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Dear Search Committee Members:

I am writing to apply for the tenure-track position in international relations at Indiana University. I am currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Political Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and expect to defend my dissertation in Spring, 2013. My primary subfield is international relations, within which I focus on international political economy; my minor subfield is political methodology. Enclosed please find the materials required for this application.

My primary research areas are in the politics of global finance, international and comparative financial regulatory regimes, the global monetary system, the political characteristics of "technocratic" public institutions, finance as a tool of economic statecraft, and complex network theory and methodology. My dissertation, "The Politics of Crisis and Reform: Firms and Governments in the International Financial System", is primarily driven by one epistemological and one substantive motivation. Epistemologically, I concur with many senior scholars who believe that the performance of IPE in light of recent financial instability is imperfect. To improve upon existing literature, I utilize recent advances in complex network theory and methods to conduct a rigorous examination of the complex interdependencies that lead to stability and instability in the global financial system. Substantively I apply this framework to the study of regulatory politics at the domestic and international levels, and the investment and risk-taking decisions at the firm-level. Thus, my dissertation analyzes the global financial system across levels of analysis, situating each level within the context of the others.

A complex network approach allows the exploration of patterns of development and change in the structure of the global financial system, and also reveals dynamics which occur in subsystems such as the eurozone or emerging Asia. Additionally, it provides a context within which to examine the behavior of agents. As a result, my dissertation has three primary goals: to explicitly model and empirically analyze the determinants of the structure of the international system, to examine the ways in which states' positions within that structure interact with their domestic political environment to condition policy choices, and to describe the behavior of subnational units (e.g. firms) in response to changes within the system and state. Each chapter is written with emphasis on one level of analysis, but within the context of the other two. I use a variety of methodological tools in this analysis, including recently developed time series (tERGM) and value-edged (gERGM) extensions of the exponential random graph network model family (ERGM), multilevel regression models, and Bayesian models employing Markov chain Monte Carlo methods.

In addition to my dissertation, current research examines other aspects of the politics of finance. One article, currently in the revise and resubmit phase at *International Studies Quarterly*, builds upon previous principal-agent literature to argue that certain institutional arrangements incentivize banks to act less prudently than they otherwise would. A co-authored article, forthcoming at *Perspectives on Politics*, applies

complex network theory to IPE, and seeks to explain why financial crises originating in different locations are transmitted (or not transmitted) through the international system in non-monotonic ways. I am co-editor of a *Research Handbook on International Monetary Relations*, under contract at Edward Elgar Publishing, for which I will contribute two chapters (one co-authored). A co-authored chapter in the *Research Handbook on Hedge Funds, Private Equity, and Alternative Investments* (Edward Elgar Publishing 2012) explores positive theories of international regulatory politics and applies them to recent financial instability and reform efforts. Other work in various stages of completion re-considers Susan Strange's conception of "structural power" using complex network tools, analyzes the role of finance in conditioning the outcome of sanctions episodes, quantitatively models the political causes and consequences of financial crises, explores dynamics in the international monetary and reserve currency systems, and researches the politics of financial development in emerging markets.

I have received extensive training in political methodology during my time at UNC. In addition to complex network methods, I am familiar with other quantitative approaches including linear regression and multi-level (hierarchical) modeling, multiple imputation, various time series cross-sectional methods, maximum likelihood estimation of generalized linear models, game theory, bargaining theory, survival modeling, and Bayesian statistics. My statistical software skills include proficiency in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, R, and Stata.

My teaching interests are quite broad. I am comfortable teaching a number of classes at the undergraduate level, including a basic introductory course on international relations, for which I have been a Teaching Assistant five times and Teaching Fellow (i.e. Instructor) twice (including the current semester). I would also enjoy teaching more specialized classes at the undergraduate or graduate levels related to international political economy, global governance and international organizations, the politics of finance, bargaining approaches to international relations, and the politics of development. I would also be able to offer a variety of quantitative methodology courses within a typical graduate-level statistics sequence, as well as classes on research design and methodology at the undergraduate or graduate level.

I am excited to apply to join the faculty at Indiana University. I am happy to provide any supplementary materials that may be helpful to you in considering this application. My contact information is at the top of this letter.

Sincerely,

William Kindred Winecoff