

Proposal for the Establishment of  
**The Center for Integrative Conservation Research (CICR)**

in the  
Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

University of Georgia  
Athens, Georgia 30602

Submitted by

J. Peter Brosius  
Professor of Anthropology

March 5, 2007

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# **The Center for Integrative Conservation Research (CICR)**

## **I. Introduction: Rationale for CICR**

The Center for Integrative Conservation Research (CICR) is being established to respond, through research and training, to one of the key challenges facing conservation today: identifying conservation practices and policies that simultaneously preserve biodiversity and serve human needs. CICR promotes the synthesis of social and biological science research methods and conceptual approaches in conservation through an integrative approach to conservation research.

At the beginning of the 21st century, as global environmental change proceeds at an unprecedented pace, conservation has emerged as a central element in civic and political debates in the nations of both the Global North and Global South. Responding to these debates, new forms of conservation practice are emerging. Some years ago we witnessed the proliferation of bottom-up models under the rubrics of community-based conservation and community-based natural resource management. More recently, the “requiem for nature” argument raised fears about mixing development and conservation and called for enlarging and defending protected areas. All the while in many parts of the world, especially places characterized by extreme poverty, conservation is not working. The reasons for this failure vary and there is widespread disagreement over how to account for it. Many conservation scientists feel that the emphasis on community participation, development and equity dilutes the main goal of conservation initiatives: saving species and habitats. Many social scientists believe that conservation strategies that ignore the human element are bound to fail. Between these two positions lies a series of heated debates in an increasingly politicized international conservation domain. No single discipline can possibly address the complexity of this domain. Understanding it requires that we bring the insights of multiple disciplines to bear on contemporary conservation debates.

In recent years, calls to undertake interdisciplinary research have become commonplace. Yet rarely are the challenges to doing effective interdisciplinary research addressed as an element in the design of a research program. Activities carried out by CICR will be informed by a broader effort to understand and respond to the challenges of interdisciplinary research in two ways: (a) by drawing on the experience of previous interdisciplinary research initiatives, and (b) by incorporating mechanisms designed to promote collaboration. This will require defining more constructive social science engagement with contemporary conservation policies and practices. It is a challenge that numerous scholars and scientists have faced in a variety of other fields, and there is significant experience in dealing with the issue. The insights derived from analysis of past successes and failures in interdisciplinary research will be incorporated into the integrative research component of CICR from the outset.

An integrative approach to conservation research recognizes that valuable insights can emerge not only from conservation biology or other natural sciences, but also from the

social sciences and humanities. From this perspective, the social sciences are more than a generic toolkit of methods that can be applied to conservation problems. An integrative approach recognizes the particularity of different disciplines and the variety of perspectives that specific disciplines bring to the conservation realm. It takes seriously the promotion of engagements between the academy and the domain of conservation practice, and it uses those engagements to inform academic approaches to conservation. Finally, integrative conservation research is a process, not an endpoint; it is *integrative*, not *integrated*. That is, it does not seek consilience, a singular paradigm that claims to provide exclusive insights into complex conservation problems. Instead, the integrative perspective accepts and embraces the value that accrues from considering a diversity of ways of perceiving and analyzing complex conservation issues.

CICR has the potential to play an important role in the intellectual life of the university. Despite a remarkable breadth of conservation expertise at UGA, this expertise is fragmented and there are too few contexts in which those with an interest in conservation can actively interact or collaborate across the disciplines. Through establishment of a speaker series, CICR will serve as a bridge between faculty and students from different disciplines and units on campus. It will maintain a comprehensive collection of publications, reports and other materials available to UGA faculty, graduate students and other interested researchers. Eventually, as part of our long-term strategic plan, we hope to be able to offer seed grants to graduate students for preliminary dissertation research and host post-docs and visiting researchers. Over the next few years, we will be working with the Franklin College Development Office to create an endowment to realize these goals.

## **II. Background**

The idea for creating a center at UGA that is dedicated to promoting the integration of social and biological sciences in conservation originated in 2003 with a conference entitled *Defining Success in Conservation: Toward an Interdisciplinary Dialogue*. Co-organized by CICR Director, Peter Brosius, and former Institute of Ecology Director, Ron Carroll, this conference was supported by a “State-of-the-Art” conference grant provided by the Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. Subsequently, Dr. Brosius created the Conservation and Community Lab (CCL) within the Department of Anthropology.

In 2003, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, a foundation with a long history of supporting global conservation efforts, decided to initiate an R&D initiative to reassess the effectiveness of global conservation efforts. In June 2004, Dr. Brosius was invited by the MacArthur Foundation to become one of six core members of a group charged with developing this new initiative, called *Advancing Conservation in a Social Context* (ACSC). In late 2004, the Planning Group prepared a proposal for an \$800,000 planning grant for the ACSC project. It was approved by the MacArthur Foundation board in December 2004 and the planning process began in January 2005.

Just prior to the start of the ACSC planning phase, planning group members identified as a priority the need to create a repository for key documents and references relevant to the planning effort, and Dr. Brosius was asked to coordinate this effort through the CCL. As a result, during the two-year planning phase, the MacArthur Foundation provided CCL with funding for the development of a resource center to support the planning process. The CCL served as the ACSC information node, developing a website and database, and providing logistical and communication support to the planning process. MacArthur funds supported two graduate research assistants each semester.

Building on this foundation, as the ACSC planning process was nearing completion, Dr. Brosius began developing a framework for the creation of a center that would provide substantive support for the ACSC initiative for the duration of the project, but that would also persist and develop beyond the five-year project cycle. He was able to garner support from the dean of Franklin College, the Office of the Vice President for Research, the Institute for Behavioral Research, and the UGA Space Allocation Advisory Committee for the creation of CICR. In September 2006, CICR was allocated temporary space in New College, and in December 2006, the MacArthur Foundation board approved the ACSC proposal. Thus, CICR plans to become operational in 2007, with offices for researchers and administrators, a library, a seminar room and workroom for photocopying/scanning in support of ACSC activities. As described in more detail below, CICR has three support functions for the ACSC initiative: (a) active participation in the global research component, (b) network development and (c) communication and information management.

### **Advancing Conservation in a Social Context: Working in a World of Trade-Offs**

*Advancing Conservation in a Social Context: Working in a World of Trade-offs* is a five-year international, interdisciplinary research initiative supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. It is focused on reconsidering the underlying assumptions about how the conservation field attempts to reach its goals. The program of research will contribute to improved conservation practice through a better understanding of the conditions under which natural resources are sustained over time, at a meaningful scale and in complex social-ecological contexts. The ACSC Principal Investigator of the ACSC initiative is Tom McShane (mcshane@bluewin.ch), best known for his co-authored book *The Myth of Wild Africa*.

The ACSC research initiative has been created to investigate the complex trade-offs that exist between human well-being and biodiversity conservation goals in specific places, and between conservation and other economic, political and social agendas at local, national and international scales. In order to reach its overall goal of *improving the ability of key actors to identify, analyze and negotiate future conservation and development trade-offs*, the ACSC initiative will take place in two phases.

During the three-year first phase (the research phase), the ACSC initiative will undertake a program of research to generate knowledge about how trade-offs occur and can be resolved. To allow depth and rigor of analysis that is not possible at a global scale

research will focus on three case-study countries – Vietnam, Tanzania and Peru – and will be coordinated by national institutions in those countries. Systematic national analysis will be complemented by a broader global analysis of academic and practitioner understanding of trade-offs and various mechanisms and norms that have been developed within and outside of the conservation arena.

A “Blue Ribbon Panel” will report on the phase one research findings and increase recognition of the importance of trade-offs in global policy discussions. It will also promote understanding and potential solutions to current challenges facing conservation and development initiatives. The Blue Ribbon Panel report (*Hard Choices: Trade-off Science in Conservation and Development*) will represent the “state of science” on this topic.

The two-year second phase of the ACSC research initiative (the diffusion phase) seeks to encourage key actors to implement and refine new ways of approaching the balance between the conservation of biological diversity and social objectives—in effect, to encourage a change in the state of the art. The initiative will engage a range of institutions and organizations, including multilateral and bilateral development agencies and banks, government departments, conservation and development NGOs, community-based organizations, the private sector, academic institutions, foundations and other donors, in order to accelerate the pace at which research findings are adopted, adapted and implemented by policymakers and practitioners. This engagement will emphasize learning from experience – both the positive and negative lessons – and working to enhance collective understanding of and ability to address possible trade-offs between biodiversity conservation and human well-being.

### **CICR Role in the ACSC Initiative**

CICR will contribute to the ACSC initiative by incorporating into its work plan three specific functions: (a) active participation in the global research component, (b) network development and (c) communication and information management.

#### **A. Active Participation in the Global Research Component:**

A major factor in ensuring that the ACSC initiative will have a substantive impact on the practice of conservation will be its ability to infuse the site-based research process with challenges posed by contemporary conservation scholarship across a range of disciplines related to understanding trade-offs. CICR is actively participating in this aspect of the ACSC initiative. CICR will *monitor, collect* and *synthesize* existing and emerging scholarship relevant to conservation trade-offs, and disseminate this information to site-based research partners. It will monitor existing and emerging literatures, analyze ongoing research trends and evolving debates and identify knowledge gaps to determine ongoing ACSC research priorities with the greatest potential to enrich the analysis of conservation trade-offs. Further, CICR will provide active research support for ACSC participants by collecting and organizing references and materials relevant to the analysis of conservation trade-offs. It will serve as the repository for published and unpublished materials and provide an archive for ACSC research results.

More than simply a repository of information, CICR will play an important role in synthesizing and translating information in support of ACSC research goals. Cutting-edge academic research on conservation rarely has an impact in the conservation field because few channels for dissemination exist and because specialized language and unfamiliar theoretical frameworks make it impenetrable to the uninitiated. CICR will be responsible for translating the insights of contemporary scholarship into forms that may stimulate conservation innovation at project sites. In doing so, we will draw not only on conservation scholarship from the academic realm, but also from a broader range of existing and emerging literatures that derive from a diverse array of sources: research institutes, conservation organizations, advocacy groups, communities and others. Further, through the life of the ACSC initiative, new issues and concepts will emerge through the research process and will be identified as priority topics for attention for integrative research. The global research component coordinated by CICR will focus both on literatures that specifically pertain to conservation, and on literatures from other domains (development, indigenous rights) that promise new insights on conservation trade-offs.

CICR will make these materials available through working papers, readers, synthetic studies, commissioned studies, reference collections, bibliographies, thematic pages on the ACSC website, learning modules and other delivery mechanisms. It will also provide guidance on social science methods relevant to the analysis of conservation trade-offs, and will collaborate with ACSC research partners to provide methodological templates for site-based research.

The flow of information is not all one way. Site-based researchers will provide critical feedback to the global component of ACSC research activities, and mechanisms will be devised to ensure that CICR is responsive to the emerging needs of site-based researchers. CICR will collaborate with other site-based researchers through shared mechanisms for issue identification and research theme development. A series of collaborative activities intended to foster exchange between CICR and site-based researchers will be undertaken.

## **B. Network Development**

CICR will support the ACSC initiative by drawing on networks of academic researchers and non-academic practitioners with relevant expertise and interest to offer the ACSC research process ideas and analyses that promise to provide a deeper understanding of conservation trade-offs and lead to sustainable conservation outcomes. It will harness the capacity of existing and emerging networks by linking with individual social scientists, networks, research institutes and professional organizations interested in ACSC research priorities. CICR will support the networking and convening function for the broader ACSC project by identifying key figures in the social sciences and other fields whose work is relevant to ACSC research goals and seeking ways to promote their involvement in ACSC research activities. Particular emphasis will be placed on promoting North/South alliances and fostering research partnerships between social and natural scientists.

One of the mechanisms by which the CICR will link to site-based researchers and institutions will be through co-convening of events and activities. These will include workshops, training sessions and research. The research model is explicitly collaborative, teaming academic researchers with practitioners, and promoting research partnerships between Southern and Northern participants.

### **C. Communication and Information Management**

Given the international focus of the ACSC initiative and the dispersed nature of project partners, effective communication and information management is key to project success. CICR is currently developing the ACSC website and communication infrastructure, both of which will serve crucial roles in supporting and sustaining the project. The ACSC website ([www.tradeoffs.org](http://www.tradeoffs.org), operational March 1) will provide a repository for project documents and a range of online resources available to ACSC research partners. We have established access protocols in compliance with copyright and fair-use guidelines. CICR has established an efficient set of procedures for locating, copying, scanning and electronically disseminating materials within the ACSC network, and we will continue to build on this effort. CICR will also establish procedures to track and assess the impact of ACSC as the project progresses.

### **Center Activities Specific to UGA**

Because of the support CICR receives from the MacArthur Foundation, most of our activities are presently dedicated to supporting the ACSC initiative. However, we will also support interdisciplinary research and teaching at UGA through the following activities, particularly as we build our endowment:

- Identify UGA researchers who may have an interest in participating in funded ACSC research activities.
- Host invited speaker series, drawing both on UGA researchers and outside speakers.
- Serve as a resource center for UGA faculty and students interested in interdisciplinary conservation research.
- Provide guidance on integration of social and natural science methods in conservation research.
- Organize fora that bring together academic researchers and conservation practitioners.
- Support efforts of faculty affiliates to develop collaborative interdisciplinary projects that will attract external funding.



- Highlight conservation research done at UGA through features on the CICR website.
- Provide space and resources for post-docs and/or visiting researchers.
- Provide logistical and administrative support for UGA collaborations with other institutions in the U.S. and abroad.
- Host teleseminars linking UGA researchers to larger networks of conservation research.

### **III. Operating Procedures and Policies**

#### **A. Structure**

CICR will report directly to the dean of the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences (FCAS). The governance structure of the CICR includes the following: center director, executive committee, faculty affiliates, research fellows, external advisory committee and administrator.

##### *Center Director*

The center director reports to the dean of the FCAS and will be reviewed within the established review process of FCAS. The director will preside over meetings of the executive committee and other CICR business meetings. He will be responsible for maintaining communication with the executive committee, faculty affiliates, research fellows and members of the external advisory committee. He will also oversee research carried out by CICR research fellows.

##### *Executive Committee*

The executive committee will consist of the director and faculty from a range of units across campus who share an interest in CICR research activities. Research fellows will also have one representative on the executive committee. This group will assist the director in making operational decisions regarding CICR activities.

##### *Faculty Affiliates*

Faculty affiliates (FAs) include UGA faculty members from a range of units who are interested in CICR research activities or in contributing to CICR programs. Any member of the UGA faculty may apply to become an FA by submitting a current CV and filling out an application form that describes their interest in CICR programs. FAs will have normal appointments within their departments and are expected to meet their obligations to their departments in terms of research, teaching and service. No FTE percentages for FAs will be administered by the center. FA salaries will not be paid by the center and will not be contained in the center budget.

### *Research Fellows*

Research fellows include graduate research assistants funded by CICR grants, post-doctoral fellows, visiting researchers, research interns, faculty and graduate students from other institutions who are engaged in research activities with CICR, and undergraduate researchers working at CICR under the auspices of the CURO program.

### *External Advisory Committee*

The external advisory committee will consist of individuals from institutions and organizations other than UGA. We will seek representation from a broad range of disciplines, as well as from other sectors (conservation organizations, development sector, donor community, NGOs). Emphasis will be placed on ensuring that the external advisory committee is international in scope, with representation from both the Global North and the Global South. The external advisory committee will provide guidance to the director and executive committee with regard to CICR activities. Members of the external advisory committee will be appointed by the executive committee and will serve three-year terms.

### *Administrator*

The administrator is supported by the MacArthur Foundation grant and will primarily handle network development, communication and information management for the ACSC component of the center. Other duties will include day-to-day operations of the center and support for the center director.

## **B. Grant Administration: Institute for Behavioral Research**

ACSC grant administration will be handled by UGA's Institute for Behavioral Research (IBR, [www.ibr.uga.edu](http://www.ibr.uga.edu)). Established under the auspices of UGA's Vice President for Research, IBR provides services, information and support for interdisciplinary research in the social and behavioral sciences. IBR has a professional staff that is intimately familiar with UGA accounting policies and procedures and a long track record of effective grant administration for domestic and international research projects. IBR administers approximately \$40,000,000 in currently funded, active, external grants. In addition, the IBR staff has worked with international contracts in the past and has experience in dealing with the potential complications that sometimes arise in this context. As a result, IBR provides an ideal institutional home for a multifaceted, international proposal with complex accounting needs.

The IBR staff will help with disbursement of funds, reports on expenditures and oversight of expenditures. They have already been active in researching UGA and U.S. regulations on disbursement of funds and have identified several mechanisms that will allow regular, efficient disbursement of funds to program partners while allowing appropriate oversight and control to the MacArthur Foundation. IBR has also been helpful in dealing with both the college and research bureaucracies. As a result, the Institute for Behavioral Research is well positioned to maintain organizational commitment throughout the life of the award.

#### **IV. Funding and Development Strategy**

CICR is being created with a confluence of support from several sources. Core funding of \$370,000 for the center is provided by a \$4.3 million grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to CICR partner institution, the Global Institute of Sustainability at Arizona State University to support the research initiative *Advancing Conservation in a Social Context: Working in a World of Trade-offs* (ACSC). Over the last two years, the MacArthur Foundation provided \$130,000 in planning and transitional support to UGA through the Conservation and Community Lab in the Department of Anthropology. For the next three years, MacArthur will provide \$120,000 for annual core support of CICR activities in support of the ACSC initiative, with additional funding for specific research projects developed as part of ACSC. Franklin College of Arts and Sciences Dean, Garnett Stokes, has provided temporary space and furnishings in New College while CICR seeks a permanent home on North Campus. As noted, ACSC grant administration will be provided by the Institute for Behavioral Research, which has provided substantial logistical support during the process of creating CICR. IBR also provides funding to support the establishment of a speaker series.

The Franklin College Development Office is committed to the development of a long-term strategy to support CICR. On February 28, 2007, Dr. Brosius met with Assistant Dean for External Affairs, Linda Bachman, to begin planning a development strategy for CICR. This effort will be initiated during the early phases of the ACSC project, and over the five-year life of the project will focus on providing sustained support for CICR through an endowment. We have identified three priorities: (1) establishment of a speaker series, (2) long-term support for a full-time CICR administrator and (3) establishment of a fund to support graduate student pre-dissertation research.

## **V. Tentative and Initial List of Faculty Participating in the Center**

### **Anthropology**

Brent Berlin  
Ted Gragson  
Virginia Nazarea  
Robert Rhodes  
Bram Tucker

### **Botanical Gardens**

James Affolter

### **Institute of Ecology**

Alan Covich  
Laurie Fowler  
John Gittleman  
Patricia Adair Gowaty  
Gene Helfman  
Judith Meyer  
Catherine Pringle  
Amy Rosemond  
Dov Sax

### **Environmental Ethics Certificate Program**

Dorinda Dallmeyer

### **Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources**

Gary Grossman  
Ron Hendrick  
David Newman  
Sara Schweitzer

### **Genetics**

John Wares

### **Geography**

Andrew Herod  
Hilda Kurtz  
Marguerite Madden  
Amy Ross  
Fausto Sarmiento  
Thomas Jordan

### **History**

Paul Sutter

**College of Journalism and Mass Communications**

Andy Kavoori

**School of Marine Programs**

Merryl Alber

Christine Laporte Gardiner

James Hollibaugh

**Philosophy**

Victoria Davion

**Plant Biology**

Stephen Hubbell

**Religion**

Jace Weaver

**River Basin Center**

Ron Carroll

**Speech Communication**

Kevin DeLuca

**Willson Center for Humanities and Arts**

Betty Jean Craige

**Women's Studies**

Chris Cuomo

**VI. Anticipated Additional Staff**

No additional staff anticipated. However, it is our goal to make the administrator position permanent once external funding has been secured.

Appendix

Letters of Support



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# The University of Georgia

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Franklin College of Arts and Sciences  
*Office of the Dean*

March 7, 2007

Dr. Arnett Mace, Provost and Senior Vice President  
for Academic Affairs  
The Administration Building  
The University of Georgia

Dear Arnett,

I write in full support of the establishment of the Center for Integrative Conservation Research (CICR) in the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences. This Center promises to facilitate interdisciplinary efforts in conservation research by combining the expertise of faculty and researchers in the humanities, social sciences and biological sciences.

Preservation of the planet's biodiversity is a major challenge for the twenty-first century. The proposed center will undertake to examine and address this challenge in a way that will benefit all of humanity and the ecosystems of the earth. The apparent acceleration of global warming and a continuing general increase in planetary pollution require that institutions such as the University of Georgia play a leading role in the search for solutions to these problems. The Center that Dr. Brosius is proposing will allow the University of Georgia to have a major influence on planetary health in the coming decades.

I am delighted that Dr. Brosius has done the excellent preparatory work to bring this interdisciplinary center into existence. He will help make UGA an international leader in preserving biodiversity.

Sincerely,

Garnett S. Stokes  
Dean

GS:dg



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The University of Georgia

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March 7, 2007

Peter Brosius, Ph.D., Director  
Center for Integrative Conservation Research (CICR)  
Franklin College of Arts and Sciences  
The University of Georgia  
Athens, Georgia 30602

Dear Dr. Brosius,

Congratulations on the establishment of your new Center for Integrative Conservation Research (CICR) and your appointment as its first Director. As Associate Director and Director of the UGA Department of Geography's Center for Remote Sensing and Mapping Science (CRMS), Dr. Thomas Jordan and I are extremely excited about the prospects of our future collaboration with the CICR. We speak for all of the CRMS Associate Scientists, staff and graduate students when we envision CICR-CRMS research that bridges investigations of people and space, cultural and natural resources, social science and geospatial technologies.

Over the past few years Dr. Jordan and I have thoroughly enjoyed interacting with you and your students to apply techniques such as remote sensing, geographic information systems (GIS) and Global Positioning Systems (GPS) to spatial questions asked by and about the indigenous peoples of the Kelabit Highlands in Sarawak, Malaysia. We are hopeful that our joint proposal recently submitted to the National Science Foundation entitled, "Collaborative Conservation Planning and Implementation in Pulong Tau National Park" will be funded. This will provide us with three years of support totaling \$749,242 to integrate anthropogenic history and past landuse into conservation initiatives of Sarawak. The study would contribute to the training of Kelabit peoples in interdisciplinary methods so they might create their own digital GIS archive of cultural resources, migration patterns and place values for conservation planning. It also would give us resources for extending our collaboration and involving UGA undergraduate and graduate students from Anthropology and Geography in CICR-CRMS research. As educators, we realize the value of student exposure to faculty research and international travel to enrich their educational experience.

Our joint NSF proposal is but one demonstration of our commitment to you and the CICR to explore opportunities for shared research. The CRMS looks forward to being actively associated with the CICR.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Madden, Ph.D.  
Director and Associate Professor

Thomas R. Jordan, Ph.D.  
Associate Director





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# The University of Georgia

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The Willson Center for Humanities and Arts  
*A unit of the Office of the Vice President for Research*

March 6, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

I write in enthusiastic support of Dr. Peter Brosius's Proposal for the Establishment of The Center for Integrative Conservation Research (CICR) in the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences.

The Center will address one of the fundamental challenges of the twenty-first century: preserving the planet's biodiversity, which will ultimately benefit all the earth's inhabitants, without negatively impacting the earth's most vulnerable. Global warming, as well as planetary pollution, is forcing the international community to address the issue now.

If the University of Georgia is to have a major influence on planetary health in the coming decades, it will have to have the kind of center Dr. Brosius is creating. As the late Eugene Odum used to say, while scientists may be good at identifying problems, scientists, social scientists, and humanities scholars, as well as engineers and politicians, must unite to solve them. I am delighted that Dr. Brosius has done the excellent preparatory work to bring this interdisciplinary center into existence. He will help make UGA an international leader in preserving biodiversity.

I am also pleased to be nominated as a Faculty Participant in CICR. I will participate with enthusiasm, and I will encourage students in my Ecocriticism course, who come from all disciplines on campus, to become acquainted with CICR. (Ecocriticism is an emerging field of inquiry that focuses on perceived relationships between humans and non-human nature, and addresses issues of environmental and social justice, as well as different cultures' models of reality.) CICR, in turn, will enrich my class.

I am even more pleased, however, with the opportunity to have the Willson Center collaborate with CICR in bringing speakers to UGA who bridge the humanities, sciences, and social sciences in the campaign to preserve biodiversity. These "Willson Center-CICR Lectures" will excite students and probably inspire many of them to engage in conservation efforts themselves. They will also excite and inspire humanities faculty who are engaged in studying different cultures in the world to help scientists and social scientists initiate conservation efforts on a planetary scale.

In short, I want to join others in thanking Dr. Brosius for his creation of CICR. It will be of major importance to the University in the coming decades, and ultimately to the world.

Sincerely yours,

Betty Jean Craige  
Director of the Willson Center  
University Professor of Comparative Literature



# The University of Georgia

Institute for Behavioral Research

Center for Family Research  
Center for Research on Behavioral  
Health & Human Services Delivery  
Survey Research Center

Community, Ethnicity, & Identity  
in Context Group  
Methods & Models Group  
Basic Behavioral and  
Bio-behavioral Processes Group

March 5, 2007

Peter Brosius, Ph.D.  
Professor of Anthropology  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30602

Dear Dr. Brosius,

It is a great pleasure to congratulate you on your success in bringing recognition to the University of Georgia. The funding of your project "Advancing Conservation in a Social Context (ACSC)" by the MacArthur Foundation has helped advance conservation at the same time that it highlighted the critical importance of social context. As we attempt to develop a positive image for the University of Georgia in conservation circles around the world, there is little doubt that your leadership on this project will contribute a great deal. At the same time, as we have discussed, your project represents an important opportunity to share the benefits of your success more widely with the University community. Creating the *Center for Integrative Conservation Research (CICR)* would be an excellent step in the direction of increasing the impact of the current project and sustaining its legacy.

I am writing to offer the full support of the Institute for Behavioral Research (IBR) as you transition from a funded, interdisciplinary group at UGA to a recognized *Center for Integrative Conservation Research* within UGA. As you know, the IBR is a multi-faceted institution that may be able to assist you in multiple ways. As I will outline below, the IBR has an outstanding track record of providing accounting support for large, complex research projects, including those with multiple sub-contracts and international partners. Given the direction you are currently taking, this could be helpful as you lay the ground work for continued funding in the future, which I have full confidence in your ability to gain.

In addition to the support we can provide to you in your preparation of budgets and in the fiscal management of your project, the Institute for Behavioral Research would also be happy to provide support as you involve the faculty of UGA and collaborating institutions across the country and around the world. We would be happy to support your efforts to create a stimulating intellectual environment and engage others in understanding the social context of conservation.

IBR was established at The University of Georgia in 1970. Then-and-now, its missions have been: to encourage trans-disciplinary, problem-focused research, by facilitating the exchange of information and ideas across disciplinary boundaries; to enhance the research efforts of individual faculty members by providing services, support, and opportunity; to enhance the ability of both emerging and eminent scholars to further their careers and to obtain extramural funding; to facilitate the development of young scholars and introduce them to grant proposal writing; to

enhance the recognition of the social and behavioral sciences as an important component of extramural funding efforts; and to build and expand the infrastructure supporting social and behavioral science research at the University of Georgia. In each of these areas we would be happy to assist you by introducing you to others, providing a venue for collaboration, and supporting your vision of a collaborative, university-based effort to make a global difference. Your introduction of behavioral considerations into thinking about conservation represents a critical step forward, and I have no doubt that it will galvanize interest in conservation among many in the social and behavioral science community.

As a member of the Institute you will have access to support services, as well as the opportunity to make connections with other groups within the Institute that may facilitate the development or expansion of your efforts. You would also be encouraged to organize activities with the support of Institute staff and we would be happy to help publicize discussions or organize seminars on topics of interest to the Center if you would like us to do so. As you move forward, we would also be happy to provide help to you in mentoring a second generation of faculty interested in grant writing on this topic.

I hope the description of the Institute and the opportunities associated with the Institute are in line with your expectations and needs as you make the transition to a Center at UGA. I will look forward to working with you as you continue working to develop the exciting line of research you outlined to me at our meeting. We would be honored to help you in whatever way we can.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S. Beach".

Steven Beach, Ph.D.  
Director, Institute for Behavioral Research  
University of Georgia



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# The University of Georgia

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River Basin Science and Policy Center

March 5, 2007

Garnett Stokes  
Dean  
The Franklin College

Dear Garnett:

I am pleased to enthusiastically endorse the Center for Integrative Conservation Research as a Center within the Franklin College. The CICR addresses a critical need that has been identified by many conservation organizations, including the Society for Conservation Biology. Essentially, the critical issue may be stated as, "Conservation of diversity in all its manifestations requires real functional collaboration among many disciplines." The CICR will provide the academic home for this cross-campus collaboration. The activities of the River Basin Center are largely dependent on teams of professors and students from various disciplines. Therefore, we anticipate that our work will be strengthened through interactions with the CICR.

Sincerely,

C. Ronald Carroll  
Director for Science  
River Basin Center



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# The University of Georgia

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Office of Vice President for Research

March 5, 2007

Dr. Peter Brosius, Director  
Center for Integrative Conservation Research  
University of Georgia  
310 New College  
Campus

Dear Dr. Brosius:

*Pete*

I write in support of your proposal to establish an interdisciplinary Center for Integrative Conservation Research (CICR). Considerable research activity in this area is underway at UGA, and the proposal identifies faculty from numerous programs on campus who intend to participate with CICR. It is clear that in addition to providing excellent conservation research opportunities for graduate students, the program will encourage faculty from across campus to collaborate in seeking external funding for research projects in the field. I think your existing core funding from the MacArthur Foundation and your partnership with Arizona State University bode well for UGA's growing involvement in global conservation research that promotes the integration of social science and biological science approaches.

Although based in the Franklin College and reporting directly to Dean Stokes, the CICR will be supported for grant administration by the Institute for Behavioral Research (IBR), which reports to my office. I approve of this working relationship and anticipate positive outcomes.

Sincerely,

David Lee, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Research