

THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

A CASE FOR SUPPORT

UB's Department of Political Science

Noted for its strengths in empirical and formal fields of political sciences, UB's Department of Political Science is a vital and important node of intellectual activity on campus, with an enrollment of about 500 undergraduate majors and more than 50 graduate students. The department's 17 professors bring together distinguished academic expertise, impressive publication records, and a strong commitment to teaching excellence.

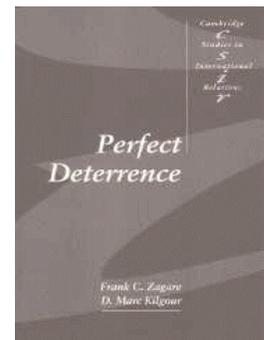
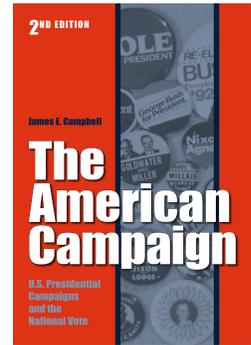
Areas of specialty research in the department include American politics, public law, comparative politics and international politics. The department's faculty are leaders in their fields. Though small in number, they have collectively published nearly 40 books, over 200 journal articles, and more than 100 chapters for edited volumes. They frequently serve on the executive councils of professional associations and on the editorial boards of prestigious academic journals, including the *American Journal of Political Science*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, and the *Canadian Journal of Political Science*. Faculty have served as a program director at the National Science Foundation, the Vice President of the International Studies Association, the editor of *Armed Forces and Society*, and the President of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society. Their accomplishments have been recognized with a number of grants, fellowships, and awards, including SUNY's first Lifetime Achievement Award by TIAA-CREF and the International Studies Association's Award for faculty distinction and achievement.

As an important component of the *Civic Engagement and Public Policy Strategic Strength* of the UB 2020 plan, the Department encourages and benefits from a vibrant exchange of ideas, questions, and methods of analysis across a broad community of scholars on campus. At UB, political science is practiced by individuals, but nurtured and developed within a vibrant and cohesive community.

FACULTY SUPPORT

Attracting the very best scholars to instruct and mentor students enhances the prestige of the Department and of the University at Buffalo while greatly enriching the student experience. Through establishing endowed funds to support faculty, donors can greatly enhance the quality of education and ensure a stable base of resources for the future. Funding opportunities for faculty support in the Department of Political Science include supporting or creating:

- **Endowed Chairs**
- **Endowed Professorships**
- **Endowed Assistant Professorships**
- **Endowed Visiting Professorships**



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Income from those endowed funds helps provide research and teaching support for the talented faculty who structure the intellectual life of the department and nurture student development. Donors can also support or create **Faculty Research Funds**, providing faculty funding for the collection and analysis of research data and **Visiting Scholar Funds**, which allow for extended-term visits by distinguished national and international scholars. Supporting or creating **Lectureship Funds** bring distinguished scholars to the Department for a series of lectures, to meet with faculty and students, offering benefits to the Department and to the greater University community.

GRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT

Graduate Student Fellowships provide financial aid for graduate students conducting research or teaching. A research-focused university like UB depends on the talented students that are attracted to enroll in its graduate programs. Supporting ***Graduate Student Fellowships*** helps recruit the best students and top faculty to the department, improves the quality of research opportunities, and increases the prestige of the program, and of the College and University.



As a major engine of regional economic development, UB and graduate students are vital to the economic growth and development of the area. Currently, the annual graduate student stipend at UB is on average nearly \$4,000 less than at peer universities. Support is needed to increase the student stipend to a more competitive level.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT

Undergraduate students at UB face a gap between their ability to pay for college and the cost of attending, even with financial aid and family support. Lower-income students face the largest affordability gap, and are forced to cut expenses or bring in extra income by working more, which can negatively impact academic performance and prevent participation in enriching activities.

Undergraduate Scholarships and ***Student Awards*** allow the Department of Political Science to attract the very best students and give deserving students the opportunity to receive a high-quality college education. ***Undergraduate Research Funds*** provide crucial funding for exceptional students to conduct research projects. In our global world, students have the invaluable opportunity to enrich their education and broaden their world-view through ***Undergraduate Study Abroad Funds***.

FUNDING AND NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

Each year, thousands of alumni and friends contribute to the College of Arts and Sciences through the Annual Fund, planned giving, and other avenues providing the foundation for student financial aid, faculty support, and academic development. Support from these dedicated alumni and friends create the possibilities that cannot be realized through state and federal funding alone.

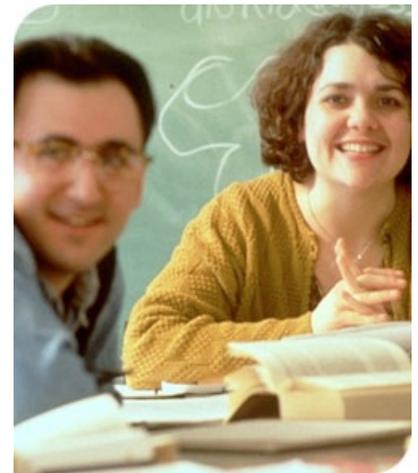
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The generosity of alumni and friends is crucial to the growth and evolution of UB's Department of Political Science. All gifts enable our students to have a rich and rewarding academic experience by learning from exceptional scholars, by participating in premier research and academic programs, and by graduating without the burdens of excessive debt.

Your gift of any amount helps UB's Department of Political Science and its students continue on their path of success. Through endowment gifts, planned giving, and annual giving options, your support can mean the difference between a good education for students, and an excellent one.

Endowed funds play a vital role in enhancing the quality of education at UB, and ensuring a stable base of resources over time. Distributions from invested endowed funds, which grow over time, support a wide variety of initiatives including, professorships, scholarships, research projects and program development. By supporting or creating an endowment, donors can be sure that their gift will serve their chosen purpose for as long as the institution continues to exist. By creating an endowment gift, a donor can permanently name a professorship, program, facility or scholarship allowing the University to recognize the gift in perpetuity. Permanent and non-permanent naming opportunities also exist for significant gifts providing support of faculty, students, or academic priorities for a finite period.



Planned giving is a set of philanthropic tools that can advance your financial objectives while supporting UB's. Through charitable planned giving, you can make a significant impact on the Department of Political Science. The flexibility and advantages of planned giving allow donors to make a present-day commitment through a bequest, charitable gift annuity, charitable trust, or other financial vehicles designed to maximize tax savings and provide income benefits to donors. The College of Arts and Sciences welcomes the opportunity to personally meet with prospective donors to explore the multitude of flexible, planned giving options.

Some donors prefer to earmark their annual gift to the College of Arts and Sciences for a specific purpose, like departmental scholarships, fellowships or lecture funds. **Annual restricted giving** provides a philanthropic option for a donor who is not prepared to create an endowment, but would like to support the start up costs of a new funding opportunity, like an endowed professorship. Through annual restricted giving, important student and faculty support initiatives can be funded on a year-to-year basis, with multi-year commitments being encouraged.

We hope that you will consider supporting UB's Department of Political Science. Your gift is an investment in our students, our faculty, and in the impact that the Department will continue to have locally, nationally, and internationally. Should you have any questions, please contact Patricia Randall in the College of Arts and Sciences' Development Office at prandall@buffalo.edu or at (716) 645-0841.

We offer our sincere thanks for your support.