

ISA-South Breakfast Business Meeting  
ISA New Orleans  
Thursday, 19 February 2015  
Minutes

ISA-South members present included: Heidi Hobbs, Aart Holtslag, Ning Liao, Mary Meyer McAleese, Ginta Palubinskas, Laura Roselle, Scott Solomon, Kirsten Taylor, and Adam Van Liere, with Vincent Wang presiding.

1. ISA-South President Vincent Wang opened the meeting at 7:08am by inviting self-introductions around the room among those present. He used Powerpoint to present the meeting's agenda.
2. State of the Region: As of 1/31/15, there was \$24,065.29 in the ISA-South account, up from \$21,100.19 on 8/31/14. ISA-South is currently the second richest of all ISA regions, and second largest in terms of paid memberships, with 809 current members (up from 565 in 2006).
3. Highlights from the ISA-South Business Meeting in Richmond on 10/26/14
  - A. President Alexa Royden presided over that meeting. Secretary Andreea Mihalache-O'Keef recorded the minutes. There were 21 signed attendees.
  - B. Nominations and subsequent elections outcomes:
    - For President: Vincent Wang. For Executive Council: Four new members -- Ionut Popescu, Rebecca Young Greven, Jonathan Powell, Monti Datta-- were nominated and later elected to replace two members whose term was expiring 12/31/2014 and enlarge the EXE COM.
  - C. It was agreed to institutionalize a stipend of \$500 for the ISA-South president to attend the ISA Governing Council and related meetings at the ISA annual convention to help defray the costs.
  - D. Committees and task forces:
    - Jim Winkates Graduate Student Paper Competition Committee volunteers: Alexa, Sandy, Dorian, Art, Ginta, and Mary Manjikian.
    - Professional Development Workshop/Roundtable organization volunteers: Mary, Laura, Kirsten, Rebecca, Alexa, Sharon
    - Professional Responsibilities task force: A small group of EXCOM members agreed to look into the issues of conference participation (absences/withdrawal policies, actual paper delivery, and related professional responsibilities at conferences) and suggest some ideas for appropriate solutions and possible sanctions for non-compliance that don't change the welcoming culture of our region. Volunteers Mary, Rebecca, Art, Kirsten, Sean, Ginta agreed to consult via email on this matter.
4. Highlights from the 2014 ISA-South University of Richmond Conference:
  - Update on Websites: Conference home: <http://www.isanet.org/Conferences/South-Richmond-2014/Program>; Conference report:

<http://www.isanet.org/Portals/0/Documents/SOUTH/2014%20ISA-South%20conference%20report.pdf>

- Attendance: 130 participants (including 112 on the conference program)
- Panels: 30 (including four panels on undergraduate research in international studies and two panels on curricular and pedagogical innovation in international studies).
- Finances: Total conference income (\$9,803.40) - total conference expenses (\$9,115.22) = surplus of \$688.18.
- Other Highlights:
  - ISA President Amitav Acharya delivered a Keynote Speech, entitled, "Bridging the Academia-Policy Gap in Global IR," framing discussions in several panels.
  - A Professional Development Workshop, "Transitioning from Graduate Student to Professor: The First Year Challenges" was organized and chaired by Heidi Hobbs and featured an experienced faculty administrator, Betsy Brown, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, North Carolina State University.
  - The Woman's Caucus Breakfast meeting was well attended.
  - Dedicated four undergraduate panels featuring faculty-mentored research projects.
  - Awarded the Jim Winkates Graduate Student Paper Award to three best student paper authors
  - Made 10 travel grants to graduate and undergraduate student participants to help defray the cost of their participation.
  - Well-attended Business Meeting.

5. Plans for the upcoming 2015 ISA-South meeting. Vincent turned to Scott Solomon for his report:

- The conference will be held in Tampa, Florida on October 23-24, 2015, at the Hilton Tampa Downtown. Room costs: \$124 / \$144 plus taxes per night. No changes in registration fees.
- The conference Co-hosts/Program chairs are M. Scott Solomon ([msolomon@usf.edu](mailto:msolomon@usf.edu)) and Mark Amen ([amen@usf.edu](mailto:amen@usf.edu))
- Scott shared a flyer noting the proposed conference theme of "Global Governance" broadly speaking, noting that the UN turns 70 this year and the importance of IOs, NGOs and related governance questions around the world today. The CEDAW and Cities initiative of the UNA-USA was also noted as a possible tie-in with the conference.
- The formal Call for Papers with conference theme will be circulated widely in March, with a 7/15/2015 deadline for paper and panel proposals.
- Professional development workshop/panel proposals are due to ISA PDC by 6/1/2015. Contact Andrea Gerlak at ISA HQ for help/details. Ideas for next year's Professional Development workshop/panel were floated, including an emphasis on both academic and non academic jobs in our fields. Reminder: PDC grants only pay for travel and hotel, registration, materials, complimentary membership for speakers. NO FOOD and NO HONORARIA.
- Student Travel Grants: Given our healthy state of finances, Heidi Hobbs moved that we increase funding to 15 students at \$200 each, for a total of up to \$3,000. Heidi's motion carried: Up to 15 student travel grants of up to \$200 each to total up to \$3,000 for the Tampa conference was thus approved and allocated.

- Assistant Professor Travel Grants: Laura Roselle wondered about also funding a few junior/assistant professors for travel to our regional meetings, especially those new to our region. Discussion ensued regarding appropriate criteria. Kristen Taylor summarized the discussion by moving that a new ISA-South Junior Faculty Travel Grant for Assistant professors who meet the following criteria be created: The individuals are to be: (1) members of ISA, (2) based in ISA South, and (3) only in their first two years of employment at time of their paper proposal submission. Travel distance to the conference would be an additional criterion. The motion called for Travel Grant funding for up to 5 assistant professors at up to \$200 each for up to \$1000 total expended by ISA-South. The motion carried by unanimous vote

6. Sites for future conferences: Aart Holtslag stated he has a verbal “yes” from his dean to host our regional conference for either 2016 or 2017 at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, WV, located at the border of West Virginia and Maryland. He noted the distance from Dulles Airport might pose a problem, but his university has shuttle buses that could help with ground transportation to and from the airport. Shepherd University is a very historic liberal arts college of about 4,000. All members attending support this proposal for 2016 if Aart’s Dean gives official approval. Sites for conferences after 2016 are welcome and encouraged.

7. Old Business: Discussion returned to how best to ensure adherence to professional responsibilities regarding conference participation, including preventing last minute withdrawals, unannounced absences, lack of an actual paper, etc., and how to handle unexcused violations. Vincent reminded us that we are a very congenial regional organization and hope to remain so, but some attendees and/or no-shows may take advantage of this. Last minute cancelations create real problems for everyone. Failure to deliver an actual paper on a panel (not roundtables) is unprofessional. The importance of the role of the panel chair to communicate with all panel members before the conference was stressed. Both chair and discussant should reach out and contact panelists directly, reminding them of deadlines and stressing the professional responsibility aspects here. This can also help enhance the personal touch we value. A reminder from the Program Chair(s) of the ISA professional responsibilities statement regarding these matters at the time of notification of acceptance onto the program was also urged.

7. With no New Business or other issues, the meeting adjourned at 7:55am with a round of applause thanking Vincent for his leadership.

Minutes respectfully prepared and submitted by Mary K. Meyer McAleese