

U.S. Department of Education

Washington, D.C. 20202-5335



APPLICATION FOR GRANTS UNDER THE

UNDERGRADUATE INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE

CFDA # 84.016A

PR/Award # P016A090065

Grants.gov Tracking#: GRANT10295395

OMB No. 1840-0796, Expiration Date: 08/31/2010

Closing Date: APR 30, 2009

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BUDGET INFORMATION
NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Control Number: 1890-0004

Expiration Date: 06/30/2005

Name of Institution/Organization:
 The Research Foundation of SUNY ...

Applicants requesting funding for only one year should complete the column under "Project Year 1." Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns. Please read all instructions before completing form.

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FUNDS

Budget Categories	Project Year 1(a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Project Year 5 (e)	Total (f)
1. Personnel	\$ 42,100	\$ 49,875	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 91,975
2. Fringe Benefits	\$ 19,804	\$ 24,030	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 43,834
3. Travel	\$ 6,800	\$ 3,800	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,600
4. Equipment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
5. Supplies	\$ 547	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 547
6. Contractual	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
7. Construction	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
8. Other	\$ 8,000	\$ 5,628	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 13,628
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)	\$ 77,251	\$ 83,333	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 160,584
10. Indirect Costs*	\$ 6,180	\$ 6,667	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 12,847
11. Training Stipends	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)	\$ 83,431	\$ 90,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 173,431

***Indirect Cost Information (To Be Completed by Your Business Office):**

If you are requesting reimbursement for indirect costs on line 10, please answer the following questions:

- (1) Do you have an Indirect Cost Rate Agreement approved by the Federal government? Yes No
- (2) If yes, please provide the following information:
 Period Covered by the Indirect Cost Rate Agreement: From: 3/10/2009 To: 6/30/2012 (mm/dd/yyyy)
 Approving Federal agency: ED Other (please specify): Department of Health and Human Services
- (3) For Restricted Rate Programs (check one) -- Are you using a restricted indirect cost rate that:
 Is included in your approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement? or, Complies with 34 CFR 76.564(c)(2)?



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
BUDGET INFORMATION
NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Control Number: 1890-0004

Expiration Date: 06/30/2005

Name of Institution/Organization:
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SECTION B - BUDGET SUMMARY
NON-FEDERAL FUNDS

Budget Categories	Project Year 1(a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Project Year 5 (e)	Total (f)
1. Personnel	\$ 51,923	\$ 54,519	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 106,442
2. Fringe Benefits	\$ 23,819	\$ 25,938	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 49,757
3. Travel	\$ 2,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 7,000
4. Equipment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
5. Supplies	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
6. Contractual	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
7. Construction	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
8. Other	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 10,000
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)	\$ 82,742	\$ 90,457	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 173,199
10. Indirect Costs	\$ 6,619	\$ 7,236	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 13,855
11. Training Stipends	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)	\$ 89,361	\$ 97,693	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 187,054

Project Narrative

Abstract Narrative

Attachment 1:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: **1236-*Buffalo* UISFL abstract.pdf**

BUILDING THE SOUTH ASIA PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
A Funding Proposal to the U.S. Department of Education
Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program

Abstract

The State University of New York at Buffalo (UB) seeks to expand its undergraduate Asian Studies major and minor by building up its course offerings and related programming on South Asia. This new initiative on South Asia is designed to (1) expand the university's capacity in Asian Studies by strengthening the undergraduate South Asia curriculum; (2) meet the growing need in Western New York for professionals knowledgeable about India and other countries of South Asia; (3) help fulfill national security goals by expanding teaching in South Asian languages; (4) increase the number of students studying abroad in South Asia by providing greater curricular integration with study abroad programs; and (5) engage the large number of South Asian-American students on campus by offering courses of interest to this important group of heritage learners.

To reach these goals, the university proposes to establish a new tenure-track position in South Asian languages and literatures. The newly hired professor would serve as director of South Asian languages and guide the expansion of the language program. The university plans to add new courses in Urdu (through the second year of study) and Hindi (third and fourth years of study). We also propose to bring to campus at least one South Asian visiting artist per semester over the course of the grant period.

The proposal will result in at least twelve new courses on South Asian languages and literatures offered each year at UB. In addition to at least eight new language courses in Hindi and Urdu taught by lecturers or adjunct faculty, the new professor of South Asian Languages and Literatures will teach courses that could include contemporary South Asian literature, Hindi-Urdu poetry, Indian epics, South Asian religious texts, or other courses related to his or her specialization. Academic and cultural exchange with UB's six South Asian partner institutions will be significantly enhanced, as will South Asian representation in UB's arts programs.

The new courses and programs on South Asia proposed in this grant application will be developed under the auspices of UB's new South Asia Institute, which the university is planning to establish with a combination of government, foundation, corporate, and individual contributions. The fundraising effort will be given direction by Provost Satish Tripathi, a graduate of UB partner Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi, and Vijay Kumar, a member of the Dean's Advisory Council of UB's College of Arts and Sciences (CAS). In addition to guiding the expansion of the undergraduate curriculum and programs, the South Asia Institute will organize teacher workshops, arrange for performers and speakers to present in local schools and in the community, hold academic conferences in the United States and in the region, and expand the university's growing library collection of South Asian texts and films.

With the new faculty positions and programs proposed in the current funding request, UB would be able to include South Asia—alongside China, Japan, and Korea—as an area of focus for undergraduates majoring in Asian Studies. The new undergraduate classes would also be of great value to majors in other departments who would like to increase their knowledge of South Asia for career or personal reasons.

Project Narrative

Project Narrative

Attachment 1:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: **1244-*Buffalo* UISFL proposal narrative.pdf**

**BUILDING THE SOUTH ASIA PROGRAM
AT THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO**

Submitted to the U.S. Department of Education

Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program

CFDA #84.016

Submitted by
The Asian Studies Program
State University of New York at Buffalo

Submitted April 30, 2008

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BUILDING THE SOUTH ASIA PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

A Funding Proposal to the U.S. Department of Education Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program

Program Narrative

Introduction

The State University of New York at Buffalo (UB) seeks to expand its undergraduate Asian Studies major and minor by building up its course offerings and related programming on South Asia. This new initiative on South Asia is designed to (1) expand the university's capacity in Asian Studies by strengthening the undergraduate South Asia curriculum; (2) meet the growing need in Western New York for professionals knowledgeable about India and other countries of South Asia; (3) help achieve national security goals by expanding teaching in South Asian languages; (4) increase the number of students studying abroad in the region by providing greater curricular integration with South Asia study abroad programs; and (5) engage the large number of South Asian-American students on campus by offering courses of interest to this important group of heritage learners.

To reach these goals, the university proposes to establish a new tenure-track position in South Asian Languages and Literatures. The newly hired professor will serve as director of South Asian languages and guide the expansion of the language program. The university plans to add new courses in Urdu (through the second year of study) and Hindi (third and fourth years of study). We also propose to bring to campus at least one South Asian visiting artist per semester over the course of the grant period.

The proposal will result in a minimum of twelve new courses on South Asian languages and literatures offered each year at UB. At least eight new language courses in Hindi and Urdu languages will be taught: A visiting faculty member from one of UB's partner institutions in

India will teach Hindi, and an adjunct professor will teach Urdu. Additionally, the new professor of South Asian Languages and Literatures will teach courses that could include contemporary South Asian literature, Hindi-Urdu poetry, Indian epics, South Asian religious texts, or other courses related to his or her specialization. Academic and cultural exchange with UB's six South Asian partner institutions will be significantly enhanced, as will South Asian representation in UB's arts programs.

The new courses and programs on South Asia proposed in this grant application will be developed under the auspices of UB's new South Asia Institute, which the university is planning to establish with a combination of government, foundation, corporate, and individual contributions. The fundraising effort will be given direction by Provost Satish Tripathi, a graduate of UB partner Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi, and Vijay Kumar, a member of the Dean's Advisory Council of UB's College of Arts and Sciences (CAS). In addition to guiding the expansion of the undergraduate curriculum and programs, the South Asia Institute will organize teacher workshops, arrange for performers and speakers to present in local schools, hold academic conferences in the United States and in South Asia, and expand the university's growing library collection of South Asian texts and films.

With the new faculty positions and programs proposed in the current funding request, UB will be able to include South Asia—alongside China, Japan, and Korea—as an area of focus for undergraduates majoring in Asian Studies. The new undergraduate classes would also be of great value to majors in other departments who would like to increase their knowledge of South Asia for career or personal reasons.

The Institutional Context

About the University at Buffalo

The University at Buffalo, a flagship institution in the State University of New York system, is a comprehensive, research-intensive public university dedicated to academic excellence and engagement with the regional, national, and international communities it serves.

Founded in 1846 as a private medical college, UB merged with the State University of New York system in 1962 and today is New York State's largest and most comprehensive public university, with 83 undergraduate and 211 graduate programs. In 2007-2008, UB conferred 7,017 degrees. The current student body numbers more than 28,000, of which more than 4,300 are international students from 113 countries, including 2,600 students from Asia.

UB takes pride in offering students a challenging learning environment. The University's commitment to cutting-edge research and diverse creative activity is part of its interdisciplinary approach to education. With UB's state-of-the-art research and teaching facilities, an experienced and committed faculty, and significant investment in integrated technology resources, students graduate from the university with degrees that matter and experiences that prepare them for the careers of the twenty-first century.

In 2004, the University at Buffalo launched *UB 2020*, a strategic plan for achieving enduring academic excellence. *UB 2020* seeks to position the university ahead of important national and international trends, including (1) the increasingly multidisciplinary nature of sponsored research; (2) the imperative for universities to embrace innovation and collaboration; and (3) research, education, and service that is interconnected across local, national, and international boundaries. In its drive to become one of the top research universities in the country, UB has identified eight strategic strengths on which to build for the future: (1) artistic expression and

performing arts; (2) civic engagement and public policy; (3) cultures and texts; (4) extreme events: mitigation and response; (5) health and wellness across the lifespan; (6) information and computing technology; (7) integrated nanostructured systems; and (8) molecular recognition in biological systems and bioinformatics.

UB has a global reach. The university attracts and welcomes international students: it ranks twelfth in the United States in international enrollment. It also sends students out into the world: nearly 10% of UB undergraduates study abroad, five times the U.S. average. All international enrollment, study abroad and exchange programs, international student and scholar services, overseas sponsored programs, and immigration services are administered by the Office of the Vice Provost for International Education, who is the university's chief international education officer. One of UB's most influential international alumni currently holds the position of Minister of Education in the People's Republic of China.

South Asia is prominent in UB's international profile. The largest international student representation is from India, with 941 students enrolled in Fall 2008. Another 75 students come from other countries of South Asia, including 19 from Pakistan. UB also maintains partner relationships with six academic institutions in the region. Members of the faculty are taking advantage of these partnerships, as indicated by the Visual Studies Department's new study abroad program in India. On this study tour, students retrace the path of the Buddha across the Ganges River Valley and create an artist's journal of their travels based on observations and readings. They conclude their travels in Varanasi at a UB partner institution, Banaras Hindu University, where they collaborate with their counterparts in India to develop a work of art based on their study tour.

UB's Asian Studies Program

In recognition of the changes in the global economy in the latter decades of the twentieth century and the increasing importance of Asia to Western New York, UB established the Asian Studies program in 1993. In 1996, with funding from the U.S. Department of Education's Center for International Education, the College of Arts and Letters¹ established an Asian Studies minor in collaboration with the UB School of Management. The minor was later developed into an Asian Studies major, which the university has offered since 2003.

The strength of the Asian Studies Program is built on the diverse interests of 28 faculty members from a dozen different departments whose teaching and research are devoted primarily to Asia. The program encourages a vibrant exchange of research and analysis across this community of scholars in a range of disciplines in the social sciences, humanities, arts, and professional schools. In addition to the Asian Studies major and minor, UB offers minors in Chinese, Japanese, and Korean languages. Currently, nineteen undergraduates are majoring in Asian Studies and three are pursuing an Asian Studies minor.

Although the largest faculty contingent focuses on East Asia, in recent years the university has added outstanding new professors with expertise on South and Southeast Asia. In addition to Chinese, Japanese, and Korean, the curriculum currently includes two years of study in Hindi and Arabic, as well as Sanskrit and Classical Tibetan.

Based on a 2007 evaluation of the program, the Asian Studies faculty has recommended the establishment of a Department of Asian Studies at UB. The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences has approved this recommendation. The new department will improve the undergraduate experience by providing an administrative structure for hiring instructors and tenure-track faculty members (especially where no other appropriate department home exists),

¹ The College of Arts and Letters has since merged with other units to form the College of Arts and Sciences.

granting tenure, developing new interdisciplinary Asian Studies courses, and so forth. The outreach and interdisciplinary research activities that have been key components of the Asian Studies Program since its founding in 1993 will be taken over by a new Center for Asian World Studies.

From its inception, the Asian Studies Program has been involved in community outreach and teacher training on East Asia. For example, in 2003 Asian Studies led a day-long “Workshop on China for Teachers,” which featured a lecture demonstration of Beijing Opera. On three different occasions in the past four years, UB has hosted “East Asia for Teachers,” a 30-hour seminar for K-12 teachers sponsored by the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia. In each of the last two academic years, the Asian Studies Program has hosted for the community two national China Town Hall webcasts sponsored by the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations. Visiting faculty from Asia, including Indonesian Fulbright scholar Syafiz Abdul Mughni and visiting scholar Ram Alagan from Sri Lanka, regularly speak in schools and for nonprofit organizations in Western New York.

The outreach capacity of the Asian Studies Program was recognized by the Chinese Language Council International when it awarded UB a Confucius Institute in early 2009. With funding from the Confucius Institute Headquarters in Beijing, matched with funds from UB’s College of Arts and Sciences, the Confucius Institute will bring teachers of Chinese language to Western New York to teach in K-12 schools, in summer institutes and camps, and in community language programs. Under the auspices of the Confucius Institute, UB will also bring visiting artists and scholars to the Buffalo area to teach courses and give presentations, organize study tours and student exchange, present lectures and conferences on China, and develop a teacher

certification program for Chinese language teachers. Initial activities of the Confucius Institute are expected to begin in fall 2009.

The expansion of UB's Asian Studies Program proposed by the current grant request will add a notable South Asia component to the university's outreach efforts in this area.

Building the South Asia Program

As South Asia has become more important politically, strategically, and economically for the United States, UB has committed to strengthening its South Asia curriculum. Hindi has been offered continually at UB since 1997. In 2004, the university hired Assistant Professor Ramya Sreenivasan, a specialist on early modern South Asia and gender history in South Asia. Dr. Sreenivasan's course offerings have significantly expanded UB's South Asia curriculum: among her courses are History of South Asia: 1500 to the Present; Women in South Asian History: 1500 to the Present; Religion, State and Society in South Asia; and Islam and Muslims in Modern South Asia.

In addition to Dr. Sreenivasan's classes, courses in the Departments of History, Geography, Global Gender Studies, Anthropology, and Architecture and Planning address major issues in South Asian history and social and economic development. Professor Jeannette Ludwig teaches courses on Asian Religions, including Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam, through the Asian Studies program. The classical Indo-Aryan language of Sanskrit is currently offered through the Department of Classics.

UB students with interests in South Asia are also encouraged to study abroad. UB maintains six partner relationships with schools in the region, all in India (see table 1).

Table 1 UB’s Partner Institutions in India

Institution	City
Amrita University	Coimbatore
Banaras Hindu University	Varanasi
Birla Institute of Technology and Science	Pilani
Indian Institute of Information and Technology	Allahabad
M.S. University of Baroda	Vadodara
Osmania University	Hyderabad

UB’s increasing interest in South Asia is exemplified by the recent commitment of the provost to establish a South Asia Institute at the university. This new institute will play a major role in promoting education and research on the region at UB, in K-12 schools in Western New York, and throughout the broader community.

Plan of Operation

Quality of the Project Design

The University at Buffalo is well-positioned to enhance and expand its South Asia curriculum. With more than 1,000 international students from South Asia, plus many more of South Asian heritage, the region has a very high profile on campus. Heritage learners, especially from the large Indian-American and Pakistani-American populations in Western New York and throughout New York State, comprise a large population of potential South Asia experts to assist our region and nation with business development, security concerns, and humanitarian challenges in South Asia.

Key representatives of the Indian-American and Pakistani-American populations in Western New York are eager to begin fundraising to establish the above-mentioned South Asia Institute at

UB. The university provost and the College of Arts and Sciences' vice president for constituent development have made significant time commitments to this effort. The expansion of the South Asia curriculum proposed in the current grant request will play a critical role in—and in turn will be significantly aided by—the establishment of the South Asia Institute.

As described above, 28 faculty members engaged in teaching and research about Asia are affiliated with the Asian Studies Program. Among them are senior faculty members Sharmistha Bagchi-Sen and Rajiv Kishore, who devote a good portion of their time to South Asia-related research and teaching. Assistant Professor Ramya Sreenivasan, a rising star in the area of South Asian history, recently won the prestigious 2009 Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy Book Prize from the South Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies for *The Many Lives of a Rajput Queen: Heroic Past in India History, c. 1500-1900*.

The expansion of the South Asia program described in this proposal is a logical next step in the development of the Asian Studies undergraduate curriculum at UB. The university maintains a strong tradition in East Asian Studies, built up especially in the sixteen years since the founding of the Asian Studies Program in 1993. With the hiring of Professor Sreenivasan in 2004, UB laid the groundwork for a tradition of excellence in South Asian area studies, and the establishment of a new tenure-track position in South Asian Languages and Literatures, along with the addition of new language classes and exciting arts programs, will cement South Asia as an important region of focus in the Asian Studies major.

Effectiveness of the Plan of Operation and Program Administration

Each component of “Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo” is designed to strengthen the university’s existing South Asia curriculum, heighten the impact of

the South Asia Institute, and complement the overall Asian Studies Program. This pattern has been consistent in the building of the Asian Studies Program since 1993: At each stage of expansion, new projects—including those funded with two separate grants from the U.S. Department of Education—have complemented existing courses and activities and have effectively leveraged the resources of the university. In 2008 the university added the position of assistant director of Asian Studies, further expanding the program’s capacity to implement new courses and activities.

Federal government funding for “Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo” will be administered by UB’s Office of Sponsored Projects Services in the Office of the Vice President for Research. Sponsored Projects Services, an agency of the State University of New York’s Research Foundation, is dedicated to supporting UB faculty and staff in their efforts to seek out and secure external funding and to assisting in post-award administration. Sponsored Projects Services efficiently administers all state, national, and foreign government grants and contracts at the University at Buffalo.

Program implementation will be overseen by Asian Studies Director Kristin Stapleton. The new position in South Asian Languages and Literatures will be established initially in the department deemed most suitable for the successful candidate. After the Department of Asian Studies is established, the position will be transferred to the new department. In 2009, a search committee will be formed jointly with faculty affiliated with the Asian Studies Program and relevant departments, and will include Dr. Sreenivasan or at least one other South Asianist currently on the faculty. The search committee will review dossiers, interview candidates, and recommend the top candidate to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for appointment.

The university will appoint the successful candidate to a tenure track position to begin at UB in fall 2010.

In the development of the Asian Studies Program, Dr. Stapleton works closely with the Asian Studies Advisory Council—with representation from six different colleges and schools of the university—which has approved this plan to strengthen the South Asia curriculum. A South Asia subcommittee comprising Ramya Sreenivasan (History Department), Sharmistha Bagchi-Sen (Geography Department), Rajiv Kishore (School of Management), Kristin Stapleton (Asian Studies), and Thomas Burkman (Asian Studies) has guided the development of the proposed program. This subcommittee will meet regularly throughout the grant period to monitor progress in meeting the terms of the grant and to guide the further development of the South Asian Studies program.

As summarized below, UB has a strong track record of maintaining positions and programs established with funding from the Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program beyond the initial grant period. The dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the university provost have approved the proposed project, “Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo,” and have committed to maintaining the South Asian language and literature position and the expanded South Asian language program following the completion of this grant period.

Project Objectives

The goal of “Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo” is specifically to strengthen and improve undergraduate instruction in South Asian languages, literatures, and cultures. The Director of Asian Studies, with the approval of the Dean of the College of Arts and

Sciences and in collaboration with department chairs in Linguistics, arts departments, and other relevant departments, will oversee the program.

Objective 1: Enhance the Asian Studies major by adding a focus on South Asia.

With UB's current language and course offerings, UB undergraduates majoring in Asian Studies can focus their studies only on the countries of East Asia. The twelve or more new courses in South Asian languages and literatures that are proposed in this funding request will complement the university's existing courses on South Asia offered in History and other departments (see tables 2 and 3, below), and provide a core curriculum for Asian Studies majors to focus their academic program on the strategically critical region of South Asia. Moreover, the high-profile visiting artists program will offer unique opportunities for Asian Studies majors, along with all undergraduates, to experience first-hand the vibrant visual and performing arts of this region of Asia.

Objective 2: Expand the pan-Asia perspective of the UB curriculum for Asian studies majors and all students

Although UB's strength in Asian Studies has been in research and teaching on the countries of East Asia, we have always encouraged students to develop a pan-Asia and global perspective. The vast geographic expanse of Asia and enormously broad diversity of Asians—along with the exceptional impact of the continent and its people on economic, political, social, and cultural affairs in other parts of the world—necessitate that students have some intellectual background or personal experience in as many areas of Asia as possible. The addition of new South Asia-related humanities courses, language classes, and artists-in-residence will allow Asian Studies

majors and students from many disciplines more opportunities to learn about the diverse Asian continent.

Objective 3: Add new course offerings in Asian languages and cultures for professional students

As indicated by the vigorous activity in South Asia on the part of major local employers like HSBC Bank, Praxair, Rich Products, AirSep, Columbus McKinnon, and Roberts Gordon—as well as the opening in Buffalo of an office of India’s Tata Consultancy Services—it is increasingly important that undergraduates in pre-professional programs graduate with a better understanding of South Asia. The new classes included in this grant proposal will allow students in areas like management, pre-law, healthcare, and sciences to choose from a broader range of courses that give valuable insights into the languages, cultures, histories, literatures, and religions of this critical region.

Objective 4: Increase UB’s offerings in less-commonly-taught and critical-needs languages

Although much of the elite in South Asia speaks English in their professional lives, it is nonetheless highly important that the United States graduate greater numbers of students with proficiency in the native languages of the region. Language study exposes students to modes of thought in a particular culture and gives them unique insights that are important for relating to the people of that culture. Perhaps most importantly, proficiency in a foreign language allows foreign officials and employees opportunities to gather intelligence, speak with community members outside the realm of the privileged elite, and gain the confidence of local communities in the formation of new business or development projects.

Objective 5: Expand UB's ties with partner institutions in South Asia

The proposed expansion of the South Asia program at UB will encourage greater collaboration and exchange with our partner institutions in the region. Students with a broader academic experience in South Asian studies and greater language training will be more likely to participate in study abroad programs in South Asia. Moreover, during the proposed grant period and beyond, we plan to invite visiting scholars from partner institutions in India and elsewhere in South Asia to teach language and other courses in order to further expand UB's South Asia curriculum without needing to hire additional full-time faculty.

Objective 6: Strengthen the nascent Department of Asian Studies at UB

As noted, the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences has approved the plan of the Asian Studies Advisory Council to establish a Department of Asian Studies at UB. The new hire in South Asian Languages and Literatures will be transferred to the Department of Asian Studies as soon as it is formed. The new professor will likely be the first tenure-track appointment in the Asian Studies Department, adding strength to the newly formed department and providing a focus on South Asia as the department is launched.

Objective 7: Encourage students in South Asian Studies to serve in areas of national need and take advantage of federally funded scholarships

The graduate assistant in UB's Asian Studies Program will survey periodically South Asia National Resource Center websites for information on federally funded scholarships related to South Asian studies. Similarly, the graduate assistant will regularly visit www.usajobs.gov to search for United States government jobs related to the countries of South Asia. Information

about these job and scholarship opportunities will be sent to current students and alumni via the Asian Studies Program's weekly e-newsletter and in our monthly printed newsletter.

Resources and Personnel: Helping to Achieve Project Objectives

As described in detail in the budget section of the proposal, the combined funding from the U.S. Department of Education and the University at Buffalo will result in the creation of one new permanent, tenure-track position in South Asian Languages and Literatures, a new adjunct professor position in Urdu, and a visiting scholar position in Hindi. Together, these new positions will be sufficient for the addition of at least 12 new undergraduate courses each year, which will allow for the establishment of a South Asia focus to the Asian Studies major; the expansion of offerings on South Asia for non-majors, and especially for pre-professional students at the university; and a significant increase in the less-commonly-taught and critical-needs languages of South Asia taught at UB.

The visiting scholar and visiting artist components of the program—critical to our ability to strengthen UB's ties with partner institutions in South Asia—will be conducted with the assistance of the Office of the Vice Provost for International Education, which employs an immigration lawyer and staff for processing visas and ensuring smooth transition to the U.S. for international scholars at UB. This office will also assist the Asian Studies Program staff in making the appropriate connections at our partner institutions in South Asia to ensure access to highly qualified language teachers and visiting artists who will come to UB under the proposed grant.

With 10% of their time devoted to the project, the director, assistant director, and administrative assistant of the Asian Studies Program will ensure that appropriate department

chairs are properly consulted in the establishment of the new activities envisioned in the proposal; help select visiting language faculty and artists and arrange their transportation to and accommodations in Buffalo; promote the new classes and programs on campus and in the community; provide the Office of Sponsored Projects Services with appropriate information and paperwork to administer the project; and handle all other administrative details required under the UISFL grant.

Equal Access and Treatment

The University at Buffalo applies the highest standards of equitable access for its staff and students. Standards and procedures are in place to support the educational, career, and social goals of people with disabilities at the university. The Office of Disability Services, established in 1978, coordinates these services. Buildings on the Amherst campus, where the project will be carried out, are connected by indoor, wheelchair-accessible corridors, enabling free movement during the winter months. Most classrooms are accessible to the disabled. If a disabled student registers for a class in a room that is not accessible, the class is relocated. Ambulatory vans are available on demand to supplement university bus services from dorms to academic buildings. Other available services include sign language interpretation, readers for the sight and learning impaired, special computer access equipment and technology, scribing, and adjustment counseling. On request, university applications from the disabled receive individualized evaluation.

As noted below, unless exceptional circumstances pertain, all searches to fill open positions for faculty and staff are considered affirmative action searches. The project director, the Asian

Studies Program, and the College of Arts and Sciences will monitor the full application of standards of affirmative action and equitable access in all aspects of the grant.

Key Personnel

Project Director, Kristin Stapleton

The director of “Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo” will be Kristin Stapleton, director of Asian Studies at UB. A specialist on modern China and comparative urban history, Dr. Stapleton taught at the University of Kentucky from 1993–2007. As director of the University of Kentucky’s Asia Center from 2002–2005, she administered a \$1.02 million grant from the Freeman Foundation. Dr. Stapleton holds a B.A. in political science and Asian studies from the University of Michigan and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in history from Harvard University.

At UB, Dr. Stapleton teaches two undergraduate survey courses that incorporate South Asia—“Introduction to Asian Studies” and “Asian Civilizations II”—which cover major themes and events in the modern histories of China, Japan, Korea, the Indian subcontinent, and Southeast Asia. She also teaches the History Department’s core graduate seminar in Asian History, which has expanded in recent years from an East Asia focus to include South and Southeast Asia. She is committed to expanding UB’s expertise in South Asian area studies and languages so that UB students—and especially Asian Studies majors and minors—can graduate with a pan-Asia perspective. Dr. Stapleton will spend approximately 10% of her time over the course of the grant period hiring new faculty, evaluating progress, serving as a liaison between interested academic departments and the Asian Studies Program in the College of Arts and Sciences, and attending meetings of the UISFL program directors.

Project Assistant Director, Bruce Acker

Bruce Acker is assistant director of Asian Studies at UB, a position that was established in 2008 to help advance UB's plan to strengthen the Asian Studies program. Prior to his employment at UB, Mr. Acker served as Codirector of Eurasia Policy Studies at the National Bureau of Asian Research, Executive Director of Buffalo/Niagara WorldConnect, and Development Director at the International Institute of Buffalo. He has raised and administered more than \$1.5 million in grants from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, United States Institute of Peace, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the John R. Oishei Foundation. He holds a B.A. in Russian Language and Literature from Dartmouth College and an M.A. in Russian Studies from the University of Washington.

Mr. Acker will serve as the liaison to the Office of Sponsored Projects Services, the program evaluator, and visiting artists; schedule and market public performances; and promote UB South Asia programs to the Western New York community, spending 10% of his time on this project over the course of the grant period.

Administrative Assistant

The College of Arts and Sciences has recently established an administrative group to handle marketing, scheduling, accounting, and related tasks for area studies and similar independent humanities programs. A member of this administrative team will be selected to handle correspondence, travel arrangements, scheduling, and related activities, with 10% of her/his time allocated to "Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo."

Encouraging Application from Underrepresented Groups

The University at Buffalo applies the highest standards of equitable access for its staff and students. Affirmative action measures assure participation regardless of gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. University policy states that “the University at Buffalo complies with all federal and state laws relating to nondiscrimination, affirmative action, and accessibility to individuals with disabilities.” Unless exceptional circumstances pertain and a waiver is received, all searches to fill open positions are considered affirmative action searches. “An affirmative action search should demonstrate: (1) that extraordinary efforts have been made to identify and recruit members of protected groups; (2) a positive correlation between the availability pool and the applicant pool and a positive correlation between the availability pool and the seriously considered candidates; (3) that all employment decisions are based on objective standards/criteria and the furtherance of equal opportunity and affirmative action for protected group members.”

Budget and Cost Effectiveness

Budget

A detailed line-item budget and budget narrative are attached.

Cost Effectiveness

This funding will result in at least 12 new permanent courses in South Asian languages and literatures each year. Combined with existing courses in South Asian history and other fields, students will have the opportunity to focus on South Asia as part of the Asian Studies major. As indicated by UB’s experience with U.S. Department of Education grants in this funding category

and by the attached letter of support from Dean Bruce McCombe, these courses will be sustained beyond the grant period. In the UB system, the creation of a faculty line—in this case a new professor who will also serve as director of South Asian languages—is the best way to establish an enduring program with significant long-term impact on the curriculum.

The proposed program will also result in more vigorous exchange between UB and its South Asian partners. Students from UB will be in a much better position to take advantage of our exchange relationships with South Asian institutions; and with visiting scholars and artists coming to UB through this grant, the University at Buffalo will improve its name recognition in the communities of our partner institutions, making it more likely that students from those institutions will choose UB as a study abroad option in the United States.

Moreover, we expect that a successful grant application will have lasting impact on UB's ability to raise funds for South Asian Studies. As noted, University Provost Satish Tripathi and the CAS Dean's Advisory Council member Vijay Kumar are fully supportive of the effort to raise funds for the South Asia Institute. CAS Assistant Vice President for Constituent Development Deborah McKinzie is coordinating this major fundraising campaign with the local Indian-American and Pakistani-American communities. Funding from the U.S. Department of Education would provide a stimulus for external funding because of the need to raise the matching portion of the funds, and help UB build a more robust program that would, in turn, be worthy of large-scale funding. Department of Education funding would provide very tangible external affirmation to the South Asian community of the quality of the UB program.

Adequacy of Resources

The Asian Studies Program is a strong, interdisciplinary program that draws on the diverse interests of twenty-eight faculty members across the university. The program is administered by a full-time director and assistant director, an undergraduate faculty advisor, a graduate assistant, and a recently established administrative support group.

Asian Studies at UB is guided by an advisory council of twenty-seven members from twenty-one different departments and units and includes faculty and staff from the University Libraries, Office of International Education, Center for the Arts, Law School, School of Management, Graduate School of Education, and School of Public Health. The chair of the advisory council is Dr. John Thomas, former dean of the School of Management, who has taught at the university for forty years.

The UB library system, the largest in SUNY, is impressive for its collection size, wide-ranging digital resources, and world-renowned special collections. It holds more than 3.6 million volumes, including over 30,000 journal and periodical subscriptions. The UB Libraries are viewed as a national leader in the provision of access to digital resources easily available to the university community at any time and from any place.

The University Libraries South Asian collections are of sufficient depth and scope to support undergraduate work and beginning graduate study. UB libraries hold approximately 12,000 titles on South Asia. Through the advice of the history department's Dr. Ramya Sreenivasan, over the past several years well over 125 monographs on India have been ordered. A number of standard reference tools and bibliographic databases that provide access to South Asian material are available: from Factiva to World News Connection to Historical Abstracts to the Bibliography of Asian Studies. *Choice* is checked regularly and books on India are generally acquired. The

University Libraries are members of the Center for Research Libraries, ensuring that faculty and students have access to a rich array of South Asian research materials. Interlibrary loan, for which there is no cost to patrons, generally provides copies of articles from journals not held at UB in about two days. Books are usually secured in less than ten days.

The dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the university provost have committed to the university's portion of the costs for this UISFL grant. As explained below, UB has twice received Department of Education UISFL grants, and each time has followed through on its commitments under the grant *and* maintained the components of the programs established with Title VI funds beyond the grant period up to the present day. The addition of an assistant director of Asian Studies further strengthens UB's capability to follow through on its grant commitments in Asian Studies.

Plan of Evaluation

"Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo" will undergo internal and external evaluation. Internal evaluation will involve existing student assessments through course evaluations and structured student and faculty interviews. The anticipated new hires will be evaluated by the chairs of their respective departments, who will assess the effectiveness of the new courses taught.

Quantitative measures will provide an important barometer of the marketing and quality of the South Asia program, including:

- student enrollment figures in undergraduate language and literature classes
- the number of undergraduates choosing a South Asia focus within the Asian Studies major
- the number of faculty exchanges and resulting new undergraduate courses

- the number of undergraduates studying abroad in South Asia
- the number of courses on South Asia taught by artists-in-residence and undergraduates enrolled in those courses
- attendance at public performances of artists-in-residence
- teacher attendance at workshops on South Asia

External evaluation will be conducted by a Dr. Frank Conlon, professor emeritus of South Asian History and International Studies and former chair of the South Asia Program at the University of Washington. Dr. Conlon will visit UB twice to evaluate progress on the grant, once at the midway point of the grant period, in spring 2011, and once at the end of the grant period. Dr. Conlon will assess the administration of the grant program, the quality of teaching, the progress of grant implementation against the original proposal, the level of enthusiasm on campus for the new courses, and the degree of permanence of the new programs undertaken with grant funding. The assessment will be submitted in writing to Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Bruce McCombe and to Project Director Kristin Stapleton. Since the first evaluation will take place at the midpoint of the project, Dr. Conlon's recommendations can be implemented in the second year of the project.

Commitment to International Studies

International Studies at UB

UB has a long and distinguished history in the realm of international education. In addition to foreign language courses, dozens of courses with significant international content are taught at the undergraduate level. Nearly 10% of UB undergraduates participate in 50 study abroad programs arranged by UB around the world, and students can also participate in more than 400

additional study abroad programs in 50 countries offered through other State University of New York campuses. The international character of the university is strengthened by the more than 4,300 international students enrolled at UB—about 15% of the student body.

In fall 2008, UB established the Global Perspectives Undergraduate Academy, one of three undergraduate academies at the university. Open to all UB undergraduates, the undergraduate academies give students the opportunity to foster closer relationships with faculty, staff, and other students in an area of interest; develop a meaningful connection between academic concepts and out-of-class activities; enhance personal and intellectual growth; and network and develop valuable career and graduate school preferences. Students in the Global Perspectives Academy explore how individuals and our society at large connect with others around the world. The academy promotes skills that help students gain a greater awareness of international affairs and understand the global challenges of the twenty-first century.

International programs and education services are coordinated campus-wide by the Office of the Vice Provost for International Education. The Vice Provost convenes UB's Council on International Studies and Programs, an active consultative body of 40 faculty and administrators from a range of disciplines involved in international activity across the university. The Council advises the Provost on the value of university-wide exchange programs, encourages the development of interdisciplinary studies and programs, plans and implements conferences and colloquia on international education, publicizes the availability of research and teaching grants, and encourages the preparation of proposals for external funding to support international education.

An International Strategy Task Group commissioned by Provost Satish Tripathi in 2007 as part of the *UB 2020* strategic planning process determined that UB should build on its leadership

role in international education in the areas of the student experience, faculty expertise, and the institution as a whole. In terms of the student perspective, the report recommended integrating global perspectives across the curriculum, beginning to internationalize the student experience in the freshman year, requiring and enabling a range of international experiences, and further internationalizing extracurricular programming. As for university-wide initiatives, the International Strategy Task Group urged, for example, the further development of institutional infrastructure for area studies, designating international education and programs as a priority for the Office of University Development, and expanding outreach efforts by providing greater amounts of university expertise to schools, law enforcement, and community groups.

In 2007, UB established a new associate dean position in the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education. One of the new associate dean's primary areas of focus will be the further expansion of undergraduates' awareness of global issues and enriching students' international experience. The appointment of this new dean signals a clear commitment on the part of the university to continue the internationalization of the undergraduate curriculum.

Involvement of Faculty and Administrators

In September 2008, Asian Studies Program staff and members of the South Asia subcommittee of the Asian Studies Advisory Council met to discuss expansion of the South Asia curriculum at UB. The faculty evaluated UB's current offerings on South Asia and suggested the new courses and faculty that will best complement the existing curriculum and be most valuable for new students. The proposal to add South Asian literature and Urdu language to the curriculum came out of that meeting. As the proposal was drafted, the CAS dean gave his preliminary approval of the draft budget and concept paper.

Members of this subcommittee have met several times with university leaders, including University Provost Satish Tripathi, Assistant Vice President for Constituent Development Deborah McKinzie, and CAS Dean's Advisory Council member Vijay Kumar to discuss strategies for developing the South Asia Institute and related courses. The proposed new positions in South Asian Languages and Literatures and Hindi and Urdu were addressed in the context of a developing strategic plan in Asian Studies that could include new South Asianist hires in, for example, the Departments of Music, Anthropology, and Sociology.

Institutional Commitment: Description and Level

The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and the University Provost have approved this proposal and the spending (shown in the attached budget) required by it. The university has committed to spending \$85,890 in the first year of the project and \$95,428 in the second year, and has agreed to pick up all expenses associated with the new positions in subsequent years. UB's record with previous Department of Education grants indicates that the university maintains its commitment to the positions and programs that have been established with UISFL funds.

Experience with the Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program

UB's Asian Studies Program has twice received funding from the Title VI Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program. U.S. Department of Education funding for these grants has had a significant lasting impact on the Asian Studies Program. With funding from the first grant, submitted in 1994, UB established a minor in Asian Studies in conjunction with the School of Management. This Department of Education funding supported a new tenure-

track position in the Department of Communication, foreign travel for internship development, part-time lecturers and language resource specialists in Japanese and Chinese, and the development of an Asia at Noon speaker series. Since that time, the minor established with this Department of Education funding has grown into a full-fledged major. We are also pleased to report that the professor hired under this grant, Junhao Hong, was recently promoted to the status of full professor. Our partner in this grant, the UB School of Management, has developed internship opportunities in East Asia. In addition, the Asia at Noon forum has become a mainstay of the Asian Studies Program.

The second grant funded through the UISFL program was a 1997 request to support “Asian Studies and the Arts.” U.S. Department of Education funding for this program primarily supported the hiring of an Art History faculty member, summer stipends for faculty to develop an interdisciplinary core course in Asian art and culture, and a visiting artist-in-residence program. As with the UISFL grant to establish the Asian Studies minor, the components of this second grant are still in place and have become a significant part of the Asian Studies program: the interdisciplinary core course developed under this grant, “Culture and Arts in East Asia,” is required for Asian Studies majors and had 20 students enrolled in Fall 2008; Bingyi Huang, a specialist on Chinese archeology and contemporary Chinese art and cinema, is currently assistant professor of Visual Studies;² and visiting artists come to campus to present their work to students and in public forums on a regular basis. Since the expiration of the grant, for example, UB hosted in 2005 a major art exhibition and conference, “The Wall: Reshaping Contemporary Chinese Art,” which brought to campus several influential Chinese artists and filmmakers. In the past four semesters, UB has hosted presentations and public performances by the Shaolin Kung Fu masters, Japanese Taiko Drumming, Theatre of Yugen (performing plays in Japan’s Noh style),

² The Visual Studies Department resulted from the merger of the Departments of Art and Art History in 2006.

and Srishti Dances of India, as well as three movie screenings by Indian and Pakistani filmmakers.

The first of these screenings was by Stalin K., cofounder of Drishti Media Collective in Ahmedabad, India, who showed his latest film, “India Untouched,” in October 2007 and addressed human rights issues related to caste and untouchability. The second presentation took place in October 2008 with Pakistani-American filmmaker Mara Ahmed, who examined issues of faith, society, and politics with her film, “The Muslims I Know.” Also in October 2008, the Asian Studies Program hosted Indian Filmmaker Pankaj Kumar, who showed and discussed his latest film, “Punches and Ponytails,” about women boxers in India.

This past year, the Asian Studies Program has established a fruitful relationship with Triveni, a local Indian classical music and dance organization. The two organizations and the graduate Indian Student Association jointly hosted the Indian dance troupe Srishti Dances of India for Holi Night in February. We are now planning an exciting performance in UB’s Center for the Arts by the music and dance group Rhythm of Rajasthan in September 2009.

Over the past year, we have also begun to collaborate with the Pakistani-American Association of Western New York, cosponsoring three events with this organization: the above-mentioned “Muslims I Know” film screening and talks on campus by Dr. Akbar Ahmed of American University and Dr. Rana Eijaz Ahmed of the University of Punjab in Lahore, Pakistan.

Components of the Proposed Expansion of the South Asian Studies Program at UB

The core of the effort to expand the South Asia program is the establishment of a tenure-track position in South Asian Languages and Literatures. This new professor will teach courses that could include contemporary South Asian literature, Hindi-Urdu poetry, Indian epics, South

Asian religious texts, or other courses related to his or her specialization. Additionally, the new appointee could be asked to teach several courses each year in Hindi or another South Asian language of specialization.

The new hire also will serve as director of South Asian languages, guiding the expansion of the language program, working with the chair of the Department of Asian Studies in the hiring of instructors, and overseeing instructors and classes. Our expectation at this stage is that UB will add two years of instruction in Urdu language and Hindi at the third and fourth year levels, but, as noted, the need for additional instructors will be based on the language background and interests of the new faculty member and a survey to determine which new language to offer (to be conducted in the first year of the grant period).

We propose that the addition of third and fourth year Hindi language instruction envisioned under this grant be set up by arrangement with a visiting scholar from Banaras Hindu University, with which UB established an exchange partnership in 2007. The value of this type of exchange of language teachers is well-understood at UB: Visiting Chinese teachers from Capital Normal University, one of UB's partner schools in Beijing, have regularly raised the level of enthusiasm on campus for the study of Chinese and have played a pivotal role in the expansion of the university's Chinese language instructional program.

Based on the language background of the new faculty member in South Asian Languages and Literatures and the evaluation of student demand, the Department of Asian Studies, with funding from UB, will hire the necessary adjunct lecturer in a second modern South Asian language. As noted, we anticipate that this additional language will be Urdu—given the urgent strategic need for the United States to have more Urdu speakers and the large number of Pakistani-Americans at UB and in the Buffalo area.

The tenure-track languages and literatures position and the new language position (Urdu) will be advertised through South Asia National Resource Centers, the Association for Asian Studies, Columbia University's South Asia Resource Access on the Internet (SARAI) website, the H-ASIA listserv, and similar professional newsletters, journals, listservs, and websites.

Additionally, funding is requested for a South Asian artists-in-residence program—a logical expansion of the visiting artists program stimulated by the 1997 Department of Education “Asia and the Arts” grant. The purpose of this program is four-fold: (1) to provide exciting learning opportunities in the visual and performing arts of the region for UB students studying South Asia; (2) to enrich the university's overall arts programs through direct engagement in the artistic, dramatic, and dance expressions of South Asia; (3) to provide an exciting benefit to art students and faculty from other colleges and universities in Western New York; and (4) to build a mutually beneficial bridge between Western New York's large and active South Asian community and the university's Asian Studies program.

At least one artist-in-residence each year will come from Banaras Hindu University. Other visiting artists could be invited from South Asia, be drawn from the large number of touring South Asian performers that come to the United States each year, or be resident in the United States. Visiting artists will be cohosted by the Asian Studies Program and the UB department that would benefit most from an artist's work and presentations, including but not limited to the Departments of Media Study, Theatre and Dance, Music, or Visual Studies.

Finally, in the context of UB's efforts to build the Asian Studies Program, the project director and Asian Studies faculty have identified documentary films on South Asia that will add valuable insights for students in classes such as the History Department's Asian Civilizations

sequence, history and literature classes on South Asia, and “Culture and the Arts in East Asia,” which is a required course for the Asian Studies major.

- *History of India: A Brief Introduction*. This film traces the history of India and discusses the country’s geography and religions. (21 min., \$189, Insight Media)
- *The Great Moghuls: The Young Akbar*. This film traces the early reign of Akbar, who was crowned Emperor of India at age 13 and became the greatest emperor of the Great Moghuls. (30 min., \$199, Insight Media)
- *Indus: The Unvoiced Civilization*. Featuring three-dimensional computer re-creations, satellite images, relics, and maps, this program investigates the languages, customs, and beliefs of the inhabitants of the Mohenjo-daro, Harappa, Dholavira, and Kalibangan civilizations of the Indus Valley. (59 min., \$159, Insight Media)

Contributions to the Interdisciplinary Asian Studies Program

The courses and new materials in this proposal will significantly strengthen the interdisciplinary Asian Studies Program at UB. Currently, undergraduates pursuing an Asian Studies major are required to take Introduction to Asian Studies and Asian-American Experience survey courses (Asian Studies 101 and Asian Studies 110, respectively); Asian Civilizations I or Asian Civilizations II (History 181 or 182); Contemporary Asian Societies, an interdisciplinary Asia-focused course in the social sciences; four semesters of an Asian language; and an additional 18 hours of upper level electives with Asia-related content across a wide range of disciplines, at least 9 of which must relate to the culture or region of the language selected.

At the present time, undergraduates are only able to choose the countries of East Asia—China, Japan, and Korea—as their area of focus. The addition of the courses described in this proposal will allow for the following significant outcomes:

1. the addition of a significant number of language and literature courses to the curriculum will allow the university to maintain a critical mass of South Asia courses so that undergraduates will be able to complete the Asian Studies major with a focus on South Asia;
2. undergraduates focusing on the countries of East Asia will be able to add a stronger pan-Asia component in their choice of electives;
3. the addition of new faculty and the expansion of the South Asia program will strengthen the new Department of Asian Studies;
4. the artist-in-residence program will offer unique perspectives in a variety of arts-related disciplines that will enrich the Asian-studies experience for undergraduates in various classes in the visual and performing arts; and
5. public performances will raise the level of enthusiasm in the general student body and the community for artistic expressions of South Asia.

New Courses Build a Concentration in South Asian Studies

As noted, with the addition of new courses in South Asian literatures and languages, the university will offer sufficient courses for students to major in Asian Studies with an area focus on South Asia. Students will be able to study enough Hindi or another South Asian language to fulfill the language requirement of the major (Table 2), as well as take 9 credit hours from among the other undergraduate classes offered on South Asia (Table 3). To announce the South Asia

focus in the Asian Studies major, the College of Arts and Sciences will have a public announcement of the grant and launching of the new program that will involve the visiting artists and new teachers.

Table 2 Language classes to be offered at UB with the proposed UISFL funding

Courses in regular type are already offered at UB. Courses in bold type are examples of those that would be added with the proposed UISFL and SUNY funding.

Hindi, 1 st year*	Urdu (or other South Asian language), 1st year
Hindi, 2 nd year	Urdu (or other South Asian language), 2nd year
Hindi, 3rd year	
Hindi, 4th year	

*Each year is composed of a 2-semester sequence.

Table 3 South Asia courses to be offered at UB with the proposed UISFL funding

Courses in regular type are already offered at UB. Courses in bold type are examples of those that could be added with the UISFL grant. Specific new South Asian literature courses would depend on the strengths and interests of the new hire.

History of Modern South Asia	First Semester Sanskrit
Islam and Muslims in Modern South Asia	Second Semester Sanskrit
Women in South Asian History, 1500–Present (graduate and undergraduate)	Readings in Sanskrit
Religions, State, and Society in South Asia, 1200–1750 (graduate and undergraduate)	Geographies of Health
Introduction to Asian Studies	Industrial Geography
Asian Religions	Indian Epics
History of Asian Civilizations I	Contemporary South Asian Literature
History of Asian Civilizations II	Medieval South Asian Literature
Women in Contemporary Asia	South Asian Religious Texts
International Environments and Commercial Problems	Hindi-Urdu Poetry
International Development for Planners	

Plan for Improving and Expanding Language Instruction

This plan proposes the addition of eight new semester-long foreign language courses each year—four in Hindi and four in Urdu. The new Urdu courses will be taught by an adjunct professor who will be resident in the United States; the Hindi courses will be taught by a visiting scholar from Banaras Hindu University or from one of UB’s other partner institutions in India.

The South Asian language program will be directed by the new professor of South Asian Languages and Literatures. This model has worked well at UB for East Asian languages, as each of the major languages—Chinese, Japanese, and Korean—has a full-time faculty director who oversees the curriculum and teaching by adjuncts, visiting faculty, and teaching assistants.

In the first year of the project, the director of the South Asian Languages will conduct a survey of the student body to ascertain student interest in South Asian languages other than Hindi. We expect this survey to affirm the demand for strategically important Urdu language, but we are open to the possibility that students may show greater demand for another language, such as Bengali, Kashmiri, Punjabi, or Tamil, in which case we would adapt our language offerings accordingly.

Need for and Prospective Results of the Proposed Program

Need for the Proposed Activities

Global economic, political, and strategic conditions mandate that Americans have a better understanding of the languages and peoples of South Asia. Armed with nuclear weapons, the two most prominent powers in the region—India and Pakistan—maintain a tense relationship that has erupted four times into armed conflict, and each faces destabilizing ethnic conflict and terrorist activity within its borders that has serious ramifications for the region and the world. At the same

time, the rapidly expanding Indian economy offers new labor, ideas, and markets for many American companies— including many firms in Western New York that seek greater engagement with the South Asian market, with Indian companies, and with the country’s highly skilled workforce.

The need for greater understanding of South Asia was highlighted in a recent front-page *Buffalo News* article (April 13, 2009) on the increase in Indian tourism to Niagara Falls. From hotels to restaurants to boat tours, the number of Indian customers is increasing rapidly and becoming a very significant customer base for Niagara Falls businesses. For economic development to flourish in Niagara Falls, it is critical that businesses and their employees understand and cater to their Indian customers.

The expansion of the South Asia program and the establishment of a South Asia Institute at UB will help prepare the next generation of business, political, and community leaders to better understand this strategically important part of the world. Students will learn about this critical region’s contemporary languages, literatures, and cultures and gain insight into its rich history that dates back thousands of years and has given birth to some of the world’s great religions and cultures. The vast number of speakers of Hindi (422 million in India alone) and Urdu (approximately 52 million in India and 11 million in Pakistan) makes the study of these languages critical to an adequate understanding of South Asia.

In addition to students in the College of Arts and Sciences, students in UB’s professional schools, including the School of Management, Law School, Medical School, and School of Architecture and Planning, will benefit by the new opportunities to study South Asia.

All students in South Asia courses, whether Asian Studies majors or not, will be encouraged to serve in areas of national need, as identified by the Secretary of Education in consultation with

federal agency heads. Students will be encouraged to pursue careers with, for example, the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Health and Human Services, Interior, State, and Labor, all of which have identified Hindi and Urdu (or the region of South Asia) as critical needs languages and areas. The Asian Studies graduate assistant will visit the websites of these departments and contact their personnel offices to find out about job openings or internship announcements.

Implementation of a Program in International Studies and Foreign Languages

Specifically, the proposed project will result in eight new language courses (two semesters each of first and second year Urdu and third and fourth year Hindi), four to six new courses³ in South Asian literatures to complement our existing strong curriculum in South Asian history, and four artists-in-residence over a two year period. All students will have a broader range of course offerings in South Asian languages. We expect that heritage learners who are reluctant to study Hindi for historical, ethnic, political, or religious reasons will be interested in studying Urdu (or the other selected South Asian language). Moreover, Asian Studies majors, who currently can only choose the countries of East Asia as an area of focus, will have the opportunity to focus on the region of South Asia. This will make the Asian Studies major more attractive to a broader range of students and increase the number of Asian Studies majors overall. The strengthening of the South Asia program will also provide new opportunities for students in the professional schools to study this important region and to graduate with a stronger area studies background.

Western New York is home to large and prominent Indian-American and Pakistani-American communities, as well as one of the largest Kashmiri diaspora communities in the United States. Expansion of the South Asia program will provide heritage learners in our region

³ The exact number of courses to be taught will be a matter of negotiation with the new hire, since the new faculty member would be relieved of some course load to direct the South Asian language program.

and throughout New York State with opportunities to learn their ancestors' languages, histories, and cultures in ways that will enhance their career prospects.

Students from the many other institutions of higher education in Western New York will be encouraged to take South Asia courses as non-matriculating students at UB. The Asian Studies Program will contact linguistics, international studies, and related departments in the humanities and social sciences at Canisius, Buffalo State, D'Youville, St. Bonaventure, and other regional colleges and universities to let them know of the expanded South Asia undergraduate language and literature offerings. Credits earned at UB are generally transferable back to their home universities.

Competition Program Priorities

Competitive Preference Priority

The Asian Studies Program at UB requires two years of a foreign language in order for a student to graduate with a major or minor in Asian Studies. The desire to diminish the imbalance that currently favors East Asian languages over South Asian languages is a major factor driving the submission of this grant proposal. Currently, Asian Studies majors may take up to four years of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean, and two years of Hindi or Arabic to satisfy their language requirement. The Asian Studies Program is eager to expand the offering in Hindi to four years and add two years of Urdu language to the curriculum.

Invitational Priority 1: K-12 Teacher Education

The Asian Studies Program recently completed a very successful 30-hour teacher education program on East Asia sponsored by the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia and

funded by the Freeman Foundation. The seminars were organized in association with the UB/Buffalo Public Schools Partnership and held at the Buffalo Teacher Resource Center. Because similar national models for teacher in-service on South Asia do not exist, the Asian Studies Program plans to establish a local seminar for teachers to provide information and materials that will help them incorporate the study of South Asia into their curricula. Initially, this program will consist of 15 classroom hours taught by distinguished UB faculty and other South Asia experts in the Buffalo area. As our capacity and experience grow, we expect to develop this program into an annual 30-hour seminar on par with the East Asia seminars that we offer.

Invitational Priority 2: Assessment of Student Foreign Language Competency

To ensure accountability for students and professors, students will take standard proficiency exams under development in Hindi and Urdu. The Center for Applied Second Language Studies at the University of Oregon is currently piloting Standards-based Measurements of Proficiency (STAMP) assessment tools in these two languages so professors can evaluate student progress. STAMP tests can help teachers make adjustments to their curricula and improve student outcomes. Nationally recognized tests like STAMP can help UB measure progress in student learning and ensure that the Department of Education's goal of improving language proficiency in critical needs languages is being fulfilled. Moreover, by utilizing these pilot assessment tools, the university would be assisting in the development of these important proficiency exams in Hindi and Urdu under development by a Title VI National Foreign Language Resource Center.

Invitational Priority 3: Increasing the Number of Underrepresented Minorities

One of the goals of the proposed increase in Hindi and addition of Urdu to the foreign language offerings is to add language courses to the undergraduate curriculum that would be of particular interest to Indian-American and Pakistani-American students. Like many students of diverse backgrounds, these students tend to want to learn the language of their relatives and ancestors. These South Asian minority groups would be well-served by funding for this proposed program.

Invitational Priority 4: Focus on Less Commonly Taught Languages

Hindi and Urdu are among the 78 priority languages selected from the U.S. Department of Education's list of Less Commonly Taught Languages. The proposed project would increase teaching of both languages at UB.

Conclusion

The University at Buffalo is poised to undertake a significant expansion of its area studies and language programs related to South Asia. Funding from the Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program would allow the university to add a minimum of 12 new courses on South Asia annually to its undergraduate curriculum, providing an opportunity for Asian Studies majors and other UB undergraduates to focus their studies on an area of the world that is vital to U.S. interests. By expanding our Hindi language classes and adding Urdu to the curriculum, UB will help the United States achieve important national security goals of better understanding and communicating with the leaders and peoples of India and Pakistan. The

proposed artists-in-residence program will enliven the undergraduate experience in the arts and give students opportunities to increase their knowledge of this region.

“Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo” will take place in a UB environment that is highly supportive of the expansion of area studies programs. Department of Education funding at this time would not only provide support for the new courses outlined above, but would also serve as seed funding for the launching of the new South Asia Institute at UB, an endeavor that has major backing from the College of Arts and Sciences and the University Provost.

Project Narrative

Other Narrative

Attachment 1:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: **1237-Other Attachmt file.pdf**

Attachment 2:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: **1238-Stapleton 2pg cv spring 2009.pdf**

Attachment 3:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: **1239-Conlon CV 2-pages.pdf**

Attachment 4:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: **1240-Buffalo Int Ed Vice Provost letter.pdf**

Attachment 5:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: **1241-Buffalo UG Vice Provost letter.pdf**

Attachment 6:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: **1242-Buffalo CAS Dean letter.pdf**

Attachment 7:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: **1243-Buffalo provost letter.pdf**

Kristin Eileen Stapleton

History Department, University at Buffalo
525 Park Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260
kstaple@buffalo.edu

(716) 645-5645 (office)

(716) 645-3473 (fax)

Academic Positions

Director of the Asian Studies Program (2007 to the present) and
Associate Professor, Department of History, University at Buffalo, SUNY

Associate Professor (1999-2007; Assistant Professor, 1993-1999)
Department of History, University of Kentucky

Visiting Associate Professor (September 2005 – June 2006)
Department of History, Princeton University

Director (August 2002 – June 2005)
Asia Center at the University of Kentucky

Education

Ph.D., History, Harvard University, June 1993. Major adviser: Philip A. Kuhn
Exchange Scholar, Cornell University, 1988-89.

M.A., History, Harvard University, March 1987.

A.B. with High Distinction, Political Science and Asian Studies, The University of Michigan, May
1985. Chinese studies at the Inter-University Program in Taipei, 1983-84.

Recent Publications

Books

Kristin Stapleton. *Civilizing Chengdu: Chinese Urban Reform, 1895-1937*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard
University Asia Center, 2000.

Kenneth Hammond and Kristin Stapleton, eds. *The Human Tradition in Modern China*. Lanham, MD:
Rowman & Littlefield, 2008.

P.P. Karan and Kristin Stapleton, eds. *The Japanese City*. Lexington, KY: The University Press of
Kentucky, 1998.

Articles

“Generational and Cultural Fissures in the May Fourth Movement: Wu Yu (1872-1949) and the
Politics of Family Reform.” In Kai-Wing Chow, Tze-ki Hon, Hung-yok Ip, and Don C. Price,
eds. *Beyond the May Fourth Paradigm: In Search of Chinese Modernity*. 131-148. Lanham, MD:
Lexington Books, 2008.

“Hu Lanqi: Rebellious Woman, Revolutionary Soldier, Discarded Heroine, Triumphant Survivor.”
In Kenneth Hammond and Kristin Stapleton, eds. *The Human Tradition in Modern China*. 157-
176. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2008.

“Warfare and Modern Urban Administration in Chinese Cities.” In Sherman Cochran and David
Strand, eds. *Cities in Motion: Interior, Coast, and Diaspora in Transnational China*. 53-78. Berkeley:
University of California East Asian Institute, 2008.

“State of the Field: Chinese Urban History.” Co-written with Liu Haiyan of the Tianjin Academy of Social Sciences. *China Information*, Special Issue on Urban China, Vol. 20, no. 3 (November 1, 2006): 391-427.

Professional Service

Affiliations and Service

Member of the American Historical Association’s Committee on Graduate Education (2000-2004), which assessed the state of graduate education in history and issued a substantial report in January 2004, *The Education of Historians for the 21st Century*.

Member of the Board of Advisers of the Chinese Urban Research Network, Lewis Mumford Center for Urban Studies, University at Albany (since 2002). Evaluator of grant proposals in Chinese urban studies and discussant at CURN annual conferences (2002 - 2006).

Association for Asian Studies. Member of the Program Committee (2003-2005). Member of the Committee on Teaching About Asia (since 2001).

Scholarly Publishing

Member of the editorial board of the journal *Education About Asia* (since 2004), consulting editor for special issue (Winter 2007) on “Teaching About Asian Governments and Legal Systems.”

Asia book review editor for the *Journal of Urban History* (since 2001).

Symposia

Co-organizer with Buck Ryan, the director of the University of Kentucky Center for the First Amendment, of “Citizen Kentucky – Citizen China,” a town hall conversation about Kentucky’s connections with China in the area of trade, education, religion, and journalism, May 2007. Video footage was used to produce a 30-minute documentary, “Citizen Kentucky/Citizen China: Hope for a New Century,” which premiered on Kentucky Educational Television in July 2008.

Fellowships

Fellow in the Public Intellectual Program of the National Committee on U.S.– China Relations, 2005-2007.

Professional Associate with the Asian Studies Development Program as a participant in the Summer Institute on Korean Culture and Society (1997).

Grants

National Committee on U.S. – China Relations. Support for the “Citizen Kentucky – Citizen China” town hall conversation and video production (2007, \$3,000)

Freeman Foundation Undergraduate Asia Studies Initiative Grant to support the Asia Center at the University of Kentucky (Principal Investigator, four years, 2002-2005, totaling \$1.02 million).

Graham Foundation grant to support publication of the papers presented at the 2004 Asia Center Annual Symposium “East Asia: Experiments in Architecture and Urbanism” (Co-Principal Investigator, 2004-2005, \$10,000).

Kentucky Humanities Council mini-grant to support a symposium on Horses in Asian History, held in conjunction with the *Imperial China* exhibit at the International Museum of the Horse, Kentucky Horse Park (Principal Investigator, 2000, \$1,000).

ABBREVIATED CURRICULUM VITAE

(04-04-2009)

FRANK FOWLER CONLON

Professor Emeritus of History, South Asian Studies and Comparative Religion
University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195-3560
Managing Director, Bibliography of Asian Studies Online, Association for Asian Studies
Co-editor (and founder), H-ASIA: International email discussion list on Asian History and
Asian Studies

Address (Seattle)

Address (Boulder)

Faculty appointments: University of Washington,

Assistant Professor	1968 - 1977
Associate Professor	1977 - 1984
Professor	1984 – 2001(retired, Emeritus)

Administrative appointments: University of Washington

Director, South Asia Center 1978 – 1979, 1985 – 1990, 1993 - 2000
Chair, South Asia Program (Jackson School of International Studies)
1985-1990, 1993 - 2001
Chair, Comparative Religion Program (JSIS) 2000 - 2001

Fellowships, Distinctions:

American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Fellowship, India, 1990-91
National Endowment for the Humanities Scholar, AIIS, 1990-91
American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Fellowship, India 1977-78
American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Fellowship, India 1971
Western Conference of Asian Studies Lifetime Achievement Award, 2001

Selected Bibliography:

2009

Chapter “Speaking of Caste? Colonial and Indigenous Interpretations of Caste and
Community in Nineteenth Century Bombay” in From Ancient to Modern:
Religion, Power, and Community in India, Edited by Ishita Banerjee-Dube and
Saurabh Dube. (New York: Oxford University Press)

2007

Chapter “Birth of a Jati” in Ishita Banerjee-Dube, ed., Caste in History (Delhi: Oxford
University Press pp. 79-92)

2006

- Article "Rethinking Our Notions of India: An Interview With Frank Conlon",
Education About Asia 11:2 (Fall, 2006) 4-8.
- Chapter "Dining Out in Bombay/Mumbai" in Sujata Patel and Kushal Deb, eds.,
Urban Studies (Delhi: Oxford University Press)

2000

- Chapter: "Sahebancya athavani ani tase"[in Marathi: Memories of the Sahebs (British Contributions to Social and Cultural Life in Pune in Marathi)], in Aruna Tikekara, ed., Shara Pune: eka samskratika sancitaca magova. (Pune: Nilubhau Limaye Phaundesana) Vol. 1. 261-268.
- Chapter: "Vishnubawa Brahmachari: Champion of Hinduism in Ninteenth Century Maharashtra." in A. R Kulkarni and N. K. Wagle, eds., Region, Nationality and Religion. (Mumbai: Popular Prakashan). 157-184.

1998

- Chapter: "History (Colonial and Post-Colonial)" in Joseph W. Elder, Edward C. Dimock, Jr. and Ainslie T. Embree, eds., India's Worlds and U. S. Scholars (New Delhi: Manohar Publications, American Institute of Indian Studies) pp. 282-305
- Chapter: "The Status and Image of Women in Ninteenth Century Maharashtra: Vishnubawa Brahmachari's Views in the Context of Hindu Revival" in Anne Feldhaus, ed., Images of Women in Maharashtrian Society (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1998) pp. 93-112.

Professional Service and external recognition (other than fellowships):

- Member, editorial committee, South Asia (Australia) 2002-
- Member, editorial committee, Contemporary South Asia 1998-
- H-NET Humanities & Social Sciences Online, Treasurer 2003-06, President 2008
- Member, Association for Asian Studies, Special Committee for evaluation of the Journal of Asian Studies, 1998-1999
- Member, Association for Asian Studies, South Asian Council Committee on Future of South Asian Studies, 1992-94
- Elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees, American Institute of Indian Studies, 1982-1983
- Elected President, Western Conference, Association for Asian Studies, 1988-89
- Member, Fellowship Selection Committee for the Indo-American the Indo- U. S. Subcommission on Education and Culture, 1984-1993
- Member of Fellowship Screening Committee, SSRC/ACLS South Asia Dissertation Fellowship Program, 1999-2000

Recent External program reviews conducted,

University of Chicago, University of Colorado, University of California-Berkeley



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

20 April 2009

Vice Provost for International Education

Professor Kristin Stapleton, Director
Asian Studies Program
University at Buffalo
714 Clemens Hall
North Campus

Dear Kristin:

I am delighted to support your proposal "Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo," which is being submitted to the U.S. Department of Education's Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program.

As you know, South Asia, and particularly India, has been identified as a strategic priority in our university's internationalization agenda. By supporting the expansion of our South Asian language programs and our South Asian curriculum more generally, the grant will not only strengthen Asian Studies in this critical area but enable UB students and faculty to take advantage of the increased opportunities for education, research and exchange in South Asia.

While UB has been active in India for more than a decade, the past few years have seen a dramatic increase in the scale and extend of our institutional engagement in that country, in keeping with the growing importance of India and the South Asia region. We now enjoy productive institutional affiliations with six universities in India and are partnering in the delivery of several graduate degree programs with Amrita University in Bangalore.

UB annually enrolls more than 1,200 students from South Asia, including nearly 1,000 from India, our largest sending country. We also enroll an increasing number of U.S. students of South Asian descent and attract many South Asian faculty and researchers to UB. The Western New York community is home to a growing and increasingly influential South Asian community. Moreover, the numbers of UB students interested in studying in India is also increasing. All of these constituencies will take a strong interest in, and no doubt support, the proposed expansion of the South Asia Program.

Given the increased importance of South Asia in world affairs and the global economy and the need for our students to acquire working knowledge of the languages and cultures of the region, I welcome and strongly endorse the proposed South Asia Program and the development of a South Asia Institute. I look forward to working with you in support of this vital initiative.

Please contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen C. Dunnett, Professor and
Vice Provost for International Education



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

Office of the Provost
Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education

April 24, 2009

Vickie L. Schray
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Higher Education
U.S. Department of Education
1990 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Deputy Assistant Secretary Schray:

I am writing to give my full support to the proposal, "Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo," submitted to the U.S. Department of Education's Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language grant competition. As Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education at the University at Buffalo (UB), I can attest to the institution's ongoing efforts to internationalize the undergraduate curriculum, as exemplified by the International Strategy Task Group's 2007 report, "The Global Imperative: Making UB an International University."

I am pleased to report that the university is moving forward quickly on a number of fronts to further internationalize the undergraduate experience. In the past two years, for example, UB has established a Global Perspectives Undergraduate Academy, designed to help students gain greater awareness of international affairs and understand the global challenges of the twenty-first century. The university has also named a new Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, who will be responsible for expanding undergraduates' awareness of global issues and enriching their international experiences. He is currently co-chairing our General Education Task Force which is charged with reviewing the core curriculum of the University and considering how the educational experience of our students can be enriched, including a greater awareness of international issues and an appreciation of diverse cultures.

The expanded South Asia curriculum and other components of the proposal submitted by the Asian Studies Program will make a significant difference in the University at Buffalo's undergraduate international course offerings, especially in the areas of language and literature, and help to expand our relationships with partner institutions in the region. I strongly support this proposal and urge the Department of Education to provide the funding for this exciting program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael E. Ryan".

Michael E. Ryan
Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

College of Arts and Sciences
Office of the Dean

April 30, 2009

Vickie L. Schray
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Higher Education
U.S. Department of Education
1990 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Deputy Assistant Secretary Schray:

As Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the State University of New York at Buffalo (UB), I am writing to give my full endorsement to the proposal, "Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo." As the academic dean overseeing the Asian Studies Program, under which the South Asia program will be developed, I affirm that UB is committed to providing the financial resources to match the funding from the Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program grant, as detailed in the enclosed budget. I give my assurance that federal funds provided by the UISFL program will supplement, not supplant, non-federal funds the university spends or is planning to spend on South Asia curriculum and related programs. In addition, UB pledges to maintain the positions and courses described in the proposal indefinitely beyond the two-year grant period.

The College of Arts and Sciences is very excited about plans by the Asian Studies Program to add courses in South Asian literature and languages. UB faculty and administration have long recognized the significance of South Asia to U.S. interests, as well as the region's major historical and contemporary contributions to world civilizations. The expansion of the South Asia curriculum, strengthened relationships with our partner institutions in the region, and the addition of a focus on South Asia for Asian Studies majors are logical and important developments in the continued growth of Asian Studies at UB.

The new courses proposed in this grant request will greatly complement our existing curriculum on South Asia, which is of extremely high quality but modest in scope, and will be a critical component in the establishment of a proposed South Asia Institute at UB.

We are grateful for the past support of the U.S. Department of Education for UB's Asian Studies Program, and thank you for your consideration of the current grant request. We hope to have the opportunity to work with you as we expand our South Asia programs and further strengthen Asian Studies at UB.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce McCombe".

Bruce McCombe
Dean



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

University Provost
Office of the Provost

April 30, 2009

Vickie L. Schray
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Higher Education
U.S. Department of Education
1990 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Deputy Assistant Secretary Schray:

I am writing to endorse the proposal, "Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo," submitted by the university's Asian Studies Program. As university provost, I have been working with Asian Studies Program staff, the assistant vice president for constituent development in the College of Arts and Sciences, and UB alumni from South Asia to design a South Asia Institute at the university and formulate a fundraising plan for it.

The new undergraduate courses and faculty described in the enclosed grant proposal will be a core component of the planned South Asia Institute. Funding from the Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language program not only would allow UB to establish at least 12 new undergraduate courses in South Asian Studies, it would also leverage significant new individual, foundation, and corporate contributions that would help UB match the Department of Education grant and maintain these programs well into the future. As an indication of the priority that UB places on growing the South Asian Studies program, I have recently made available \$30,000 to faculty for developing new academic exchange programs with their counterparts in India.

South Asia is very high on UB's international profile, with more than 1,000 international students from the region currently studying at the university, thousands of South Asian alumni, a large number of Indian-American and Pakistani-American students on campus, and six partner institutions in the region. With this important expansion of its Asian Studies Program outlined in the proposal, UB is poised to make a major contribution to teaching and research about South Asia in the United States.

Sincerely,

Satish K. Tripathi
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Budget Narrative

Budget Narrative

Attachment 1:

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Attachment 2:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: **1235-Buffalo UISFL budget narrative.pdf**

Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo

U.S. Department of Education funds

		<u>Year 1</u>			<u>Year 2</u>			
	Effort %	Salary	Year 1		Effort %	Salary	Year 2	Total
PERSONNEL								
South Asian Lang and Lit Faculty	50%	\$ 65,000	\$ 32,500		50%	\$ 68,250	\$ 34,125	\$ 66,625
Urdu Adjunct Faculty		\$ 60,000	\$ -		8%	\$ 63,000	\$ 5,040	\$ 5,040
<u>Hindi Adjunct Faculty</u>	16%	\$ 60,000	\$ 9,600		17%	\$ 63,000	\$ 10,710	\$ 20,280
Personnel subtotals			\$ 42,100				\$ 49,875	\$ 91,945
FRINGE BENEFITS								
South Asian Faculty (47.04, 48.18%)			\$ 15,288				\$ 16,441	\$ 29,920
Urdu Adjunct Faculty (47.04, 48.18%)							\$ 2,428	\$ 2,371
<u>Hindi Adjunct Faculty (47.04, 48.18%)</u>			\$ 4,516				\$ 5,160	\$ 9,676
Fringe Benefits subtotals			\$ 19,804				\$ 24,029	\$ 41,967
TRAVEL								
Visiting artists airfare			\$ 3,000					\$ 3,000
Hindi teacher travel			\$ 2,000				\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000
<u>Project Directors annual meeting</u>			\$ 1,800				\$ 1,800	\$ 3,600
Travel subtotals			\$ 6,800				\$ 3,800	\$ 10,600
SUPPLIES								
<u>South Asia videos for classroom use</u>			\$ 547					\$ 547
Supplies subtotals			\$ 547					\$ 547
OTHER								
Visiting artists honorarium			\$ 6,000				\$ 3,629	\$ 10,000
Consultant fee			\$ 1,500				\$ 1,500	\$ 3,000
Consultant travel			\$ 400				\$ 400	\$ 800
<u>Consultant accommodations</u>			\$ 100				\$ 100	\$ 200
Other subtotal			\$ 8,000				\$ 5,629	\$ 14,000
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS			\$ 77,251				\$ 83,333	\$ 160,584
INDIRECT COSTS - 8% TDC			\$ 6,180				\$ 6,667	\$ 12,847
TOTAL			\$ 83,431				\$ 90,000	\$ 173,431

Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo

University at Buffalo Funds

	Effort %	<u>Year 1</u> Salary	Year 1	<u>Year 2</u> Salary	Year 2	Total
PERSONNEL						
Project Director	10%	\$ 97,805	\$ 9,780	\$ 102,695	\$ 10,270	\$ 20,050
South Asian Lang and Lit Faculty	50%	\$ 65,000	\$ 32,500	\$ 68,250	\$ 34,125	\$ 66,625
Project codirector	10%	\$ 46,956	\$ 4,696	\$ 49,304	\$ 4,930	\$ 9,626
<u>Project Administrative Assistant</u>	10%	\$ 49,468	\$ 4,947	\$ 51,941	\$ 5,194	\$ 10,141
Personnel subtotals			\$ 51,923		\$ 54,519	\$ 106,442
FRINGE BENEFITS						
Project Director (47.04, 48.18%)			\$ 4,372	\$ 4,948	\$ 9,320	
South Asian Faculty (47.04, 48.18%)			\$ 15,288	\$ 16,441	\$ 31,729	
Project codirector (39, 41.5%)			\$ 1,831	\$ 2,046	\$ 3,877	
<u>Project Admin. Assistant (47.04, 48.18%)</u>			\$ 2,327	\$ 2,503	\$ 4,830	
Fringe Benefits subtotals			\$ 23,818	\$ 25,938	\$ 49,756	
TRAVEL						
Visiting Artists Airfare			\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	
<u>Visiting Artists Accommodations</u>			\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000	
Travel subtotals			\$ 2,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 7,000	
OTHER						
<u>New faculty start-up costs</u>			\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000	
Other subtotals			\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000	
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS			\$ 82,741	\$ 90,457	\$ 173,198	
INDIRECT COSTS - 8% TDC			\$ 6,619	\$ 7,237	\$ 13,856	
TOTAL			\$ 89,360	\$ 97,694	\$ 187,054	

Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo

Budget Narrative

1. Personnel

a. Professor of South Asian Languages and Literatures; Director of South Asian languages

We propose that half of the salary and benefits for this new position in the first two years be paid from the requested U.S. Department of Education funds, and half paid by UB. Our eventual goal is to build up an endowment to support this tenure-track position in South Asian language and literature as part of the fundraising initiative of the South Asia Institute.

This is a full-time faculty position, with “start-up costs” budgeted at \$5,000 per year, to be paid from the budget of the College of Arts and Sciences. Start-up costs typically include computer, office furniture, and other equipment; research budget; and travel.

b. Urdu Teacher

This will be an adjunct faculty position, budgeted at 8% of a full time professor salary, starting in the second year of the grant period. In the second year, this person will teach two courses, Urdu 101 (first semester) and Urdu 102 (second semester), paid from U.S. Department of Education funds.

c. Hindi Teacher

The Hindi teacher, whom we will invite from Banaras Hindu University or another of our partner institutions in India, will teach two courses a semester and be compensated at an average of 16.5% of a full-time salary in each of the two years of the grant, to be paid from U.S. Department of Education funds.

d. Project Director (Kristin Stapleton)

Dr. Kristin Stapleton, director of the Asian Studies Program at UB, will spend approximately 10% of her time over the course of the grant period hiring new faculty, evaluating progress, serving as a liaison between interested academic departments and the Asian Studies Program in the College of Arts and Sciences, and attending meetings of the UISFL program directors. The project director salary will be paid by the University at Buffalo.

e. Assistant Director (Bruce Acker)

Bruce Acker, assistant director of Asian Studies at UB, will serve as the liaison to the Office of Sponsored Projects Services, the program evaluator, and visiting artists; schedule and market public performances; promote the new language programs to current and incoming UB students, and market UB South Asia programs to the Western New York community, spending 10% of his time on this project over the course of the grant period. The assistant director salary will be paid by the University at Buffalo.

f. Administrative Assistant

The administrative assistant for this project will be named from the College of Arts and Sciences Programs Administrative Group. This team was established in the 2008-2009 academic year to provide administrative support to area studies and humanities programs in the College of Arts and Sciences. The team provides support in travel arrangements, accounting, marketing, course scheduling, and so forth. The member of the team assigned to this grant will spend

approximately 10% of her/his time on Building the South Asia Program at the University at Buffalo. The administrative assistant salary will be paid by the University at Buffalo.

2. *Fringe Benefits*

Justification

Fringe benefits are budgeted at the federally negotiated rates and for the Income Fund Reimbursable (IFR):

The Department of Health and Human Services has agreed to allow a separate rate to be charged directly to sponsored projects for SUNY employees in non-student positions working on a Research Foundation project and appointed through the Income Fund Reimbursable process. Therefore, the New York State federal fringe benefit rate published by the State Comptroller's Office will be used to determine monthly reimbursement to each campus for salary and fringe benefits for all new and continuing projects with an IFR payroll.

Department of Education Funds and Cost-Share

Half of the fringe benefits for the new professor of South Asian Languages and Literatures would be paid with Department of Education funds, and half would be paid by UB. UB would cover all salary and fringe benefits of the Director and support staff. Benefits will be paid on the following scales during the course of the grant period:

3. *Travel and accommodations*

a. Visiting Artists airfare

The grant request proposes to bring 2 visiting arts to the university in each year of the grant program. One of these will be coming from Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi, India, so

travel from India to Buffalo would be required at approximately \$2,000 round trip. The other artist-in-residence would likely be a person or group already located in or traveling to the United States. We have budgeted up to \$1,000 for this travel, which will vary depending on the number of people traveling and departure city. Airfare in the first year would be paid with UISFL funds, and in the second year with University at Buffalo funds.

b. Visiting Artists Accommodations

The visiting artist(s) would be housed in a local hotel, the university guest house, or a private home, depending on the number of people and the length of stay. Accommodations each year would be paid for by the University at Buffalo.

c. Hindi Teacher Travel

The Hindi teacher would be traveling from Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi, India, so travel to Buffalo would be required at approximately \$2,000 round trip. This travel would be paid with Department of Education funds.

d. Project Directors Annual Meeting

Budgeted as per UISFL application instructions, to be covered by Department of Education funds.

4. Equipment

No equipment will be purchased in the undertaking of this grant, either with Department of Education or UB funds.

5. Supplies

The purchase of documentary movies on South Asian history for use in a variety of classroom situations, as described in the proposal, is indicated here.

Item 6 (contractual) and Item 7 (construction) are not applicable to this grant.

8. Other

a. Honorarium for Visiting Artists

In each year of the project, we propose to bring at least one visiting artist or group per semester to UB to teach in university classes, and present demonstrations or exhibits of their work on campus and in the community. We propose that U.S. Department of Education funds be used to pay honoraria for these visiting artists.

b. Consultant Fee, Travel, and Accommodations for External Evaluator

This budget line, to be paid with U.S. Department of Education funds, includes an honorarium for the consulting evaluator (\$1,500), as well as the cost of domestic airfare and one night's hotel accommodation.