



The University of Georgia

University Council
Athens, Georgia 30602

March 21, 2012

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Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal for a new Center for Gambling Research (CGR) will be an agenda item for the March 28, 2012, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

David E. Shipley, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost Jere W. Morehead
Dr. Laura D. Jolly

Proposal for the Establishment of
The Center for Gambling Research (CGR)
in the

William A. & Barbara R. Owens Institute for Behavioral Research (Owens IBR)

In conjunction with the Franklin College of Arts & Sciences, College of Family &
Consumer Sciences, School of Social Work, Terry College of Business, College of
Public Health, and Graduate School
University of Georgia

Submitted by
Adam S. Goodie
Associate Professor of Psychology

February 1, 2012

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I. Introduction: Rationale for a Center for Gambling Research

A. Specific Need.

Gambling is an activity with an impact on society that is significant, increasing, and rapidly changing. The impact of gambling is felt in individual and family mental health and economics; social and public health impact; and legal, policy and political implications. This is true at the state level within Georgia, and also at national and global levels. It has been true for at least the past 20 years and is likely to remain so for at least the next 20 years. Because of these multifaceted attributes of the topic, scholarship relating to gambling can have maximal impact only if it is nimble, responding quickly to changes in the field and funding opportunities. Research in the field must also be abidingly interdisciplinary and able quickly to integrate new scholarship from additional disciplines as future developments warrant. It is essential for faculty from diverse disciplines to have ongoing educational opportunities and venues for collaboration across traditional disciplinary boundaries. The challenges to conducting effective interdisciplinary research, with nimbleness of this type, are seldom addressed as an element in the design of any particular research program or within any particular department. The Center mechanism is the ideal means for achieving this goal.

Activities carried out by the Center for Gambling Research (CGR) will be informed by a broader effort to understand and respond to the challenges of interdisciplinary research in two ways: (1) by drawing on the experience of previous interdisciplinary research initiatives, and (2) by incorporating mechanisms designed to promote collaboration. This will require encouraging more constructive engagement between scientists in the Franklin College of Arts & Sciences, College of Family & Consumer Sciences, School of Social Work, Terry College of Business, School of Public and International Affairs, and College of Public Health. Promotion of engagement between those working in disparate disciplines establishes a process that strives to identify local points of convergence. It also promotes the interaction of interdisciplinary groups of scholars with a long-term goal of developing new paradigms and new knowledge for the benefit of the intellectual environment of the University of Georgia, as well as providing applied benefits for the people of the State of Georgia, the United States and the world.

There is remarkable breadth in the resources available at UGA that can be brought to bear on the proposed focus on gambling as an interdisciplinary topic of interest. Despite this breadth, efforts to increase collaboration are currently fragmented and there are too few contexts in which those with an interest in gambling can actively interact or collaborate across the disciplines.

B. Value Added.

The primary added value of the CGR will be (1) to foster constructive, collaborative engagement between faculty of different departments and across colleges; (2) to create increased opportunities for faculty continuing education on relevant topics; and (3) to foster the development of grant proposals and other scholarly works dealing with gambling. The Owens

IBR has a long history of supporting and nurturing interdisciplinary efforts. Housed within the Owens IBR, the CGR will provide an institutional framework for a process that currently has no disciplinary home despite representing a substantial opportunity structure for scholarship and external funding. The CGR will add value to the considerable intellectual resources already in place at UGA. Initially, the CGR will serve as a bridge between faculty and students from different disciplines and units on campus by creating a speaker series and regular forums for interaction. It will maintain a comprehensive collection of publications, reports and other materials that will be available to UGA faculty, graduate students and other interested researchers. In turn, it is expected that these activities will serve the University's interest by increasing the competitive advantage of UGA investigators seeking extramural funding, increasing UGA's research reputation and national prestige in this rapidly developing area, and allowing UGA more effectively to attract and retain researchers at various stages of their careers who are interested in pursuing research relating to gambling. Given UGA's goal of enhancing research and graduate training, the proposal for the CGR could not be more timely. No new funds, space, or resources are required to house or initiate CGR activities.

Specific ways in which the CRG would foster interaction among diverse faculty and students around a shared interest in gambling-related issues include:

1. sponsoring meetings for affiliated faculty and students to present their research and germinate new collaborative ideas;
2. hosting an invited speaker series, drawing both on UGA researchers and outside speakers;
3. serving as a resource center for UGA faculty and students interested in gambling research;
4. supporting efforts of faculty affiliates to develop collaborative interdisciplinary projects that will attract external funding; and
5. highlighting online the gambling research that is done at UGA.

C. Value of Centers in General.

Solving today's toughest problems requires many different kinds of knowledge. Research centers and institutes bring together the right mix of expertise to answer the big questions in science and society. A strong center or institute provides the infrastructure and support services necessary to help these teams of scholars and scientists produce their best work.

When they join a center or institute, faculty members retain their appointments in traditional, discipline-based departments, continuing to teach students and mentor graduate students. By carrying new knowledge back to their home departments, these faculty members help keep their disciplines current and vital.

Research centers and institutes also help the state's economy, as their ability to address real-world problems in a comprehensive manner attracts external funding and helps Georgia compete for economic-development opportunities. In short, a thriving research center or institute is a

powerful force for new ideas and beneficial change for the people of the State of Georgia as well as for the University.

D. Scientific Justification for the Center.

Gambling is a complex and multifaceted social and behavioral activity, which encompasses diverse environmental, cognitive and developmental processes. Gambling is sometimes a pure social and recreational activity, such as when friends play poker (Lakey, Goodie, & Campbell, 2007); sometimes a commercial activity, such as in casinos and racetracks (Skolnick, 1978); sometimes a charitable activity, such as at raffles and bingo games organized by schools, religious organizations and other community entities (Christensen, Clerkin, Nesbit, & Paarlberg, 2009); and sometimes a public-sector activity such as state and multi-state lotteries (Cornwell, Mustard, & Sridhar, 2006). The impact of gambling is felt at sociological levels (Eadington, 1976), in public health (Shaffer & Korn, 2002), and in individual mental health outcomes (Petry, Stinson, & Grant, 2005). The diagnosis of pathological gambling was introduced to the DSM-III in 1980, and it is estimated that approximately 1% of the adult population has this condition at any given time, and approximately another 2% have symptoms that are clinically significant but do not meet the criteria of pathological gambling (Shaffer, Hall, & Vander Bilt, 1997). Scientific approaches to gambling have taken diverse perspectives on the etiology of the problem. Learning approaches (e.g., Anderson & Brown, 1984) take the reinforcing properties of wins and associated stimuli as being central, while psychobiological approaches emphasize associated brain processes (Comings, Rosenthal, Lesieur, & Rugle, 1996), including recent developments on reward circuitry (Potenza, Kosten, & Rounsaville, 2001) that place gambling pathology in the domain of addictions (Jacobs, 1986). Cognitive approaches (Lacouceur & Walker, 1996) emphasize the impact of errors of basic reasoning in both etiology and treatment of gambling problems (Fortune & Goodie, in press). Currently, most researchers and clinicians recognize the importance of all these aspects of the disorder, and are seeking to further characterize their interrelationships through mechanisms such as pathway models (Blaszczynski & Nower, 2002). The widespread application of multiple perspectives simultaneously in gambling studies is an excellent example of content domains wherein an interdisciplinary approach, which can best be realized through a research center, maximizes scientific productivity and innovation.

Approaches to pathological gambling are changing rapidly. The two most prominent demonstrations of this lie in the reorganizations of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) of the American Psychiatric Association. In the forthcoming fifth edition of the DSM, pathological gambling is set to be re-classified from an impulse control disorder to an addictive disorder. This simple shift is profound in its implications. For example, it sets pathological gambling in a far more prominent context. It also changes conceptions of addiction in general, as this is the first time a disorder has been classified as "addictive" that did not involve the ingestion of a specific chemical (such as is the case with alcohol, stimulants like cocaine, opiates like heroin and other previously acknowledged addictive processes). At the same time as DSM is reclassifying pathological gambling, NIH is merging

NIDA and NIAAA into a single institute. Previously, NIDA and NIAAA routinely dismissed gambling studies as not within their purview, while NIMH focused on other classes of mental illness. There is a long history of all three institutes encouraging gambling researchers to pursue support from the other two. The forthcoming institute with its portfolio of addictive disorders generally, in the context of the forthcoming DSM placing pathological gambling as an addictive disorder, promises to bring clear new funding opportunities and mechanisms from NIH. A UGA Center for Gambling Research will be ideally positioned to compete for resources within those structures.

References

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II. Operating Procedures and Policies

A. Structure.

The Director of the CGR will report directly to the Owens IBR Director, who currently reports directly to the Vice President for Research and to the Dean of the Franklin College of Arts & Sciences (FCAS). Review of the Center will be conducted as part of the Program Review of the Owens IBR, with the exception of the initial review, which the Owens IBR will oversee. The governance structure of the CGR includes the following: center director, executive committee, faculty fellows, and an external advisory committee.

Center Director

The Center Director will be reviewed by the Director of the Owens IBR. Initially, Dr. Adam Goodie (Psychology, FCAS) will serve as the Center Director.

The director will preside over meetings of the executive committee and other CGR business meetings. He/she will be responsible for maintaining communication with the executive committee, faculty affiliates and members of the external advisory committee. He/she will also promote and support research carried out by CGR research fellows and grant submissions for extramural funding.

Executive Committee

Initially, the executive committee will consist of the director along with key participating faculty who represent participating colleges: Dr. Brian Bride (School of Social Work), Dr. James MacKillop (Psychology, FCAS), Dr. David Mustard (Economics, Terry College of Business), and Dr. Pamela Orpinas (Health Promotion and Behavior, College of Public Health). This group will assist the director in making operational decisions regarding CGR activities. The members of the executive committee will routinely consult with researchers from the affected units, and provide informal reports on CGR activities to their respective Deans.

Faculty Fellows

Faculty Fellows (FFs) will include UGA faculty members from a range of units who are interested in CGR research activities or who are interested in contributing to CGR programs or participating in workgroups. Any member of the UGA faculty may apply to become an FF by submitting a current CV and filling out an application form that describes their interest in CGR programs. FFs 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 FFs will be administered by the center. FF salaries will not be paid by the center and will not be contained in the center budget. Initially, potentially interested faculty will be approached via e-mail contacts and through college level contacts.

External Advisory Committee

The external advisory committee will consist of individuals from institutions and organizations other than UGA. The external advisory committee will provide guidance to the director and executive committee with regard to CGR activities. Members of the external advisory committee will be appointed by the executive committee and will serve three-year terms. The initial

External Advisory Committee will consist of the following distinguished scholars, who have agreed to serve:

Committee Chair

Dr. Ken Winters, Ph.D.
Professor of Psychiatry
Director, Center for Adolescent Substance
Abuse Research
University of Minnesota

Dr. Lisa Najavits, Ph.D.
Professor of Psychiatry
Boston University School of Medicine

Dr. Sarah Nelson, Ph.D.
Associate Director of Research
Division on Addictions, Cambridge Health
Alliance
Harvard Medical School

Committee Members

Dr. Renee Cunningham-Williams, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Associate Dean for
the Doctoral Program
G.W. Brown School of Social Work
Washington University in St. Louis

Dr. Nancy Petry, Ph.D.
Professor of Medicine
University of Connecticut Health Center

Dr. Jeffrey Derevensky, Ph.D.
Professor of School/Applied Child
Psychology and Psychiatry
Co-Director, International Centre for Youth
Gambling Problems and High-Risk
Behaviors
McGill University

Dr. Marc Potenza, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Psychiatry, Child Study and
Neurobiology
Director, Yale Center of Excellence in
Gambling Research
Yale University

Dr. Wendy Slutske, Ph.D.
Professor of Psychological Sciences
University of Missouri

B. Review Process.

Centers created after December 2009 are expected to undergo an initial review by the administrative unit, to be completed by the end of the third year of existence. In the case of the CGR, the review will be conducted by Owens IBR. Centers are expected to summarize progress toward stated goals and demonstrate added value. In the case of CGR, this will reflect progress toward the three overarching goals of 1) fostering constructive, collaborative engagement between faculty of different departments and across colleges; 2) creating an increased range of opportunities for faculty continuing education on relevant topics; and 3) fostering the development of grant proposals and other scholarly works dealing with gambling. Specific indices to be used as markers of Center activity will include research talks, collaborative discussions hosted, invited speakers, provision of guidance for interdisciplinary collaboration, submission of proposals for extramural funding, other scholarly works produced by affiliates, and mentoring of junior faculty.

Subsequent to the third year review, the CGR will be reviewed as part of the normal cycle of review of the Owens IBR. Review will occur no less frequently than once every seven years. During each review, the center will address any changes to resources, commitments, or operating agreements.

Each review report will include a statement that continuation of the center or institute is either recommended or not recommended. If continuation is not recommended, the Vice President for research will decide whether to invoke the process for dissolution.

The annual report for the CGR will be made available to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

C. Grant Administration.

It is anticipated that most proposals led by scientists within CGR will be handled by the Owens IBR. Established under the auspices of UGA's Vice President for Research, the Owens IBR provides services, information and support for interdisciplinary research in the social and behavioral sciences and has a professional staff that is intimately familiar with UGA accounting policies. Grant submission and administration can be handled flexibly. Some grant submissions may be handled within departments, as the needs and customs of PIs and their associated units warrant. However, most behavioral scientists working in this area have worked with the Owens IBR, and so have been directly or indirectly supported in their efforts by the OVPR investment in this area.

For proposals facilitated by the Owens IBR, the Owens IBR staff will help with disbursement of funds, submission of reports on expenditures and oversight of expenditures. In addition, consistent with current Owens IBR policy, all indirect cost return will flow either to the investigators or the home departments of the investigators. That is, because the Owens IBR does not retain indirect cost return fund, it is anticipated that all indirect cost return will benefit the project, the investigator, or the home unit of the investigator.

III. Funding and Development Strategy

CGR is being created with support from the OVPR and the Owens IBR. The Institute for Behavioral Research, under the auspices of the OVPR will provide space and staff support for Center initiatives as well as funding for speakers. The Franklin College Development Office will be approached regarding the potential for the development of a long-term strategy to support CGR, with a focus on providing sustained support for CGR through an endowment. A focus of fundraising will be the solicitation of support from individuals who have been personally touched by gambling problems, and whose lives have been improved by effective research-based interventions. We have identified two priorities: (1) establishment of a speaker series, and (2) long-term support for a full-time CGR administrator and salary support for the CGR Director. Supplemental support from other colleges and from the OVPR will also be sought. However, in the short term, all additional costs generated by the new Center will be absorbed by the Owens IBR and we do not anticipate asking the OVPR for new funding to support center activities.

IV. Tentative and Initial List of Faculty to be Invited to Affiliate with the Center – other Fellows will be welcome

All individuals on this list have expressed interested in the creation of the CGR and in becoming affiliates once it is approved. Once the CGR is approved, these individuals will be formally asked to affiliate. They will also be asked to identify others who may be interested in the activities of the CGR. Membership as a Fellow will be available to all tenure-track faculty members at the University of Georgia who are interested in gambling research, regardless of department or background.

Dr. Steven Beach, Psychology, Psychology (FCAS)
 Dr. Brian Bride, School of Social Work
 Dr. Keith Campbell, Psychology (FCAS)
 Dr. Robert Christensen, Public Administration (Public & International Affairs)
 Dr. Brett Clementz, Psychology (FCAS)
 Dr. Prashant Doshi, Computer Science (FCAS)
 Dr. Keith Dougherty, Political Science (Public & International Affairs)
 Dr. Lillian Eby, Psychology (FCAS)
 Dr. Sarah Fischer, Psychology (FCAS)
 Dr. Adam Goodie, Psychology (FCAS)
 Dr. Daniel Hall, Statistics (FCAS)
 Dr. Karen Hilyard, Health Promotion and Behavior (Public Health)
 Dr. Michael Holosko, School of Social Work
 Dr. Steve Kogan, Child and Family Development (Family & Consumer Sciences)
 Dr. Charles Lance, Psychology (FCAS)
 Dr. James MacKillop, Psychology (FCAS)
 Dr. Robert Mahan, Psychology (FCAS)
 Dr. Jennifer McDowell, Psychology (FCAS)
 Dr. Joshua Miller, Psychology (FCAS)
 Dr. David Mustard, Economics (Business)
 Dr. Larry Nackerud, School of Social Work
 Dr. Pamela Orpinas, Health Promotion and Behavior (Public Health)
 Dr. Paul Roman, Sociology (FCAS)
 Dr. Amos Zeichner, Psychology (FCAS)

V. Anticipated Additional Staff

No additional staff are anticipated in the short run. However, it is our long-term aspiration to make the CGR an independent Center within the Owens IBR. For long-term viability and growth, this would require support for the Director position and for an administrator position, which are anticipated to be funded primarily through combinations of grant funding and donations. We do not currently have a time table for establishing this support or making the Center self-sufficient. In the interim, non-personnel costs will be covered by the Owens IBR.

VI. Appendix: Letters of Support

Deans:

Franklin College of Arts & Sciences – Hugh Ruppertsberg, Ph.D. (Interim)

School of Social Work – Maurice C. Daniels, Ph.D. (email)

College of Public Health – Phillip L. Williams, Ph.D.

College of Family & Consumer Sciences – Linda Kirk Fox, Ph.D.

Terry College of Business – Robert T. Sumichrast, Ph.D.

Graduate School – Maureen Grasso



The University of Georgia

Linda Kirk Fox
Dean

College of Family & Consumer Sciences
Office of the Dean

224 Dawson Hall
Athens, Georgia 30602-3622
Telephone (706) 542-4879
Facsimile (706) 542-4862
Web page www.fcs.uga.edu

January 5, 2012

Dr. Adam S. Goodie
Associate Professor, Psychology
512 Psychology Building
CAMPUS

Dear Dr. Goodie,

I am writing to convey my full support for your proposal to develop a "Center for Gambling Research (CGR)." The proposal is in keeping with longstanding College of Family and Consumer Sciences priorities and will add value by creating new potential for synergy between existing units on campus that do not have a tradition of working together at UGA. As you know, the College of Family and Consumer Sciences has a natural interest in topics such as gambling, which has significant microeconomic and macroeconomic impact on the families of Georgia and the nation. The College of Family and Consumer Sciences also views interdisciplinary research and collaboration as important to the future of the College. Your current proposal to focus on the multifaceted research topic of gambling fits with this focus and is particularly timely and important. I am confident that many researchers within College of Family and Consumer Sciences will find this Center attractive and will be interested in pursuing opportunities for collaborative research within the Center. In view of that, I am very supportive of faculty in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences participating in the Center. I am also confident the Center will help stimulate extramural funding.

I look forward to working with you on ways to include the College of Family and Consumer Sciences and its faculty in the Center and its activities. I do not see any conflicts with existing programs or departments in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Thank you for including the College of Family and Consumer Sciences in your planning.

Sincerely,

Linda Kirk Fox, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Family and Consumer Sciences
University of Georgia



The University of Georgia

College of Public Health
Dean's Office

January 26, 2012

Dr. Adam S. Goodie
Associate Professor, Psychology
512 Psychology Building
CAMPUS

Dear Dr. Goodie,

I am writing to convey my support for your proposal to develop a "Center for Gambling Research (CGR)." The proposal is in keeping with longstanding College of Public Health priorities and should add value by creating potential for synergy between existing units on campus that do not have a tradition of working together at UGA. As you know, the College of Public Health has a natural interest in all threats to the health of the citizens of Georgia and the nation, and we are pleased to have faculty working on the important issue of gambling. The College of Public Health also views interdisciplinary research and collaboration as important to the future of the College. Your current proposal to focus on the multifaceted research topic of gambling fits with this focus and is timely and important. I am confident that several researchers within College of Public Health will find this Center attractive and will be interested in pursuing opportunities for collaborative research within the Center. In view of that, I am supportive of faculty in the College of Public Health participating in the Center. I am also hopeful the Center will help stimulate extramural funding.

I look forward to working with you on ways to include the College of Public Health and its faculty in the Center and its activities.

We appreciate your including the College of Public Health in your planning.

Sincerely,

Phillip L. Williams, PhD
Dean



The University of Georgia

Franklin College of Arts and Sciences
Office of the Dean

January 20, 2012

Dr. Adam S. Goodie
Associate Professor, Psychology
512 Psychology Building
CAMPUS

Dear Dr. Goodie,

I am writing to convey my full support for your proposal to develop a "Center for Gambling Research (CGR)." The proposal is in keeping with longstanding Franklin College of Arts and Sciences priorities and will add value by creating new potential for synergy between existing units on campus that do not have a tradition of working together at UGA. As you know, the Franklin College is already the home of a number of interdisciplinary units and we view interdisciplinary research as particularly important to the future of the college. Your current proposal to focus on the multifaceted research topic of gambling fits with this focus and is particularly timely and important. I am confident that many researchers within Franklin College will find this Center attractive and will be interested in pursuing opportunities for collaborative research within the Center. In view of that, I am very supportive of faculty in the Franklin College participating in the Center. I am also confident the Center will help stimulate extramural funding.

I look forward to working with you on ways to include Franklin College and its faculty in the Center and its activities. I do not see any conflicts with existing programs or departments in the Franklin College.

Thank you for including the Franklin College in your planning.

Sincerely,

Hugh Ruppensburg, Interim Dean
Franklin College of Arts and Sciences
University of Georgia



The University of Georgia

Graduate School
Maureen Grasso, Dean

January 30, 2012

Dr. Adam S. Goodie
Associate Professor, Psychology
512 Psychology Building
CAMPUS

Dear Dr. Goodie:

I am writing to convey my support for your proposal to develop a "Center for Gambling Research (CGR)" at the University of Georgia. The Graduate School considers interdisciplinary teaching, research, and collaboration as important keys to the future of graduation education. The CGR proposal is in keeping with longstanding Graduate School priorities and has the potential to create synergy between existing units on campus that do not have a tradition of working together in teaching and research endeavors. Your current proposal to focus on the multifaceted research topic of gambling fits with our interdisciplinary focus, will make significant contributions to graduate training at UGA, and is particularly timely and important. I am confident that graduate faculty and graduate students will find the Center beneficial and will be interested in pursuing opportunities for collaborative research within the Center. In view of that, I am supportive of graduate faculty participating in the Center. I am also confident the Center will help stimulate extramural funding in support of graduate studies and mentoring.

I look forward to working with you on ways to include graduate faculty in the Center and its activities. I do not see any conflicts with existing programs or departments in the School of Social Work.

Please keep me updated on your progress in creating the Center.

Sincerely,

Maureen Grasso



The University of Georgia

School of Social Work
Office of the Dean

February 6, 2012

Dr. Adam S. Goodie
Associate Professor
Department of Psychology
512 Psychology Building
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602

Dear Dr. Goodie,

I am writing to convey my full support for your proposal to develop a "Center for Gambling Research (CGR)." The proposal is in keeping with longstanding School of Social Work priorities and will add value by creating new potential for synergy between existing units on campus that do not have a tradition of working together at UGA. The School of Social Work has an interest in studying topics that are associated with personal and social ills and ways to mitigate their damaging impact. The School of Social Work also views interdisciplinary research and collaboration as important to the future of the School. Your current proposal to focus on the multifaceted research topic of gambling fits with this focus and is particularly timely and important. I am confident that some researchers within the School of Social Work will be interested in pursuing opportunities for collaborative research within the Center. In view of the potential opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration and extramural funding, I am supportive of faculty in the School of Social Work participating in the Center.

I look forward to working with you on ways to include the School of Social Work and its faculty in the Center and its activities. I do not see any conflicts with existing programs or departments in the School of Social Work.

Thank you for including the School of Social Work in your planning.

Sincerely,

Maurice C. Daniels, Ed. D.
Dean, School of Social Work
University of Georgia



The University of Georgia

Office of Vice President for Research

February 1, 2012

Dr. Adam S. Goodie
Associate Professor, Psychology
512 Psychology Building
CAMPUS

Dear Adam,

I am writing to convey my full and enthusiastic support for your proposal to develop a "Center for Gambling Research (CGR)" under the umbrella of the Owens Institute for Behavioral Research (IBR). The proposal is in keeping with longstanding priorities of the Office of the Vice President for Research, which include expanding and leveraging the remarkable strength this university possesses in the behavioral sciences, due in no small measure to the efforts of the IBR. Furthermore, I believe the proposed Center will add value by creating new potential for synergy between existing units on campus that do not have a tradition of working together at UGA. As you know, the OVPR supports a number of interdisciplinary units and we view interdisciplinary research as particularly important to the future of the University. Your current proposal to focus on the multifaceted research topic of gambling fits with this focus and is particularly timely and important. I am confident that many UGA researchers will find this Center attractive and will be interested in pursuing opportunities for collaborative research within the Center. I am equally confident that the CGR will develop a reputation for research excellence beyond UGA that will enhance the University's overall reputation, and that the CGR will help stimulate extramural funding. In view of these considerations, I am very supportive of UGA faculty participating in the Center.

I look forward to working with you on ways to include OVPR in the Center and its activities. I do not see any conflicts with existing programs or departments that are supported by OVPR.

I understand that the CGR will be reviewed on a routine cycle by the IBR and the review report provided to OVPR in a timely fashion.

Thank you for including the OVPR in your planning.

Sincerely,

David Lee, Ph.D.
Vice President for Research
University of Georgia