The aim of this project was to create an “Interdisciplinary Political Theory” network among faculty and students at McMaster, by initiating a dialogue between researchers (including students) on shared issues or questions. It involved three "pillars"

1. A series of interdisciplinary discussion group meetings begun in 2013/2014
2. A student-led research on interdisciplinarity and political theory
3. An inventory of research expertise at McMaster

1. Building a Network & Fostering Discussion

Members of the faculty who participated in the network included:

- Catherine Frost, Associate Professor, Political Science at McMaster,
- Dr. Chandrima Chakraborty, Associate Professor, Department of English and Cultural Studies.
- Dr. Vera Chouinard, Professor, School of Geography and Earth Sciences.
- Dr. Dianne Enns, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy
- Dr. Andrew Gilbert, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology
- Dr. Melanie Heath, Department of Sociology.
- Dr. Hollander, Associate Professor, Departments of Religious Studies and Philosophy
- Dr. Violetta Igneski, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy.
- Dr. James Ingram, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science
- Dr. Neil McLaughlin, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology
- Dr. Zdravko Planinc, Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies
- Dr. Lisa Schwartz, Associate Professor Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and an Associate Member of the Department of Philosophy.
- Dr. Nancy Worth, Banting Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Geography and Earth Sciences

Discussion group meetings were held on October 2013, November 2013 and February 2014.

- The first discussion brought to light a shared interest in discourse and speech issues.
- The second discussion was open to faculty and students focused on the question of methods and political theory (drawing on contemporary discussions in the field).
- The third discussion focused on "Political Theory and the boundaries of Politics." This meeting was attended by graduate students with an interest in interdisciplinary theory.

2. Student-led Research on Interdisciplinarity and Political Theory

Student-led research helped support the project in a number of areas.
- Undergraduate Research Assistant Johnathan Falcone researched the expertise of faculty at McMaster, identified their area of expertise which related to political theory and compiled the information into an “expertise inventory.”
- Jonathan also compiled information on both graduate and undergraduate course offerings at McMaster that take up political theory themes, and compiled it into a year-by-year listing (including prerequisites) so that students interested in the field can find related courses across the disciplines and plan for the future.
- Graduate Research Assistant Sorin Mitrea prepared a working paper on Interdisciplinary Political Theory that reported on both the challenges and possibilities of it as a new method in political theory.

3. An inventory of Experts and Long-term resource on Interdisciplinary Political Theory

- The materials developed for the IPTN (including the inventory of expertise, the courses available, and the working paper on Interdisciplinary Political Theory have been posted in a project website (https://sites.google.com/site/iptmcmaster/working-paper-on-ipt).

Evaluation: The impact of the project was evaluated through an email to network participants in Fall 2014, asking if the project had to increased contact with other specialists, deepened awareness of the methods, or led them to explore new possibilities for research & teaching. Those who responded indicated that “Opening lines of communication is always good” but also suggested “it might take stronger institutional and programmatic ties” to “keep things vital.”

Sustained impact: Participants have been invited to participate in discussions and post announcements on the IPTN website, and the website with its information for students and faculty forms part of the “legacy” of the project