

## ISA SOUTH BUSINESS MEETING

10/19/2013, 5:30PM, Queens University of Charlotte, Charlotte, NC

### In attendance:

1. Adam van Liere
2. Ginta Palubinskas
3. Dorian Crosby
4. Sandy P. Michal
5. Kirsten Taylor
6. Mary K. Meyers-McAleese
7. Thomas Badey
8. Alexa Royden
9. Maggie Commins
10. Nikolaos Zahariadis
11. Vincent Wang
12. Laura Roselle
13. Aart Holtslag
14. Tom Doleys (President)
15. Rebekah Israel
16. Andreea Mihalache-O'Keef

### 1. President thanks

- Maggie and Alexa (regional conference organizers)
- Heidi (professional development panels and speakers)
- Paper award committee
- Chairs, discussants, participants

### 2. Treasurer's report

- Started out with \$26,576
- Spent \$6,800 on the conference up to this point; expect to make additional payments for the conference of about \$3000
- No numbers of conference income yet, but the ISA-South account is probably in pretty good shape

### 3. Program chairs' report

- Alexa:
  - i. 125 registered prior to the conference; 5 more registered on site
  - ii. Estimating \$1,000 in the black
  - iii. Extra travel grants approved for most who applied (and qualified)
- Maggie:
  - i. Theme resonated with the participants
  - ii. 3-4 panels on the conference theme

- iii. Keynote speaker was a good choice
- Alexa: four undergraduate panels; maybe encourage in the future

#### 4. Upcoming conferences

- 2014: Richmond, VA, at the University of Richmond; Vincent Wang is program chair of ISA-South 2014
  - i. Vincent:
    1. Proposes to exceed the impossibly high standards set by Maggie and Alexa
    2. Asked those in the audience to encourage graduate students, undergrads, and colleagues to participate
    3. Invited suggestions for program and panels; will accept them at [vwang@richmond.edu](mailto:vwang@richmond.edu)
  - ii. Mary: any decision on the dates?
  - iii. Vincent: Weekend of 10/24 or 10/31; will check for competing event in Richmond before making the final decision
  - iv. Nikolaos: will children be an issue if the selected date is 10/31, Halloween?
  - v. Tom D: will the conference be on the U of R campus? Suggested that Vincent check with U of R registrar for classes and other issues (campus events planned for those days)
  - vi. Mary: when she organized the conference, it was very nice to have Fall Break right after
  - vii. Vincent: at U of R, Fall Break, is in early October; one idea might be to have it the weekend right before their Fall Break
  - viii. Tom D:
    1. must also consider that ISSS competes with ISA-South
    2. if we want the president of ISA to come speak, check that our conference doesn't overlap with other regions
    3. can contact ISA president as a keynote speaker, but must invite as soon as possible after big ISA
  - ix. Mary: historically, we've occasionally brought the ISA president to be the keynote speaker, but there's a strong preference for having local speakers
- 2015: Tampa, FL, hosted by the university of South Florida; Mark Amen is program chair
  - i. Tentative date: Oct 22-24
  - ii. Arrangements in progress
- 2016: where?
  - i. Tom D: Sean suggested that maybe we don't have an institutional host and go to DC
  - ii. Mary: DC would be very expensive (concern)
  - iii. Tom D: would organize as a group
  - iv. Alexa: NE go to Baltimore and Philadelphia
  - v. Tom B: how about Kentucky, Alabama, Georgia?

- vi. Dorian: Question on protocol: do the organizers have to be two individuals from the same institutions or is it possible to collaborate across institutions?
- vii. Nikolaos: can split responsibilities, the person on site takes care of logistics; the person offsite takes care of the program
- viii. Dorian: Spelman might be willing to host
- ix. Tom D:
  1. we'll follow up on this; before picking a site, we must check for institutional support and must obtain administrative commitment in writing (especially in terms of resources the administration is willing to contribute to the conference)
  2. we'll revisit in Toronto and we should think about a solution between now and then

## 5. General conference items

- Tom D: any discussion on registration fees?
  - i. Art: where do we stand relative to other regions?
  - ii. Tom D: kept registration fees low to encourage graduate student attendance, which is why we get so many; cap also on faculty fees
  - iii. Adam: ISA-Midwest fee is lower but participants must pay for luncheon. Total is comparable to ours.
  - iv. Tom B: is ISA-Midwest providing travel grants?
  - v. Adam: not sure
  - vi. Tom D: not sure that reducing our registration fee would increase participation
  - vii. Mary: cost of putting on the conference goes up constantly; it is not a good idea to reduce the registration fee
  - viii. Adam: checked his records—for ISA-Midwest, paid \$60 + luncheon; ours was \$85 total
- Tom B: regarding the paper awards, did the two students who tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> place this year split the award?
  - i. No: Mary moved to award each one of them \$100; seconded (Laura); passed
- Tom D: any discussion on student travel awards? They went up from 15 to 18 this year
  - i. Maggie: made 15 awards of \$150 each; split some in half for undergraduate students
  - ii. Alexa: at the San Francisco business meeting in Spring we agreed to give more awards
  - iii. Maggie: there were 15 awards x \$150; 2 undergraduate awards x \$50; an extra \$100 for one of the graduate student participants
  - iv. Alexa: spent \$2,400 on the awards; could have probably spent a bit more
  - v. Vincent: what is the award process? Requesting the award means that the student will get it?

- vi. Maggie: international travelers excluded because \$150 would not go very far for them; students who had access to other sources of funding were also excluded
- vii. Tom D: the students must also be members of ISA to receive the award
- viii. Maggie: the new online form worked
- ix. Tom D:
  1. Must clarify that students who are not members but accept the award will be registered as members and \$25 will be deducted from their award
  2. Concern: slowly creeping award budget (if we give just a bit more every year)
  3. Next year (as usual): \$2,250 for 15 graduate awards at \$150 each
- x. Vincent: if we have more participation/registration/award requests, do we give more?
- xi. Alexa: can't know what surplus you have before registration is completed
- xii. Committee's consensus was to keep the travel award amount at \$2,250 for the upcoming year.
- Tom D: paper awards
  - i. Tom D: any volunteers to serve on the committee? Tom and Mary have served for a very long time
  - ii. Laura: volunteered to serve if necessary
  - iii. Mary: happy to continue serving on the committee, but it's a good idea to rotate
  - iv. Sandy: volunteered to serve
  - v. Tom D: should get four people on the committee, for a majority of 3 to work
  - vi. Mary: with more people, it's also good to distribute expertise
  - vii. Others: volunteered:
    1. Dorian
    2. Art
    3. Adam
    4. Ginta
  - viii. Tom D: how about the submission procedure? Any interest in going paperless? Continue with the hard copy submissions?
  - ix. Mary: it's up to the students to supply the readers with papers; printing out all the papers puts too much pressure on the committee chair
  - x. Tom B: this year they bore the cost of printing and mailing 20 papers to all the committee members; one paper was 60 pages long
  - xi. Mary: different psychology for the students when they submit hard copy v. electronic
  - xii. Tom D: defer to chair to committee chair to decide on the procedure. We don't really need a policy on this.

- xiii. Mary: we have guidelines
- xiv. Laura: check what the committee wants
- xv. Dorian: can it be done both ways?
- xvi. Andreea: do we post the winning papers?
- xvii. Nikolaos: motion that the committee decide what to do about posting papers
- xviii. Vincent: seconds
- xix. no objections

## 6. Other items

- Mary: professional development activities for next year are being planned; women’s caucus had some ideas; Heidi is typing it up. The suggested theme is “Transitioning from graduate life to assistant professor: The first years”; it would cover teaching, service, departmental politics, conference presentations and professional life—basically things that graduate school doesn’t cover but that new assistant professors are expected to know/do
  - i. Audience: many expressions of interest and support for this theme
  - ii. Tom D: any other ideas for the professional development component of the conference should be communicated to Vincent; the program chair makes the final decision
  - iii. Vincent:
    1. Do we do two workshops?
    2. Should we also consider something that caters to undergraduate students and terminal MA students?
- Tom D: the professional development component is generally in the very beginning of the conference, to get people there early, but this is just a suggestions; the conference chair makes the final decision, so, for 2014, it’s up to Vincent—it’s not a rule that the professional development (PD) component has to be in the beginning
  - i. Alexa: useful to have formal registration procedure to get a headcount of people arriving early for the PD component of the conference; it’s critical for planning if organizing a meal
  - ii. Maggie: ISA funds PD, but not food
  - iii. Tom D: there is no expectation to feed the PD participants
  - iv. Maggie: we thought it was important
  - v. Tom B: it may also be a good idea to ask about the keynote luncheon attendance
  - vi. Alexa: the registration system changed right before the conference; next year should go smoothly
- Tom D: strategies to promote the conference—any thoughts? Would it make sense to attempt organizing jointly with another conference? GA Political Science Association?
- Tom B: we had a joint conference with ISSS before
- Mary: ISA-S members should talk it up in their own departments

- Alexa: reached out to big research universities early on, but that didn't seem to boost participation
- Tom D:
  - i. also reached out to big research universities early on
  - ii. need to get call for papers out before the end of the semester
  - iii. need to use the ISA listserv more effectively
- Alexa: Sean wasn't able to attend but is volunteering to help with whatever is needed

## 7. Nominations for ISA vacant officer positions

- President: Laura nominates Alex and Maggie
  - i. Cannot have co-presidents, per the bylaws
  - ii. Maggie: won't be able to attend ISA in Toronto, so the presidency should go to Alexa
  - iii. Seconds: several
- Ballot will go out at the end of the year (Andreea is responsible)
- Executive council:
  - i. Maggie (Mary nominates, seconds several)
  - ii. Tom D is on the Exec council ex officio
  - iii. Kirsten (Mary nominated, seconds several)
  - iv. Sean Giovanello (Tom B. nominated, several seconds)
- Other ballot items:
  - i. Website:
    1. Tom D.: transitioned to being administered by ISA HQ
    2. Tom D.: what do we want on the website?
    3. Tom D.: amend bylaws to create website coordinator position? We can put it on the next ballot
    4. Nikolaos: there used to be someone with this title, but the attributions/position dwindled away
    5. Tom D.: one idea floated was to provide platform on the conference website for grad students to coordinate hotel
    6. Tom D.: another useful thing would be a paper upload facility

## 8. Voting on minutes from April Mtg

- Tom D.: Any changes to the minutes?
- Tom B.: seeing none, move to adopt the minutes
- Laura: second
- Minutes adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:00PM