**Question 11: Enhancing Academic Support Resources**

Task: Describe the unit’s research and creative work and teaching support needs. These might include grant support, instrumentation, technology, or library needs.

The unit is well supported with regard to its teaching needs by the Office of Information Technology. Given the international nature of the unit’s subject matter, an additional IT resource that could be developed is support and training for online international guest lectures and international collaborations. Students would benefit considerably from additional, more direct interaction with academics, policy makers, and students from non-U.S. contexts, especially Global South contexts. While members of the unit are well versed in technology like Skype, OIT could help the unit deepen and broaden its ability to utilize these and other online communication tools in the classroom.

With regard to library resources, students are well supported in their research needs. These needs are significant in the unit because the undergraduate major requires a senior seminar course that focuses on an independent research project. Students often rely on library area experts to assist in literature reviews. Any additional resources tailored to the needs of such international affairs research projects would be beneficial. For the unit’s faculty, the library could provide additional support in the emerging area of open access. Many faculty in the unit conduct research on countries in the Global South—countries that often have very limited access to academic resources. Library support for training on how best to disseminate research, including in such resource-limited countries, would be beneficial.

While faculty in the unit are supported in their research needs, this support largely comes from their primary, tenure-home unit or through the Institute of Behavioral Science (IBS). Thus, faculty in the unit could benefit from additional grant writing support that is tailored to their particular strengths in international research. It would be helpful if the Office of Research and Innovation could help identify grant and funding opportunities with strong international foci related to faculty area expertise, being mindful that faculty in the unit are in both humanities and social science disciplines.