A Message from the ALIAS President
Marcelo Valença

Dear Friends in ALIAS,

I would like to start this few words by thanking Jason Enia for his efforts as ALIAS president. He was able to gather an amazing group of persons working for the Section and contributing for the development of ALIAS within ISA.

We had a great program in Atlanta this year. ALIAS hosted/co-hosted 29 panels, including one with the Professional Development Committee. Every year ALIAS receives more proposals and program chairs are able to put up great panels.

In that sense, our expectations for the 2017 conference, at Baltimore, are the best possible. The conference theme "Understanding Change in World Politics" relates with our ideas and values as a section. The call for papers is already out and submissions are due to June 1st, 2016. Please contact Mary Jane Parmentier, ALIAS Program Chair and Vice-President, for further information on proposals and innovative panels.

It is my intention to proceed with the proposals and ideas Jason first brought to table and try to engage ALIAS with regional conferences as well as international events. Our partnership with ISA regions such as ISA-West and ISA Midwest stays strong and help to promote active learning to scholars and graduate students. Please stay tuned for their call for papers.

Sincerely yours,
Marcelo M. Valença
Assistant Professor
Department of International Relations
Rio de Janeiro State University (UERJ), Brazil
Minutes from ALIAS Business Meeting
2016 Convention

President Jason Enia opened the meeting at 8:00 am with his president’s report for ALIAS. Membership is up 8%, from 325 to 352 members, the 13th largest section now. Financially we currently have $6,354.90 in our account, consistent with previous annual averages. Jason then reported highlights from the Governing Council meeting. Panel allocations remain the same for next year; there was a motion to treat caucuses as sections, but the motion has gone to committee; there was a vote to purchase the Compendium, which is pending final approval; and the pilot program for a creative teaching and design workshop submitted by Carolyn Shaw was approved. Regarding the 2016 conference, ALIAS saw 4 additional panels, with a total of 20, or 27 if joint panels are included. This is a 25% increase over last year. Marcelo Valenca was congratulated on his excellent job as Program Chair.

New and ongoing initiatives were then discussed, beginning with the proposed plan to create an ALIAS teaching award. This would be lifetime award for the scholarship of teaching and learning. It was brought up that cross national differences in scholarship should be taken into consideration. It was noted that the governing board had considered the award and it was time to be approved by the membership. A vote was taken and the plan was approved unanimously. The implementation process was then discussed and it was decided that an awards committee would be created, with a chair.

The idea of the committee being comprised of the at-large members was discussed, or perhaps at-large members plus one additional volunteer. For this first year, for an award to be given in 2017, it was decided to name a committee, and Doug Becker, Jason Enia, and Cristina Inoue volunteered, with Doug as Chair. It was agreed that the committee would come up with a process, and next year any necessary adjustments would be made. The criteria for the award will be written in the next few months, with a summer deadline for nominations after a call is sent out.

A suggestion from last year to limit the number and terms of at-large members was then discussed. We currently have 9, and it was further suggested that these roles need to be given tasks. There was a motion to have 5-7 members, with some discussion of how many years each would serve; it was recommended to have staggered terms. An amendment to the ALIAS charter would need to occur if these changes are approved. It was decided that the governing board would come up with a proposed amendment that would go to the membership next year for approval. Carolyn Shaw also noted that ALIAS will take over pre-conference teaching course that has been approved, and perhaps the management of this course could be a role for at-large members.

Elections were then held, with the following members nominated and elected:
2016/2017 VP/Program Chair – Mary Jane Parmentier and Secretary - Carolyn Shaw
It was agreed to retire the position of web manager, since ISA now organizes the ALIAS website.

In new business and announcements it was reported from the Governing Council that ISA is considering the idea of a separate ISA teaching and learning conference. There followed a discussion of outlets for publication of pedagogy research, with some questions raised on the sorts of methodologies, and he question of instructional design versus research, being sought by International Studies Perspectives. Finally, it was noted that the Online Media Caucus has an award for online teaching excellence, and it was suggested that there should be some cooperation or connection of this award to ALIAS. Meeting adjourned 7:55 am.
2017 ISA Convention Call for Papers—ALIAS
Mary Jane Parmentier, Arizona State University
ALIAS Program Chair, 2017

It is time to get a submission ready for the 2017 ISA Annual Convention in Baltimore, February 18-21, 2017! As with previous years, ALIAS encourages proposals for panels, papers, or roundtables that demonstrate innovative pedagogy, assessment and active learning in the field of international studies. If your proposal applies to other ISA section goals as well, we encourage you to list ALIAS as a first or second choice for proposals in the effort to increase section co-sponsorship and the sharing of knowledge. The section encourages all members of ISA to improve our pedagogy by sharing, evaluating, challenging, and assessing our techniques used in training the theorists and practitioners of the future. The 2017 Convention theme is “Understanding Change in World Politics.” The call for proposals is available at http://www.isanet.org/Conferences/Baltimore-2017.

The deadline for submission of proposals is June 1, 2016. We look forward to reviewing your proposals and seeing you all in Baltimore! Contact Mary Jane via email at mj.parmentier@asu.edu with any questions.

Call for Innovative Panels at ISA 2017
ISA invites proposals for the Specialty Program category for the 2017 Convention. This category includes innovative panels, career courses, and working groups. According to ISA, an innovative panel enables participants to dialogue, network, and learn in a forum different than that of a traditional panel. An innovative panel may include a debate format, a simulation or other interactive teaching demonstration, or a “town hall” meeting. It could involve short panel presentations and audience discussions about a particularly timely or controversial subject with a moderator to facilitate the dialogue. Other possibilities may involve the use of technologies to broadcast to a greater audience or involve panelists from distant locales in the discussion. The deadlines for these types of proposals vary, from May 15 to June 15, 2016, depending on the category. More information and deadlines can be found at the ISA website http://www.isanet.org/News/ID/5119/ISA-2017-Specialty-Programs.

Call for Roundtable Participants
I am putting together a panel or roundtable on teaching sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals. It would be nice to have this fall under ALIAS, the Environmental Studies Section, and perhaps the conference theme. If you are interested, please send me an abstract (for a panel) or just an email if you would rather do a roundtable. Based on the response I get, I’ll decide which way to go. You can contact me at pam@iisd.org Thanks, Pam Chasek, Manhattan College
**NEW for Baltimore in 2017: Creative Teaching and Course Design Workshop**

ISA is pleased to announce a new professional development opportunity taking place at the annual convention in 2017. This full-day teaching workshop will be held on the Tuesday before the annual conference and is open to all ISA members. Participants will choose one of four topics to attend in the morning, and a second topic out of the four for the afternoon. Topics include: Simulations on Political Violence, Online Curriculum Design and Instruction, Designing Your Own Simulations, and Teaching the World with Authentic Writing Assignments. Sessions will be interactive with hands-on exercises, debriefing and discussion. The workshop format is structured so that participants contribute to the creation of new course materials for use in their own classes. Cost: $25 for graduate students/Post-docs and $50 for faculty (lunch included).

Look for registration information in the Fall after the Baltimore program is released.

**Announcements**

The United States Diplomacy Center is a privately-funded, non-partisan museum and education center dedicated to bringing the story of American diplomacy to life. Located at the Department of State’s historic headquarters, the Harry S Truman Building, the Center will invite visitors to explore the history, practice, and challenges of US diplomacy through interactive exhibits, artifacts, hands-on education programs, diplomatic simulations, and the expertise of foreign affairs specialists.

Dr. Welling Hall (Earlham College) is applying for an ISA Catalytic Workshop Grant under which members of the International Studies Association will collaborate with the U.S. Diplomacy Center to provide invaluable advice to the museum's education team in the design, analysis, and implementation of educational outreach materials, specifically the Diplomatic Simulations Program. If funded, the workshop will take place immediately prior to the ISA conference on February 21, 2017 in Washington, DC at the site of the new museum (scheduled to open in 2018).

Colleagues who may be interested in participating in the workshop are invited to send a statement of interest, qualifications, and c.v. to Dr. Welling Hall at wellingh@earlham.edu no later than June 20, 2016.
Section Information and Officers

The Active Learning in International Affairs Section of the International Studies Association was founded in 1995. ALIAS Section officers for 2016-17 are:

President - Marcelo M. Valença,
    Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, mmv@uerj.br
Vice President/2017 Program Chair – Mary Jane Parmentier,
    Arizona State University, mj.parmentier@asu.edu
Secretary/Newsletter Editor - Carolyn M. Shaw,
    Wichita State University, Carolyn.shaw@wichita.edu
Immediate Past President: Jason Enia,
    Sam Houston State University, jason.enia@shsu.edu

Member-at-large: Pamela Zeiser,
    University of North Florida, pzeiser@unf.edu
Member-at-large: J. Simon Rofe,
    University of London, sr56@soas.ac.uk
Member-at-large: Cristina Inoue,
    University of Brasilia, crisi999@gmail.com
Member-at-large: Douglas Becker,
    University of Southern California, dfbecker@email.usc.edu
Member-at-large: Kimberly Weir,
    Northern Kentucky University, weirk@nku.edu
Member-at-large: Victor Asal,
    SUNY Albany, vasal@albany.edu
Member-at-large: Houman A. Sadri,
    University of Central Florida, houman.sadri@ucf.edu
Member-at-large: Eric K. Leonard,
    Shenandoah University, eleonard@su.edu
Member-at-large: William M. Flanik,
    University of Toronto, bill.flanic@utoronto.ca