Approved by the Board of Trustees

July 20, 2023

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Board Meeting

July 20, 2023

# ESTABLISH THE CENTER FOR GLOBAL STUDIES AS A PERMANENT CENTER, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES, URBANA

**Action:** Establish the Center for Global Studies as a Permanent Center, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

**Funding:** No impact anticipated

The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the Urbana-Champaign Senate recommends approval of a proposal from College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to establish the Center for Global Studies as a permanent center.

The Center for Global Studies (CGS) became a U.S. Department of Education designated Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship grantee in 2000 and a U.S. Department of Education designated National Resource Center (NRC) in 2003. CGS has maintained its FLAS and NRC designations since 2000 and 2003, respectively. As a unit under the Illinois Global Institute (IGI) with a growing portfolio of programming and strong record of securing external funding, CGS seeks permanent center status at this time to ensure long-term growth and success.

With a mission to promote and support innovative research to better understand global issues confronting the world’s population and identify ways to resolve these challenges, CGS works to globalize the research, teaching, and outreach missions of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign – tasks central to the university’s vision to be the preeminent public research university with a land-grant mission and global impact. CGS supports campus programming through external funding, particularly the U.S Department of Education’s Title IV program. Through Title IV and FLAS, CGS supports teaching, instructor training, and course development for all language instruction in 19 Less Commonly Taught Languages currently offered at the university. CGS currently funds 14 students per year on its FLAS fellowships. The center partners with faculty and disciplinary units to develop new courses and programs in global studies, including the development of 22 majors, minors, and certificate programs. CGS develops teaching resources, professional training opportunities, and public programs in global studies for researchers, educators, students, business leaders, media, governmental agencies, civic organizations, and all members of the public concerned with understanding and solving global problems. The center sponsors or cosponsors approximately 85 to 100 events a year that are open to the public to encourage engagement and connection across campus and in the community. CGS’s graduate minor in Global Studies develops global awareness among students, enhancing their disciplinary credentials by providing them with a grounding in global studies. Since its inception in 2000, CGS helped develop 141 new global studies courses, 22 degree programs and certificates, and awarded 339 undergraduate and graduate FLAS fellowships in 33 languages. Adhering to the university’s land-grant mission, the center achieves widespread local, regional, and national impact through its broad range of outreach activities, which target audiences of different ages, providing them with a range of ideas, perspectives, and cultural experiences; and leverages Title IV funds with institutional support. CGS’s electronic and in-person programs and resources reach nearly 140,000 people annually.

A companion action item seeks permanent status of the IGI, which currently has temporary institute status. CGS is one of the constitutive units within IGI. Additional companion action items seek permanent status for two other constitutive units within IGI, the Program on Women and Gender in Global Perspectives (WGGP) and the Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (CSAMES). Permanent status will align WGGP, CGS, and CSAMES with the other centers housed within the IGI (the Center for African Studies; the Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies; the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies; the European Union Center; the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies; and the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center). CGS, like all units within IGI, is organized around the principle that a public university has a responsibility to foster global understanding and the capacities for global engagement.

Establishment as a permanent center does not impact CGS’s funding, faculty affiliations (faculty affiliates have zero percent appointments with CGS), students, or facilities. Permanent center status, which will put CGS on level ground with the other IGI centers, is strongly supported by the advisory board, faculty affiliates, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, which houses IGI.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.