I. Narrative Description of the Status of the Discipline(s) from a National Perspective (including emerging issues and trends)

We have faculty from three primary disciplines in our department (political science, public administration, and geography). All three disciplines are united around common questions related to power and politics, and we provide our undergraduate and graduate students with a wide-range of tools for a host of meaningful careers and to answer questions about the world we live in.

Since the majority of faculty reside in political science, this section will provide a few highlights of this discipline from a national perspective. The American Political Science Association (APSA) defines political science as “the study of governments, public policies and political processes, systems, and political behaviors.” Subsequently, APSA lists the following political science subfields: political theory, political philosophy, political ideology, political economy, policy studies and analysis, comparative politics, international relations, and several other related fields.

The APSA recently completed a strategic planning process. According to the plan, the APSA “promotes scholarly understanding of political ideas, norms, behaviors, and institutions to inform public choices about government, governance, and public policy.” This outwardly focused vision is consistent with recent efforts to help improve public perceptions of political science’s value. Many members of our department are supportive of these efforts and committed to sharing research and insights with both scholarly and general audiences.

II. Program

a. Mission statement

We updated our mission statement at a May 2013 retreat. Our new mission statement is “The Department of Political Science is committed to the rigorous study of politics, power, and place, expanding opportunities for learning and service, career preparation and civic participation locally and globally.”

b. Strategies and tactics in the College’s strategic plan your department or program would place as highest priorities

The department still considers Strategic Plan strategies 1 through 5 the most relevant for academic units. Of these, we continue to focus on strategies 1 and 2.
Strategy 1: Enhance the undergraduate academic core.

We remain focused on enhancing our academic core and spend considerable time developing “a highly personalized education based on a liberal arts and sciences core and enhanced by opportunities for experiential learning” (SP Goal 1). Though much of this annual report is devoted to ways the department enhances the undergraduate core, a few specific tactics are highlighted below.

- Continued commitment to the Honors College with 3 Honors classes and 5 students graduating from the Honors College in 2017-2018.
- The William V. Moore Student Research Conference held each spring providing opportunities for undergraduates and high school students to present original research. In 2017-2018 we had 36 student presenters.
- An emphasis on faculty/student research with 11 Bachelor’s Essays and 25 Independent Study projects in 2017-2018.
- A continued focus on helping our students develop the skills necessary for successful careers. We connect our students to alumni through our mentoring program and the Career Café Series.
- Primary sponsor or co-sponsor of high profile events to enhance the intellectual climate on campus including talks by nationally known figures including: Jeffrey Rosen (CEO of the National Constitution Center), Masha Gessen (Russian-American journalist and author of the critical biography of Vladimir Putin), Dr. Peter Gleick (founder of the Pacific Institute), Dr. Sun Zhe, (adjunct senior research scholar and co-director of the China Initiative at Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs), Dr. David Rivers (commissioner and vice chairman of Charleston Water Systems), and Laura Cantrall (Executive Director of the Coastal Conservation League)
- A highly engaged faculty willing to share their expertise on politics, public policy, public administration, and geography both on and off campus.
- Study abroad opportunities for students including faculty led trips: Germany/France/Luxembourg/Belgium, Morocco/Spain, and Cambodia/Vietnam.
- A focus on assessment of student learning outcomes and commitment to continuous improvement.

We provide all roster faculty for the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program and most of the roster faculty for the policy component of the Master of Science in Environmental Studies (MES) program. In addition, the directors of both programs, Dr. Judith Millesen (MPA) and Dr. Annette Watson (MES), are tenured faculty members of the political science department. These are among the largest and most successful graduate programs on campus, programs that take full advantage of the unique “history, culture, and location in Charleston and contribute to the wellbeing of the region” (SP Goal 2). Tactics designed to pursue strategy 2 include:
• Expand individual research opportunities for MES and MPA students.
• Expand student led applied research projects that benefit area nonprofits and government organizations.
• Continue to strengthen partnerships between the department and the Joseph P. Riley Center for Livable Communities. Riley Center Director, Dr. Kendra Stewart, is a tenured faculty member in the political science department.
• Expand and solidify the joint MES/MPA degree.
• Continue to maintain accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) for the MPA program. The MPA program’s most recent successful accreditation took place in 2013-2014 and we are working toward our next accreditation in 2020-2021.

c. Program goals and their relationship to the College’s strategic plan

The Department of Political Science continues to have the program goals listed below.

Goal 1: Acquire knowledge of political systems including their institutions, processes, laws and constitutions and the relations between and among nations.

Goal 2: Acquire knowledge of major political philosophies, western and nonwestern, and their origins.

Goal 3: Acquire knowledge of the bases of human behavior in diverse political settings and roles.

Goal 4: Read for comprehension, critically analyze text, and write effectively in a manner appropriate to the task.

Goal 5: Comprehend the views of others and articulate and defend one’s own position.

Goal 6: Develop the skill of applying theories and concepts to new situations.

Goal 7: Develop an appreciation for the scope and methodologies used to study politics.

Goal 8: Conduct research and analysis, including qualitative and quantitative analysis.

Goal 9: Develop the expectation of participation in public life and actively engage with the Charleston and Lowcountry communities.
Goal 10: Develop the communication, cooperation, and negotiation skills necessary to work with others.

Goal 11: Develop an appreciation for the interplay of ideas in the public forum and a critical understanding of political communication and the mass media.

Goal 12: Work comfortably in a diverse world and develop the skills needed to address problems that cross disciplinary and national boundaries.

Goal 13: Receive recognition and support for academic potential and achievement.

Goal 14: Students in interdisciplinary and graduate programs should continue to benefit from faculty.

d. Student Learning Outcomes of the program

Knowledge
Students are able to identify and explain theories, institutions and processes related to power, place and politics

Skills
Students are able to critically analyze texts, communicate effectively, critically assess the views of others, defend their own views and apply appropriate methodological and theoretical approaches

Engagement
Students demonstrate a habit of engagement with the world and an understanding of the value of civic participation, locally, nationally and globally

III. Narrative Summary and Analysis of Departmental or Program Accomplishments

a. Please discuss any of the following that apply to your department or program over the last year, making reference to any data provided at http://ir.cofc.edu/aadeptdata/ or data that you supply in the Supporting Data section as appropriate. What are your strengths, and where would you like to develop?

The Department of Political Science provides a high quality and highly personalized education to its students. One of the unique features of the Department is the adoption of an annual theme. To align with the College’s Quality Enhancement Plan, we selected “water” as our annual theme in 2017-2018. Our spring Convocation of Majors speaker was Dr. Peter Gleick, founder of the
Pacific Institute. This event took place on March 29 and was very well attended by our students as well as other members of the campus community. The department maintains its commitment to helping students prepare for life after college. We continued our Alumni Mentorship Program, a program that matches departmental alumni with current students. To date, we have over 30 mentors/mentees participating in the program. In addition, we organized three Career Café events to help students learn more about career opportunities. We held a kickoff event on September 15, with distinguished alumni speakers including Meredith Gerber, Emily Gooding, Dustin Haynes and Sam Spence. Our November 3 event focused on career opportunities in the public sector and included panelists Kevin Limehouse, Leah Schonfeld, Peter Wiggins, and Dr. Phil Jos. Finally, on March 30, we organized a Career Café event with a focus on the private sector. Speakers for this event included distinguished alumni Johnnie Baxley, Margaret Pilarski, Brady Quirk-Garvin and Christopher Chappell.

The eighth annual William V. Moore Student Research Conference took place on April 13 in the College of Charleston Stern Center. We were very pleased that 36 students presented 38 research projects on a variety of political science and public policy topics. In addition to our undergraduate students, the conference included presentations from students of the Academic Magnet High School. Laura Cantrall, Executive Director of the Coastal Conservation League, delivered our keynote address.

We continue to prioritize fundraising and have focused particularly on the Political Science Fund, the William V. Moore Endowed Scholarship in Political Science and the William V. Moore Memorial Fund. The Memorial Fund provides resources to put on our annual student research conference, and are working to fully endow this fund. We were also very excited to create a new fund, The John Creed Award. This award will be given to help juniors or seniors support internships, study abroad, conference presentations and workshops.

Curricular offerings unusual for your discipline

Our curriculum attempts to balance required courses with a range of options for students to customize their learning. Some of our unique offerings include classes on Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Terrorism, the U.S. Intelligence Community, and Sustainability. In 2016-2017, we approved an optional “Public Policy” concentration for our majors. This concentration will provide our students specific policy related skills.

We are fortunate to have several practitioners teaching in our program. For example, former Central Intelligence Agency employee Dr. Mary Desjeans teaches classes on Terrorism and U.S. National Security for the department. Two
local attorneys, Alexandra Ginsberg and Rhett Dunaway teach POLI 203 (Criminal Justice).

We also remain focused on assessment and continue to improve our department’s assessment procedures. All students are required to take a Capstone class, giving them an opportunity to integrate material from other courses and complete an original research project. It is also important to note that our concentration in Politics, Philosophy, and the Law continues to grow with 103 declared students.

**Instructional contributions to other units, programs, and initiatives, including the Honors and First Year Experience programs, undergraduate and graduate programs outside your department, the REACH program, etc.**

**Contributions to First Year Experience**

Fall 2017
FYSE 131 – The US and Globalization, Guoli Liu
Spring 2018
POLI 101 -- Learning Community 2: A Post-Racial and Post-Gendered Society? The Politics and Sociology of Race and Gender in the United States, LaTasha Chaffin

**Contributions to the Honors Program**

Spring 2018
HONS 166 – Honors World Politics, John Creed
HONS 382 – ST: Guantanamo Bay Prison: Counterterrorism, US Domestic Laws, and International Law, Mary Desjeans

**Distance education or hybrid course offerings**

POLI 101 – American Government, online exclusively in Summer and Fall 2017, LaTasha Chaffin
POLI 104 - World Regional Geography, online exclusively in Summer 2017, Annette Watson
POLI 210 – Intro to Public Administration, online exclusively in Summer 2017, Gibbs Knotts
POLI 402 – Field Internship, online exclusively in Summer 2017, Gibbs Knotts

**Departmental or program contributions to interdisciplinarity, internationalization/globalization, personalized education and high impact student experiences (such as research and creative activities, civic engagement, study away, internships, peer education and service learning) during review year.**

**Interdisciplinarity**

The department embodies interdisciplinarity, with three geography PhDs in rank, and a geography minor. As mentioned above, the department also contributes to a number of interdisciplinary programs across the College. We provide the core
faculty for the MPA program and make substantial contributions to the MES program. In addition, the department makes important contributions to the Latin America and Caribbean Studies, International Studies, African Studies, Asian Studies, European Studies, Public Health, Environmental Studies, Women’s and Gender Studies, among others.

**Internationalization/Globalization**

The department is committed to providing an international perspective to students and the larger College community. The primary area of expertise for five of our tenure line faculty is international or comparative politics. We also have geographers in our department who study the process of globalization. As mentioned above, we are strong supporters of the College’s study abroad efforts. Our faculty led study abroad trips to Germany/France/Luxembourg/Belgium, Vietnam/Cambodia and Morocco/Spain in summer 2017, and have coordinated the College’s fall semester program in Trujillo, Spain since 2011.

**Personalized Education and High Impact Student Experiences**

Personalized education and high impact student experiences are hallmarks of the Department of Political Science. In 2017-2018, our faculty taught 11 “special topics” courses, supervised 25 independent study projects and 11 Bachelor’s Essays. Our faculty also engaged students outside the classroom. For example, Dr. Hollis France took her Maymester Capstone students to John’s Island to learn more about migrant workers and to Meggett to visit Swimming Rockfish Farm. Dr. Kevin Keenan has organized a number of engaged learning experiences including field trips to West Ashley, Summerville and Mt. Pleasant to view various issues with sprawl and suburbanization as well as taking students to the South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association Conference in Myrtle Beach.

In addition, 26 students completed internships for academic credit in a wide array of government and nonprofit agencies and organizations, including the Human Resources Department at The Citadel, Joe Cunningham for Congress, the College of Charleston Sustainability Office, Charleston County Public Defender, Chillico & Associates, LLC, Charleston Pro Bono, Occam Immigration and the Evan Guthrie Law Firm.

We also offered three “Model” courses for our students in 2017-2018. Dr. Chris Day taught POLI 266 (Model African Union) that provided students an opportunity for engaged, high impact learning. Working in delegations of up to six, students honed research skills and developed a deep knowledge of specific African countries. The students also traveled with Dr. Day to Washington, D.C., to compete in a Model African Union competition. In addition, Dr. Max Kovalov worked with student leaders to organize a College of Charleston Model United Nations for students on campus and traveled with the student leaders for a
regional competition. We also offered POLI 119 (Advanced Mock Trial) in fall 2017. The course was taught by a local attorney, Paul Dominick. Students learned about courtroom procedure and competed in a mock trial competition in February 2018. Dr. Doug Friedman continued to teach POLI 266 (Model Organization of American States).

To coordinate engaged learning opportunities for students, Professors Jordan Ragusa and Gibbs Knotts founded the American Politics Research Team (APRT) in 2015. Modeled after the College’s Women’s Health Research, Team, the APRT is a faculty-student research team with a mission to “conduct empirical research on important topics in American Politics, contribute to public discourse on political issues, and to help students develop their research skills.” In 2017-2018, team members worked on a project exploring the reasons some Republicans abandoned the party’s 2016 presidential nominee, Donald Trump. In addition, they conducted research on South Carolina’s “First in the South” presidential primary.

Similarly, Professors Matt Nowlin and Annette Watson created the Environmental Policy Research Group (EPRG) in 2017. The mission of the EPRG is “to conduct empirical research on environmental issues around the globe, promote interdisciplinary research collaboration, help students develop their research skills, and cultivate skills for conducting participatory research and public outreach.”

As noted above, the Department hosted the seventh annual William V. Moore Student Research Conference. Conference participation consisted of undergraduates as well as a number of outstanding high school seniors from Academic Magnet High School. In addition, approximately 100 students, faculty, alumni, and parents attended the conference luncheon. Conference sessions were filled with supportive parents, interested students, faculty and friends. Finally, several members of Dr. Moore’s family attended the event, including his two children Matt and Laura.

Changes in departmental or program enrollments

The Department of Political Science continues to enjoy healthy student enrollments. The department had 381 majors in spring 2018 and 6 EDPS majors. The PPLW concentration has 103 students in spring 2018 and the PLCY concentration has 14. Lastly, the department is also home to the Political Science minor with 68 students and the Geography minor with 10 students.

The department continues to work to recruit students for the Geography program. We created a new course and had a number of discussions about the geography curriculum. In 2018-2019, we will work to make the program more visible and
emphasize skill development for geography minors by offering courses such as Geographic Information Systems more consistently.

**Departmental workload productivity**

The teaching load for faculty in the department is three courses per semester. As mentioned above, faculty also supervised 36 independent study and bachelor’s essay projects. Scholarship and service obligations, as described throughout this report, also make up a substantial part of the workload of faculty in the department. In the most recent Delaware Report based on 2015-2016 data, the Department’s Expenditure per Student Credit Hour was $272. This was slightly above the College ratio of $242 and the HSS ratio of $219. The Expenditure per Full Time Equivalent for the Department was $7,760, also slightly above the College ratio of $7,127 and the HSS ratio of $6,493.

**Summary of student and/or graduate accomplishments**

Our graduates continue to attend graduate school, work in a variety of professions, and win prestigious scholarships and fellowships. We are particularly proud that the College’s highest academic honor, the Bishop Robert Smith Award, has gone to a political science major 14 of the past 23 years. In 2016-2017, political science major Zach Sturman won the award. In addition, 37 students joined the Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society, 108 students qualified for the Honor Roll in the fall and 108 students qualified in the spring. We also continue to advise students interested in attending graduate school.

b. Please provide a brief narrative summary of the curricular assessment activities undertaken by your unit this year, along with both actions taken in earlier years that have led to improvement and plans for improvement.

Dr. Claire Curtis once again spearheaded our department’s curriculum and assessment activities. At the end of the 2012-2013 cycle we adopted a new program mission statement and at the end of the 2013-2014 cycle we have adopted new program learning outcomes, moving from 8 program learning outcomes to 3. We have an updated curriculum map to align with our new learning outcomes, and a new rubric to assess the capstone papers in order to reflect the new program learning outcomes. Lastly, we began tracking a cohort of first year students to learn how they connect with the major, transform as students, and progress through the College.

c. Please discuss the diversity among your faculty, including efforts made in recruitment (if applicable) to increase the presence of under-represented groups.
The department remains fully committed to recruiting and retaining a diverse faculty and to increasing the presence of under-represented groups. Females make up 42% of the department and 3 of our 19 roster faculty (15%) are African American.

d. Please provide a summary analysis of research and professional development productivity in your department or program, referring to the Supporting Data section as appropriate. What are your strengths and challenges?

Faculty in the Department of Political Science publish in a wide-range of scholarly outlets. In addition, faculty demonstrate the ability to write for a wider-audience by publishing policy reports and op-ed pieces. A list of recent publications appears below.

Books


Peer Reviewed Journal Articles


Keenan, K. (with A. Greene) "Whiteness or Resilience? Placing Terror by Studying the Mother Emanuel Church Shooting in Charleston, SC." Urban Geography. Forthcoming.


Wofford, C. “Avoiding Adversariness?: The Effects of Gender on Litigation Strategy.” Politics & Gender, forthcoming.


**Book Chapters, Translations, Invited Papers, Other Publications and Recognition**


France, H. “Bringing into Focus Alternative Futures: Indigenous Women Internalizing Externalities Produced by Neoliberalism” in *Indigenous Geographies and Caribbean Feminisms: Common Struggles Against Global Capitalism*. The book is affiliated with the Institute for Gender & Developmental Studies which is housed by The University of the West Indies.


Long, M. Ver Spartanburg a través de una Nueva Luz Spanish translation for Seeing Spartanburg in a New Light, a Bloomberg Philanthropies Public Art Challenge program.


**External Grants**


Ragusa, J. Social Science Research Council, Negotiating Agreement in Congress Grant ($10,000), 2017.

e. Please provide a summary of departmental or program service and outreach contributions to the school, College, community (of a professional nature), or profession. What are your strengths and challenges?

As you can see below, our department continues to be heavily engaged in service and outreach activities. Our strengths include College-wide service, frequent
commentary with media outlets, and a wide range of public lectures on a range of political and public policy topics.

*Karyn Amira* served on the department’s Curriculum and Assessment Committee and the Intellectual Life Committee in 2017-2018. She served on the IT Liaison Committee and as a reader for the College’s General Education Assessment. She frequently reviews articles for academic journals.

*LaTasha Chaffin* is a core member of our MPA faculty. She is also a faculty affiliate for the African American Studies Program and the Urban Studies Program. In addition, she served on the department’s Curriculum and Assessment Committee in 2017-2018. She also works as the department’s Graduate School Advisor. She serves on the College Wide Faculty Committee on Academic Standards. Dr. Chaffin was also the co-founder of a student chapter of the Southern Poverty Law Center on our campus.

*John Creed* continues to provide considerable service to the department, chairing the Student Awards and Recognition Committee in 2017-2018 and serving as a member on the Intellectual Life Committee. He also worked closely with the College’s Honors College and gave talks to many groups on the Middle East and American Foreign Policy.

*Claire Curtis* served as associate chair in 2017-2018. She also chaired the department’s Curriculum and Assessment Committee and served as a reader for the College’s General Education Assessment. She serves as an Honor Board Advisor.

*Chris Day* is an integral part of the College’s African Studies program and teaches courses for the International Studies program. He was co-director of the William V. Moore Conference in 2017-2018 and served on the Intellectual Life Committee and Geography Committee. He serves as an advisor to the Honor Board. In addition, he works closely with international groups including the Enough Project. Finally, he has spoken with the media about comparative and international politics.

*Brian Fisher* is the College’s Director of Sustainability where he coordinates a number of important initiatives for the College related to energy, waste and water management, outreach and awareness, research and planning, and food and agriculture.

*Hollis France* served as the Director of the College’s Gender and Sexuality Equity Center (GSEC). She also chaired the Faculty and Staff Labor Day Committee and worked on the campus’s Climate Study. She is a member of the department’s Student Awards and Recognition Committee.
Phil Jos served as Interim MPA Director in fall 2017. He also worked on development for the department, spearheading the creation of The John Creed Award. He was also a member of the Intellectual Life Committee.

Kevin Keenan serves in a number of administrative roles for the College. He continues to be the Director of the Urban and Regional Planning Certificate program and serves as Director of Urban Studies. The number of Urban Studies majors has grown considerably under Dr. Keenan’s leadership, and there are now over 40 majors in the program. In addition, Dr. Keenan worked to get the program a permanent seat on the South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association. He also served on the Geography Minor Committee in 2017-2018.

Gibbs Knotts serves as Department Chair and also served on the College’s Distance Education Committee. He speaks to community groups about the South and southern politics, and he is also a frequent commentator on political issues, appearing in local, state, national, and international media outlets. He is co-founder of the American Politics Research Team and a member of the editorial board of Social Science Quarterly.

Guoli Liu remains an active member of the College community, serving on the Council on Undergraduate Research. He is a member of the department’s Curriculum and Assessment Committee. He also serves as a board member of the Chinese Association in Greater Charleston and on the editorial board for the Journal of Chinese Political Science.

Mark Long continued to play an active role on campus. He served as the co-Director of the William V. Moore Student Research Conference and chair of the Geography Minor Committee. He also coordinated the school’s Trujillo program and continues to serve as Curator at Large at the Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art. He serves on the Faculty Compensation Committee.

Matt Nowlin is a core MPA faculty and serves on the Admissions Committee for both the MPA and MES programs. He also served on the department’s Student Awards and Recognition Committee and was also a peer reviewer for academic journals. He serves as the department’s Library Liaison and gives public presentations about environmental issues.

Jordan Ragusa was on sabbatical in 2017-2018. He continued to review articles for academic journals and serves as an editorial board member of Political Research Quarterly.

Alex Sanders contributes to the intellectual life of the College and larger community in many ways. He is a sought after public speaker, addressing a range
of audiences. He also serves on the editorial board of the *South Carolina Trial Objections Manual* and a number of other community boards and foundations.

*Kendra Stewart* serves as Director of the Joseph P. Riley Center for Livable Communities. She serves on several editorial boards including *State and Local Government Review, Journal of Public Affairs Education*, and *Public Administration Quarterly*. She was appointed by the South Carolina Governor to the Charleston/Dorchester Mental Health Center Board, where she serves as Chair. She is also Chair of the Green Heart Project. Like many of our faculty, Dr. Stewart is a frequent contributor to local and national media outlets providing expert commentary on a range of political and public policy issues. She serves on the Urban Studies Committee. She was also the faculty advisor for the Political Science Club in 2017-2018.

*Annette Watson* is Director of the MES Program and an active member of the Geography Program. She is also a member of the Faculty Senate and the department’s Geography Minor Committee.

*Claire Wofford* shares her expertise in American politics and the judicial system with media outlets and is on the Editorial Board for the *Law and Courts Newsletter*. She also does a considerable amount of pre-law advising for the department and is a member of the Student Awards and Recognition Committee. She talks frequently to reporters and publishes op-ed s on topics related to law and society.

f. Has your department or program conducted professional development opportunities for faculty? If yes, what are examples of those opportunities?

In 2017-18, the department spent approximately $27,500 on faculty/student travel to attend academic conferences. The department spent approximately $4,000 on student travel and $23,500 on faculty travel. The department also continued its peer observation process to help improve student learning outcomes and revised guidelines for tenure and promotion, clarifying the expectations for faculty in the department. Finally, our Faculty Friday sessions continued with in an effort to share ongoing research. We also created a Teaching and Learning Roundtable as a venue for faculty share teaching tips, ask questions, and improve as teachers.

g. What success have you had in meeting program, departmental, school or College goals? What obstacles prevent you from reaching specific program, departmental, school or College goals? In what way can Academic Affairs support your efforts?

In 2010-2011, we identified three areas for improvement: diversity, enrollments in the Geography minor, and faculty retention.
A more diverse faculty and study body remains an important priority for the department.

We experienced considerable enrolment growth over the past year. We ended the year with 381 majors, up from 363 majors in spring 2017. To provide some context, the number of majors just prior to spring graduation was 384 in 2010, 370 in 2011, 345 in 2012, 358 in 2013, 325 in spring 2014, 330 in spring 2015, and 323 in spring 2016. The recent growth was good news given the increasingly competitive environment. While the College’s overall enrollment has remained steady, a number of new programs have been added since 2010, and many of these programs overlap with political science. For example, International Studies was not a program in 2010 and had 184 majors in spring 2017. Similarly, Public Health was not a major at the College in 2010, but there are now 399 B.S. students and 57 B.A. students in this program.

Professor Kevin Keenan will be resigning in August 2018 from his position at CofC to take a position elsewhere. In addition to losing his Political Science classes, Professor Keenan’s resignation will put particular pressure on the Public Administration program, the Geography minor, and the Urban Studies major. It is essential to the Political Science curriculum that we be able to replace this position this upcoming academic year. Additionally, a longtime faculty colleague, Phil Jos, retired in spring 2018, and to date, we have not yet been authorized to replace this individual. He is an important member of our department and one of our core MPA faculty. His replacement is critical to meeting the curricular needs of our MPA program and maintaining NASPAA accreditation.

As we have mentioned for the past few years, our department would benefit from renovations to our office space and from updated office furniture. The College started to improve the outside of 114 Wentworth, but these renovations have stopped. Perhaps the College would also consider providing an allowance for upgrades, allowing the department to develop a replacement schedule for old and deteriorating office furniture.

h. What curricular development or other major changes in the program(s) are planned for the next three years? Briefly, what resources are required to implement these?

We plan to strengthen our mentorship program in 2018-2019. This program connects our strong alumni base to our current students. We also plan to build on our successful Career Café events, and to organize a series of Career Readiness workshops to help our students better prepare for employment after graduation. Based on our preliminary planning, we will organize the workshops around career opportunities in different economic sectors including government jobs, nonprofit
jobs, and private sector opportunities. As noted above, we also plan to implement our new Public Policy concentration for political science majors. None of these changes will require additional resources, however.