


**TO:** Dr. Peter Mehl, Dean  
College of Liberal Arts

**FROM:** Dr. Clay Arnold, Chair   
Department of Political Science

**RE:** Lecturer Position Request from Political Science to begin Fall 2018.

**DATE:** October 31, 2017

Per your request, I forward this memorandum on the department's request for a lecturer position, effective with the 2018-19 Academic Year.

The request for a Lecturer position in the Department of Political Science is based on two factors: (1) there is a need for a full-time, non-tenure track faculty member to cover multiple sections of the department's lower-division courses—PSCI 1330, U. S. Government & Politics and PSCI 2300, Introduction to International Relations; and (2) there is a need for a full-time, non-tenure track faculty member to coordinate the Arkansas Model United Nations (AMUN) program throughout the academic year. Dr. Mark Mullenbach, who is a tenured Associate Professor, has coordinated the AMUN program with a one-course reassignment since he arrived at UCA in Fall 2001.

There has been substantial growth in declared majors and student semester credit hours (SSCH) in the Department of Political Science in the past five years. With respect to declared majors, they have increased by 48%. The 11<sup>th</sup> day, fall semester numbers (includes second majors) are as follows:

Fall 2017: 198  
Fall 2016: 164  
Fall 2015: 155  
Fall 2014: 133

SSCH figures exhibit similar trends:

Fall 2017: 3,033  
Fall 2016: 3,169  
Fall 2015: 2,962  
Fall 2014: 2,899

Concerning the Model UN program in the Department of Political Science, the growth has been even more significant. In 2001, the annual fall conference of the Arkansas Model United Nations (AMUN) hosted 190 high school students. Participation in the two-day Model UN conference grew to 300-400 delegates within a few years. Over 600 high school students participated in the 2016 AMUN conference. The 2017 conference is expected to draw between 600 and 700 participants, including delegations from Nashville, TN, Tulsa, OK, and Joplin, MO. UCA has hosted this conference for more than 50 consecutive years.

The coordinator of the AMUN is responsible for planning and organizing all of the aspects of the annual high school AMUN conference, including recruiting high school delegations from Arkansas and

neighboring states, developing the schedule for the AMUN conference, making arrangements for guest speakers, processing registration forms and fees, serving as liaison to high school social studies and other teachers, developing conference handbooks and programs, recruiting and training UCA students for the staff of the AMUN conference, working with off-campus facilities, and ordering and maintaining equipment, technology, and supplies. These large and growing demands justify assigning these duties to a lecturer not burdened with the upper-division teaching, advising, and research expectations of a faculty member on the tenure and/or promotion track.

The Model UN program in the Department of Political Science is growing in other ways. Starting this fall, the department will begin hosting the annual Arkansas Collegiate Model United Nations (ACMUN) conference at UCA. The ACMUN will involve some 100 college and university students from throughout the state of Arkansas.

This past summer, the department hosted the first Model UN Summer Camp at UCA (and the first ever Model UN summer camp in the state of Arkansas). The pilot project was funded by a \$42,000 grant from the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE). A grant proposal for a planned 2018 Model UN Summer Camp is currently under review. Along with the annual AMUN conference, we expect that the Model UN summer camps will enhance the reputation of the department's Model UN programs and, hopefully, attract graduating high school seniors to UCA.

The key point is this: The administrative responsibilities for the annual high school conference alone, not to mention other AMUN activities, are year round and have grown to the point that they exceed the talents of even the most able faculty member also committed to the teaching, research, and service responsibilities necessary for tenure and/or promotion.