BACKGROUND AND REQUEST

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY
Master of Arts in Global Interactions (MAGI)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION

This program clearly meets Regents' standards for graduate degree programs. The Regents' Advisory Committee on Graduate Study voted unanimous approval for the new master's level program. There were no serious concerns raised in the review.

Request: Cleveland State University seeks approval for a Master of Arts in Global Interactions (MAGI) degree.

Program Purpose/Mission: The proposed professional degree program is designed to develop entry level skills for baccalaureate students in social sciences and business who seek employment in a range of professions with international and global linkages, and it is for mid-career professionals already working in the field who seek to upgrade their skills. Unlike the traditional Master of Arts in Political Science, which is typically a pre-Ph.D. program and is more academically oriented, the MAGI program is interdisciplinary, rather than confined to Political Science, and it is not intended to prepare students for Ph.D. work. The interdisciplinary nature of the program will give students an education they cannot get in other master's level programs. The designation "Global Transactions" focuses on private and non-governmental interactions, in addition to the relations between governments and inter-governmental organizations. Together, these constitute a body of "global transactions." Students will be more broadly trained in international business and in international relations than MBA or political science graduate students. The broader conception means that this program, while administered in one college (Liberal Arts and Social Sciences) and in one department (Political Science), will be interdisciplinary and inter-collegiate.

The MAGI degree is designed to respond to the changing economy of Ohio and Northeastern Ohio. Specifically, much of the region is already involved in global economic and cultural relations, accounting for many jobs. If current trends continue, this globalization will likely accelerate. As a major center for international interactions (trade, finance, investment, and non-governmental) as well as a key center for U.S. and international security (as a front-line Great Lakes city), there will be an increasing need for people trained for these jobs. Additionally, the program will meet another critical need – to recruit and train groups that currently are under-represented in global business and international affairs, in particular, African-Americans, Hispanics and Women.

Enrollments: There will be an initial cohort of 10 to 12 students. Over five years, the program is expected to grow to about 18 graduate students in each entering cohort, with an increasing number of out-of-state students (estimated at 5 by the beginning of year five).

Curriculum: The proposed curriculum is rooted in four basic principles: emphasis on problem-solving and practical experience, emphasis on inter-personal and communication skills, interdisciplinary and inter-college coursework both in the core and concentration, and development of a cohort (entering group) to facilitate cooperative problem-solving, teamwork, and crisis management. The program is designed to be completed in 3-4 semesters totaling about 38 semester credit hours, scheduled entirely on evenings and weekends. Those hours are apportioned among a five-course core, two areas of concentration; Global Business Interactions and Global Political Interactions consisting of 3 to 4 courses (a student must select one or the other specialization), and a required two hour exit project.

Faculty, Facilities and Resources: The Master of Arts in Global Interactions will be administered by a Director located in the Department of Political Science. Two advisory committees will support the Department and assist in making decisions to develop the program: the MAGI Academic Advisory Committee and the MAGI Community Advisory Committee. The program will be staffed by full-time CSU professors from Political Science and the cognate departments. The current faculty of the Political Science Department is adequate to cover the three core courses in the curriculum and several additional courses per year that will be required in the Global Governmental and Not-for-Profit Interactions concentration. The Department seeks a full-time, tenure-track hire for a recently retired faculty member, and the replacement hire will teach classes supporting this program. Owing to the fact that the entire degree will be offered in evening and weekend blocks, there will be more than enough class and research space to accommodate the program. A two-year budget was developed and commitments were obtained from CSU's Administration to cover most of the costs associated with the start-up of this program. The MAGI has secured a start-up implementation grant from the Council of Graduate Schools for $24,967 which will cover partial support for one additional graduate student, program evaluation costs, recruitment, advertisements, etc.

Evidence of Need: The program was developed after consultation with both potential employers and students. The data show that employers want people with specialized and technical skills, but they also want their employees to have analytic, cultural, linguistic, and communicative and workforce skills. Students are looking for this type of professional degree that Cleveland State proposes to offer. In comparison to the existing master's programs at Kent State University and the University of Akron, their programs are more traditional Political Science programs. And, the MBA in

International Business at Baldwin Wallace College is specific to business-oriented transactions and skills. The proposed MAGI program at Cleveland State University is the only program designed to meet the growing demand for people trained in the professions for global business and international affairs. Finally, the program will meet the critical need to recruit and train groups that are under-represented in international and global linkages, particularly African-Americans, Hispanics and women. Cleveland State University, as an urban university, is particularly well-suited to attract precisely those groups who have traditionally been excluded from this labor market.

End of Comment Period: July 16, 2008
No Comments Received, Recommend Approval

Approved	
Eric D. Fingerhut, Chancellor	13 aug 2008 Date