Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Fall 2016

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IRA Funds Request for Political Science Speaker Series

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Instructionally Related Activities Funds Request Summary

Project Sponsor	Mary McThomas
Activity Title	Political Science Speaker Series
Activity/Event Date	Fall 2016 and Spring 2017
Date Funding Needed By	08/25/2016
Previously Funded?	Yes
Semester/Year	Spring 2015
Proposal #	658
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity?	Yes
Report submitted for previously Funded Activity	IRAreportProposal658.docx
Additional Report #1	—
Additional Report #2	—
Additional Report #3	—
Additional Proposers	—
Academic Program(s) / Center Name(s)	Political Science Department
Estimated total Course Fee revenue	n/a
Amount Requested from IRA	8,024.00
Estimated Number of Students Participating	75-100
Conditions and Considerations	Artist/Performer/Speaker Fees & Honoraria
Brief Activity Description	The event is a speaker series during which we will bring in political scientists as well as practitioners in the field of politics. When students evaluated the last speaker series we offered (Spring 2015), several students wrote that they would like to see Political Science faculty present their research. However, we recognize the importance of our students hearing other voices and being exposed to a variety of approaches. As a result, this speaker series will partner one of the department's faculty members with an outside speaker that either does research in a related field or can provide practical insight into the topic. In this way, the students will be able to see how different academics approach these questions in different ways, and how academic research interacts with real world politics. Expected topics will include the influence of gendered attitudes on evaluations of female political candidates, the impact of growing partisan polarization on electoral politics and institutional efficiency, privacy concerns with increased government surveillance, and immigration politics. These issues are talked about in many of our Political Science classes. In addition, courses focused on research design and implementation will be able to use the research presented as examples of different types of research methodology and the appropriate selection of both data and tools. Our students will benefit from exposure to the speakers' broad range of experience. In addition, students will see how a single topic can be approached in a variety of ways: different disciplines, research methodologies, and through practical experiences. This will aid the Political Science program's learning outcomes of teaching our students how to participate as civically engaged members of society, analyze political and policy problems, and critically assess key issues of public policy and politics. While the immediate focus is the students in our related classes, the event will be open to the campus community as well.
Learning Outcomes and Relation to IRA to Course Offerings	UNIV 198: Introduction to Interdisciplinary Research (Kelly); POLS 300: Political Science Research Methods (TBD); POLS 499: Capstone (Frisch and Grove) In these classes, students are taught how to formulate research questions, develop a research design, choose appropriate methodologies to answer their questions, and present their findings. The speaker series will give students the chance to see and discuss how academics use these skills. POLS 140: California Government and Politics (Frisch); POLS 150: Introduction to American Institutions (Frisch, Kelly, and McThomas); POLS 318: Campaigns and Elections (Frisch) Students will hear how a variety of institutional and attitudinal factors impact elections and will be able to discuss how current issues impact federal and state politics. POLS 401: Constitutional Law (McThomas); POLS 402: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (McThomas) Students will use constitutional frameworks to assess the topics discussed in the speaker series. They will, for example, evaluate whether immigration detentions violate due process; and discuss how Citizens United v. FEC (2010) and Supreme Court changes to the Voting Rights Act impacted the current election. Course Learning Outcomes: • Distinguish appropriate data for answering a political science question from inappropriate data. • Research issues of politics and policy using appropriate research design and quantitative and/or qualitative research methods. • Locate current political issues in the context of wider debates about democratic life in the United States and the capacity of political institutions. • Describe how structural factors such as constitutional rules, unequal access to resources, and cultural ideas help determine why some groups participate more than others.

Description of Assessment Process	A survey will be administered to students and attendees and students in some classes will be required to submit response papers.
Activity Budget	IRABudget_McThomas.xlsx
CIA Budget	—
CIA Proposal	—
Course Syllabus	—
CIA Certification	—
Other Sources of Funding	N/A
Target Audience/Student Marketing	The intended audience is students, faculty and staff. The events will be built into the relevant course syllabi. In addition, the speaker series will be announced to other classes and student groups.
Bring Benefit to Campus	—
Sustainability	N/A
Program Chair/Director	scott.frisch
Dean	karen.carey
Acknowledgement	I acknowledge that I have reviewed and accepted the Conditions and Considerations herein. Please check off boxes as appropriate.

Program Chair/Director Review

Recommendation	I recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page
Name	Scott Frisch
Date/Time	2/29/2016 2:42:44 PM
Validation	myCI-signin-DF-3919
Comments	—

Dean Review

Recommendation	I recommend approval of the IRA Funds Request described on this page
Name	Karen Carey
Date/Time	2/29/2016 2:45:12 PM
Validation	myCI-signin-9V-9190
Comments	—

IRA Committee Decision

Decision	—
Comments	—

Current Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Assigned To
IRA Committee Decision	2/29/2016 2:45:12 PM	David Daniels

Completed Tasks

Task	Time Assigned	Time Completed	Completed By
Review from karen.carey, Dean	2/29/2016 2:42:44 PM	2/29/2016 2:45:12 PM	Karen Carey
Review from scott.frisch, Program Chair/Director	2/29/2016 2:16:16 PM	2/29/2016 2:42:44 PM	Scott Frisch
Fill out Request	2/29/2016 2:10:18 PM	2/29/2016 2:16:16 PM	Mary McThomas

Actions

- IRA Committee Decision
- View IRA Funds Request