

## **Political Science Department Vision Statement**

“The political science department is quite strong. Individually, the members of the department are impressive on paper, and at least equally as impressive in person. Frankly, the department is a good deal stronger than one would expect of a college of Linfield’s reputed caliber. If all of Linfield’s departments are this strong, then the college is seriously underrated — or at least has been underrated by me.”

“In the end, I believe this to be a department composed of collegial, smart, and engaged individuals. It is a department entirely lacking in dead-wood, and there are not many liberal arts colleges, including the very good ones, that can say that about their political science faculty. In my opinion, this department should be strongly supported and encouraged by the college’s administration”

**Quoted from a 2004 department evaluation by Dr. Peter Steinberger, former acting president of Reed College and current dean of faculty at Reed.**

### Who we are and what we want others to know about us.

We believe we have one of the strongest, if not the strongest, departments on campus. Campus folklore holds that our department is among the most demanding of any on campus. Our faculty regularly receive the highest course evaluations from students, and we count among our members a winner of the “Edith Green Distinguished Professor” for outstanding teaching. Each of us has engaged students in collaborative research, and our students have gone off to some of the best graduate and law school programs in the country, including Harvard, Georgetown, and the universities of Michigan, Wisconsin, Washington and Virginia.

We are also dedicated, productive, and successful scholars. The combined scholarly productivity of the department, both in terms of books and scholarly articles, rivals that of any department on campus. Our faculty serves on editorial boards of journals, reviews manuscripts for both book publishers and scholarly journals, and participates in national conferences on a regular basis. We believe in and practice the ideal of faculty as teachers/scholars.

Our faculty have also been an important and effective presence on the campus, in the city, and in the state. We have given presentations to local civic clubs, been engaged in activities with the Oregon Council on Humanities, have consulted with and given testimony before various state government agencies, established and maintained an ongoing relationship with the Canadian government to bring visitors to campus and take students to Canada.