

# ALIAS NOTES

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ALIAS Website: <http://sitemaker.umich.edu/alias.isa/home>

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**PROGRAMME CORRECTION**

The ALIAS Business meeting will take place at the *usual* time of **7:00 am** on Friday, February 19, 2010 (not at 7 pm as listed in the preliminary conference programme). **Come for coffee!**

**A Message from the ALIAS President**

2010 promises some exciting new programs for ALIAS, as well as a continuation of some of our more successful and popular programs. First of all, I'd like to highlight the new developments of the section. Earlier in this decade, we made the determination to raise our profile at the regional meetings. The success of this drive has the section exploring ways to expand the profile. At ISA-West, I will be running a teacher training program, which will help graduate students and junior faculty develop courses and teaching techniques from the course description in a catalogue through the final exam. I hope this program will serve as a model to the other regions in ISA.

Secondly, I'd like to thank Mary Pettenger and Carolyn Shaw for their vision and guidance in developing the reception for the Gerner teaching award recipient and the compendium project authors. ALIAS has been a part of the selection process for the Gerner award since its inception (Mary has served on the committee) and Carolyn served as section editor for the compendium project. Their vision and work have raised ALIAS's profile within ISA and are important steps in recognizing the role the section plays as a rare pedagogical section.

Finally, I encourage everyone to attend the poster session Mary has organized. We are returning to an interactive session (what we call the pedagogy playground). I have my own personal interest in the session, as I am presenting a new simulation that I hope the members will find helpful in their own classrooms. Designed to use classroom simulation to test what conditions need to change to end the US trade embargo on Cuba, we will provide all of the information needed to adapt the simulation in your classroom.

I look forward to seeing all of you in New Orleans, in particular at our business meeting at 7 am (not 7 pm as was originally reported in the program) on Friday morning!

Doug Becker ([dfbecker@usc.edu](mailto:dfbecker@usc.edu))  
President, ALIAS 2009-2010

## Call for Reviewers

Members of the NAFSA Research/Scholarship Network ([www.nafsa.org/rsnetwork](http://www.nafsa.org/rsnetwork)) are working on a new pilot resource for the field, tentatively called "Reviews of Global Studies Literature." This online feature will consist of short reviews & synopses of recent research and literature.

The purpose of the project title is to include not only international education research and literature, but also relevant books for our profession in fields such as human rights, peace and justice, international relations, international studies, cross-cultural communication, psychology, anthropology, etc. A more complete description of the project with submission guidelines is available at <http://www.brandeis.edu/globalbrandeis/office/RSReviewsOct2009.pdf> or can be requested by email (see below).

We are looking for anyone who would like to be involved as a book review author for two initial "issues" in 2010. These reviews will be published online to the NAFSA Research/Scholarship Network, promoted in our discussion forums, and in PDF form for download.

Book reviews will be of two types, although we would consider other creative proposals:

1. Book review \*articles\* will compare and review 3-5 related books in a short essay format of less than 1,000 words. The articles should take on one topic or regional area (e.g. "social justice," "global competence," or "Africa") and integrate book reviews with the author's knowledge/expertise of that topic. The article should also address the relevance of the books to the field of International Education.
2. Book \*synopses\* will be short reviews of individual books of approximately 1-2 paragraphs or less than 500 words.

### Deadlines:

January 15th 2010 submission deadline for mid-February 1st online Issue

April 18th 2010 submission deadline for May NAFSA Conference online Issue

### More information:

A project description with more details on submission guidelines, as well as a list of potential books to review, is available at <http://www.brandeis.edu/globalbrandeis/office/RSReviewsOct2009.pdf>

We hope you'll also consider suggesting other books for review so we can add to our list. Please note that we can not provide copies of books, nor reimburse for purchasing expenses.

We hope you'll participate in this exciting project, which we hope grows into a kind of virtual "book club." Since the idea is still in development, we'd also welcome feedback about project design, book choices, etc. Feel free to email either Rebecca or Bryan - contact details below.

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### **New from From Pearson Educational: MyPoliSciKit**

Pearson's MyPoliSciKit is a new online resource for your courses in International Relations, Comparative Politics, and Introduction to Political Science. Designed to meet the needs of today's instructors and students, MyPoliSciKit will help you save time and improve results.

Instructors teaching political science often struggle with similar issues. Too often students are not fully prepared to do college-level work and are unable to get fundamental concepts. And increasingly, students' limited awareness of current events and geography prevents them from being engaged in the classroom and from critically thinking about what's happening in the world.

This is where MyPoliSciKit can help your students succeed. Numerous resources—practice tests, Financial Times newsfeeds, video case studies, and more—are all available at your students' fingertips. The features included are geared to solve many of the problems you face every day, and since most features come with automatically-graded assessment, you can follow your students' progress in your courses.

Please join us for a live demonstration of MyPoliSciKit at ISA's 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention, as part of the *Pedagogical Playground: Classroom Exercises and Teaching Tools*, in New Orleans from February 17-20, 2010. We will also be having live demonstrations throughout the conference at the Pearson booth in the exhibit hall. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **BLT - The BISA Learning and Teaching Working Group**

In 2010 the British International Studies Association will launch a specialist working group on teaching and learning. The aims of this group are:

- To give voice to learning and teaching issues and to support pedagogic research and development within BISA;
- To support and disseminate new and innovative approaches to the pedagogy of learning in the discipline of International Relations;
- To promote research and publication in the area of teaching and learning in the discipline;
- To engage with leading experts in the field of learning and teaching and bring their experience to our discipline;
- To engage in outreach activities with similar like minded groups within other academic organisations such as those within ISA and to engage with others from beyond the sector such as those in government.

We intend to convene workshops where appropriate, and propose panels and roundtables for the main BISA conference and those of its different sections.

For further information, please contact the co-convenors of the group:

Steven Curtis, London Metropolitan University, [s.curtis@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:s.curtis@londonmet.ac.uk)

J Simon Rofe, University of Leicester, [jsr13@leicester.ac.uk](mailto:jsr13@leicester.ac.uk)

**ISA Annual Convention  
New Orleans, LA,  
Feb 17-20, 2010**



[2010 Convention Website](#)

#### **Reminder:**

Don't forget to check out the ALIAS web archive, accessible from <http://www.isanet.org/alias>

#### **Come Experience the Pedagogy Playground!**

Classroom Exercises and Teaching Tools

Grand Ballroom Exhibit Hall

TC95 Thursday 1:45 - 3:30 PM

ALIAS is pleased to announce its third Interactive Session on teaching techniques. Six different presenters will be demonstrating a wide variety of teaching materials and techniques that they use in class. Topics include role-playing exercises, the use of art, games, and experiential learning strategies. Pearson is co-sponsoring the event and will be demonstrating their highly popular MyPoliSci Kit. Join us on Thursday, February 18 from 1:45-3:30 in the Grand Ballroom Exhibit Hall.

### Book Announcements

From Jim Mittelman:

Mittelman, James H. *Hyperconflict: Globalization and Insecurity*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2010.

This book is being published in January 2010.

From Ralph Carter:

Carter, Ralph, ed. *Contemporary Cases in U.S. Foreign Policy: From Terrorism to Trade* (CQ Press, 2011).

The fourth edition of this edited book is scheduled for publication in October 2010 and may interest those who want to incorporate a case study approach to a U.S. foreign policy or national security course. New cases added to this edition include dealing with Somali pirates, addressing the global recession, and hitting the 'reset button' on U.S.-Russian relations.

From Steven Curtis:

Steven Curtis and Alasdair Blair (eds.), *The Scholarship of Engagement for Politics: Placement Learning, Citizenship and Employability* (Birmingham: C-SAP Monographs, 2009).

This book is on placement learning on Political Science and IR programmes. Further details, including a link to download the book for free, can be found at: <http://www.c-sap.bham.ac.uk/>.

### Compendium Project Complete!

The ISA Compendium project, begun over two year ago, is now in its final stages. As the August 2009 deadline for final manuscript submission passed, the Compendium project had 403 essays and 25 section introductions. The final phase of the project is to produce section-specific volumes. The total hardbound volume(s) are 7500+ pages and are due for release at the New Orleans conference this year. Web-based updates will be published after the hard back edition is complete and any essays that did not make the hard copy edition will be included in online edition.

The ALIAS section includes 10 of 11 solicited essays, with a final one to be added to the online version of the Compendium in coming months. Our authors did an outstanding job presenting materials on: Collaborative Learning, Designing and Using Role Play Exercises, Teaching with Media, Teaching with Technology, the State of Active Learning in the Discipline, Simulations/Role Play, Computer Simulations, Case studies, Model UN/EU, Experiential Learning, and Civic Engagement. The ALIAS volume will include our section essays as well as "How to Teach X" (Foreign policy, IO, etc.) essays that have been generated by other sections.

It has been an honor and a pleasure to work with the authors, reviewers, and editors in this process. Congratulations authors!

Carolyn M. Shaw, Wichita State University

Mary Pettenger, Western Oregon University

### **ALIAS sponsors a successful Working Group in 2009**

ALIAS member, Carolyn Shaw, wrote a proposal and received funding from the ISA Governing Council to lead a pilot project with three section-based Working Groups at the 2009 ISA conference (The other two sections were Human Rights and Environmental Studies). The ALIAS section Working Group included 18 participants who met together three times throughout the conference for special workshops and discussions. The workshops included the sharing of syllabi and course design ideas, round table discussions with faculty with extensive active learning experience, presentations on the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL) and on assessment, and a wrap up session discussing best practices in the classroom. The post-conference participant surveys were quite positive and the Governing Council has decided to support Working Groups as a regular part of the ISA conference in the future.

### **Announcements from the VP**

The ALIAS section is sponsoring a by-invitation-only lunch reception at ISA on Wednesday, February 17 from 12:30-1:30 in the Hilton Governor's Suite, Guest Parlor 2717. The reception is being held to honor the ALIAS - ISA Compendium Project authors and the winners of the Deborah Gerner Innovative Teaching Award. A limited number of seats are available for section members as well. Please contact Mary Pettenger as soon as possible at [pettengm@wou.edu](mailto:pettengm@wou.edu) to reserve a seat. Seats will be reserved until all seats are taken.

The ALIAS Business Meeting will be held at 7:00 a.m. on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup>. We invite you to attend and to participate in discussion about the future of the section, to elect section members to the Executive Board and to meet other members of the section. Beverages will be served.

The ALIAS section is seeking nominations to fill Executive Board positions. Self nominations and nominations of others are encouraged. Two important positions are open this year, Vice President and Member-at-large. If you are interested in serving (self-nomination) or in nominating someone else, please email Mary Pettenger at [pettengm@wou.edu](mailto:pettengm@wou.edu) for more information.

Mary Pettenger ([pettengm@wou.edu](mailto:pettengm@wou.edu))  
Vice-President, 2009-2010

## Section Information and Officers

The Active Learning in International Affairs Section of the International Studies Association was founded in 1995. Section officers for 2009-10 are:

President: Douglas Becker, University of Southern California, [dfbecker@usc.edu](mailto:dfbecker@usc.edu)

Vice-President/Program Chair: Mary Pettenger, Western Oregon University, [pettengm@wou.edu](mailto:pettengm@wou.edu)

Secretary: Debbie Davenport, IISD, [deborah@iisd.org](mailto:deborah@iisd.org)

Web managers: Leanne Powner, University of Michigan, [lpowner@umich.edu](mailto:lpowner@umich.edu)

Member-at-large: Darin Van Tassell, Georgia Southern University, [dvantass@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:dvantass@georgiasouthern.edu)

Member-at-large: Loren Cass, College of the Holy Cross, [lcass@holycross.edu](mailto:lcass@holycross.edu)

Member-at-large: Eric Cox, [e.cox@tcu.edu](mailto:e.cox@tcu.edu)

Member-at-large: Pamela Zeiser, [pzeiser@unf.edu](mailto:pzeiser@unf.edu)

Compendium Project/Past President: Carolyn Shaw, Wichita State University, [carolyn.shaw@wichita.edu](mailto:carolyn.shaw@wichita.edu)

### Ex-Officio Members:

Kent Kille, The College of Wooster

Matthew Krain, The College of Wooster

John Boehrer, University of Washington

Mark Boyer, University of Connecticut

Charles Dolgas, Georgetown University

Vicki Golich, California State University, San Marcos