



AFGLC STRATEGIC PLAN - U. S. A.

INTRODUCTION

The American Foundation for Greek Language and Culture was founded in 1992 by concerned philhellenes, academics, and other interested parties, many of whom were professors at the University of South Florida, who seek to preserve and promote the all-important legacy of Hellenic language, culture and values as it applies to fostering a better global understanding of the underpinnings of western thought. This strategic plan represents the accomplishments, current activities, planned activities and proposed initiatives of AFGLC to date. As a draft distributed for public comment, it is hoped that readers will offer advice, amendments and enhancements, which will serve to extend the educational mission of the AFGLC and improve the effectiveness with which it carries out its long-term planning. Comments should be directed to the AFGLC Executive Committee, via email, at exec@afglc.org.

A. AFGLC PAST: ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The following articles briefly summarize AFGLC accomplishments since its establishment May 22, 1992.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL FORUM ON HELLENISM

AFGLC has established an International Educational Forum held annually by the AFGLC Headquarters at the University of South Florida (USF) in Tampa, Florida. Each year a theme is selected from the broad spectrum of Hellenism and the educational mission of AFGLC. This theme is developed strategically, that is, in such a way as to assist the greatest number of AFGLC communities to achieve their well-defined educational mission. The conclusions reached at these Forums enable modifications, additions, and reorientation of the core strategies by which AFGLC achieves its aims and objectives.

Listed in reverse order are the themes of the AFGLC International Educational Forum since its inception:

- 2005 “Hellenic *Paideia*: Educating for Democracy and World Peace”
- 2004 "Corporate Responsibility for the Support of Education: Lessons from the Classical Athenian Democracy"
- 2003 "AFGLC Mission: Enlightening the Young with the Olympic Torch of Hellenism"

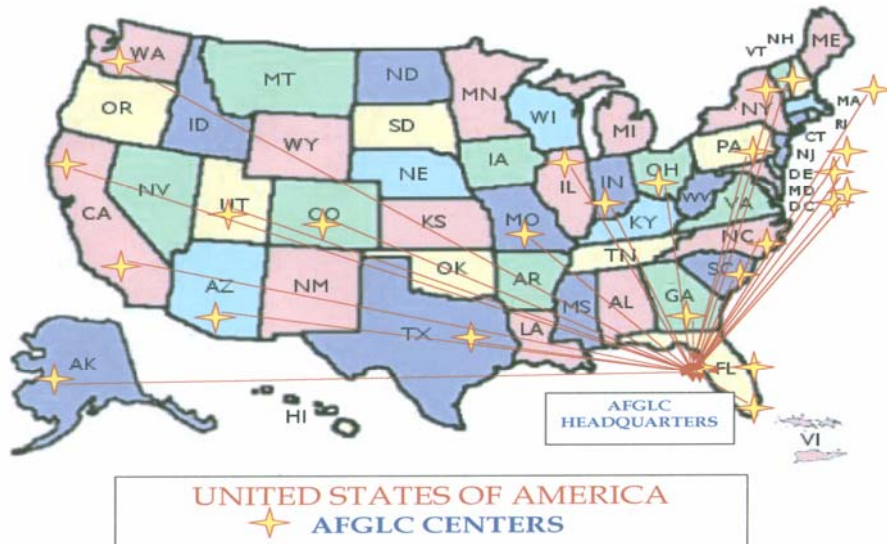
- 2002 "Lighting the Hellenic Torch Through Interdisciplinary Centers"
- 2001 "The Development of Interdisciplinary Centers for Hellenic Studies: Linking Mission and Objectives with Realistic Strategies"
- 2000 "The Opening of An Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies: Unifying the Building Blocks"
- 1999 "Creation and Support of University-Based Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies"
- 1998 "Support of Hellenism Through University Departments and Programs"
- 1997 "Nurturing Hellenism in an American University"
- 1996 "The Educational Mission of AFGLC Towards Hellenism"
- 1995 "The Interdisciplinary Advantages of Greek Studies Program at our Colleges and Universities"
- 1994 "AFGLC and Its Interplay with the Academic Environment"
- 1993 "Developing the Aims and Objectives of AFGLC"
- 1992 "The Urgent Need for the Teaching of Hellenism at our Academic Institutions"

ESTABLISHMENT OF AFGLC CENTERS

AFGLC centers have been established or registered in the following areas of the United States:

- Baltimore, Maryland
- Boston, Massachusetts
- Dallas, Texas
- Chicago, Illinois
- Cleveland, Ohio
- Columbus, South Carolina
- New York City, New York
- Orlando, Florida
- Phoenix/Tucson, Arizona
- Salt Lake City, Utah
- St. Louis, Missouri
- Tampa Bay, Florida
- Tri-State (Del., SE Penn., South Jersey)
- Washington, DC

The map below identifies the cities and states in which AFGLC centers have been established or are in the process of registration:



ESTABLISHMENT OF AFGLC-INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTERS FOR HELLENIC STUDIES (ICHS)

The fundamental educational mission of AFGLC is realized through the establishment of ICHSs at academic institutions of higher learning. To accomplish this mission, AFGLC has developed a dynamic plan that has been successfully applied through the creation of ICHSs in the following Universities:

- AFGLC- ICHS at the University of South Florida, a “Center of Excellence”
- AFGLC-ICHS at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

By demonstrating the feasibility of the novel ICHS concept, AFGLC has opened new educational avenues to fulfill its primary mission.

AFGLC SCHOLARSHIPS

AFGLC has established and awarded the following scholarships:

The AFGLC-Dr. Demetrios G. Halkias Scholarship

This has a present endowment of \$40,000, which remains fixed, as only investment returns are utilized for the scholarship. Any shortfalls in the fulfillment of the annual scholarship commitment are underwritten by the AFGLC Headquarters. This scholarship is legally structured for operation in perpetuity.

The AFGLC-Peter Kourmolis Scholarships

These are based on an initial endowment of \$220,000 donated by Peter Kourmolis for scholarships in six different communities within the United States. The initial endowment remains fixed, as only investment returns are utilized for the scholarship, which is structured for operation in perpetuity. Any shortfall in the scholarship commitments are underwritten by AFGLC.

The AFGLC-Dr. John U. Balis Scholarship

This has a present endowment of \$30,000, which remains fixed, as only investment returns are utilized for the scholarship. Any shortfalls in the fulfillment of the annual scholarship commitment are underwritten by the AFGLC Headquarters. This scholarship is legally structured for operation in perpetuity.

AFGLC-Financed M.S. Degrees

- AFGLC has financed (100%) the M.S. Degree (two years) of one student from Greece in public health at USF.
- AFGLC has financed partially the M.S. degree of another student from Greece in Public Health.
- AFGLC has financed (80%) the M.S. Degree (two years) of one student from Greece in business administration at USF.
- AFGLC has financed (50%) the B.A. Degree (four years) of one student from Greece at Pennsylvania State University.
- AFGLC has provided three monetary awards annually for the best papers presented by graduate and undergraduate students at the Classics Forum at USF.

AFGLC HONORING PROGRAM

Philanthropists who have contributed towards the fulfillment of AFGLC's educational goals are recognized annually. AFGLC has established awards for:

- Contributors of "AFGLC Named Endowed Professorships";
- AFGLC Service Award for members who have worked most diligently to further the educational mission of AFGLC;
- The Chris P. Tsokos Leadership Award for individual achievement in furthering the AFGLC objectives.

HELLENIC SOCIETY AT USF

AFGLC recognizes the importance of both introducing and deepening among our students the riches of the Greek culture. Thus AFGLC has supported the establishment at USF of the Hellenic Society, to supplement classroom instruction with the living experience of Hellenic *paideia*. In recognition of its active presence in the academic life of the University, the Hellenic Society has been recognized as one of the "Best Student Organizations." Each year the Hellenic Society holds a campus-wide Hellenic Week of events at USF, and student members also assist AFGLC in various ways, especially at the annual Forum. AFGLC additionally helps support the USF Classics Club, for students interested in the ancient Greek heritage.

AFGLC ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS

The AHEPA-AFGLC Educational Partnership

AFGLC and AHEPA, the largest international Hellenic-American organization, have officially signed an agreement to collaborate in fulfilling our shared educational mission. The 82nd Annual Supreme Convention of the Order of AHEPA unanimously approved a resolution that led to the partnership, and the official agreement of the AHEPA-AFGLC Educational Partnership was signed on February 14, 2005, by the Supreme President of AHEPA, Mr. Franklin Manios, and Dr. Chris P. Tsokos, president of AFGLC. The primary objective of the AHEPA-AFGLC educational partnership is to work together at the local, district, regional and national levels to establish Interdisciplinary Centers for Hellenic Studies (ICHSS).

Additional Academic Partnerships

- AFGLC has established a working educational partnership with the **Academy of Athens**, which includes the contributions by members of the Academy of books (some rare) on every aspect of Hellenism, for all ICHS centers in the United States.
- AFGLC and the **Alexander Onassis Public Benefits Foundation (U.S.A.)** have embarked on a Distinguished Lecture partnership. The Onassis Foundation supplies, at its expense, outstanding international scholars to lecture at the universities or colleges where AFGLC has established an ICHS.

COLLEGE STUDENTS' SUMMER ACADEMIC PROGRAM IN GREECE

AFGLC recognizes and endorses the creation of summer academic programs that allow students to visit Greece. To date, AFGLC has supported the first summer academic program for students from USF and other academic institutions to Greece in the summer of 2003 and will send students this summer and subsequently.

AFGLC ACADEMIC LECTURE PROGRAM

AFGLC believes in sharing its educational efforts with the community. To this end, it provides a list of academics and other professionals available who are available to lecture at Greek-American and other civic organizations, universities, schools, and professional groups, on various aspects of Hellenism and pertinent topics of common interest. We will extend this lecture program to the cities and regions of the United States where AFGLC centers have been established.

AFGLC BIOGRAPHY OF GRAND BENEFACTORS

The legacy of our special philanthropists should be preserved for posterity. Thus, AFGLC has established a policy of writing the biography of its *Grand Benefactors* - Greek-Americans who have experienced the American dream both professionally and financially and shared their good fortune with the community. AFGLC's first biography was the life of Gus Stathis, our first Grand Benefactor. We will expand the biographies of our Grand Benefactors into professional DVDs, to assure that the legacy of their philanthropy to AFGLC and the cause of Hellenism will be remembered into the future.

AFGLC EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXHIBITS

AFGLC is devoted to making available to the public Hellenic educational and cultural exhibits. To this end it has sponsored the following community events:

- AFGLC assisted and supported the Tampa Museum of Fine Arts in bringing to the United States the exhibit *Magna Graecia, Greek Art from South Italy and Sicily*. This exhibit set a record for attendance among all cultural events in Tampa Bay.
- AFGLC brought the pictorial exhibit *Alexander the Great and the Aftermath* to USF and the Tampa Bay area, which generated an enthusiastic response among the local academic community and beyond.
- AFGLC presented the exhibit of works by the modern Greek artist *Ghikas* at the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida, a show that enjoyed a long and successful run.
- AFGLC hosted the exhibit *Cavafy-Seferis, Celebrated Poets of the 20th Century*, at the USF Main Library, a presentation that secured widespread attendance from the university and the wider community.

AFGLC INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL CONCERTS

AFGLC recognizes the important role that music and the arts have played and continue to play in Greek culture. Thus it has sponsored the following musical events:

- "Songs of the Homeland" by Marianna Rigaki, Winner of the Maria Callas International Competition, at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater, Florida;
- "Opera is in the Air" by Marianna Rigaki and pianist Yiannis Xylas, at the Concert Hall at USF, Tampa, FL.
- "An Evening of Piano" by Olga Militsis, at the Marshall Center, USF.

"AFGLC: A GLOBAL VOICE FOR HELLENISM"

AFGLC recognizes the importance of carrying its message and objectives worldwide. Thus, it has created a 15-minute DVD video for distribution, providing a brief description of AFGLC and its mission. This DVD has received excellent reviews and is presently being updated.

AFGLC BROCHURE IN GREEK: "BENEFITS TO THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC"

AFGLC intends to keep the Hellenic officials and public informed about its mission. For this reason, a brochure has been created in the Greek language that identifies the benefits to the Hellenic Republic that spring from the educational activities of AFGLC.

AFGLC BIENNIAL NEWSLETTER

AFGLC is a *public* non-profit organization. Therefore it keeps its members updated on the activities of the Foundation and its regional centers and ICHSs by publishing a newsletter twice a year, available by mail and online.

AFGLC - COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

AFGLC continues to support the activities of the local educational community. Therefore:

- AFGLC officers and members have assisted educational television fundraising for WUSF Channel 16.
- AFGLC officers and members have assisted educational television fundraising for PBS Channel 2.

B. AFGLC PRESENT: CURRENT PROJECTS

ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL AFGLC CENTERS

AFGLC is presently working to establish additional centers, with their mission as stated above, in the following cities or regions in the United States:

- Atlanta, Georgia
- Denver, Colorado
- Houston, Texas
- Indianapolis, Indiana
- Miami, Florida
- New Orleans, Louisiana
- Northern California
- Southern California
- Spokane, Washington

ESTABLISHMENT OF AFGLC INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTERS (ICHSs)

AFGLC Headquarters, together with local centers in Dallas, Texas, and the Tri-State Area and elsewhere, are working to establish ICHSs in the following cities:

- Boston, Massachusetts
- Dallas, Texas
- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

EXPANSION OF AFGLC SCHOLARSHIPS

AFGLC is working actively to develop scholarships with financial endowments in perpetuity, similar in structure to the AFGLC-Dr. Demetrios Halkias Scholarship, the AFGLC-Dr. John U. Balis Scholarship and the AFGLC-Peter Kourmolis Scholarships. It

is also our intention to make it possible for more students to participate in our dynamic ICHS plan by increasing significantly the number of scholarships available to students of classics.

DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

AFGLC is seeking to establish educational partnerships with other organizations or individuals, similar to that formed with AHEPA, to work together toward the establishment of Interdisciplinary Centers for Hellenic Studies (ICHSS) at the colleges or universities of the partner's choice. AFGLC, which brings to the partnership a tested and successful academic and business plan, welcomes the opportunity to discuss and submit a proposal to the following:

- Individual benefactors who are willing to fund an ICHS that will carry his or her family name;
- Foundations that are interested in supporting higher education, specifically by the establishment of an ICHS;
- Private corporations that have as part of their mission the support of classical education;
- Greek-American organizations that can fulfill part of their mission by establishing an ICHS in their name, thus perpetuating their legacy;
- Various agencies of the Hellenic Republic that can profit substantially from the establishment of ICHSS;
- Domestic and international institutes or think-tanks, whose mission depends on educating the leaders of tomorrow.

In seeking educational partnerships, AFGLC looks for the initial financial support for establishment of an ICHS, which varies from university to university. AFGLC brings to the partnership the academic plan and the commitment to providing annual financial assistance, library acquisitions, distinguished lecture programs, scholarships, etc. The legal documents of each named endowed professorship and the ICHS itself will be jointly signed by AFGLC, the donor and university officials. Advantages to the partner are many; in addition to seeing his/her name perpetuated, a representative of the donor will serve on the board of directors along with those of AFGLC and the university administration. The financial commitment of establishing an ICHS can be spread over two or three years, or other financial plans can be arranged to provide the most tax benefit to the donor.

Additional information on the benefits to the university deriving from an ICHS, along with a sample of the relevant legal documents, can be made available to interested parties. AFGLC also welcomes anonymous philanthropists.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AFGLC FACULTY AND STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

AFGLC is working to develop faculty exchange programs with public and private universities in Greece and Cyprus.

PROMOTION OF AFGLC FUNDRAISING THROUGH "CHOREGOI"

The need to expand our donor base is self-evident. Thus, AFGLC is involved in:

- Establishing a network/database of potential financial supporters (philanthropists, 'choregoi') to contribute to the educational mission of AFGLC.
- Identifying and creating a database of foundations in the United State with whom AFGLC qualifies for financial support. We will then proceed to prepare and submit the necessary proposals.
- Seeking to identify which, if any, state or federal agencies AFGLC qualifies to receive financial support from, and then take appropriate action.
- Partnering with existing foundations that share our mission, as described above.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AFGLC CHARITABLE ANNUITY

The AFGLC is presently discussing with various financial institutions the possibility of establishing an AFGLC Charitable Annuity, whereby AFGLC becomes the beneficiary upon the death of the benefactor. Until that time, the benefactor receives monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually, a tax-free dividend at a competitive rate. Additionally, he or she can deduct annually (IRS compliant) a certain percentage of the value of a charitable annuity. Almost all academic institutions and a very large number of educational and cultural foundations in the United States have established such charitable annuities, which offer an attractive set of advantages for single and married individuals above the age of 50.

CREATION OF THE AFGLC-GUS STATHIS INTERNATIONAL HELLENIC CULTURE CENTER (IHCC)

AFGLC has been the recipient of \$1,000,000 from Grand Benefactor Gus Stathis. This contribution will be used to establish an IHCC in the Tampa Bay area that will carry his name. It is anticipated that the IHCC will consist of spaces able to accommodate the following:

- International community library
- Hellenic historical museum
- Venues for educational and cultural activities
- AFGLC Headquarters

AFGLC is presently working with various city officials, civic and business leaders in the Tampa Bay area on the issue. We will seek additional financial support from city, state and federal government agencies, in addition to individual philanthropists and corporations. AFGLC is proceeding expeditiously on the development of the IHCC.

DEVELOPING AFGLC-ICHS DVD VIDEO

AFGLC will be developing a DVD video about the administrative structure, academic aims and advantages of Interdisciplinary Centers for Hellenic Studies (ICHSs). This

video will feature, among other things, the participation of students, faculty and university administrators.

C. AFGLC FUTURE: PLANS

AFGLC is cognizant of the increasing need to focus on the following major objectives:

- **Expanding our membership drive in all existing AFGLC Centers.** The Executive Committee of each AFGLC center will be primarily responsible for the application of integrated "grass root" recruiting strategies. This objective can be significantly enhanced by promoting communication, i.e. exchange of ideas, among centers.
- **Establishing additional ICHSs in strategically located areas.** The Executive Committee of Headquarters, in association with local organizations and educational institutions, is in the process of identifying proper locations.
- **Greatly expanding and updating the current AFGLC website** to meet the needs of the expanding group of ICHS teams, in addition to the needs of AFGLC Headquarters. It is essential that AFGLC's website be state of the art, in order to communicate our educational mission and plan to a technologically sophisticated public.
- **Fostering a structured and archived vehicle for inter-ICHS collaborative efforts**, in terms of both educational and scholarly pursuits.
- **Establishing an international academic journal** that will publish original research manuscripts, special survey papers, and book reviews on all aspects of Hellenism.
- **Developing an interactive computerized system** that the public can use enjoyably to learn about Greek language, history, philosophy, culture, etc., at their home computer.
- **Establishing scholarships** for needy students, similar in financial structure to the AFGLC-Demetrios Halkias scholarship, especially for those interested in entering the classics as a profession.
- **Increasing** our support of the academic summer program for college students' educational trips to Greece.
- **Expanding** the AFGLC database of speakers on a broad range of topics to be made available to civic, religious, educational and business organizations, in more geographical areas of the country.
- **Helping to upgrade**, both academically and financially, the AFGLC-ICHSs.

- **Assisting in increasing the library acquisitions** of essential books for AFGLC-ICHSSs.
- **Supporting the republication of rare manuscripts**, books and research monographs related to the mission of AFGLC.
- Continuing to publish in book format the **biographies of Grand Benefactors** of AFGLC.



IFGLC STRATEGIC PLAN

THE IFGLC ATHENS CENTER

The IFGLC Athens Center has been legally structured under the laws of the Hellenic Republic and European Community.

The opening ceremonies of the AFGLC Athens Center were held at the historic "Zappeion Megaro", compliments of the Hellenic Republic. The opening ceremonies were attended by Government officials, ambassadors, business leaders, academics, students and the general public.

AFGLC Athens Center office space has been donated by the Athenian Academy and shares its own headquarters. The Academy is an enthusiastic supporter of the AFGLC's educational mission and contributes a number of valuable books to each of our established ICHSSs. We are grateful for this fruitful partnership, and hold it up as a model for other educational collaborations.

The IFGLC Athens Center held its first International Academic Forum in September of 2002, at the National Research Foundation of the Hellenic Republic, on the theme "The Role of Hellenic Culture in the Era of Globalization."

The second IFGLC-Athens Center International Academic Forum will be held June 2-4, 2005, at the Zappeion Megaro. The theme of the forum is “Hellenic Paideia and Classical Values, Models for Political and Economic Activities.”

THE MISSION AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE IFGLC CENTERS IN GREECE

The overall mission of the IFGLC Athens Center and its branches is to work jointly with the AFGLC Headquarters to enhance and expedite the educational mission outside of Greece, focusing on the following objectives:

- Working with various educational and cultural agencies and institutes of the Hellenic Republic to seek financial assistance and support for our international aims and objectives regarding the Greek language and culture;
- Presently, the IFGLC Athens Center is in the process of establishing a network of centers in Thessaloniki, Patras, and the islands of Crete and Rhodes. These new centers will be under the administrative jurisdiction of and will report to the AFGLC Athens Center. The mission of these new centers is to assist the AFGLC Athens Center with their aims and objectives;
- The IFGLC Athens Center is to assist Headquarters in establishing partnerships with other educational foundations, academic institutions, and cultural organizations in Greece. The purpose of these partnerships is to assist financially in establishing ICHSs;
- The IFGLC Athens Center is proceeding to establish communication with the appropriate educational and cultural agencies within the European Union (EU) and to identify opportunities for educational support of all aspects the rich Greek heritage.

IFGLC Headquarters, working with our centers in Greece, will begin exploring the educational activities of universities in EU countries with respect to Hellenic Studies. We have received inquiries from Europe about our IFGLC educational plan and believe that there exist opportunities to expand our mission into several EU countries. Thus we plan to pursue actively this aspect of our international efforts. We welcome ideas, strategies, and assistance in pursuing our mission within the European Union.



* IFGLC-SOUTH AMERICA *

IFGLC MISSION IN SOUTH AMERICA

IFGLC's present and future plans in South America include establishing IFGLC centers, similar to that in Bogota, Colombia, in Brazil, Argentina and Chile. The mission of these centers is to work jointly with IFGLC Headquarters to establish Interdisciplinary Centers for Hellenic Studies (ICHSS) at state and private universities in the respective countries. There is substantial interest in Hellenic *paideia* in South America, and especially in IFGLC's dynamic plan.

At present IFGLC is working with various individuals and organization who are assisting in the official legal registration of IFGLC in the above countries. Simultaneously, we are establishing IFGLC centers there. Official representatives of IFGLC headquarters have visited South America for purposes of strategic planning of our educational mission, and the response to these visits has been very positive. The map below indicates areas of initial interest to IFGLC:



IFGLC BOGOTA, COLOMBIA, CENTER

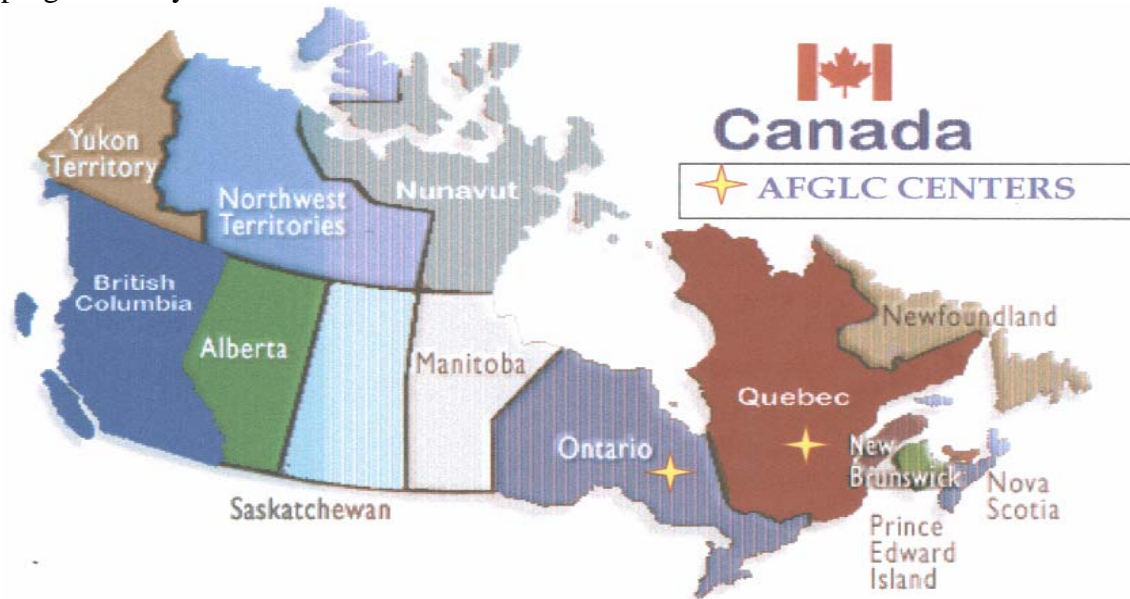
The IFGLC Bogota Center and its executive committee consist of distinguished academics, business leaders and public servants. The Center's primary mission is to work with IFGLC headquarters to identify the universities in Colombia at which ICHSS can be established and to seek initial financial support. There appears to be a substantial amount of interest in Colombia in these academic efforts, and Bogota has proved itself worthy of the epithet "The Athens of South America."



CANADA * IFGLC *

* IFGLC-CANADA *

IFGLC is in contact with several individuals in various areas of Canada exploring the establishment of IFGLC centers in Toronto, Montreal, Manitoba and Waterloo. Each of these centers will have the same mission as other IFGLC centers. We will report on progress this year as it occurs.



The map above indicates the primary Canadian cities in which IFGLC centers will be established.



* D. IFGLC-AUSTRALIA *

IFGLC has received a number of inquiries from Australia regarding the establishment of centers in that country and we will be proceeding to investigate the appropriate locations. A report will be issued on progress within the year.

LONG-RANGE GOALS

IFGLC CENTER FOR ADVANCED WESTERN POLITICAL STUDIES Washington, D.C.

The IFGLC's mission to preserve Hellenic values at the university level finds its fulfillment in the service of the greater world through a better understanding of democracy, that most Hellenic of values. To this end, IFGLC holds as a long-range goal of its educational initiatives the establishment in our nation's capital of an institution that will advance global applications of the Hellenic legacy, centered in the concept of democracy itself. It will achieve this goal through the collaboration of scholars, public advocates and analysts of international law. Activities of the Center will face both outward, offering the riches of Hellenic political theory to the world, and inward, bringing to IFGLC's academic programs a relevance, urgency and expertise that is unique.

Activities of the Center will include:

- Guidance in the education for democracy in emerging world democracies;
- Ombudsmanship in cases of domestic democratic due process;
- Studies on abatement of disenfranchisement;
- Studies on enhancing public political awareness and ethos;
- Studies in democratic life-cycles;
- Constitutional advocacy;
- Quarterly global report: *State of the World Democracies*;

Is it hoped that the eventual establishment of such a center will serve to showcase the continued importance of Greek values and culture in the process of world democratization.

PUBLICATION AND FUTURE REVISIONS OF THE IFGLC STRATEGIC PLAN

This Strategic Plan was approved for publication by the Executive Committee of the IFGLC Headquarters in April, 2005.

In the future, the Strategic Plans will be reevaluated and revised annually, following comprehensive discussion at the IFGLC Annual Educational Forum. The next Strategic Plan will be published in April, 2006.