Charter for the Political Science Advancement Council
East Carolina University
College of Arts and Sciences
Political Science Advancement Council

[Unanimously endorsed by the department on December 4, 2002, and unanimously approved by the founding members of the Advancement Council on November 22, 2002, in the John P. East Conference Room, Brewster C-104, East Carolina University.]

I. PURPOSE
The Political Science Advancement Council provides an opportunity for alumni and friends to become more involved with the East Carolina University Department of Political Science, to use their influence and affluence to further the Department's goals, and to participate in ensuring its future success. It provides advocacy, consultation, and support for the Department and the continuing development of its undergraduate and graduate programs. Serving as an advocacy group both on campus and off, the Council helps promote a positive image and good relations for the Department with the College of Arts and Sciences and the rest of the University as well as with the region, state, and nation. It also helps relate the students, faculty, and chair of the Department to society at large.

II. OBJECTIVES
The Council helps advance the Department by:

1. Increasing recognition on campus and off of the Department's vigorous undergraduate degree programs, nationally recognized MPA program, outstanding students and alumni, and long tradition of academic excellence.

2. Assisting the Department in acquiring the resources necessary for its continuing development, especially advocating for increased state and university support and taking an active role in private fund-raising activities. Major financial support is necessary to ensure the growth and development of the Department and its programs. This support can be garnered only from informed, interested individuals who are actively involved in helping the Department attain its goals.

3. Providing counsel to the chair, program directors, and faculty on pertinent matters, internal as well as external, so as to make the Department's programs and activities of the highest quality possible.
4. Serving, when feasible, as a departmental liaison with public, private, and nonprofit organization to help students obtain appropriate internships and to assist graduates in securing employment.

5. Taking other actions, as appropriate, that enhance the academic standing of the Department of Political Science and the general well being of its programs, students, alumni, faculty, and chair.

III. MEMBERSHIP
The Council consists of approximately 5 to 15 distinguished persons, including alumni and other friends of the Department, who are appointed by the Chair with the concurrence of the faculty. The Chair consults, as appropriate, with the Dean of the College of Arts and Science, departmental faculty, and the College’s development director in identifying persons to be invited for membership. The Chair is a full voting member of the Council.

Councilors are normally appointed to two-year renewable terms with one-half of the membership appointed each year effective July 1. There is no membership fee; however, Councilors are expected to provide their own transportation, lodging, and other expenses for attending meetings.

Upon completing a term, a member who does not continue with the Council is designated an APolitical Science Advancement Council Associate@. PSAC Associates are regarded as ex-officio members of the Council and are both invited and urged to attend meetings regularly.

Councilors and PSAC Associates are recognized annually in the Department’s alumni newsletter.

IV. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES
The Chair and the Vice Chair of the Council are elected for one-year terms by the membership. Only in exceptional circumstances does the Chair serve more than two consecutive terms. The Chair works with the Department Chair in formulating the agenda and conducts the meetings of the Council.

The Executive Secretary is appointed by the Chair from among the College faculty or staff.

In consultation with the department chair, the PSAC Chair establishes or dissolves standing and ad hoc committees as appropriate. Committees and their chairs are appointed by the PSAC Chair of the Council upon consultation with the department chair, who then appoints appropriate members and students as ex-officio members.
V. MEETINGS
The Council meets twice each academic year on dates established by the PSAC Chair in consultation with the department chair. The department chair coordinates the meetings and arranges their logistics. Committees meet during part of the general meetings and on other dates as appropriate.

Meeting formats vary depending on agenda, setting, and timing but are typically informal to encourage open discussion.

Most meetings take place on the University’s campus in Greenville. Occasional meetings may be held at other locations.

11/22/2002
12/4/2002