

To: Jessica Pandya, Chair, Academic Senate  
From: David Wallace, Dean, College of Liberal Arts  
Date: December 3, 2020  
RE: Proposal for the International Studies Program to become a department  
C: Brian Jersky, Provost  
Barbara LeMaster, Chair, CLA Faculty Council  
Richard Marcus, Director, International Studies Program



Following the procedures specified in AS 95-19, the faculty of the International Studies Program have written a proposal (see attached) asking that the program be granted department status. The CLA Faculty Council voted in support of that proposal in its 10/27/20 meeting and has forwarded the proposal to me at specified in section 6.5.

I have reviewed the proposal, and I am happy to concur with the program faculty and the members of the CLA Faculty Council, and following the procedure in section 6.7, I am forwarding the proposal to the Academic Senate for consideration.

To confirm and supplement information in the proposal, let me add several key facts:

- Beginning in the Fall 2020 term, the faculty of the International Studies met the requirement in section 2.1 of having at least six tenure-line faculty, half of whom have tenure.
- In the last decade the program has grown significantly and now regularly has in excess of 100 majors each year.
- For about the past five years, the program has largely functioned as a department, governing its own curriculum and conducting its own personnel reviews.
- Because the program has tacitly functioned as a department, there are no additional costs involved in moving from program to department status. Indeed, the program has been functionally ready for department status for at least two years, but only now does it meet the requirement set out in section 2.1.

Finally, I am delighted that the program has crossed this threshold, and I enthusiastically recommend that the senate endorse this proposal.



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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH  
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM

**To: Chair and Members, CLA Faculty Council**  
**Fr: Richard R. Marcus, Director, International Studies Program**  
**Dt: September 15, 2020**  
**Re: Proposal to Change Status from Program to Department**

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On behalf of the faculty of the International Studies Program please find attached for consideration by the Faculty Council a proposal to change the status of International Studies from a “program” to a “department.” As the proposal indicates, all department elements have been in place for some time with the exception of three (3) of the faculty members holding tenure. With that now rectified, International Studies seeks department status.

Thank you.

**International Studies Program  
Proposal to Change Status from Program to Department  
September 2020**

**Conformance of the proposed action with the definitions in section 2.0 of this policy.**

Section 2.1 of the Policy 95-19 on Departmentalization states that “Except in extraordinary instances, for which special justification shall be required, an academic department shall meet the following criteria. A. A minimum of six tenure track faculty, three of whom must be tenured. Faculty members with joint appointments qualify as department members. B. The authorization to offer a major in a discipline recognized in American universities of higher standing.”

International Studies has seven (7) Tenure/Tenure-Track Faculty, three (3) of whom are tenured:

Yousef Baker, Assistant Professor of International Studies  
Laura Ceia, Associate Professor of International Studies and French  
Caitlin Fouratt, Assistant Professor of International Studies  
Barbara Grossman-Thompson, Associate Professor of International Studies  
Richard R. Marcus, Professor of International Studies (Director)  
Jolene McCall, Assistant Professor of International Studies  
Kimberly Walters, Assistant Professor of International Studies

International/Global Studies as a field of study is recognized in American universities with a significant proportion of institutions nationally having programs or departments, and it is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education with its own CIP Code (30.2001). International Studies at CSULB is the largest (in faculty and students) in the CSU, and has served as a “model” program for other campuses. The most robust undergraduate-serving program in California is arguably the Department of Global and International Studies at UCI; within the CSU most are programs, but at CSU Channel Islands and CSU Cal Maritime it is a department. Most importantly, International and Global Studies has its own literature both in theory and pedagogy as represented by its councils and committees in professional organizations such as the International Studies Association and the Teaching and Learning Community in NAFSA: Association of International Educators.

**Reasons for the proposed action**

International Studies is in a robust position and has all of the elements in place for departmentalization. It completed its most recent program review in Fall 2019. As put by the External Reviews:

“The IST program is ready for departmentalization. Already, IST serves impressively as a de facto department to the point that just about everyone we met at CSULB refers to it as a department, and refers to Prof. Marcus as Department Chair, and we will preserve these designations in the language of this report.”

The UPRC report concurred with its first area of concern: “The sooner the program can become a department, and sort out its leadership challenges, the better.” Those leadership challenges refer to the over-extension of the director. A plan for sorting that came out of a 2021 strategic planning process and will be executed this year. The program exceeds the minimum requirements for departmentalization as defined in Section 2.0 of the policy. It has seen exponential growth over the past decade placing it near the middle of departments in terms of majors in the College of Liberal Arts, has its own external advisory board, has an approved MA in International Affairs welcoming its first cohort in Fall 2021 (and will seek affiliation with the Association of Professional Schools in International Affairs), serves as home for The Global Studies Institute (with \$1.5m in endowment funds and over \$800k in grants since its founding in 2012), and has a remarkably active young faculty who are grant-active, well-published, successful teachers, and serve as interlocutors throughout the university. Using the October 2019 UPRC report as a guide, International Studies is largely already a department in all but name and, more than that, a successful one. Areas of commendation included graduation rates (FTF, native, and transfer), undergraduate degrees awarded in relation to the college, average time to degree, use of data to inform program improvement, and support of General Education.

Departmentalization is critical for unit stability. Already, with its own faculty, RTP process, constitution, committees, curriculum, staffing, space, budgeting, chair, and the like, it is far beyond the definition of a program. Whereas a program focuses on a collection of courses to serve a degree program, a department is a collection of faculty in an organized unit for management and planning. The idea of a unit with seven (7) tenure-track members and complete autonomy from any other department is not provisioned by CSU or CSULB policy. Over the past decade, growth as an independent program has led to periods of enormous resource instability and policy confusion. Departmentalization will at once clarify resource allocation and resolve questions such as how to conform to RTP, vote on and review the department chair, and the like.

### **Fiscal impact of the proposed action**

The International Studies Program has mostly functioned like a department since 2013. As an autonomous program it is largely on formula, and the program director has long worked under a department chair allocation and contract. The fiscal impacts will therefore be minimal. The recently concluded program review cycle resulted in a recommendation to increase the chair allocation and administrative support. These may be areas of fiscal impact, but would be the same as a program or a department.

### **Impact on curriculum and proposed or existing accreditation**

There is no anticipated impact on curriculum or accreditation. The International Studies Program has been operating as an independent program outside of any department since its inception in 1989. It operated with an “advisory board” to reform curriculum from 2006 to 2014. Since then, all program curriculum revisions, including the substantial 2019 curriculum revision, has been undertaken by the program faculty. The preponderance of courses is already International

Studies (I/ST) prefix courses, and International Studies conducts its own assessment. No curriculum revision is planned to coincide with departmentalization.



**FACULTY COUNCIL  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS**

December 15, 2020

Dear Academic Senate Chair Jessica Pandya,

The CLA Faculty Council approved the proposal for I/ST to move from a program to a department in our meeting on October 28, 2020 as indicated in our minutes from that meeting.

Sincerely,

Barbara LeMaster  
CLA FC Chair