To: Robert Entzminger

From: Wayne Oudekerk, Chair, IR/GS Committee

Re: Recommendation on Global Studies Study Group

Date: February 8, 2007

The IR/GS Committee met this afternoon to discuss how to proceed on the question of what should happen to the Global Studies component of the current IR/GS major in the likely event that the pending International Relations major proposal is in fact approved. The following is a summary of the committee’s recommendations.

A. Global Studies study group

1) Charge: to begin as soon as possible this semester consideration of the question of whether a major or minor in the area of Global Studies should be offered at Hendrix, and, if so, to formulate a curricular proposal to be presented to the Committee on Curriculum by late fall 2007. Matters relevant to the discussion would include but not be limited to

- language requirements
- a study abroad requirement
- potential relations with local resources (e.g. the Clinton School, Heifer International), perhaps as part of a major focus on public service in a global context
- the potential lack of a “departmental home”
- a suitable title
- an environmental component
- inclusion of IR courses

2) Members: IR/GS committee members present (McDaniel, Berry, West) and three other interested faculty members in attendance (Moran, Goldberg, Capek [on sabbatical Fall 2007]) indicated a willingness to serve on the committee. We recommend that an invitation to join the study group be issued to all faculty members, and that two current IR/GS majors with a particular interest in the Global Studies aspect of their major be appointed as well.

B. The Current IR/GS Committee

We recommend that the committee be disbanded at the end of the academic year 2006-07, and that any decisions needed after May of 2007 on accepting courses not listed in the college catalog as fulfilling IR/GS requirements be made jointly by the chair of the GS study group and an individual faculty member designated by the Politics and International Relations department.

I would be happy to provide further details on our deliberations or to meet with you to discuss this matter further.

Thank you for your consideration.