

**2007-2008 Curriculum and Faculty Development Grant Request
Associated Colleges of the South Environmental Initiative**

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Introduction: Goals & Justification

The purpose of this project is to improve a revamped interdisciplinary course entitled [Cases in Sustainable Development](#) and its new complementary course [Global Environmental Affairs](#). Both courses, one with a regional and comparative focus, the other with a global and institutional concentration, have origins that stem from an external grant Rollins College colleagues received to establish a minor in sustainable development and involve students majoring not just in political science but also international relations and environmental studies as well as the occasional international business major.

In short, this is a proposal to fund, in part, a trip to Costa Rica in June 2008. That 8-day itinerary is a phenomenal professional development opportunity, one which would greatly enhance both my teaching and research interests in areas such as cooperatives, NGOs, and ecotourism. It would give me first hand experience in the Monteverde Cloud Forest Preserve as well as with shade coffee operations and a number of other amazing events planned for that trip noted below.

More concretely, my objective is threefold. First, I hope to strengthen my international coursework load at Rollins College and especially the sustainable development components of the specific classes noted above by adding a case study that both targets a new area for me personally and highlights ecotourism more specifically.

Second, this grant will allow me to gain additional field study abroad experience with faculty peers, with the end objective of developing an entirely new course on sustainable development in Eastern Europe for our students, including a field study component. Part of my time as a Fulbright scholar with the U.S. State Department in the Slovak Republic during 2007, in fact, was devoted to developing contacts along those lines. Additional international experience with students includes a spring 2002 course taught with a colleague that included a trip to the Dominican Republic as well as assisting another colleague in his activism class and their trip to Ecuador during December 2006. Another experience involved traveling with the Rollins students studying in Australia during July 2006. Finally, I also participated in the Galapagos for the Professors in May 2005 as well as audited a semester-long course and May 2006 trip targeting Vietnam and Singapore with three other colleagues here at Rollins. Soon I hope to partner again directly with a colleague in offering my own field study course.

Third, one of my ongoing research projects is targeting the role of NGOs and ecotourism, and I believe this trip will be very fruitful in generating data as well as building contacts. Indeed, such a trip would give added credence to my scholarly area of expertise in the politics of species diversity protection. Using environmental NGOs as the medium, this was the focus of my recent book, the Sprout award-nominated *Building the Next Ark*, which was released in paperback in August 2006 and cloth in October 2004 by University Press of New England (UPNE) and Dartmouth College. A sampling of critical reviews, more of which are available at: <http://web65.rollins.edu/~mgunter/research/BNA/bnareviews.htm>, are found below:

A welcome contribution...Written with the scrutiny of a political scientist and the heart of an environmentalist...This book appeals to both academics and practitioners alike. Members of the

environmental field will benefit from this book's intermingling of the empirical and theoretical...Practitioners should be eager to apply the lessons of this sector in their own work.

Cristina M. Balboa

*School of Forestry & Environmental Studies
Yale University*

*Voluntas: International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations
Vol.17, No.3, September 2006, pp.272-274*

This is an important and much-needed book on a vital subject. Using thorough, hands-on scholarship, Gunter delineates the role of the NGOs as the spearhead of the global conservation movement. He delivers balanced accounts of their strategies, their relationship to governments and the public, their successes and their vulnerabilities.

E.O Wilson

Two-time Pulitzer Prize Winner

*Pellegrino University Professor Emeritus
Harvard University*

The book is valuable for its excellent presentation of the transnational and interdependent nature of biodiversity protection, the creative framework for looking at NGOs, and the wealth of information about an under-researched, yet crucially important, topic. Summing Up: Highly recommended. Lower-division undergraduates and above.

R. E. O'Connor

*National Science Foundation
CHOICE Jul/Aug 2005*

A few other examples of how this proposed project relates to my area of expertise include two articles I was commissioned to write for the [*Encyclopedia of the Developing World*](#) with Routledge Press (November 2005). One of these entries is on Biodiversity Conservation; the other examines Sustainable Development. Another example is my piece on U.S. climate change policy for the *Encyclopedia of Global Warming and Climate Change* with Sage Publications forthcoming in 2008. I have also written an editorial on the Kyoto Treaty with *Sun-Sentinel* and a number of reviews which demonstrate my sustainable development interests. These have appeared in *The Journal of International Wildlife Law & Policy*, *The Journal of Politics, Organization & Environment*, and *The Journal of Politics and Life Sciences*. All told, then, this is a unique opportunity for me to further build upon my teaching and research agenda.

Project Description

Rollins College is hosting again this coming summer a Global Partners Project Faculty Development Seminar for members of the Associated Colleges of the South, Associated Colleges of the Midwest, and Great Lakes Colleges Association. That seminar's focus is an interdisciplinary approach to sustainable development as seen from the Costa Rican case. As such, twelve professors will have the opportunity to meet together and discuss study abroad pedagogy while engaging in a Costa Rica field study. Highlights include visits to the Monteverde Cloud Forest Preserve, a cheese factory, pig farm, women's art cooperative, coffee cooperative, communal farm, Bellbird Project, Ranario frog museum, Santa Elena Reserve, and Selvatura eco-tourist attraction and insect exhibit. As discussed above, this is a wonderful chance to enhance my coursework here at Rollins as well as build on research and service interests. Rollins College covers approximately half the costs of this trip for all participants. This grant application seeks funding for the remaining expenses noted below:

Preliminary Budget Breakdown

National park maps and lamination

Identification Guide to Flora & Fauna	30
Additional Educational Materials	50
Anticipated Cost after Rollins Grant	950

Total Request ***\$1,060***

Evaluation and Dissemination

The success of this project will be evaluated according to its ability to enhance the recently revamped course Cases in Sustainable Development and a brand new companion course entitled Global Environmental Affairs. Student feedback as well as personal reflection on my part will be included in this analysis. A number of other courses I teach will likely feel some impact as well, including a first year course on Environmental Activism & Politics and an introductory class on international relations as well as several upper level courses on international organizations and the capstone senior seminar for our international relations majors. Content changes for all will be posted on the respective course websites, including selected readings and relevant assignments. This will also be submitted to the ACS website for consideration as a model. And of course, a complete final report will highlight aspects of both the field study experience and its practical application into the course.

Institutional Approval

Dean Laurie Joyner, Dean of the Faculty at Rollins College, will email per website instructions.

Disclosure Statement

Current Support: A Rollins College grant covers approximately half the cost of the trip for all participants.

PI Curriculum Vitae

Please see attached 2-page CV

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September 2007

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ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor, Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida, Fall 2006 to present

RCC 100: [Environmental Politics & Activism](#) (first year seminar)

POL 130: [Introduction to International Relations](#)

POL 315: [Fact and Fiction in Film: War on the Silver Screen](#)

POL 323: [Global Environmental Affairs](#)

POL 333: [Case Studies in Sustainable Development](#)

POL 351: [International Security](#)

POL 354: [International Organization](#)

Fulbright Lecturer, Univerzita Komenského, Bratislava, Slovak Republic, Spring 2007

Assistant Professor, Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida, Fall 2003 to Summer 2006

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Director, International Relations Program, Fall 2007 to present

Faculty Director, Living & Learning Communities Program, Fall 2007 to Spring 2009

TEACHING & RESEARCH FIELDS OF INTEREST

International Relations Theory

International Security and Arms Control

NGOs and International Organization

U.S. Foreign Policy

Web Page Design and GIS Training

Field Studies (Dominican Rep./SE Asia/Ecuador)

Sustainable Development

International Environmental Affairs

U.S. Environmental Activism/Politics

War and Conflict in Film

Service Learning

Interdisciplinary Course Linkages

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, May 2001

Emphasis Areas: Environmental Policy Studies, International Relations, & Comparative Politics

University of Kentucky

Lexington, Kentucky

Environmental Systems Graduate Certificate, Aug. 1998

M.A., Political Science, Aug. 1998

University of Kentucky

Lexington, Kentucky

Sidney Ulmer Fellowship, Summer 1997

Vermont Law School

Environmental Law Center

South Royalton, Vermont

B.A., Political Science, May 1991

Honors in the College of Arts and Sciences

Vanderbilt University
Nashville, Tennessee

PUBLICATIONS - BOOKS

[*Building the Next Ark: How NGOs Work to Protect Biodiversity*](#), Dartmouth College and University Press of New England, Nov. 2004 (cloth), Aug. 2006 (paper).

PUBLICATIONS - ARTICLES

“Biodiversity Conservation,” [*Encyclopedia of the Developing World*](#), 3 vols., Thomas Leonard (ed.), New York: Routledge, 2005, pp.177-179.

“Sustainable Development,” [*Encyclopedia of the Developing World*](#), 3 vols., Thomas Leonard (ed.), New York: Routledge, 2005, pp.1509-1512.

PUBLICATIONS - EDITORIALS

“[U.S. is behind the curve](#),” (South Florida) *Sun-Sentinel*, February 28, 2005, p.25A.

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER

Awards: Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order, Screening Committee

Journals: Global Environmental Politics

Texts: McGraw-Hill, Prentice Hall, Wadsworth

AWARDS AND GRANTS

J. William Fulbright Lectureship Award, Slovak Republic, Spring 2007

Cornell Outstanding Faculty Award, December 2007-2010

International Studies Center Grant, Rollins College, July-August 2006

Teaching Nonproliferation Summer Institute, Middlebury College, June 2006

Order of Omega Award for Leadership, Community Involvement, & Scholastics, Spring 2006

Rollins Program in Sydney, Summer 2006

FYRST Grant, Rollins College, Fall 2006

Petters Internationalization Initiative Award, May 2006

Nonproliferation Teaching Institute, Washington and Lee University, (declined), June 2005

Learning the Netlogo Simulation Toolkit, Faculty Technology Development Grant, May/Aug. 2005

Faculty Technology FrontPage & Invisible Web Workshops, May 2005

Cornell (Critchfield) Grant, Participant Observation of Peruvian Amazon Earthwatch Expedition, 2005-06

ACS Curriculum Development Grant, Galapagos Islands, 2005

Teaching Nonproliferation Summer Institute, UNC @ Asheville, June 11-15, 2004

Information Fluency in the 21st Century Workshop, May 10-11, 2004

RCC Service-Learning Grant, Rollins College, 2003

Global Partners Czech Republic Travel Grant, “Central Europe’s Environmental Crisis,” June 2003

Course Development Grant, Dean of Faculty, Rollins College, 2003-2004

Edward Artinian Travel Award, Southern Political Science Association, Fall 2002

Individual Development Grant, Dean of Faculty, Rollins College, Summer/Fall 2002

GIS Workshop Scholarship, Center Spatially Integrated Social Science, UCSB, July 2002

Scholarship of Teaching Grant, Johnson Institute for Effective Teaching, Rollins College, 2002

Office of Community Engagement Grant, Rollins College, 2002

Course Linkage Grant, Dean of Faculty & Rollins College Conference Seminar, 2002

Dissertation Enhancement Fellowship, University of Kentucky Graduate School, Fall 1999

Commonwealth Research Travel Fellowship, University of Kentucky, Fall 1999

Sidney Ulmer Dissertation Travel Fellowship, University of Kentucky, Summer 1999

Target of Opportunity Research Specialist, Martin School Public Policy, 1998-1999

University of Kentucky Teaching Assistantship, 1995-1998, 2000

Master Teaching Assistant, University of Kentucky Teaching and Learning Center, Fall 1997

President, Political Science Graduate Student Association, University of Kentucky, 1997-1998