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MEMORANDUM

To: Donna E. Shalala, President

From: Richard L. Williamson
Chair, Faculty Senate

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard L. Williamson'.

Date: October 28, 2010

Subject: Faculty Senate Legislation #2010-03(B) – Merge the Departments of International Studies and Political Science in the College of Arts and Sciences

At its October 27, 2010 meeting, the Faculty Senate approved the proposal to merge the separate Departments of International Studies and Political Science in the College of Arts and Sciences, and create a single Department of Political Science and International Studies, offering two majors at the undergraduate level.

The proposal is enclosed for your reference.

This legislation is now forwarded to you for your action.


RW/rh

Enclosure (proposal)

cc: Thomas LeBlanc, Executive Vice President and Provost
Leonidas Bachas, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Dan Pals, Senior Associate Dean
Bruce Bagley, Chair, Department of International Studies
Fred Frohock, Chair, Department of Political Science

CAPSULE: Merge the Departments of International Studies and Political Science in the College of Arts and Sciences

PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE

APPROVED:  DATE: 11/03/10
(President's Signature)

OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL TO IMPLEMENT: DEAN LEONIDAS BACHAS

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LEGISLATION: IMMEDIATELY
(if other than June 1 next following)

NOT APPROVED AND REFERRED TO: _____

REMARKS (IF NOT APPROVED): _____

**A Proposal for the Creation of a
Department of Political Science and International Studies
College of Arts & Science, University of Miami**

Submitted to the Faculty of the College and the General Welfare Committee by
the Departments of International Studies and Political Science

October 1, 2010

I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

In September 2008, Dr. Michael Halleran, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, appointed Drs. Bruce Bagley (Chair, International Studies) and Fred Frohock (Chair, Political Science), to co-chair a Task Force composed of six-members drawn equally from the Departments of Political Science and International Studies to consider ways to improve political science education, teaching and research at the University of Miami.

The Task Force met four times during the fall semester to consider the options of either: (1) retaining the status quo; (2) enhancing cooperation while remaining separate units; or (3) moving toward a merger and full integration. After careful review and discussion, the recommendation that the task force submitted to the Dean and Departments was the latter: merger and full integration into a single Department of Political Science and International Studies.

The principal rationale for the recommendation was threefold. A merger would:

1. Enhance the overall quality of both departments and, thereby, raise the ranking of the University of Miami among AAU-like Universities in the field of political science by creating a single department of approximately 30 tenured and tenure-track research professors focused on issues of politics, international relations and public policy.
2. Rationalize course offerings and teaching personnel utilization at the undergraduate level and, thereby, optimize available resources dedicated to undergraduate political science and international studies education at UM.
3. Improve and broaden the current INS doctoral program by adding faculty expertise in American politics, political theory, and public administration while building upon INS' current concentrations in international relations theory/foreign policy analysis, comparative politics, and international political economy.

The task force submitted its proposal to the Dean on January 6, 2009. Throughout the spring semester of 2009, review and discussion occurred in both the Office of the Dean and in the departments. These discussions led in time to an endorsement in principle by the Dean and to formal action on the proposal within the two departments. The faculty of the Department of International Studies voted in favor of the proposal unanimously. The faculty of the Department of Political Science also voted in favor, though not unanimously. The final vote tally in the latter department was 10 to 1.

From the beginning of this process, the office of the Provost was advised by the Dean on both the nature of the proposal and attendant discussions and actions on the Departmental and College levels. The Provost also offered a preliminary endorsement in principle.

On February 1, 2010, an earlier version of the present proposal was submitted to the College Council for review. After a discussion in which the Council suggested revisions and deletions that would make the document more concise, it unanimously approved placement of this proposal as an action item on the agenda for the College faculty meetings of February 22, 2010. After review and comment in the meeting of February 22, 2010, the College faculty by consensus approved placement of the proposal on the agenda for its April 6, 2010, meeting, where it received a second reading.

At the April 6, 2010 faculty meeting the proposal – which at the time called for a new, merged “Department of Politics” and, over time, the possible creation of a single undergraduate major in “Politics” – was returned to the two departments to consider preserving the autonomous identity of the “International Studies” in the College. Some College faculty members also expressed concern about promises made by then-Dean Dixon regarding one-to-one replacements of retiring faculty. The proposal here has been revised in light of the points raised by the college faculty. INS and POL faculty members have voted to call the new department the “Department of Political Science and International Studies.” In addition, it has been agreed that the merged department will continue to offer two distinct undergraduate majors including one in International Studies. Minors in both Political Science and International Studies will also remain possible. Finally, with regard to the faculty composition of a merged department, the document below calls for the Chair of the new department to negotiate appointments with the Dean as all other department chairs in the College do.

II. STRUCTURE AND MISSION OF THE NEW, MERGED DEPARTMENT

Governance

Department Chair and Program Directors

In accord with prior College policy and practice among departments of comparable size, the new Department of Political Science and International Studies will have a Chair, a Director of Undergraduate Studies and a Director of Graduate Studies. The Dean and Provost have given approval to a national search for a new senior faculty member to be appointed as Department Chair, with a projected start date at the beginning of the fall term, 2011. This search is of course contingent upon appropriate final approvals by the College faculty, the Graduate School, and the Faculty Senate, as well as by appropriate University administrative officers. Assuming those approvals are granted, the national search will commence by or before the beginning of academic year 2010-11, with expected completion and appointment of the new chair by the end of the spring term of 2011.

Faculty

In addition to the prospective new Chair, the new Department of Political Science and International Studies would be comprised by the combined regular faculty of the two current departments, consisting of twelve full professors, five associate professors, and six assistant professors. Initially the current complement of six full-time lecturers, along with several visiting assistant professor, research-scholars, and part-time adjunct positions would remain as currently configured.

Once appointed, the new Chair would address the future configuration of these positions as a part of negotiations with the College Dean of the kind that take place in normal course with all department Chairs.

Promotion and Tenure Decisions

Reviews for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor of junior faculty hired after the creation of the new Department of Political Science and International Studies will be carried out jointly by all tenured professors within the merged department under College and University guidelines as currently stated and applied.

Faculty hired before the creation of the new department will be able to choose from two options: (1) to be reviewed by a committee of tenured faculty from the original department that hired him/her; or (2) to be reviewed by a committee of all tenured faculty in the merged department.

Administrative Staff

The current administrative staff should be expected to continue in place at the time of the merger. Any changes in staffing support would be addressed in the course of discussions with the new department Chair. During the transition interval of academic year 2010-11 (and possibly beyond, should the search for a Chair not succeed the coming academic year), each department will continue with its current structure of Chair, faculty, administrative staff, and student support personnel (e.g., work-study assignments, etc.) in place as currently configured.

Space and Equipment Needs

Ideally, the Department of Political Science and International Studies will in the reasonably near future be housed within a single building, with offices for all faculty members, administrative staff and doctoral students. In the interim, separate facilities in the Ferré Building (currently INS) and the School of Business (currently POL) will be maintained until adequate facilities become available.

Matters of classroom allocation and usage, "smart" classroom needs, study carrels for graduate students, and other issues pertaining to space and equipment will be addressed by the new Chair in conversations detailing support needs that, as with other departments, occur in the normal course.

III. DEGREES OFFERED

The new Department of Political Science and International Studies will award the following already-existing degrees:

- B.A. in International Studies
- B.A. in Political Science
- Minor in International Studies
- Minor in Political Science
- M.P.A.: Master of Public Administration
- M.A. in International Studies

Ph.D. in International Studies

Any eventual changes to these degrees or the creation of a new degree, such as the Ph.D. degree in Political Science, will be made in accordance with existing University procedures, including review by the College's Curriculum Committee, the Graduate School Council, the Faculty Senate, etc.

IV. EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of the merger will be midnight May 31, 2011. If the search for the Chair is unsuccessful in the year prior to that date, the issue of either retaining the effective date and appointing an Interim Chair or deferring that date until a new search succeeds will be decided by the Dean in consultation with the Provost, the Department Chairs, and the faculty of the two Departments.

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
GRADUATE SCHOOL



Terri A. Scandura, Ph.D.
Dean of the Graduate School

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 29, 2010

TO: Richard Williamson
Chair, Faculty Senate

FROM: Terri A. Scandura *Terri A. Scandura*
Dean, The Graduate School

SUBJECT: Merger of INS/POL Departments

The merger of the Departments of International Studies and Political Science (INS/POL) was discussed at the meeting of the Graduate Council on Thursday, March 25, 2010. An electronic vote was performed and the Graduate Council approved the merger of the INS/POL departments.


cc: Jackie Dixon
Daniel Pals
Bruce Bagley
Fred Frohock

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
COLLEGE of
ARTS & SCIENCES



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TO: General Welfare Committee
Faculty Senate

FROM: Leonidas G. Bachas 
Dean

DATE: October 13, 2010

SUBJECT: Proposed Merger of the Departments of INS and POL

I write to inform you that at a special meeting of the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences convened yesterday, October 12, at 3:30 p.m., the faculty completed, in accord with the College bylaws, a second reading of the proposal to merge the departments of International Studies and Political Science. There was an open discussion of the issue followed by a motion to approve, duly seconded. There were 48 faculty present, 8 in excess of the number needed for a quorum. The faculty voted to support the proposal by a count of 47 in favor and 1 opposed. If you have questions about the deliberations at the meeting or the action taken in the vote, please feel free to follow up. Please share this information also with the full Senate as it is or when it needed for Senate action.