

**PROPOSAL FOR
A MASTER OF ARTS
IN POLITICAL SCIENCE
AT IUPUI**

November 2003

COVER PAGE

INSTITUTION: IUPUI

COLLEGE: Liberal Arts

DEPARTMENT: Political Science

DEGREE PROGRAM TITLE: MA in Political Science

FORM OF RECOGNITION
TO BE AWARDED: Master of Arts (MA)

SUGGESTED CIP CODE: POLS

LOCATION OF PROGRAM: Indianapolis

PROJECTED DATE OF
IMPLEMENTATION: Fall 2005

DATE PROPOSAL WAS
APPROVED BY
INSTITUTIONAL BOARD
OF TRUSTEES:

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZING INSTITUTIONAL OFFICER

DATE

DATE RECEIVED BY COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

COMMISSION ACTION (DATE)

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A. ABSTRACT

MA in Political Science to be offered on-campus by IUPUI

1. Objectives

The major goal of this program will be to afford students the opportunity to study the forces, institutions, and values that shape and drive politics and government at the state and local level in the United States. Specifically, the program will: (1) offer residents of central Indiana the opportunity to undertake graduate work in political science at a major public university; (2) improve the professional abilities and understanding of those already employed in state, local, or urban government; (3) provide students with skills that will help them find positions in an appropriate professional setting; and (4) provide a foundation for those wishing to pursue a PhD in political science at another institution.

2. Clientele to be Served

We anticipate that most students in the program will study part-time, will live in the nine-county central Indiana area, and will probably be working in – or wishing to work in – state, local, or urban government in Indiana. Only a few are likely to be traditional full-time students, so the program will be designed primarily to serve the needs of part-time students and currently-employed professionals. We also anticipate that it will attract students enrolled in other graduate programs at IUPUI, who are seeking elective courses.

3. Curriculum

A total of 33 hours will be required for completion of the program. These will be made up of (1) a set of four integrated core courses (12 cr.) that will provide students with a grounding in political science at the graduate level, in relevant research skills, and in the different facets of state, local, and urban politics in the United States; (2) a choice of electives that will allow students to develop a particular specialty and/or field of application (9-12 cr.); (3) an internship through which students will be able to apply and supplement classroom learning (3-6 cr.); and (4) a thesis written under the supervision of a team of full-time faculty members (6 cr.). No special prerequisites will be set, other than the qualifications normally needed to enter a graduate program at IUPUI. Students in the program will be encouraged to take core courses first.

4. Employment Possibilities

Potential options for our graduates will include employment in state, local, and urban government (in Indiana and elsewhere), non-governmental organizations, think-tanks, private corporations with an interest in the activities of state, local, and city government, local political party organizations, political campaigns, and professional lobbying organizations. Some of our graduates may also go on to complete further study at a PhD-granting institution.

B. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. Objectives and Features

The major goal of this program will be to afford residents of Indianapolis and central Indiana the opportunity to study the forces, institutions, and values that shape and drive politics and government at the state, local, and urban level in the United States.

Approximately 235 colleges and universities in this country offer master's degrees in political science, according to the American Political Science Association's (APSA) Directory of Graduate Faculty and Programs in Political Science, 2001-03.¹ However, not one of these programs is identified in the APSA Directory as having a primary emphasis on state and local politics, nor are any of us in the Political Science department aware of a program in the country with such an emphasis.

Furthermore, Indianapolis today holds the dubious distinction of being the largest city in the United States lacking a master's program in political science.² In no other city of our size (and certainly no state capital of comparable size) are prospective students without the option of studying for an MA in political science.³

Our proposed program not only would establish the first course of study of its kind anywhere in the United States, but would allow Indianapolis finally to join the ranks of major US urban areas in offering a graduate program in political science.

a. Objectives

The proposed MA program will have four major objectives:

Objective 1: offer residents of central Indiana the opportunity to undertake graduate work in political science at a major public university. While five institutions within the state currently offer graduate programs in political science (IU Bloomington, Purdue University, Ball State University, the University of Notre Dame, and Indiana State University), they are all some distance from Indianapolis, demanding an onerous commute for Indianapolis residents in search of graduate training in political science.

¹ This publication is both the most recent and most comprehensive source of information on graduate programs in political science in the United States and Canada.

² The U.S. Census Bureau's *Statistical Abstract of the United States 2000* shows 12 cities with larger populations than Indianapolis—in descending order they are New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, Philadelphia, San Diego, Phoenix, San Antonio, Dallas, Detroit, Honolulu, and San Jose. The APSA Directory shows at least one MA program in political science (and in most cases, more than one) available in each of those 12 cities, and in most of the large cities that are smaller than Indianapolis, such as Boston and San Francisco.

³ The Department of History and Political Science at the University of Indianapolis offers an MA in International Relations, but it is multidisciplinary in nature, and political science is only one of several academic elements in the program, which includes courses in history and economics.

Objective 2: improve the professional abilities and understanding of those already employed in state, local, or urban government. We anticipate demand for this program from staff members of the Indiana State Legislature, the Governor's Office, City-County government departments, township government, non-governmental organizations, and private corporations that have relationships to state, local, and urban government, think-tanks, state, and local political parties and campaigns, and professional lobbying organizations. The presence of such students in our seminars will be a valuable resource in itself, but the program will also provide them with opportunities to interact in an academic setting, thus improving their professional abilities.

Objective 3: provide students with skills that will help them find positions in an appropriate professional setting. The applied dimension of the courses offered in the program will combine with the real-world experience offered by the mandatory internship to train a cohort of graduate students with the skills and knowledge needed to make them more competitive in their search for full-time employment in the field.

Objective 4: provide a foundation for those wishing to pursue a PhD in political science at another institution. Although we do not expect that many of our graduates will go on to seek the PhD, instead seeking – or continuing – employment in state and local government, the program will provide those interested in continuing their graduate education elsewhere with the necessary tools to do so. In terms of credits required, courses offered, and the rigor of preparation, our program will be equivalent to the MA programs of institutions offering the PhD.

b. Features

The MA in Political Science will integrate a group of four core courses with a cluster of electives, an internship experience, and a thesis. Together, these will offer students the opportunity to study the structure of state and local government institutions, the forces that come to bear on those institutions and influence the decisions they reach, and the norms and values that color state, local, and urban government in the United States. The program will focus on the US experience, but courses will also be offered that will

- give students a grounding in the study of political science at the graduate level
- allow students to compare state and local politics in different countries
- allow students to study the implications for state and local government in the US of developments in the global political and economic system.

Students will be able to apply their classroom learning to real-world experiences offered through internships with state and local government and/or institutions that work with government (such as interest groups and lobbying firms). Furthermore, students will complete a thesis under the supervision of faculty members that will allow them to combine their classroom and real-world learning in an intensive study of a particular problem or phenomenon. The thesis will be designed as a capstone exercise that will allow students to integrate multiple themes explored in their classroom and internship experiences.

Over the last few years, changes in the personnel of the Department of Political Science have not only increased the proportion of faculty qualified in the fields of state, local, and urban politics, but – by bringing in new faculty with stronger interests in research - have also strengthened the abilities of our faculty to offer graduate courses and oversee the writing of graduate theses.

In terms of the impact that the program will have on departmental faculty resources, some of the graduate courses will initially be cross-listed with courses offered at the undergraduate level, and faculty will teach both at the same time (with an additional set of requirements for graduates). Furthermore, the program will include courses taught by part-time faculty, the costs of whom will be met with tuition income. True, there will be an increased advising and mentoring load on full-time faculty, as well as the new demand of overseeing the writing of theses. However, we are prepared to undertake the additional work, and we believe that the program will have longer-term benefits in that it will help attract to the Department high-quality full-time faculty who might not apply to come to IUPUI were we to remain purely an undergraduate Department. In three recent job searches, the fact that we were considering the development of an MA program was of considerable interest to all candidates.

We are confident that there will be no significant adverse impact on our undergraduate course offerings, or on our offerings of required courses for the major. We can continue to offer our full range of undergraduate courses – while also offering as many as 4-6 graduate courses per year – with our existing full-time faculty resources, supplemented by part-time faculty. Over the medium term, we hope that full-time faculty will offer all of the courses as discrete graduate courses, especially as we are confident that the steady rise in undergraduate enrollments and in majors and minors that the department has seen in recent years will – if sustained – allow us in due course to add new full-time faculty lines.

2. Admissions and Clientele

a. Admission Requirements

In line with the criteria established by the Indiana University Graduate School, students wishing to be admitted to the MA program in Political Science would – at a minimum – have to have a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, with a GPA of at least 3.0 (on a scale of 4.0). We would also require GRE scores averaging 500 with at least one score of 550 or better. Appropriate work experience and undergraduate coursework would be taken into account in making decisions about admission. Thus preference would be given to students with an undergraduate major in political science or a closely related discipline. If students did not have sufficient preparation in political science (that is, at least 15 hours of undergraduate political science credits), they might be admitted conditionally and/or required to take foundation courses in political science. Students could avoid taking additional undergraduate courses by entering the Graduate Continuing Non-degree Program and taking graduate courses from our department before entering the MA program. Also, incoming students would be required to take

Y570 – Introduction to the Study of Politics to ensure that all students in the program had a foundation course in political science.

For applicants whose native language is not English, or who have not received a degree from a certified American university, a minimum TOEFL score of 550 or equivalent would be required.

Applicants would be required to submit a statement of interest, three letters of recommendation, and GRE scores. Admission decisions would be made by a three-member Political Science Graduate Committee (see 5c below). Final decisions, of course, would be made by the Graduate Office at IUPUI.

b. Anticipated Student Clientele

The Department has maintained a record of requests from alumni and from others in the community enquiring as to whether and/or when we have/will have a graduate program. We have typically received 8 to 12 such requests each year, by letter, phone call or e-mail. We do not seek information on the individuals who enquire, or their motivation and career plans, nor have we systematically recorded all the inquiries (not all faculty have remembered to file the requests received). It does, however, indicate a significant potential level of demand. A representative selection of such inquiries can be found in Appendix I.

We anticipate that most students in the program will be part-time and will be based in Marion County and the eight surrounding counties, and that a significant number may be working in – or wish to work in – state and local government in Indiana, or for organizations that lobby or have other links with state and local government.

The program will be designed to meet the needs of part-time and currently-employed professionals, and that is why many courses will be offered in the evenings and on weekends. We anticipate that only a few students will be traditional full-time students. Some may wish to use the program as the foundation for pursuing PhD-level graduate training at another institution, but we anticipate that a significant number will go no further than this program, instead seeing it as a means to career development.

We also anticipate that the program may be of interest to students in professional and pre-professional programs at IUPUI, such as law and health care.

c. Enrollment Limits

Based on the numbers of inquiries received over the years from students about our plans for a graduate program, and on enrollments in other MA programs offered by the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts, we believe it will be most practical to initially limit enrollments to ten new students per year, while realistically expecting no more than five students per year to meet the qualifications. Limits will be achieved by selecting only the ten best students from the applicant pool each year. As the program progresses, the number of new admissions may be increased, although we will make sure that the quality of admitted students remains the same.

d. Financial Support

It is anticipated that – at least initially - there will be only limited financial support available for part-time students, since it is assumed that most will be employed outside the university, and thus will either be able to pay their own way, or may even receive financial support from their employers. For full-time students, meanwhile, several sources of potential funding are possible:

- employment as research assistants by faculty with grants
- support from campus block grants to schools designed to assist faculty with their research or with the development of grant proposals
- partial scholarships funded by IU Foundation accounts. While only one such scholarship currently exists – the Kirch Scholarship, which makes annual awards of \$750 to two political science students – the department will actively explore additional sources of support for graduate students
- employment as interns on campus, notably in the Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory, or the receipt of matching funds from institutions with which students are undertaking internships
- paid internships with any one of a number of government or non-governmental agencies based in Indianapolis.

3. Proposed Curriculum

a. Requirements

Students in the MA program in Political Science would be required to complete 33 credit hours, including four required ***core courses*** that would provide broad-based training in state, local, and urban government and politics, and ***electives*** that would allow students to develop a particular specialty. The coursework would be complemented by an ***internship*** that would provide the opportunity for an intensive applied learning experience in state or local government, and the graduate experience would be capped by the writing and defense of a ***thesis***, supervised by full-time political science faculty.

All students would have to receive a grade of B- or better in any course for it to count toward the MA. In order to continue enrollment in the program and to receive the degree, students would have to maintain a grade point average of B (3.0) or better. No undergraduate courses could be applied to this MA program.

Based on the personal experience of full-time faculty in the department, we think that motivated full-time students could complete the program in 18 months, although two years is more likely to be the norm. Meanwhile, part-time students – assuming they completed one course per semester – could complete the program in three years. All requirements would have to be completed within five consecutive years.

- **Core courses** (12 cr.) – Take all four courses:

POLS Y570 - Introduction to the Study of Politics (3 cr.)
 POLS Y580 - Research Methods in Political Science (3 cr.)
 POLS Y620 - State Politics (3 cr.)
 POLS Y622 - Urban Politics (3 cr.)

- **Electives** (9-12 cr.) - Select three or four of the following courses (of which at least two should be political science courses):

POLS Y575 – Political Data Analysis (3 cr.)
 POLS Y628 – State Electoral Politics (3 cr.)
 POLS Y630 – State Executive Politics (3 cr.)
 POLS Y640 – State Parties and Interest Groups (3 cr.)
 POLS Y642 - Comparative Federalism (3 cr.)
 POLS Y661 – American Politics (3 cr.)
 POLS Y680 – Readings in Political Science (3 cr. max.)
 SOC S612 – Political Sociology (3 cr.)
 SPEA V564 - Urban Management (3 cr.)
 SPEA V597 - Land Use Planning (3 cr.)
 SPEA V622 - Seminar in Urban Economic Development (3 cr.)
 SPEA P540 - Community and Neighborhood Development Planning (3 cr.)
 SPEA V571 - State and Local Environmental Management (3 cr.)

- **Internship** (3-6 cr.)

POLS Y881 – Internship in Political Science (3-6 cr.)

For this element of the program, a student would be placed with a state, local, or urban government institution, or with an organization having operational ties with such an institution (for example, an interest group or a lobbying organization). Students already employed as state or local government officials could petition the Political Science Graduate Committee to allow new work experience with their existing employer to fulfill this requirement.

Depending on whether they are taking 3 or 6 credit hours, interns would be expected to work 5 to 10 hours per week with the institution (or 10 to 20 hours in the summer), and would be evaluated and graded on the basis of the nature and quality of their work with that institution (as measured by their employer) (50% of the grade) and of a research paper tied to their on-the-job experience (50% of the grade). The Political Science Graduate Committee would be responsible for approving the placement of the student and the requirements of the internship.

The Department has for many years run an undergraduate internship program, and thus has contacts in state and local government, and experience with finding positions and placing students.

- ***Thesis*** (6 cr.)

POLS Y880 – Thesis (MA) (may be taken in blocks of 1-6 cr.)

For this element, a student would develop and write a thesis supervised by a three-member committee of full-time faculty. The thesis would be at least 75 pages in length, would explore a research question related to some aspect of state, local, or urban politics, and would demonstrate the ability of a student to work independently on that topic, and to apply both theoretical insight and methodological skills to a substantive issue. A student would be required to successfully defend the thesis before his/her committee.

The thesis is not specifically intended to prepare students to go on to complete a PhD, but is rather designed to allow the student to bring together themes from their course of study in the MA into a significant research exercise.

b. Sample curricula

i. Full-time student (three semesters plus summers)

Fall I	Y570 – Introduction to the Study of Politics (3 cr.)
	Y622 – Urban Politics (3 cr.)
	V564 – Urban Management (3 cr.)
Spring I	Y580 – Research Methods in Political Science (3 cr.)
	Y620 – State Politics (3 cr.)
Summer I	Y881 – Internship in Political Science (6 cr.)
	Y880 – Thesis (3 cr.)
Fall II	Y640 – State Parties and Interest Groups (3 cr.)
	S612 – Political Sociology (3 cr.)
	Y880 – Thesis (3 cr.)

ii. Part-time student (six semesters plus summers)

Fall I	Y570 – Introduction to the Study of Politics (3 cr.)
Spring I	Y580 – Research Methods in Political Science (3 cr.)
Summer I	Y881 – Internship in Political Science (6 cr.)
Fall II	Y622 – Urban Politics (3 cr.)
Spring II	Y642 – Comparative Federalism (3 cr.)
Fall III	Y630 – State Executive Politics (3 cr.)
	V564 – Urban Management (3 cr.)
	Y880 – Thesis (3 cr.)
Spring III	Y620 – State Politics (3 cr.)
	Y880 – Thesis (3 cr.)

c. Course descriptions

All these courses already exist, except those marked * (proposals for which were approved by the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts Graduate Curriculum Committee in

spring 2003, and which are currently working their way through the Indiana University approval process), and those marked ** (proposals for which will be submitted to the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts Graduate Curriculum Committee in spring 2004).

i. Required courses

POLS Y570 - Introduction to the Study of Politics (3 cr.)

Problems of graduate study and professional scholarship; central organizing concepts and the use of theory in political science and related disciplines; specialized areas of research and scholarship in political science; conditions of scientific inquiry and methodological problems in the study of political phenomena; central importance of theory in explanation.

POLS Y580 – Research Methods in Political Science (3 cr.)

This course examines the many different methods used in undertaking research in political science, from quantitative methods such as statistical analysis, to qualitative methods such as interviewing and gathering material from primary sources. Includes computer processing of data.

*** POLS Y620 – State Politics (3 cr.)**

This course examines the institutions and processes by which state governments carry out their responsibilities. Examines their place in the broader national system of government, and the structure of government and administration at the state level.

*** POLS Y622 – Urban Politics (3 cr.)**

This course looks at the problems and possibilities of city and metropolitan government in the United States. Examines the structure of urban government, and the political and administrative challenges posed by metropolitan issues.

ii. Electives

****POLS Y628 – State and Local Electoral Politics (3 cr.)**

This course examines the role of state and local government in the electoral process (including redistricting, the organization of elections, and the tabulation and release of results), and the structure of elections, voter participation patterns, and the impact of elections on politics and government.

***POLS Y630 – State Executive Politics (3 cr.)**

This course examines the role in state politics of governors. Surveys the historical development of the office of governor, then looks at the many roles of governors: political, party, legislative, and administrative.

***POLS Y640 – State Parties and Interest Groups (3 cr.).**

This course examines the structure and role of parties and interest groups at the state level. Examines the relationship between state and national parties and groups, and between state parties and groups and local government.

****POLS Y642 – Comparative Federalism (3 cr.).**

This course investigates the nature of federalism by comparing its structure and effects in the United States with federalism as practiced in selected other countries or entities, such as Canada, Germany, India and the European Union.

SPEA V564 – Urban Management (3 cr.).

This course deals with the management of public policy in American urban government, with special attention to the relationships between structure, process, and policy. Examines urban management problems relating to leadership, planning, and operations.

SPEA V597 – Land Use Planning (3 cr.).

This course examines the theoretical basis and practical need for land use planning. Emphasis is placed on the institutional context in which land use planning occurs. The course provides an in-depth analysis and exercise in plan preparations.

SPEA V622 – Seminar in Urban Economic Development (3 cr.).

Reading, discussion, and research into problems of urban economic development in the US. Case study approach used to investigate job creation, financial incentives, development corporations, and other factors that have led to successful economic development plans and projects.

SPEA P540 – Community and Neighborhood Development Planning (3 cr.).

Examination of the role of neighborhoods in planning; methods of neighborhood analysis; government intervention; issues in community development; planning for neighborhood and community development, including citizen participation and institutional mechanisms; and implementation.

SPEA V571 – State and Local Environmental Management (3 cr.).

This course examines a mix of management and policy issues. Included are civic environmentalism, alternatives to environmental regulation, unfunded mandates, environmental justice, public relations, outsourcing, ethical challenges, and managing scientific and technical personnel.

NOTE: There are no appropriate courses offered by the School of Business, the School of Law, or the Center on Philanthropy.

4. Form of Recognition

- a. A student who has successfully completed the requirements for the MA degree will receive a Master of Arts degree in Political Science from the Indiana University Graduate School, to be conferred at the IUPUI graduation ceremony. This form of recognition is consistent with those offered by other graduate programs in the School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI.
- b. The CIP code for Political Science is 451001.
- c. The student's diploma will read Master of Arts, Indiana University, Indianapolis.

5. Program Faculty

a. Existing Faculty

The Department has 11 full-time faculty, who cover a wide range of substantive and methodological specialties. Most publish actively, and several have external research grants. While every member of the Department (except our two lecturers, who are required to teach only gateway undergraduate courses) would be able to contribute in some way to the MA program, the bulk of offerings initially would come from faculty with particular interests in state, local, and urban politics.

Dr. Ellen Andersen, Asst. Professor (PhD, University of Michigan)

Research and teaching interests: Parties and interest groups, political behavior, public law. Prof. Andersen would bring her particular focus on parties and interest groups to the MA program, having taught this topic several times at the undergraduate level.

Dr Ramla Bandele, Asst. Professor (PhD, Northwestern University)

Research and teaching interests: Black politics, urban politics, public policy. Prof. Bandele would bring to the program many years of real-world experience in Illinois state government and Chicago city government, and has teaching and research interests in urban politics.

Dr. William Blomquist, Assoc. Professor (PhD, Indiana University)

Research and teaching interests: Indiana state politics, urban politics. Prof. Blomquist has taught our undergraduate courses in Indiana state government, state politics, and urban politics. Further, the nature of state politics in the US has been at the core of his ongoing research interests.

Dr. Margaret Ferguson, Assoc. Professor (PhD, University of North Carolina)

Research and teaching interests: State politics, state executives and legislatures. Prof. Ferguson is the department's primary expert in state politics, having taught our undergraduate course on that topic for several years, and having undertaken extensive research into gubernatorial politics in the US. She is also director of our undergraduate internship program, and can lend her knowledge and skills to the proposed graduate internship program.

Susan Erickson, Lecturer (MA, University of California, Berkeley)

Teaching interests: US politics, media and politics, women and politics.

Dr. Johnny Goldfinger, Asst. Professor (PhD, Duke University)

Research and teaching interests: Political theory and philosophy. Prof. Goldfinger's primary contribution to the MA – at least initially – would be with Y570 and Y580.

Colleen Long, Lecturer (MPA, Ohio State University)

Teaching interests: US politics, public policy.

Dr. John McCormick, Professor and Chair (PhD, Indiana University)

Research and teaching interests: Comparative politics. Prof. McCormick will bring a comparative element to the program, having a particular interest in the different models and principles of federalism around the world.

Dr. Scott Pegg, Asst. Professor (PhD, University of British Columbia)

Research and teaching interests: International relations, globalization. Prof. Pegg has more experience of teaching graduate courses than any other member of the department; before joining the faculty he taught at a university with a PhD program, taught a number of graduate courses in international relations, and supervised a number of graduate theses. His primary contribution to the MA – at least initially – would be with Y570.

Dr. Brian Vargus, Professor (PhD, Indiana University)

Research and teaching interests: Indiana state and local politics, research methods, elections and campaigns. Former Director, Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory. Prof. Vargus has many years of direct experience of Indiana state government and politics through his work in survey research, has taught numerous undergraduate and graduate courses in survey research at IUPUI, and has a strong reputation as a media expert on Indiana state politics.

Dr. James Wallihan, Professor (PhD, Indiana University)

Research and teaching interests: Mediation, negotiation, public policy. Anticipated retirement year is 2005.

(Note: Blomquist, McCormick, Pegg and Vargus are full members of the Indiana University Graduate Faculty, Wallihan is an associate member, Andersen and Ferguson will have applications submitted in Spring 2004, and Bandele and Goldfinger will have applications submitted once they qualify. The lack of Graduate Faculty status, however, does not prevent faculty from teaching graduate courses or serving on MA thesis committees.) (See Appendix II for CVs.)

In addition, the Department will use appropriately qualified part-time faculty for selected courses, including several who have already taught for us; they include **John Sweezy**, former chair of the Indiana Republican Party, **Paula Parker-Sawyers**, a former deputy mayor of Indianapolis, and **Andy Jacobs**, a former member of the US House of Representatives, who is interested in developing a team-taught course with Prof. Bill Blomquist. The advantage of having such faculty in the program is that they can bring important and valuable real-world experience into the classroom. It should be

emphasized, however, that they will be used only in a supplementary fashion, and that the bulk of courses will be taught by full-time faculty.

b. New faculty needed

We have concluded that no new full-time faculty are needed immediately for this program, for the following reasons:

- All graduate courses will (at least initially) be taught either (a) by full-time faculty for combined undergraduate/graduate credit or (b) by appropriately qualified part-time faculty.
- According to the American Political Science Association's *Survey of Political Science Departments, 2000-01*, of 82 political science departments offering the MA as highest degree, 41 had 11 or more FTE faculty, and 41 had 10 or fewer. With 11 full-time faculty, the Department has almost exactly the median number of FTE faculty among political science departments offering the MA as highest degree.
- Departments within the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts that have fewer or similar numbers of FTE - Geography, Philosophy, and Spanish - already offer MA programs.

Having said this, however, we will need to recruit a few additional part-time faculty to (a) teach or team-teach some graduate courses and (b) supplement our introductory undergraduate offerings, replacing full-time faculty who are teaching graduate courses. By planning strategically, we are confident that the costs of part-time faculty can be met out of tuition. Over the longer term, however, we would hope to given the opportunity to recruit additional tenure-track faculty to help meet anticipated growing demand for our undergraduate and graduate offerings.

c. Program administration

The program will be administered by a Director of Graduate Studies, who will chair the Graduate Committee, which will be composed of the Director and two other full-time faculty members within the Department. The Director (who cannot also be Chair of the Department) will be a tenured faculty member, will be appointed by the Chair with departmental approval, and will be given one-course release per year in order to administer the program. He/she will serve as liaison with the IU Graduate School, become familiar with university procedures, and formulate new departmental guidelines.

The Graduate Committee will oversee the general administration of the program, including such tasks as publicizing the program and recruiting new students, reviewing applications and admitting students to the program, monitoring student achievement, and assisting students in the selection of thesis directors and committee members. The committee will also approve all internships, with the help of our undergraduate internship coordinator. The Director will have the principal duties of the placement and advising of students, overseeing and ensuring the maintenance and smooth operation of the program, and advising the Department Chair on issues such as scheduling courses.

6. Needed Learning Resources

No new resources are needed. The University Library already has significant holdings in the field of state, local, and urban politics, including a substantial collection of texts and subscriptions to several top journals (such as *Comparative State Politics and Policy*, *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, and *Governing*). During 2002, the Department worked with the Library to close subscriptions to journals that were no longer considered of value, and to use the not inconsiderable savings to open subscriptions to more useful journals. It will continue to work with the Library to ensure a greater focus on the development of appropriate and relevant holdings.

Most importantly, however, the greatest resource that the university enjoys – and the one area in which IUPUI most obviously has an advantage over almost every other institution of higher learning in the state of Indiana – is its proximity to the offices (and the resources) of state government and of the city government of the state capital. The documentary and library holdings of both institutions represent a substantial resource for students enrolled in the program.

7. Program Strengths

There are four special features that inform the character of the proposed program and give it particular distinction:

- 1) the strengths of the full-time faculty in the Department of Political Science. With retirement replacements, we have undergone significant changes in the past few years, as faculty who were known primarily for their teaching have been replaced by faculty who are both good teachers and productive researchers. This has resulted – among other things – in a strengthening of our ability to service a graduate program in general, and a program in state and local politics in particular.
- 2) the proximity of IUPUI to the institutions of the state government of Indiana and the city government of Indianapolis. Of all the colleges and universities in the state, IUPUI is best placed to offer a program of this kind.
- 3) the absence of any other graduate programs in state and local politics anywhere else in the state of Indiana, and, indeed, in the United States. This provides an opportunity that IUPUI is well placed to exploit.
- 4) links between the Department and the IU Public Opinion Laboratory (POL). An interdisciplinary survey research center, the POL undertakes research for state and local government and for the private sector in Indiana, and would offer valuable opportunities for the education of students in the MA program.

These factors combine to create the opportunity to establish a leading MA program in state and local politics, which will complement the growing family of MA programs in the School of Liberal Arts.

C. PROGRAM RATIONALE

1. Institutional Factors

a. Compatibility with institutional mission

The development of graduate programs at IUPUI has been a goal of the state since 1973, when the Indiana Higher Education Commission issued a report (*Indiana Plan for Post-Secondary Education: Phase One*) recommending the continued development of graduate programs at IUPUI “to meet the special and changing needs of the state’s most populous area.” The report also urged IUPUI to “develop new graduate programs that are uniquely suited to its urban needs, are built on academic strengths of the campus, and meet specialized statewide needs not satisfied elsewhere.”

IUPUI’s *Development Plan: 1987-2000* (published 1987) argued that the university “had evolved to the point where the development of graduate programs in the basic academic areas was recognized as essential to the further development of both the medical center and the other professional schools.”

Under the leadership of deans such as James East, William Plater, John Barlow, and Herman Saatkamp, the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts has expanded its graduate programming. It has been capitalizing on the strengths of the School to offer new educational opportunities for students in the central Indiana area, as illustrated by the master’s programs in Communication Studies, Economics, English, Geography, History, Philosophy, Sociology, and Spanish, and the PhD program in Philanthropic Studies.

At the campus level, the proposed MA in Political Science responds to and reflects the mission of IUPUI outlined in the 1996 *Strategic Directions Charter*; this calls for provide “strong programs in ... graduate education that complement undergraduate programs and serve local, state, and national constituencies,” a strengthening of partnerships with area organizations, and contributions to “the economic and human development of the local community.”

The program would build on the academic strengths of IUPUI by utilizing the location and resources of a department of political science on a campus in a dynamic urban setting. Indianapolis figures prominently in studies of the changes that have taken place in recent years in the government of large metropolitan areas. Furthermore, IUPUI’s location minutes away from the offices of state, county, and city government makes it the logical site for a program of this kind. The presence in the Department of Political Science of faculty with specialties in state, local, and urban politics rounds out the benefits of such a program.

This proposal is in keeping with the guidelines of the Commission on Higher Education, the mission of Indiana University as a whole, and the most recent plans for the IUPUI campus and the School of Liberal Arts. It is uniquely suited to the urban needs of Indianapolis; is built on the academic strengths of the campus, the School of Liberal Arts, and the Department of Political Science; and meets specialized statewide needs not satisfied elsewhere.

b. Planning process

The possibilities of a graduate program in Political Science at IUPUI have been under discussion for a decade or more, but the Department has been reticent until now to proceed because of concerns about inadequate full-time faculty resources; for many years the Department had just six full-time faculty. However, recent changes have not only brought FTE numbers to 11, but have seen new prominence among those faculty of specializations in state, local, and urban politics. We believe that we now have enough qualified full-time faculty to offer a graduate program.

The content of this proposal has been thoroughly discussed at several department meetings and in conversations among faculty, and it represents a consensus of the views of the full-time faculty members of the Department.

The national office of the American Political Science Association has been consulted on the institutions that currently offer graduate programs in political science, and its *Directory of Graduate Faculty and Programs in Political Science* and *Survey of Political Science Departments* have been used as sources of information and data on those programs. The Web sites of some of these institutions were consulted with a view to understanding how these programs were structured, comparing requirements, and learning about the courses they offered.

We have also been in close contact with Ball State University (BSU), which offers a limited number of graduate courses in political science in Indianapolis as part of its MA program in political science. During the 1994-95 academic year, representatives of BSU and IUPUI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) concerning graduate education in political science within Indianapolis-Marion County. Under the MOU, IUPUI and BSU agreed to establish a plan for a joint MA degree under which teaching resources would be combined, faculty members from the two political science departments would have adjunct status, the two departments would coordinate course offerings and faculty resources, distance education offerings would be explored, and the two departments would integrate internship offerings.

In discussions during 2003, the chairs of the two departments agreed on a more modest level of cooperation, given that the BSU MA program covers the political science discipline more broadly defined, while the IUPUI program intends to focus on state and local politics – thus there is little overlap between the two in terms of course offerings. At the same time, the two chairs agreed to coordinate course offerings and faculty resources, so that courses of interest that were offered by one program would be cross-listed with the other. They agreed that this would be an ongoing process.

During the summer of 2002, early drafts of this proposal were discussed with Dean Herman J. Saatkamp Jr. of the School of Liberal Arts and with Dr. William Schneider, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs in the School. They both made a number of suggestions that are reflected in this finished document.

Also during the summer of 2002, a copy of a draft of this proposal was discussed with the Prof. Jim Perry, Associate Dean of the School of Public and Environmental

Affairs, with Prof. Sam Nunn, Director of Graduate Programs for Planning and Public Affairs in SPEA, and Dr. Cynthia Baker, Director of the Program on Law and State Government at the IU School of Law in Indianapolis. None raised objections or concerns.

The Resources and Planning Committee of the IUPUI School of Liberal Arts three times reviewed the proposal during 2003, and significant changes were made – and further elaboration offered – at their suggestion. The budget was developed by the Indiana University Budget Office in Bloomington, and was reviewed by Rick Hanson, Business Officer of the School of Liberal Arts.

c. Impact on other programs

No other program at IUPUI offers the equivalent of a master's program in political science. The Department of Political Science has for several years offered undergraduate courses in State and Local Politics, Indiana State Politics, and Urban Politics, but these do not offer students the same opportunities as would a graduate program.

The IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) offers an MPA program, but we believe that the MA and MPA programs can coexist and prosper on the same campus. The MA and MPA combination on a single campus is a common occurrence; according to the APSA Directory, 48 campuses in the United States are home to both a political science MA and a public affairs or public administration MPA.

Just as important, however, are the enrollment patterns that appear on those campuses. Of the 45 campuses for which the APSA Directory has enrollment data, the MPA program had the greater enrollment at 38 (84.4%). At only four campuses (8.9%) did the MA program have more students than the MPA program, and three campuses (6.7%) reported equal enrollment in both programs. These data make it clear that MPA programs have nothing to fear from the presence of MA programs in political science at the same campus.

In the particular case of IUPUI and our proposal for an MA program in political science, there is even further assurance of a positive impact on the MPA. Appropriate graduate courses in SPEA could be taken by MA students in political science and applied toward their degree. Thus our MA program may provide our colleagues in SPEA with a modest number of additional students in those courses.⁴

We do not believe that the program will have any significant negative impact on other graduate departments of political science in the state, because (a) our program will cover an area of study not currently offered by any other institution in the state and (b) most of those other institutions have PhD programs, and thus mainly attract students

⁴ Furthermore, our faculty and the SPEA faculty have established an increasing number of collegial relationships and interactions. Three SPEA faculty at IUPUI (Jim Perry, Sheila Kennedy, and Les Lenkowsky) currently hold adjunct appointments in political science. The Political Science department and SPEA jointly offer undergraduate courses, and they collaborate on the biennial Bulen Symposium on American Politics. The establishment of graduate courses and an MA in political science at IUPUI are sure to provide additional opportunities for such collaboration.

interested in a PhD rather than a terminal MA. Such impact as it might have would be positive, in the sense that it might feed students who decide – on the basis of their experience with us – to complete a PhD in those other programs.

As noted earlier, Ball State University offers a limited number of graduate political science courses in Indianapolis as part of its MA program, but we are cooperating with Ball State in order to ensure that there is no overlap or competition between the two programs.

d. Utilization of existing resources

The program would make better use of the skills of Departmental faculty. While servicing the needs of undergraduates is clearly our overwhelming priority, the relationship between a faculty member and a graduate requires the exercise of a different set of abilities. Several faculty are engaged in research which – while useful to the courses they teach at the moment – is not as fully utilized as it would be before an audience of graduate students.

2. Student Demand

Based on current inquiries to the Department, discussions with professionals, a review of enrollment figures in existing MA programs within the School of Liberal Arts, and an analysis of regional employment in state and local government, we anticipate that the goal of admitting no more than ten students per year, while expecting only five students to qualify, is realistic. We also expect that the level of interest will rise as the program progresses.

Consider the following figures. According to the Census Bureau's Statistical Abstract of the United States 2000, an estimated 403,000 Indiana residents were employed by government in 1999, accounting for nearly 14% of all employment in the state. Nearly half of that total government employment in Indiana is at the level of state and local government. The state is one of the largest employers in Indianapolis-Marion County, while city-county government employs more than 11,000 people. Although our MA program will appeal to many students who are not directly employed by local, state, or urban government, such figures provide some indication of the dimensions of the public sector in our city and region.

Also, our program will attract some of the students enrolled in other graduate programs at IUPUI who need electives, thus making our courses more viable as stand-alones.

3. Transferability

Because approval for the graduate courses in this program has been and will be secured through the normal curriculum committee procedures of the IU Graduate School, there should be no difficulty transferring credit within the Indiana University system, nor to

other institutions within the state. Course numbers are standardized throughout the IU system, and – while we do not expect that many students will want to transfer between campuses, given that many of those in our program will be professionally-oriented – there should be no problems making transfers.

4. Demand and Employment Factors

We expect that demand for the program will be steady, and will rise as it becomes better established. Potential employers include state, local, and urban government (in Indiana and elsewhere), non-governmental organizations, think-tanks, private corporations with an interest in the activities of state, local, and urban government, political party organizations, political campaigns, and professional lobbying organizations.

5. Regional, State, and National Factors

There is nothing similar to the proposed program in the state, the region, or indeed the country. We believe this may well be a ground-breaking venture, which – in addition to closing the gap presented by the absence of an MA program in political science in central Indiana (and especially Indianapolis) – promises to have long-term benefits for students, the School of Liberal Arts, IUPUI, Indianapolis, and the central Indiana region. Every member of the Department of Political Science is excited at the prospect that, after many years of discussion and reflection, we are now in the position to offer a graduate program of national significance.

D. PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION

1. Implementation

We believe that, once approved, this program could be fully implemented within 18 months. The faculty to teach the necessary courses are already on the staff of the Department, or are working part-time with the Department, and all the key courses either are already in the IU system, or are working their way through the approval process. Once the program is approved, a Director of Graduate Studies will be selected, and members of the Graduate Committee will be appointed.

We would plan to offer four graduate courses in the first year, growing to a maximum of six courses from the second or third year, depending upon demand. We anticipate that some of these courses will initially be crosslisted with their undergraduate equivalents. Thus *Y620 – State Politics* might be crosslisted with *Y306 – State Politics in the US*, *Y622 – Urban Politics* might be crosslisted with *Y308 – Urban Politics*, and so on. As the program progresses, however, the graduate courses will become free-standing, and we would hope that there would very quickly be no crosslisted courses remaining.

2. Evaluation

The Graduate Committee will continually monitor enrollments, student grades and progress, the quality and completion of theses, and the transition of students to professional life. Exit interviews will be conducted with all graduating students to determine the effectiveness of the program and to help identify needed changes and improvements. Follow-up interviews will also be conducted after three and five years to learn how graduates feel about the role the program has played in their professional development. Once a sufficient body of graduates has accumulated, the Department will also seek out the views of employers regarding the structure of the program. With time, an alumni board will be created to advise the Department. The success of the program will be defined in terms of demand (as measured by enrollment), the responses of students to exit and follow-up interviews, and comments from employers.

E. PROGRAM BUDGET

See attachment for details. The primary costs of the program will be as follows:

- 1) time taken away from existing full-time faculty teaching obligations, as they offer selected courses for both graduate and undergraduate credit, teach free-standing graduate courses, and oversee the writing of graduate theses.
- 2) the costs of hiring part-time faculty to teach selected graduate courses. Faculty with a doctoral degree (PhD or JD, for example) are currently paid approximately \$2400 per section.
- 3) the costs of hiring part-time faculty to teach the undergraduate courses that would otherwise have been taught by those full-time faculty who are instead teaching graduate courses. The Director of the program will be given one course release per year, and full-time faculty will be teaching a maximum of one graduate course each per year.

We believe that these costs can be covered primarily by tuition income.

F. APPENDICES

- I. Sample inquiries from students.
- II. Faculty accomplishments (copies of faculty CVs).
- III. Letters of support from faculty and community members.