Central Investigation, Office of Inspector General, Department of Human Services, for the State of Illinois, Erik Elk (1999), Chief of Staff for US Senator Mark Kirk, and James Keith (MA, 2010), Director of Community Impact of United Way-Macon County.

6. **Attorneys Advisory Board**: The Attorney Advisory Board (AAB) continues to support the Department, particularly our spring semester pre-law students' visits of Chicago law schools.

7. **Hibbert R. Roberts Lecture**: To continue our community outreach efforts, the Department invited Benjamin J. Brockschmidt, Executive Director of the Infrastructure Council and Director of Federal Affairs for the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, to deliver the 2014 Hibbert R. Roberts Lecture in Public Policy. The presentation attracted about 200 students, faculty members and community members. This annual lecture is organized in memory of Professor Roberts, who served as the Department Chair for 22 years.

8. At the Undergraduate Level, the accomplishments include:
   - **Civic Engagement and Experiential Learning Projects**: Under the leadership of Professor Noha Shawki, two projects were implemented:
     - *Independent Study Project on the Food Justice Movement*: Offered in Spring 2014, this project was designed to study the (international) food system so that participants can critically analyze the food justice and food sustainability movements and the local-global connections in the food system. Students were required to complete reading materials and a series of writing assignments. The project also offered students the opportunity to attend the Chicago Food Policy Advisory Council Summit, a day-long conference that was held in Chicago in March 2014. This project was partially funded by a grant that Professor Shawki received from the Student Sustainability Committee/Student Sustainability Fund.
     - *Independent Study Project on Human Rights NGOs (Amnesty International)*: Also offered in Spring 2014, the project requested students to complete in-depth readings that introduced them to NGOs and the role that they play in fostering respect for human rights. All students were expected to write several reflection pieces in which they comment on the readings. Students then attended the Amnesty International USA 2014 Annual General Meeting as participant observers, interacted with human rights activists, and recorded
their observations with the help of the observation guide that the instructor provided. After the conference students were asked to reflect on their observations and conference experience. This immersive opportunity allowed students to experience the human rights movement and engage with some of the key national and international social and political issues of our times. It also allowed them to form their own informed opinions and conclusions about the agendas and strategies of human rights NGOs and about their role in fostering respect for human rights. The project was partially funded by a Community Engagement Learning Grant and a Teaching Learning Development Grant.

- A third project was implemented under the direction of Professor Nancy Lind. Students in “Problems in Public Administration” worked in teams with community agencies to ‘solve’ real-world problems. One group worked with the YWCA Retired Senior and Volunteer Program to develop a new logo and outreach efforts to local seniors as well as creating an exit survey to understand why people left the program. A second group worked with local recruiters for the U.S. Air Force to develop a program on handling sexual harassment in the military.

- **Continuing to Improve the Undergraduate Program:** Under the leadership of Department Undergraduate Academic Advisor Erik Rankin, the following initiatives were implemented:
  - **Open Houses:** the Department continues to participate in the University’s Open House program and delivers information to potential freshman and transfer students, including their families. In its first year of existence the new Legal Studies major has been reaching out to students at Open Houses as well. The Legal Studies Advisor (Professor Thomas McClure) and Political Science Undergraduate Advisor have worked together to market this new program to potential freshman and transfers.
  - **Preview:** the Department meets incoming freshman and their parents at multiple summer sessions. These meetings are excellent tools to welcome students while educating them about the major requirements and out of classroom opportunities. Summer 2014 Preview presentations continued to focused on the POL 296 course (Professional Development) and the required internship, to meet student/parent demands for job opportunities for students with a degree in Political Science. Preview provides the students the opportunity to meet with an Undergraduate Academic Advisor, who offers their first Political Science major class, *Introduction to Politics* (POL 100), before the semester starts.
  - **Enrollment Management:** the Department changed procedures making the application process for undergraduate internal transfers easier. Previously the Department only reviewed applications in March and September. It is now being done on a monthly basis to ensure that interested students do not have to wait for a decision on their applications. The Undergraduate Advisor has visited numerous political science large lecture hall classes to recruit new first and second majors (and minors) to the Department.
  - **Scholarships and Awards:** the Department continues to focus on recruitment
and retention. A focus on supporting our top performing students and academically distinct incoming freshman is ongoing. Many students are supported in international and domestic travel opportunities and will continue this year with programs in Peru and Washington DC.

- **1st Year Impact:** Undergraduate Departmental Advisor Erik Rankin taught the first year LinC course (IDS 122) for University College for the fifth time. This class allows the Department to be represented by a faculty/staff member to non-majors in their first year. Rankin’s performance led to his being awarded the 2014 Impact Award, given to top performers with first year students at Illinois State University.

9. **Legal Studies Program:** In the past year the Department continued the following initiatives to strengthen the program:

- **Paralegal Advisory Committee:** The 14-person Paralegal Advisory Committee continues to provide support to the Legal Studies Program. The Committee reviews student, graduate, employer and legal community assessments to make recommendations for improvement of the program.

- **Paralegal Alumni Job Leads Newsletter:** The Legal Studies Program continues to publish a bi-monthly e-newsletter for alumni who recently earned their Paralegal Studies certificate. The newsletter contains current paralegal/legal assistant job postings for both central Illinois and the Chicago area. This publication is also distributed to Legal Studies students who are in their last semester of coursework.

- **Paralegal Faculty Meetings and Professional Development Programs:** In accordance with the ABA guidelines, the Paralegal Studies Program conducts semiannual meetings for all adjunct Legal Studies instructors.

- **Legal Studies Assessments:** The Legal Studies Program continues to survey graduates, employers, and current students to assess the effectiveness of the program. This was implemented to comply with the ABA guidelines for paralegal education. The data gathered were shared with the Paralegal Advisory Committee.

10. **Continuing Development of Internship Program:** Under the leadership of Professor Nancy Lind (Public Service Internship Director) and Professor Tom McClure (Legal Studies Director), the Department’s Internship Programs were quite successful in 2014. There were 295 public service credits earned with over 13,275 hours of service across the state of Illinois and in Washington, D.C. These students were active in U.S. Senate offices, Illinois legislative offices, and several national, state and local political campaigns. Students served prominent roles in Senator Brady’s office and Senator Kirk’s Washington, D.C. office. The Department has also created a continuously updated webpage for all open internships throughout the world brought to our attention and has provided scholarships to interns accepting placements in Washington, D.C. or New York City. Meanwhile, 21 paralegal intern students performed nearly 4,500 hours of service in such agencies and organizations as the Town of Normal, the McLean
County State’s Attorney, ISU Student Legal Services, State Farm Insurance, and a variety of private law firms.

11. **Co-curricular activities:** The Department continues to offer extra-curricular activities to students to enhance their learning experience.

- **Mock Trial:** this is an intercollegiate competition in which students play the roles of lawyers and witnesses in a courtroom trial simulation. Coached by Professor Thomas McClure, ISU Mock Trial Team had another excellent year in 2014, having advanced to the Opening Rounds of the Championship Series (ORCS) Tournament for the sixth consecutive year. In summary, the team placed at seven tournaments (one first place; one second place; one third place; one fourth place; two seventh places; and was named Outstanding Trial Team at regional). At least one ISU competitor won an individual award at the nine tournaments at which Illinois State participated. In 2014, the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA) ranked ISU as one of the top hundred teams in the nation (95 out of 620).

  - In mid-January, the Illinois State team took first place at the Invitational Tournament sponsored by St. Francis University in Joliet, Illinois. Three students were recognized as outstanding competitors.
  - In late January, ISU placed fourth in the 21-team tournament sponsored by Indiana University. Two students were named outstanding attorneys, and one was awarded outstanding witness recognition.
  - Three ISU mock trial competitors were named outstanding participants at the AMTA Regional Tournament held in February in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The team earned a bid to the Opening Rounds of the Championship Series (ORCS) Tournament. In March, one student was named Outstanding Attorney at the ORCS held at Washington University in St. Louis, MO.
  - In mid-October, the ISU team placed third in the 21-team invitational hosted by Wheaton College. Two students were presented awards for their individual performances.
  - One ISU participant was named Outstanding Witness at the Bradley University Tournament in late October. The Illinois State team placed seventh.
  - Illinois State University hosted the Thirteenth Annual Mock Trial Invitational Tournament at the McLean County Law and Justice Center in mid-November. Thirty-two teams from twenty-two colleges and universities representing eight states participated. We had an excellent showing of volunteers. A record number of non-coach judges gave their time to judge for the tournament.
  - In November, ISU was named the seventh place team and two students were recognized with plaques at the Illinois State University Invitational after receiving perfect scores of 20. One ISU competitor was named Outstanding Attorney at the Lewis University Tournament.
  - In December, Illinois State placed second out of a field of 26 teams at the University of Iowa Invitational. Additionally, two students were named
Outstanding Attorneys.

- **Other Extracurricular Activities**: The Department of Politics and Government prides itself on the contributions of its faculty and its students. The Department’s Strategic Plan 2011-2016, for example, states as two of its goals the incorporation of civic engagement in its courses as well as cultivating a culture of interaction and collegiality between its students and faculty. Several of our colleagues exemplify the incorporation of these goals in their classes and extracurricular activities, promoting programs with a local focus and beyond to the global arena. Below are some examples:
  - **ISU Habitat for Humanity College Chapter**: The ISU chapter has been led by Instructional Assistant Professor Julian Westerhout since the Fall 2012 semester. Students in the ISU chapter, in partnership with the IWU chapter, are raising funds for and building the chapter’s 21st house, and are actively engaged in an effort educate the campus community about the issue of affordable housing.
  - **Canned food drive**: In a continued effort to reach out to the local community, Instructional Assistant Professor Anthony Nigliaccio’s Citizens and Governance course held a canned food drive for the Clare House, a local food pantry and soup kitchen in Bloomington, IL. Students collected over 500 cans for their annual food drive. Professor Nigliaccio, graduate student Courtney Johnson and department secretary Cherie Valentine joined the cause by sorting and boxing donations.
  - **Water Walk**: A global need with a local focus motivated Instructional Assistant Professor Andrew Matthews to organize a “Water Walk” on Illinois State University’s campus. Matthews serves as advisor to the student group “H2O”, which was founded by the students of Matthews’ class on the politics of Africa, Asia and Latin America. Andrew’s dedication to clean water goes beyond local borders and he works with an international NGO called Water to Thrive. The project gives students an opportunity to experience life in the developing world and a chance to give back through fundraising efforts. To date, ISU students have provided three wells in Ethiopia by participating in the Water Walk, and work is currently being done on a fourth.

12. **Pre-Law Advisement Center**: Under the leadership of Professor Meghan Leonard, the Department houses and provides logistical support for the Tom Eimermann ISU Pre-Law Advisement Center. The Center is designed to provide assistance to any undergraduate, graduate student, or University alumnus who is interested in applying to law school. The Center is staffed by student volunteers drawn from across the University. Students who are from many different majors work in the Center for certain hours and respond to inquiries from visitors to the Center. The Center contains a vast assortment of written material about deciding whether law is an appropriate career choice, applying to law school, receiving financial aid, preparing for the LSAT, choosing the right law schools, and careers in law. The Center also has computers with printers to assist students in completing on-line law school applications, and registering with the Law School
Admission Council’s Credential Assembly Service and for the LSAT. As the University Pre-Law Advisor Professor Leonard also tracks the number of ISU students who are applying for admissions to law schools around the country. The data gathered by the Center show that between January 2009 and October 2014, 488 students who will or have graduated from ISU set up an account with the Law School Admission Council. Of those at least 196 attended law school. Demographic data of these students show that 31% were Political Science graduates. Staffers at the Center also assist in the planning and implementation of the annual Law School Conference and Fair, which is held in the Fall semester. The Center is primarily funded with donations from alumni.

13. Pre-Law Student Conference: Under the leadership of Professor Meghan Leonard the Law Club held its 2014 Law School Conference and Fair. Students had the opportunity to attend panels with current law students about what to expect in law school as well as with admissions representatives, discussing the law school application process. The event ended with a Law School Fair, attended by fourteen law schools, including: University of Illinois College of Law, Northern Illinois College of Law and Marquette College of Law among others. More than fifty students attended the fair and met with representatives from these law schools.

At the Graduate Level, the Program continues to attract quality students. In FY2015, the program had 27 active students, 18 in the Applied Community Development sequence, 4 in the Global Politics and Culture sequence, 2 in Political Science and 3 in the Public Service sequence. Twelve new graduate students were admitted for Fall 2014. Twenty students obtained their Master’s degree in 2014. On-going initiatives included cooperating with the Stevenson Center to advertise our joint programs in relevant publications, having secured funding from the Graduate School. The Department has implemented new Comprehensive Exam requirements and coordinated the scheduling of graduate seminars to accord with program changes initiated in 2012 and applied to incoming students in 2013.

I.B. Progress Toward Objectives

Aside from the above-mentioned new initiatives, the Department has achieved other results during FY15. These include:

1. Service of General Education: the Department continues to honor our obligations to serve students under the University Studies program. The Department tenured/tenure-track and adjunct faculty offer multiple sections of General Education courses. Frequently, these courses are offered at the request of the Associate Dean to allow the College to meet all of its needs for General Education. In Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 (data for Fall 2014 & Spring 2015 not available), the Department has generated 10,575 total credit hours in General Education courses or an average of 700 credit hours per faculty who offered
General Education courses. This is consistent with College Strategy 1 to support and encourage activities that build respect for diversity and global perspectives.

2. Diversity: Aside from major curricular inclusions that enhance diversity, the Department has shown its serious commitment to diversity among its majors, minors, graduate students and faculty. In Fall 2014, a full 20.8% of our first majors in political science were African-American and Hispanic. About 43.0% of our first majors in political science were females. In the Department’s new Legal Studies major, 69.2% of the first majors were female and 23.1% were African-American and Hispanic. In the graduate program, 4.1% are international students and 45.8% of the graduate students are females.

II. Productivity Measures

Besides serving about more than 290 undergraduate majors in Political Science (41 second major, 77 minors), 14 undergraduate majors in Legal Studies (2 second majors, and 10 minors) and 27 full-time master's students, the Department is very productive in serving the general student population, the discipline, and society at large.

II. A. Courses
The Political Science major at Illinois State has one of the largest enrollments of the 44 undergraduate political science programs in the state. The Department’s tenured and tenure-track faculty generated 220.9 credit hours per tenured or tenure track faculty member in the Fall semester of 2013 and 208.1 credit hours per tenured or tenure track faculty members in the Spring semester of 2014 (data for Fall 2014 & Spring 2015 not available). The Department provides its students with significant, highly transferable skills that are important to success in a wide variety of occupations. All faculty are involved in some scholarly activities. Several faculty are noted scholars in their areas of expertise.

II. B Faculty Accomplishments
The following is the list of faculty accomplishments in calendar year 2014.

Professor Osaore Aideyan presented “Political Selection and Single Party Dominance in Africa” at the 2014 Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) annual meeting. He also chaired a panel at the MPSA. Professor Michaelene Cox published “Comparative Analysis of e-Government in the EU” in the Proceedings of the 14th European Conference on e-Government and chaired and served as a discussant for a panel at the conference. She published a book chapter entitled “Transnational Corruption in the 21st Century” in Comparative and International Policing, Justice, and Transnational Crime. She also presented two conference papers at the 14th Annual European Conference on e-Government and the 34th Annual International Lilly Conference on College Teaching. In addition, she submitted an external grant proposal to the National Institute of Justice, entitled “Interagency Integration of Offender Data Management: Strategies for Effective Management in Criminal Justice.” Professor Cox
is an editorial team member of the SoTL journal Gauisus and was selected as a Scholar-Mentor by the Cross-Chair of SoTL.

Professor Lane Crothers published a book chapter titled “Cultural Imperialism” in the Sage Handbook of Globalization and a book review in Choice. He also has a reprint titled “the American Global Cultural Brand” in the Global Studies Reader. Professor Meghan E. Leonard published two articles and they are “Elections and Decision-Making on State High Courts” in Justice System Journal and “Consensus and Cooperation on State Supreme Courts” in State Politics and Policy Quarterly. She also made two conference presentations at the APSA annual meeting and at the 2014 State Politics and Policy Conference. Professor Leonard was interviewed by many local media including WJBC, WGLT and WMBD. Professor Nancy Lind was invited as an external reviewer for Indiana State University and served as a policy expert for McLean County Multicultural Leadership Program on social policy issues. She also served as a reviewer for several international conferences.

ProfessorThomas McClure made a presentation titled “How to Navigate Higher Ed—Academia for Non-Academics” at the AAFPE Annual Conference. Professor Kerri Milita served as the Section Head of State Politics of the 2015 MPSA annual meeting. Professor Carl Palmer made four conference presentations at annual meetings of the Southern Political Science Association, the MPSA and the APSA. He was a Symposium Organizer for the Midwest Psychological Association panel and chaired a panel and served as a discussant at the MPSA and the APSA annual meetings. He was interviewed by a number of local media including WJBC, WZND and the Pantagraph. Professor Palmer submitted an external grant application to the Time-Sharing Experiments in the Social Sciences. Professor Carlos Parodi presented a paper entitled “Challenging Discourses of Violence” at the XXXII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association. He also chaired a panel at the conference.

Instructional Assistant Professor Sherri Replogle presented two papers at the International Studies Association and the Western Political Science Association (WPSA) annual meetings. They are entitled “Power and Morality” and “Assimilated Jihad,” respectively. Professor Ali Riaz published a book titled Bhoyer Sangskriti (The Culture of Fear: Political Economy of Terror and Violence, in Bengali), and five book chapters (“Electoral Democracy and Human Rights”; “Islamist Parties, Elections and Democracy in Bangladesh”; “Being Bengali Abroad: Identity Politics among the Bengali Community in Britain”; “Madrassah Education in Bangladesh: Contestations and Accommodations”; and “Bangladesh”). He also published three journal articles titled, “Bangladesh’s Failed Election” in Journal of Democracy; “A Crisis of Democracy in Bangladesh” in Current History; and “The Nature and Quality of Democracy in Bangladesh: An Assessment” in the Journal of Bangladesh Studies. He made two invited presentations including one titled Political Instability in Bangladesh at the Council on Foreign Relations, Washington D.C. He presented papers at two conferences, Bangladesh: A Delegative Democracy in Making? at the 23rd European Conference on South Asian Studies in Zurich, Switzerland, and at the Workshop on Global Development and Institutions Inspired by Faith in Bangladesh, in London, England. Riaz appeared on BBC World Television, and
CNN International Television, and was frequently interviewed by BBC and VOA Bengali services. He contributed eight non-refereed essays in English newspapers and media outlets. Professor Lori Riverstone-Newell presented “Assessing Local Activism as it Relates to Fiscal Scarcity” at the Urban Affairs Association annual meeting.

Professor Yusuf Sarfati published a book review in the *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*. He also has a reprinted book chapter entitled “Natural Allies or Irreconcilable Foes?” in *America’s Growing Inequality*. In addition, he made three conference presentations at annual meetings of the Middle East Studies Association and the Association for the Study of Nationalities World Convention. He was a panel organizer of the International Political Science Association (IPSA) annual meeting and served as chair and discussant for two panels at the conference. Professor Sarfati submitted an external grant application to the Russell Sage Foundation Presidential Authority Award for the project entitled “Trust-One: Promoting Inter-Group Trust and Altruism through Identity and Altruism.” Professor Kam Shapiro published a journal article entitled “Confounding Solidarity” in *Angelaki*. He also has two entries – “Carl Schmitt” and “Violence” in *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Political Thought*. In addition, he made three conference presentations at the APSA, the WPSA and the IPSA annual meetings. Professor Shapiro serves as the book review editor of *Theory & Event*. Professor Noha Shawki published a journal article titled “New Rights Advocacy and the Human Rights of Peasants” in *Journal of Human Rights Practice*. She also made a presentation on “The Transnational Diffusion of Social Movements” at the MPSA annual meeting.

Professor Jakeet Singh published a co-edited volume titled *Freedom and Democracy in an Imperial Context* and a book chapter titled “Recognition and Self-Determination” in *Recognition versus Self-Determination*. He made four conference presentations at the APSA, the WPSA, and the Caribbean Philosophical Association annual meetings. Professor T.Y. Wang published a co-authored journal article titled “Presidential Coattails in Taiwan” in *Electoral Studies*. He also received an external grant titled “The Taiwan Voters” from the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy. In addition to five conference presentations at national and international conferences, he was invited as a program reviewer for the Institute of Political Science, *Academia Sinica* in Taipei. He also served as a panelist on “Taiwan’s 9 in 1 Elections” which was podcasted by the Foreign Policy Research Institute. He was invited to conduct methodology workshops in China and Taiwan and was interviewed by international media on events in East Asia. Professor Julie A. Webber published a book chapter “I am the Radical Reality” in *Michael Weinstein* and a co-authored entry with a student entitled “Violence against Women” in *Encyclopedia of Political Thought*. She also made a presentation entitled “The Tone of Political Comedy in TDS and TCR and Its Effect on Youth” at Critical Media Literacy Conference. Professor Lawrence J. Zigerell submitted an external grant application titled “Isolating the Racial Component of Symbolic Racism” to the Time-Sharing Experiments in the Social Sciences. He also published two pieces in *Washington Post’s* Monkey Cage blog and Political Science Replication website.

Overall, in 2014 faculty members of the Department of Politics and Government
published 1 single-authored book, 1 edited volume, 15 journal articles and 11 book chapters. They made 5 presentations at international conferences and 31 presentations at national and regional conferences. Faculty have also made 4 invited presentations. They have appeared in local, national and international media. These accomplishments demonstrate that the Department has a very active and productive faculty who are involved in a wide range of research and teaching projects.
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II. C. Student Accomplishments

The students of the Department continued to demonstrate excellence and merit in different venues. Two graduate students, Yamato Hiromatsu and Arafat Kabir, are the recipients of Lela Winegarner Fellowships from the ISU Graduate School. The Fellowship is awarded to promising international students who are pursuing careers of service to their country. Arafat Kabir also published eight commentaries on global politics in various web magazines including the International Policy Digest, the National Interest, and Religion Dispatches. Cameron Boehning, a first-year graduate student in the Department of Politics and Government, attended the American Society of International Law Conference in early November 2014. Nay Petrucelli, a graduate student of the Department and Stevenson Center, completed a four-week quantitative training at the University of Michigan’s ICPSR Summer Institute. In the wake of national attention to campus sexual assault, Brooke Barnhart, a political science major, received the Anne M Semlak Memorial Scholarship and the Women’s and Gender Studies Achievement Award. She also participated in a panel discussion at the Sexual Assault Prevention and Education event in September at the Bone Student Center. Ashley Hurley received the Crawford Book Scholarship. Five students from The Department of Politics and Government presented their research at the 2014 ISU Research Symposium, held on 11 April 2014 at the Bone Student Center. They were: Christine Andrelczyk (Graduate student, “Prisoners of the War on Terror: Torture, Imprisonment, and Humanitarian Law”); Jacqueline Howe (Undergraduate, “Examining the Cambodian and Rwandan Genocides: How Perceived Justice Plays a Significant Role on Survivors Psyche”); Ethan Nash (Undergraduate, “Resolution 377 and the Rwandan Genocide”); Michelle Suhi (Undergraduate, “Variations in Defining Torture”); and Jayne Winner (Undergraduate, “From the Ideal to Reality: Swedish Gender Politics”). Professor Michaelene Cox served as the faculty mentor for each student. Joseph Simon (M.A., 2014) received an appointment from the Illinois Legislative Staff Internship Program (ILSIP) and will be spending a year researching and writing policy briefs in Springfield starting August 18, 2014. The program provides young people with an opportunity to work with legislative leaders who formulate public policy in Illinois. Jessie Garber, a political science major, was feature in ISU’s StateSide Magazine for her children’s’ book in progress, entitled, Madame President. The book is designed to show girls that they can be something other than “princesses.”

III.  Internal Reallocations and Reorganizations

III.A. Variance Funds

Variance Funds have been used to enhance the instructional capacity through appointment of NTT faculty, to increase instructional support activities and update technological infrastructure, including recapitalization of computers in faculty offices and the Computer Lab. In FY15, a significant proportion of the variance funds was spent on graduate assistantships to increase the pool of assistants. A large portion of the variance funds was also used to support the Legal Studies Major, which was approved
by the ABA. Variance funds were also spent to recapitalize 18 computers for the lab and one computer for a faculty. In addition, funds have been used to provide stipends to the Associate Chair and the Graduate Director in the summer. Expenses for the guest speaker for the Student Conference were also covered from the variance fund. The Department newsletter published annually is also partly supported from variance. Meanwhile, Instructional and Internship travel funds have been used to increase faculty travel to cover the deficit in faculty travel funds allocated as a part of the operational budget. Foundation funds were used to support graduate students’ conference presentations and outstanding undergraduate students with teaching and/or research assistantships. It was also used to support interns participating in the Washington DC internship program and Study Abroad opportunities.

IV. Major Objectives for FY16

The major objectives for the FY16 are as follows:

IV.A. Short Term Goals

1. Recruit faculty who are professionally recognized in their fields of expertise to meet student demands for courses. The International Relations subfield remains weak in terms of the number of faculty, particularly because some faculty in the subfield also teach Comparative Politics and Area Studies courses. The retirement of faculty with expertise in Public Policy also puts immense pressure on the Department due to the lack of faculty to cover a wide range of courses in the subfield. These circumstances are making it difficult to continue offering courses required by students to graduate on time. Therefore, we are requesting two tenure track positions in the subfield of IR and Public Policy that will help to meet the curriculum needs required by the major.

2. Maintain and strengthen Mock Trial, Model UN and Study Abroad programs.

3. Maintain and strengthen our electronic Student Journal—*Critique*. With the inclusion in the online publication database, EBSCO-Host, the readership of the journal continues to increase. This also allows researchers to use the articles published in the journal. These developments require our continued attention to the quality of publication. A fulltime GA is needed to maintain the quality and the regular publication of the journal.

4. Maintain and strengthen the student conference organized by the Department. The conference is in its 23rd year and has already gained national recognition. The challenge will be to balance the expansion of the conference with resource constraints.

5. Expand the Associate Chair’s contract to ten months to match the needs of the program.
IV.B. Long Term Goals

The Department’s objectives support the Academic Plan as well as the *Educating Illinois 2013-2018* strategic planning document. Both General Education and Junior/Senior experiences are prominent priorities in both. Strengthening our graduate program is supported by a similar University-wide goal. In sum, our proposed objectives are all designed to achieve the major University priorities asserting the University’s statewide leadership role and enhancing its position in providing the premier undergraduate education in the state.

1. Explore More Space for Department. Since moving into the renovated Schroeder Hall in 2005, our Department has grown and a number of new faculty have joined us. As we continue to grow additional office spaces for faculty and graduate students will be required. The Department has brought this need to the attention of CAS and worked with the College to explore the possibility of additional space for the Department.

2. Increase Ability to Recruit and Retain Outstanding Faculty. This goal is in progress but requires additional resources, particularly to address the subfield that has been weakened due to retirement.

3. Improve Faculty Salaries. In the past years we have been successful in increasing the salary of new hires. Current salary of the new faculty is either above or equal to that of peer institutions. However, the increased salary of Assistant Professors, driven by the market and initiatives of the Department, is creating salary-compression. Associate and Full Professors are falling behind. Department members’ salaries, especially at the Associate Professor and Full Professor ranks, continue to be substantially below College, University, and peer institution levels and therefore need to be addressed immediately so the Department does not experience a ‘brain drain’.

4. Support Faculty and Student Research. In addition to assigning a mentor to all new faculty, the Department has granted all first year faculty a one course release to begin their scholarly careers as well as granting a one course release to the top two scholarly producers in the Department on an annual basis. Additionally, the Department continues to run the Student Conference and provides administrative and financial support for students and faculty who submit papers to conferences and refereed journals.

5. Continue to provide Improved Technology for Instruction and Research. The Department acquired the Computer Lab (SCH 216) in 2010 and has since recapitalized all computers and updated all software including *Stata* and *Inquisit*. These various pieces of software are important for student learning and faculty research and will require periodical updates.
6. Continue Outreach Efforts. The Department now has a very active and live webpage that highlights Departmental achievements and events. The webpage allows making our presence known to the community at large, and attract students to the Department. The Department will continue to improve the webpage as well as individual faculty websites.

IV.C. Program Enhancement Requests

1. Enhance Graduate Assistant’s Budget. The Department, in FY15, has used about $131,000 to fund graduate assistantships. We have done so in part by using variance dollars. Currently, the graduate assistants are funded from the GA budget ($59,764) and Instructional Capacity funding. Because the latter is subject to variation, the funding for graduate assistantships becomes uncertain. To achieve the goals set in Educating Illinois, particularly the goal to “provide rigorous, innovative, and high-impact undergraduate and graduate programs” we need a permanent allocation of $100,000. Therefore, the Department is requesting a permanent addition of $41,000 in the GA budget to maintain our graduate program this year with the rest to be requested later. The increase is especially needed to provide GAs to new faculty so that they can engage in their research, and is essential for recruiting and retaining female and minority faculty members to the Department. Further, this enhancement is vital to the possibility of offering breakout sessions attached to certain large University Studies courses regularly taught by Departmental faculty.

2. Increase Funding for Student Awards: Each year the Department presents awards to more than 25 students in 16 categories. Although funding for most of these scholarships and awards are generated from endowments, eight awards are not made from endowed funds. These awards are given to students in an annual awards ceremony, which also recognizes the students who provide leadership to various student organizations and initiatives. Currently, only $1,400 is allocated for the awards and the award ceremony. Judging from the experiences of the last few years, a total of $3,000 is needed. The Department is reserving $3,200 as SBC to cover the cost for the next two fiscal years (FY2016 & FY2017). However, the Department requests a permanent allocation of $1,600 in operating budget for the awards.

3. Request for allocation for the Conference: The Political Science Student Conference sponsored by the Department is in its 23rd year and has attracted students from other universities both in and outside Illinois, and around the globe. Currently, the Conference is funded from the Department’s internal funds. The awards for the best papers presented at the conference are funded by the national student honor society – Pi Sigma Alpha. The conference program includes a keynote speaker who delivers the speech at a luncheon. The Department is reserving $5,000 as SBC to cover the cost for the next two fiscal years (FY2016 &
FY2017). However, the Department requests a permanent allocation of $2,500 in operating budget for the Conference.

4. Graduate Program Enhancement Fund: Funds are needed to support our outstanding graduate students in their learning endeavors. This fund would support graduate student travel to present conference papers, travel to internships, or publish their work. $3000 is requested.

5. Graduate Assistant for the Journal and the Conference. The electronic journal and the student conference have gained international reputation. It has become difficult for faculty to manage the process of reviewing the articles, posting them on the website, and organizing the conference as additional responsibilities to their teaching and research engagements. Thus it is important to add one new graduate assistant earmarked for this position. $8180 is requested.

IV.D. Position Requests

Filling faculty lines: The Department is authorized to recruit one new faculty to meet the expertise needed in the newly established Legal Studies Major. The search will commence in Spring 2015. However, the Department still requires to fill two more positions to meet its curricular needs. First, a faculty position in International Relations is needed. The International Relations subfield remains weak in terms of the number of faculty, particularly because some faculty in the subfield also teach Comparative Politics and Area Studies courses for our majors. These circumstances are making it difficult to continue offering courses required by students to graduate on time. In recent years, international security and US foreign policy have become important areas of study and interests to students. This position will allow us to address this lacuna in our program.

Second, a senior faculty with expertise in Public Policy retired in 2014. This will add to the difficulties of the Department in maintaining its current level of University Studies courses and the courses required for the Political Science Major. Therefore, we are requesting two positions in the next year. Expertise in International Relations and Public Policy are badly needed to maintain the Department’s reputation as a premier institution in the region.

IV.E. One Time Fund Requests:

1. Enhancement of Graduate Student Advisement ($15,000 over 3 years): Currently the Graduate Director receives a small stipend for advisement in the summer with no other compensation during the regular semester. However, the summer stipend is dependent on the availability of variance funds while the Graduate Director is expected to provide academic counseling to students throughout the entire year and to resolve problems that can occur at any time. To ensure stability in funding and to provide adequate compensation for the service provided by the
Graduate Director, the Department requests $5000 funding annually for the next three years. The requested funds will be distributed in a 12-month period to properly compensate the Graduate Director’s service. This is consistent with Educating Illinois’ goals of recruiting high-achieving and motivated students, enhancing instructional capacity, and being the national leader known for excellence in graduate education.

2. Emergency funds to replace the Department’s main printer if and when this becomes necessary: The main printer in the Department is used heavily on a daily basis. It is estimated that the current printer has a 4-year lifecycle. The Department requests $1,500 for an emergency fund that would allow the Department to replace the network printer in use now with a similar/equivalent model if the current printer fails.

3. The Department in conjunction with the ADP offered a unique civic engagement course entitled Washington D.C. Civic Engagement Study Tour in 2008 and 2009. The course was offered as a temporary IDS course and attracted a large number of students. The tour provided undergraduate academic experience in D.C. that focuses on civic engagement and leadership. It received an honorable mention in Team Excellence Award in 2010. The course was discontinued due to fund shortage. About $10,000 is needed to cover faculty travel cost, supplement student travel and accommodation and other related expenses. In FY2015, the CAS allocated $3000 in response to the request of the Department; additionally the ADP has allocated $5000 for FY15, and the Department has allocated $2000 from the variance to cover expenses. The course is being planned for Summer 2015. The Department is reserving $10,000 as SBC to cover the cost for the next two fiscal years (FY2016 & FY2017). However, the Department intends to continue the course and requests $9000 over three years to cover the travel, accommodation and stipend of the faculty.