



**UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA**
Office of the Provost

**Sr. Vice President for
Academic Affairs & Provost**
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Athens, Georgia 30602
TEL 706-542-0415
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October 22, 2020

University Council:

Please see the enclosed proposal to establish the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation in the School of Social Work. I fully support this proposal and the leadership of Dr. David Okech.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

S. Jack Hu



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

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School of Social Work
Dean's Office

October 18, 2020

Dr. Jack Hu
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
University of Georgia

RE: Letter of Support for the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation

Dear Provost Hu:

It is my pleasure to write this letter in support of the establishment of the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation (Center), which seeks to conduct research, develop programming, and influence policies that will drastically and measurably reduce human trafficking and other forms of exploitation. Its vision is to become the leading hub for human trafficking research, policy, and programming development around the globe.

As the Dean of the School of Social Work, I was most pleased to support the formation of the African Programming and Research Initiative to End Slavery (APRIES), an international consortium of anti-slavery researchers and policy advocates funded by the Department of State and founded by Dr. David Okech, Associate Professor of Social Work and the proposed Director of the Center. While APRIES has focused on reducing the prevalence of modern slavery in Sub-Saharan Africa, the Center will expand upon the work that APRIES has done by including anti-trafficking research and implementation in the US as well as in other countries around the world. I have witnessed APRIES establish itself as a key player in this line of work and attract extramural funding to work with US-based as well as international organizations to combat forced labor and sex trafficking. Center core faculty have to date garnered over US \$60 million in human trafficking research and programming of exploited populations.

The School of Social Work will serve as the administrative unit for the Center, which will involve scholars from several disciplines and colleges across campus. Embedding the Center within the School will be of mutual benefit. The Center will have a clear administrative home with a history of strong scholarship in work with vulnerable individuals. The School will benefit by being able to use the Center as a nexus for graduate training. In addition, the School will be able to tap into the research skills and consult with the Center research scientists, who will make the School of Social Work their academic home.



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In addition to the proposed director, Dr. Okech, other faculty members at the School of Social Work are involved with the Center. For example, Dr. Lydia Aletraris, Associate Research Scientist, is currently serving as coordinator of the Prevalence Reduction Innovation Forum (PRIF) program, which consists of research that compares various methodologies to measure accurately the prevalence of human trafficking in selected hot spots in the following countries: Brazil, Costa Rica, Morocco, Pakistan, Tanzania, and Tunisia. Dr. Jennifer Elkins is also currently affiliated with APRIES, serving as its Trauma Specialist. Other faculty members in the School of Social Work who are or soon will be affiliated with the Center include Dr. Llewellyn Cornelius, Dr. Allison Dunnigan, Dr. Jane McPherson, and Dr. Tiffany Washington.

At the School of Social Work, we prepare culturally responsive social work practitioners, organizational leaders and scholars to address social problems and promote social justice through teaching, research and service. As such, the goal of the proposed Center to address a significant human rights and social justice issue is well aligned with the mission of the School of Social Work. The Center's goal of transforming the capacity of community-engaged agencies to implement prevention, prosecution, and protection strategies is well-aligned with core values of social work and will further the school's and the university's instructional, research, and service missions. I am pleased to add that at our faculty meeting on October 16, 2020, the Center proposal was unanimously approved by the School of Social Work faculty.

Sincerely,

Anna Scheyett, PhD, MSW
Dean and Professor



UNIVERSITY OF
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**PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
CENTER ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING
RESEARCH & INNOVATION**

In the School of Social Work

OCTOBER 14, 2020

Table of Contents

- 1) Narrative Statement
- 2) Operating Procedures
- 3) Physical Resources
- 4) Value-Addition of the Center
- 5) Participating Faculty and Supporting Staff
- 6) Degree Programs or Courses Offered
- 7) Letters of Support
- 8) Responsibilities of Any Participating Units
- 9) References
- 10) Proposed Budget

NARRATIVE STATEMENT

The mission of the **CENTER ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESEARCH & INNOVATION** is to conduct research, develop programming, and influence policies that drastically and measurably reduce human trafficking and other forms of exploitation.

Our vision is to become the leading hub for human trafficking research, policy, and programming development across the globe.

Human trafficking, also known as modern slavery, is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons, by means of force, fraud, or coercion, for the purposes of exploitation. According to the International Labor Organization (ILO) & Walk Free Foundation¹, an estimated 40.3 million people are in modern slavery, including 24.9 million in forced labor and 15.4 million in forced marriage. Human trafficking is a complex global problem that has long-lasting implications for the social, economic, health, and psychological well-being of individuals, families, and communities.² It not only affects those who are trafficked but also has devastating effects on those left behind by disrupting families and communities. The psychological effects include post-traumatic stress, interpersonal issues such as difficulty developing trust in relationships, depression, memory loss, anxiety, fear, guilt, shame, and other severe forms of mental trauma. The economic effects of human trafficking include lost earnings and compromised futures for victims.³ Documentation of the health effects of human trafficking is at its infancy.⁴ These include a greater risk of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections, and of spreading these diseases in the wider society. Further, victims of trafficking are often physically harmed or placed in dangerous working conditions, thus compromising their long-term health and well-being.

Furthermore, human trafficking victims are a “hard-to-reach population”⁵ because they are difficult to systematically study with the application of standard probability methods in recruitment, participation, and retention in surveys. Typically, a sampling frame for the hard-to-reach target population is not available, and its members are hidden, rare, or stigmatized in the larger population so that it is prohibitively expensive to find and contact them. Stated otherwise, hard-to-reach populations are under-served by current sampling methodologies mainly due to the lack of practical alternatives to address these methodological difficulties.⁶ There are numerous anti-trafficking programs and policies across the globe; however, many initiatives lack survivor voice and only include interviews with key stakeholders. Few efforts utilize empirical data to guide programming and policy work, relying only on quantitative or qualitative data, rather than both types of data. In addition, existing interventions often do not include both a micro- as well as a macro-level understanding of the issues surrounding trafficking – a complex and multi-dimensional problem.

¹ International Labour Office & Walk Free Foundation, 2017

² Oram et al., 2016; Hopper, 2017

³ Schwarz et al., 2019, Rajaram & Tidball, 2018

⁴ Oram et al., 2016; Garg, 2020; Zimmerman, Hossain, & Watts, 2011

⁵ Oram et al., 2016

⁶ Vincent, Zhang, & Dank, 2019; Duranga & Zador, 2017

Core faculty and staff, under the banner of the African Programming and Research Initiative to End Slavery (APRIES; see, <http://apries.uga.edu/>), have been involved in human trafficking research and programming over the past decade. During this time, it has become clear to APRIES that vast gaps exist in estimating the prevalence of trafficking and evidence-informed anti-trafficking efforts. These challenges have hampered efforts to effectively and measurably reduce human trafficking in specific hotspots across the world.

APRIES will be one of the units within the proposed **Center on Human Trafficking Research & Innovation** (Center). It is expected that various initiatives within the Center will emerge to specialize in various endeavours around the Center's mission and aims. These initiatives are expected to include research and programming on the domestic front in the state of GA and within the US.

The Center will co-design programs and policies with local community-engaged partners. The interventions will be founded on empirical community-based research; ecologically tailored for various cultural contexts; and culturally appropriate to meet the needs of individuals who have been trafficked or who are at-risk of being trafficked. The Center will improve programming and policy work that measurably reduces trafficking through gold standard research on the prevalence, determinants, drivers, and facilitators of trafficking. The Center is grounded on a powerfully collaborative model, bringing the best of interdisciplinary implementation science from around the world with community partners from affected areas and with the lived experience of those who have been trafficked. This model of research and programming innovation is lacking in existing anti-trafficking efforts across the globe.

The **specific aims** of the Center are to: 1) enhance the science of human trafficking prevalence measurement across the globe; 2) implement effective anti-trafficking policies and innovative programs that protect victims, prevent trafficking, strengthen prosecution, and enhance partnership; and 3) equip the next generation of human trafficking researchers with competencies that can enhance social justice for trafficking survivors and victims.

OPERATING PROCEDURES

In keeping with the University of Georgia (UGA) policy preference for the most decentralized administrative level consistent with meeting center or institute mission, the Center will involve disciplines from across UGA. Any interested faculty member, staff, or students associated with UGA will be eligible to apply for membership in the Center. A simple majority vote among the entire affiliated and core Center faculty will determine membership affiliation.

It will be administratively organized within the School of Social Work (SSW), and involve minimal bureaucratic structure. Specifically, it will consist of a Director and reviewed every five years in accordance with UGA center/institute policies. After every five-year review, the SSW dean will submit a recommendation to the Provost for continued approval of the Center.

The Center Director will report to the Dean of the SSW. The Director will be in charge of the overall mission and vision of the Center. In order to maintain a manageable leadership team, the Center **Leadership Team** will consist of the Center Director, an Assistant Director, and two core faculty members of the Center. The Center Director will select and appoint members of the Leadership Team for a term of three renewable years. The Center Assistant Director will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Center, will supervise the core staff at the Center, and report to the Center Director.

An **Advisory Committee** comprised of five members serving on a three-year renewable term will support the Center's mission, aims, and progress. The Advisory Committee members will be proposed and elected through a simple majority vote by Center core faculty and core staff that are included in the Table under Participating Faculty and Supporting Staff. The Center Director is a member of the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will be formed within six months of the Center's inception. The Advisory Committee consists of people with diverse expertise in the field of human trafficking, including but not limited to the following:

- Faculty at UGA and other colleges
- Human trafficking survivors
- Domestic and/or international NGO leaders
- Non-profit leaders
- Public servants involved in human trafficking policies

The Center provides us with a solid platform to attract additional extramural funding and allows other initiatives and researchers within UGA to formally affiliate with us. These participating units provide faculty who participate as core or affiliated faculty of the Center. The following units, institutes, and departments have participated in conceptualizing and planning of the Center.

1. School of Social Work
2. Owens Institute for Behavioral Research
3. College of Public Health
 - a. Department of Health Promotion and Behavior
4. Franklin College of Arts and Sciences
 - a. Department of Sociology
5. College of Family and Consumer Sciences
6. Office of Global Engagement
7. School of Law
8. School of Public and International Affairs/ Center for the Study of Global Issues (GLOBIS)

In order to fulfill its mission, the Center will execute high impact activities along its stated aims that include the following:

Enhancing the science of prevalence measurement in human trafficking: To date, estimating the prevalence of hard-to-reach populations remains a major challenge for many researchers and policy makers. Hard-to-reach populations are under-served by current sampling methodologies mainly due to the lack of practical alternatives to address these methodological difficulties. In measuring prevalence, and in acknowledging that human trafficking is a complex and multi-dimensional problem, we will conduct mixed-methods community-based studies to build theories

of change that identify the drivers and facilitators of trafficking in the identified research sites. The Center will collaborate with US and local researchers to identify trafficking hotspots and trafficking sectors in order to more reliably establish the count and prevalence of human trafficking in those locations. These **performance indicators** will be utilized in assessing this objective:

- Number of human trafficking prevalence research projects conducted annually
- Number of publications and conference presentations on human trafficking
- Number of policy briefs and reports produced
- Number of book chapters written
- Citation counts of our own work
- Number of local researchers trained

Implementing effective anti-trafficking policies and innovative programs:

The Center applies a *Collective Impact* approach⁷ in four program phases: Explore, Prepare, Implement, and Sustain (**EPIS**). **Explore** - We will work with partners to develop a common agenda for research and project implementation. Activities include expanding our Center and support staff in each of the implementing countries. The Center's work will be guided through a grounded approach and based on a review of the literature and scoping field visits to implementing countries. For example, during our past scoping visits to Sierra Leone and Guinea, we met and consulted with key informants and stakeholders and then made a determination on a human trafficking sector and hotspot area. COVID-19 prevented us from travelling to Senegal, we therefore, held virtual meetings with key stakeholders to determine a sector and hotspot of trafficking. **Prepare** entails: (a) developing shared metrics and a database of key stakeholders; (b) collecting and analyzing baseline estimates on trafficking prevalence, prosecutions and convictions; (c) identifying service gaps in each slavery sector; (d) conducting needs assessments that capture survivor voices; and (e) assessing legislative effectiveness. **Implement** includes: (a) developing and advertise a call for sub-awards from potential partners, (b) assessing proposals and provide sub-awards, (c) providing training and technical assistance to our grantees, (d) co-designing programs to build upon existing capacities and expertise, and (e) implementing a system of ongoing monitoring and impact evaluation for each agency. **Sustain** includes building the capacity of local researchers and implementing partners to continue with our efforts at the end of a project. We will build mini-centers or think-tanks in our implementing countries. The Center will influence anti-trafficking policies at the national and regional levels through data; going beyond the current sensationalistic narratives that have driven some anti-trafficking policies. The following **performance indicators** will be used to assess this objective:

- Percent reduction in human trafficking in the hotspots in which we work
- Percent increase in the number of trafficking victims served
- Number of scoping visits to trafficking hotspots
- Number of needs assessments conducted
- Number of annual public events on human trafficking organized or involved in
- Number of news articles in the media and social media
- Number of education and awareness activities that promote the reduction of human trafficking

⁷ Kania & Kramer, 2011

- Biennial signature lecture on human trafficking exploitation
- Number of policies influenced

Equipping the next generation of human trafficking researchers: The Center will support research assistants, pre-doctoral fellowships, and post-doctoral fellowships in order to prepare future leaders in human trafficking research and programming. Under the **Future Leaders Programs (FLP)**, mentees will benefit from multidisciplinary faculty in the humanities as well as health and behavioural sciences. Mentees will be referred to existing resources outside within and outside UGA. Given that research in human trafficking is still relatively nascent, there is opportunity for the Center to produce pioneers in the different methodologies of prevalence estimation and the novel programming designs that can be adapted from other fields. The following **performance indicators** will be used to assess this objective:

- Number of research assistants supported through the Center annually
- Number of pre-doctoral fellows supported through the Center annually
- Number of post-doctoral fellows supported through the Center annually
- Number of peer-reviewed research articles, book chapters, and technical reports co-published by FLP mentees
- Number of conference presentations done by FLP mentees
- Post-graduation engagements in the area of human trafficking among our FLP mentees
- Number of successful grants co-written by our FLP mentees

To undertake the above activities, the Center will adopt a two-pronged approach. One is support core and continuing Center activities with an annual operating budget under a current grant running to 2025. Two, continued grant applications to private and public sources to support new projects.

Currently, the APRIES has a budget of close to \$20 million to cover the period 10/2020 – 9/2025, as it transitions into the proposed Center. The funding is from the US Department of State, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Program to End Modern Slavery, grant # SSJTIP18CA0015 and # SSJTIP18CA0032. In line with the federal financial year, each funding year begins in October and ends in September of the next year. Year 1 starts on 10/1/2020 – 9/30/2021. The detailed budget for the proposed Center can be found at the end of this document.

PHYSICAL RESOURCES

As of March 2020, the proposed Center has a 7-room office space at 312 Herty Drive, Sanford Hall, Suite # 317, dedicated to key faculty and staff members. The offices are assured for our use leading to 2024 through a space-sharing agreement approved by President Jere Morehead and Provost S. Jack Hu. A use extension of this space beyond 2024 will be evaluated and determined at the end of the current grant funding.

VALUE-ADDITION OF THE CENTER

The Center on Human Trafficking Research & Innovation addresses a major contemporary social justice and human rights problem. The UGA would be uniquely poised to have significant impact because the proposed Center will organize and develop a strong interdisciplinary and international research hub. The Center will attract personnel with exceptional skills in researching hard-to-reach populations, thus placing UGA on a national and global grid in this nascent research.

Moreover, numerous federal and private funders have identified human trafficking research as a priority area of research and programming. Federal agencies that publish regular funding opportunities for human trafficking research include the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Labor, the Department of Justice, the National Science Foundation, and the Department of State. Government agencies in the EU and UK have also dedicated significant resources in anti-trafficking initiatives. The unique combination of our experience, skills, and diversity provide a strong foundation to build on and expand our impact. Center core faculty have to date garnered over US \$60 million funding in human trafficking and other exploitations research and programming.

Presently, the APRIES is involved in implementation research in Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Senegal. Through the Prevalence Reduction Innovation Forum (PRIF) project, we are also beginning general prevalence surveys in Brazil, Costa Rica, Morocco, Pakistan, Tanzania, and Tunisia. PRIF's innovation, the first of its kind in the history of human trafficking research, includes the validation of at least two research methods in the selected hotspots. The PRIF project is collaborating with leading local and US researchers through technical and funding support over the next two years to estimate the prevalence of human trafficking in specific hotspots:

1. Stanford University to research forced labor in the agricultural sector in Brazil
2. The Freedom Fund to research child sex trafficking in Brazil
3. John Jay College of Criminal Justice to research forced labor in the fishing industry in Costa Rica
4. John Jay College of Criminal Justice to research domestic servitude in Tanzania
5. NORC at the University of Chicago to research domestic servitude in Morocco
6. Johns Hopkins University to research forced labor in brick kilns in Pakistan
7. University of Massachusetts, Lowell to research domestic servitude in Tunisia

The PRIF conference was held virtually on May 20-22, 2020. Over 1,000 people attended the conference from around the world via Zoom and Facebook Live platforms. The UGA was commended for "setting a gold standard for a virtual meeting, in my opinion. I very much look forward to hearing updates from PRIF as well as APRIES" (Kevin Hong, Senior International Relations Officer, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor). PRIF produced a statistical

definitions⁸ document for researchers in the human trafficking field. The statistical definitions document has already received positive reviews from respected scholars. In short, PRIF has already elevated the stature of UGA across the globe; this stature is expected to rise as research findings from PRIF are disseminated.

While the APRIES has already achieved much in recent years, transitioning into a Center allows us to:

- 1) Train graduate students from the university on a highly relevant and interdisciplinary topic
- 2) Host ongoing seminars, workshops, lectures, and other activities of public service
- 3) Be better placed to attract Center funding from other sources including the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and a number of private foundations
- 4) Focus on trafficking in all regions of the world, including domestic trafficking here in the state of Georgia and other parts of the U.S., thus fulfilling our land grant mission. The state of Georgia is considered a trafficking hotspot; the Center provides an opportunity to collaborate with faculty who are interested in contributing to programming, policy, and research right here at home
- 5) Expand our media and public relations presence, that is, communication about innovative work being done in creative non-academic settings (i.e., infographics, videos, articles in non-academic settings, etc.)

PARTICIPATING FACULTY AND SUPPORTING STAFF

Participating faculty will keep their appointments in their home units. Responsibilities of **Core Faculty** include attending Center meetings, participating in decision-making, identifying internal and external funding opportunities, and promoting the activities of the Center within their home units and externally to UGA. In addition, core faculty will involve graduate research assistants in Center-affiliated research projects, engage undergraduate students in Center activities where relevant, stay actively involved in Center research activities, and contribute their unique disciplinary perspectives to Center aims and mission. Salary support for core faculty is determined by the relevant Principal Investigators and in accordance with UGA Sponsored Programs Administration policies on faculty effort in the grants.

Affiliated Faculty participate in any Center activity that is of interest to them or their academic unit. Affiliated faculty are expected to identify internal and external funding opportunities and promote the activities of the Center within their home units and externally to UGA. Affiliated faculty will be encouraged to take advantage of the Center infrastructure in securing grant funding. Affiliated faculty automatically become core faculty when they are getting salary support through a new or existing grant.

⁸ US Department of State Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Okech, Aletraris & Schroeder, 2020

Essential Supporting Staff are those considered necessary for the establishment and operation of the Center. The Center staff are funded through a mix of grants and IDCs so they are a constant in the ebbs and flows of various grants. The SSW will be the administrative unit for all essential Center staff.

The following Table lists participating faculty and staff that are necessary to the functioning of the Center. Faculty whose names are followed by an asterisk are currently receiving salary support from current APRIES projects.

Faculty Member	Unit	Role in Center
Participating Faculty		
David Okech*	School of Social Work	Proposed Director/Core Faculty
Jody Clay-Warner*	Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Sociology	Core Faculty
Tamora Callands*	College of Public Health, Department of Health Promotion and Behaviour	Core Faculty
Nathan Hansen*	College of Public Health, Department of Health Promotion and Behaviour	Core Faculty
Lydia Aletraris*	School of Social Work	Core Faculty
Alex Balch*	University of Liverpool Department of Politics	Core Faculty Affiliate-External to UGA
Njeri Kagotho*	Ohio State University College of Social Work	Faculty Affiliate-External to UGA
Steven Kogan	College of Family and Consumer Sciences	Affiliate
Jennifer Elkins	School of Social Work	Affiliate
Allison Dunnigan	School of Social Work	Affiliate
Jane McPherson	School of Social Work	Affiliate
Tiffany Washington	School of Social Work	Affiliate
Llewellyn Cornelius	School of Social Work	Affiliate
Orion Mowbray	School of Social Work	Affiliate
Kate Morrissey Stahl	School of Social Work	Affiliate
Amy Ship	School of Social Work	Affiliate
Isha Metzger	Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Psychology	Affiliate
Chad Clay	School of Public and International Affairs, Center for the Study of Global Issues (GLOBIS)	Affiliate
Emma Hetherington	School of Law, CEASE Clinic	Affiliate
Essential Supporting Staff		
TBD	Center Assistant Director	
Claire Bolton	Program Manager, Sierra Leone	

Nnenna Onyioha-Clayton	Program Manager, Senegal
Hui Yi	Data & Research Scientist, Quantitative
TBD	Data & Research Scientist, Qualitative
Elke Yath	Business Manager
Rebecca Poon	Monitoring, Evaluation, & Learning Coordinator
TBD	Program Manager, Guinea
TBD	Communications and Copy Editor

DEGREE PROGRAMS

The Center on Human Trafficking Research & Innovation will not offer a degree program. No courses will be offered by the Center.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

The Center aims to be interdisciplinary, bringing together faculty and students from across the various disciplines at UGA. Human trafficking is a complex problem with multi-dimensional aspects and therefore, requires an interdisciplinary research and intervention approach. Letters of support from the following UGA units are included at the end of this document:

- School of Social Work Dean, Anna Scheyett
- Vice President for Research, David Lee
- Office of Global Engagement Associate Provost, Noel Fallows
- School of Public and International Affairs Dean, Matthew Auer
- College of Public Health Dean, Marsha Davis
- Franklin College of Arts and Sciences Dean, Alan Dorsey
- College of Family and Consumer Sciences Dean, Linda Kirk Fox
- School of Law Dean, Peter Bo Rutledge
- Owens Institute for Behavioral Research Director, Lillian T. Eby

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ANY PARTICIPATING UNITS

The Center on Human Trafficking Research & Innovation will receive oversight, review, administrative support, and support for development from the SSW. The Director of the Center will report to the Dean of the SSW. The SSW will provide pre- and post-award grant support as well as any additional needed office space for Center staff. The SSW will coordinate with the units of core and affiliated faculty to determine needed support for the Center from time-to-time and on a needs-basis.

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PROPOSED BUDGET (US Dollars)

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
PERSONNEL	1,051,203	1,251,957	1,230,355	1,124,166	868,145	5,525,826
TRAVEL	236,520	407,670	262,194	157,380	112,250	1,176,014
SUPPLIES	20,208	12,023	11,523	9,288	8,478	61,520
CONTRACTUAL*	2,055,994	5,039,042	1,724,241	1,673,062	574,135	11,066,474
OTHER	8,100	26,600	1,900	0	0	36,600
DIRECT COST	3,370,365	6,737,292	3,230,214	2,963,896	1,563,007	17,864,774
INDIRECT COST	450,314	528,120	442,464	388,354	294,570	2,103,822
OVERALL TOTAL	3,820,679	7,265,412	3,672,678	3,352,250	1,857,578	\$19,968,597

*Research costs with our implementation and research partners.

*****END OF DOCUMENT*****



**UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA**

OFFICE OF RESEARCH

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September 16, 2020

Office of the Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost
University of Georgia

Dear Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost,

I am pleased to support the establishment of the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation (“Center”) at the University of Georgia. Human trafficking, also referred to as modern slavery, is a heinous and persistent problem in the U.S. and across the globe. The proposed Center will conduct research and develop programming that will drastically and measurably reduce human trafficking and other forms of exploitation in select hotspots across the globe. Under the banner of the African Programming and Research Initiative to End Slavery (APRIES; see, <http://apries.uga.edu/>), the faculty who would be associated with the proposed Center have been involved in human trafficking research and programming over the past decade. Most of their research began in West Africa and was supported in 2017 by the inaugural President’s Interdisciplinary Seed Grant administered by my office. Their research has since grown beyond West Africa and they are now also interested in contributing to anti-trafficking efforts within the U.S., including in our own state of Georgia.

I have followed with keen interest as APRIES has established itself as a major player in human trafficking research, including via our faculty’s efforts, in collaboration with researchers at top U.S. universities, to estimate the prevalence of human trafficking in select hotspots around the globe. APRIES’ emphasis throughout has been on working with local researchers, in part to build their capacity. The work of the UGA group continues to attract major funding and support, and places the UGA in a pole position to influence research and programming in human trafficking.

The proposed Center brings together core faculty from various disciplines across UGA, including Social Work, Sociology, and Public Health. In addition, other faculty from diverse disciplines are represented in the plan. The Center also has staff specialists in statistics, and monitoring and evaluation, and thus is well constructed to meet their mission and aims, despite the multi-dimensional and complex nature of human trafficking.

The Office of Research encourages and supports innovative interdisciplinary research, scholarship and creative activities that contribute to the physical, emotional and economic well-being of the people of Georgia, the nation and the world. Clearly, the proposed Center aligns perfectly with this Office of Research mission. We are proud of the work done by the Center faculty and we look forward to supporting them in this new, important and timely initiative. The value-add to UGA from this Center will be quite significant and I look forward to helping Center faculty meet their objectives.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David Lee
Vice President for Research
Commit to Georgia | give.uga.edu



UNIVERSITY OF
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Office of Global Engagement
Associate Provost Office

October 9, 2020

Dear Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost,

RE: Letter of Support for the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation

I am pleased to support the establishment of the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation (Center), which seeks to conduct research, develop programming, and influence policies that will reduce human trafficking and other forms of exploitation. Through the banner of the African Programming and Research Initiative to End Slavery (APRIES), the core faculty at the proposed Center have been involved in human trafficking research and programming over the past decade. They have worked with US-based researchers, local implementing partners, and local governments in various countries to help meet their objective of reducing the prevalence of human trafficking. Their research in West Africa was supported by the Presidential Interdisciplinary Seed Grant at UGA as well as funding by the U.S. Department of State. Most recently, their collaborative work has expanded to other countries throughout the world.

The Office of Global Engagement was instrumental in the initial formation of APRIES through the collaboration between the University of Georgia and the University of Liverpool, whose faculty member, Dr. Alex Balch, serves as Associate Director of APRIES. I have followed the work of APRIES as it has established itself as a key player in human trafficking research by securing large funding awards and working with local researchers throughout the world.

International partnerships are critical to UGA's global teaching, research, and service mission and I am pleased to continue to support the mission of APRIES and the development of the proposed Center as it establishes itself as the leading international hub for human trafficking research, policy and programming development.

Sincerely,

Noel Fallows
Associate Provost



UNIVERSITY OF
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School of Public and International Affairs
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September 23, 2020

Office of the Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost
University of Georgia

Dear Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost:

Human trafficking is an area of applied research where UGA excels. I am pleased to support the establishment of the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation (Center). The core faculty of the proposed Center have garnered to date more than \$60 million to support research and programming in the area of human trafficking. The Center seeks to conduct research and influence policies to reduce human trafficking around the world. Presently, core faculty are involved in implementation research in Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Senegal, and are beginning prevalence work in Brazil, Costa Rica, Morocco, Pakistan, Tanzania, and Tunisia. Faculty affiliated with the proposed Center are also interested in human trafficking research and implementation in the U.S., including in the state of Georgia. As the UCC may be aware, one of GA Attorney General Chris Carr's long-established policy priorities is to combat human trafficking.

The proposed Center would bring together faculty from several colleges and schools throughout the university, including the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA). Dr. Chad Clay, Associate Professor in the Department of International Affairs and Director of the Center for the Study of Global Issues (GLOBIS) at SPIA, is already affiliated with the African Programming and Research Initiative to End Slavery (APRIES) and seeks to increase his role in the proposed Center. Under the banner of APRIES at UGA, the core faculty have successfully collaborated with local governments and international scholars to guide their work.

The faculty at SPIA focus on the key policy and governance issues of the day and are addressing grand challenges for the greater good. SPIA's reputation in the area of human rights and peace and conflict studies is particularly strong, and these are important complementary subject areas for the proposed Center. Indeed, the Center aligns perfectly with SPIA's mission, and I expect it will be an important partner for GLOBIS and SPIA. With the Center in place, UGA is uniquely positioned to lead in the area of human trafficking research and action.

Sincerely,

Matthew R. Auer
Dean and Arch Professor of Public and International Affairs



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September 23, 2020

Office of the Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost,
University of Georgia

RE: Letter of Support for the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation

Dear Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost,

I am delighted to write this letter in support of the establishment of the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation at the University of Georgia. Human trafficking is a persistent problem in the US and across the globe and the proposed center seeks to conduct research and develop programming to combat human trafficking and other forms of exploitation. The core faculty and staff, as part of the African Programming and Research Initiative to End Slavery (APRIES), have been involved in human trafficking research and programming over the past decade. During this time, it has become clear to APRIES that vast gaps exist in estimating the prevalence of trafficking and evidence-informed anti-trafficking efforts.

The Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation seeks to bring together a diverse, interdisciplinary team of core faculty from various colleges to carry out its aims. It includes two faculty from the College of Public Health who have played an integral part in the research that APRIES has conducted. Specifically, Dr. Nathan Hansen, Professor and Department Head of Health Promotion & Behavior, is the Intervention Coordinator of APRIES, while Dr. Tamora Callands, Assistant Professor of Health Promotion & Behavior, is serving as the APRIES Training and Evaluation Coordinator.



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The proposed center is well aligned with the goal of the University of Georgia's College of Public Health to promote health in human populations and preventing disease and injury within the state and around the world through innovative research, exemplary education, and engaged service. I look forward to supporting the Center in fulfilling its mission.

Sincerely,

Marsha Davis, PhD
Dean, College of Public Health



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

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Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Office of the Dean

September 22, 2020

Office of the Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost
University of Georgia
Delivered via electronic mail

Dear Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost,

It is my pleasure to write this letter in support of the establishment of the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation (Center) at the University of Georgia. Human trafficking is a complex global problem with long-lasting implications for the social, economic, health, and psychological well-being of individuals, families, and communities. The proposed Center seeks to conduct research, develop programming, and influence policies that will drastically and measurably reduce human trafficking and other forms of exploitation. Its vision is to become the leading hub for human trafficking research, policy, and programming development across the globe. Under the banner of the African Programming and Research Initiative to End Slavery (APRIES), the core faculty at the proposed Center have been involved in human trafficking research and programming over the past decade. They have successfully collaborated with other US-based researchers and local researchers in the countries in which they have conducted research. While the research and programming focus of ARIES has been on West Africa, the faculty have expanded their research interests to anti-trafficking efforts around the world as well as in the United States, including in the state of Georgia.

The proposed Center brings together a diverse, interdisciplinary team of core faculty from various colleges, including faculty from the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, within the University of Georgia. This includes Dr. Jody Clay-Warner, Meigs Professor and former Department Head of Sociology, who is serving as Associate Director of ARIES, as well as Dr. Isha Metzger, Assistant Professor of Psychology. Given the multi-dimensional issues affecting human trafficking, the proposed Center is uniquely poised to meet its aims and vision of developing a strong international research hub.

The Franklin College of Arts and Sciences supports interdisciplinary research that targets challenging social issues and innovation that benefits our state, nation, and world. As such, the proposed Center is well aligned with the mission of Franklin College and its proposed work will further the university's instructional, research, and public service missions.

Sincerely,

Alan T. Dorsey
Dean, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences



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College of Family and Consumer Sciences

September 22, 2020

Office of the Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost
University of Georgia

Dear Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost,

It is my pleasure to write this letter in support of the establishment of the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation (Center) at the University of Georgia. Human Trafficking has long-lasting implications for the social, economic, health, and psychological well-being of individuals, families, and communities. The proposed Center will expand the proposed core faculty's research and anti-trafficking programming efforts, and seek to become a leading hub for human trafficking research and policy. Its faculty has engaged in this line of work primarily in West Africa, although they have recently expanded their research interests to other countries across the globe and to research in the state of Georgia.

The proposed Center brings together a multidisciplinary team that has already garnered over \$60 million in funding. In the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, Dr. Steven Kogan, Athletic Associate Professor of Human Development, will be affiliated with the Center. Dr. Kogan currently serves as the Family-Centered Prevention Specialist for the African Programming and Research Initiative to End Slavery (APRIES), which will be a unit within the Center.

Dr. Kogan's work involves identifying individual, family, and community factors that protect young people from high-risk behavior and translating these findings into efficacious, ecologically appropriate interventions. Given the multi-dimensional issues affecting human trafficking, the proposed Center is uniquely poised to meet its aims.

The College of Family and Consumer Sciences encourages and supports research that contributes to the physical, psychological, emotional, and economic well-being of families and communities. As such, the proposed Center is well-aligned with this mission and its proposed work will further the university's instructional, research, and public service missions.

Sincerely,

Linda Kirk Fox, Ph.D.
Dean



UNIVERSITY OF
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borut@uga.edu

Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge
Dean and Herman E. Talmadge Chair of Law

October 19, 2020

To: Provost S. Jack Hu

From: Dean Peter B. Rutledge

RE: Letter of Support for the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation

It is my pleasure to write this letter in support of the proposal to form the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation (Center) at the University of Georgia. Human trafficking, also known as modern slavery, is a complex, multi-dimensional social problem in the US and across the world. The proposed Center seeks to conduct research and develop programming that will drastically and measurably reduce human trafficking and other forms of exploitation in selected hotspots across the globe.

The proposed Center includes faculty members from disciplines throughout the University of Georgia, including Professor Emma Hetherington, Assistant Clinical Professor of Law and the Director of the Wilbanks Child Endangerment and Sexual Exploitation (CEASE) Clinic at the School of Law. The CEASE Clinic is dedicated to legal representation and advocacy for survivors of child sexual abuse in civil litigation and juvenile court dependency proceedings. Professor Hetherington will collaborate with the core faculty to contribute to anti-trafficking efforts of minors in the state of Georgia.

The School of Law supports interdisciplinary research and activities that contribute to the well-being of the people of Georgia, the nation and the world, and, as such, supports the mission of the proposed Center. The value-addition to the UGA from this Center will be great and I look forward to supporting the Center in meeting its aims.

Sincerely,

Peter B. "Bo" Rutledge
Dean & Herman E. Talmadge Chair of Law



RE: Letter of Support for the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation

September 23, 2020

Office of the Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost
University of Georgia

Dear Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost,

It is my pleasure to write this letter in support of the proposal for the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Innovation at the University of Georgia. Human trafficking is a multifaceted social problem of global magnitude requiring interdisciplinary work to guide robust responses to it. The proposed Center seeks to bring together scholars from various disciplines to conduct research, develop programming, and influence policies that will drastically and measurably reduce human trafficking and other forms of exploitation. Its vision is to become the leading hub for human trafficking research, policy, and programming development across the globe.

Under the banner of the African Programming and Research Initiative to End Slavery (APRIES), the core faculty at the proposed Center have been involved in human trafficking research and programming over the past decade. I know Dr. Okech, the proposed Center Director, very well personally and professionally. He is an OIBR Fellow and launched his research in human trafficking through an OIBR seed grant of \$10,000 in 2015. Dr. Okech has also benefited through the professional development programs offered through OIBR, including grant writing and a mentorship initiative by Dr. Steven Kogan.

OIBR works to support interdisciplinary social and behavioral science research at the University of Georgia and our mission is to address the world's most pressing health, economic, social, educational, and policy challenges through the facilitation and promotion of social and behavioral science research. As a Center that will tackle one of the most pressing social issues by bringing together scholars from across campus, OIBR is happy to strongly endorse the creation of this new Center at the university.

Sincerely,

Lillian T. Eby, Ph.D.
Director, William A. and Barbara R. Owens Institute for Behavioral Research