

Peter Gourevitch to step down as dean of UCSD's Pacific Rim School

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Media Contact: Dolores Davies, (619) 534-5994

Peter A. Gourevitch, the founding dean of the Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies (IR/PS) at the University of California, San Diego, has announced that he will step down from his post as dean of the 9-year-old international affairs school when a new dean has been found.

"As IR/PS approaches its second decade, it will be faced with many new challenges and tasks," said Gourevitch. "I think this is a good time for the school to take the next steps in becoming a mature institution -- bringing on a new dean, taking on new perspectives and approaches."

Gourevitch, who was a member of the planning committee that led to the creation of IR/PS in 1986, plans to remain on the IR/PS faculty where he will pursue his research and teaching interests. He also hopes to continue to be involved in IR/PS's development.

"I am very pleased with the tremendous progress the school has made in such a brief span of time," said Gourevitch. "A decade ago we were only an idea. Now we have more than 300 alumni working around the globe, two dozen outstanding faculty members, 200 students, a strong and committed staff, and

excellent research facilities and activities. These attributes, along with a growing endowment and an expanding public education and outreach program, have given us a strong foundation for future growth and excellence. I look forward to working with the faculty, students, and new dean to ensure that IR/PS continues to grow and prosper."

IR/PS is not only the University of California's sole professional school of international affairs, it is also the only such school to focus its academic programs exclusively on the Pacific Rim region. The school's mission is to provide future leaders in industry and government with the training and knowledge to work effectively in Pacific Rim countries and in increasingly competitive global markets.

"As the founding dean of IR/PS, Peter Gourevitch has provided the vision and leadership to make this school one of the nation's leading graduate schools of international relations," said UCSD Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson.

"Without his efforts, the school would not be the success it is. In his 8 and a half years of tenure as dean, he has directed the organization of a challenging and innovative curriculum, assembled a superb faculty, built an excellent professional staff, and recruited outstanding students," the chancellor added.

Gourevitch was appointed dean of IR/PS after nearly 5 years on the faculty of the UCSD political science department, which included 3 years as chairman of the department. Prior to joining UCSD in 1979, he was a member of the faculty at McGill University and at Harvard University, where he also served as the acting director for that university's Center for European Studies. Gourevitch received his Ph.D in political science in 1969 from Harvard University.

According to Chancellor Atkinson, a search committee will be installed in the next month to begin the search for Gourevitch's replacement.

"Peter has set the school on an ambitious course, and will leave its administration in an excellent position for a new leader," said Atkinson. "I thank him for his devoted service and many labors; I wish him much satisfaction in his future activities of research and teaching at UCSD."

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