



ISA ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

This report was prepared by Giorgio Shani, Asia-Pacific Region President

FULL REPORT

OVERVIEW

The ISA Asia-Pacific region held its largest regional conference yet at City University of Hong Kong (CUHK), **June 25-27 2016**. It attracted a variety of different participants at various stages of their careers from throughout the region and beyond and was a great success. Thanks to all those who participated in it, particularly to our hosts, City University of Hong Kong, and those who volunteered to be Chairs and discussants. Special thanks should go to the Chair of the Department of Asian and International Studies at CUHK, Professor Mark Thompson, and to the local organizing team led by Associate Professor Nick Thomas for their meticulous organization.

REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

A region business meeting was held at the Annual Convention in Atlanta on Wednesday March 16, 12:30-13:30, in Room 210, Hilton Atlanta. The meeting discussed the final preparations for the regional conference, the Professional Development workshop and travel grants for participants from economically poorer parts of the region to go to the regional conference.

CONFERENCE

The ISA Asia-Pacific Region Conference, *The Pacific Century? The Asia-Pacific in an era of Global Transformation*, was held at the City University of Hong Kong, June 25-27 2016. The program chairs were ISA Region President, Professor Giorgio Shani; VicePresident, Professor Lorraine Elliott; and the chair of the local organizing committee, Associate Professor Nick Thomas. A total of 451 participants registered for the conference making it the largest conference in the history of the region. We were honored to have ISA President, Professor TV Paul, deliver the opening keynote presentation on "The Accommodation of Rising Powers in World Politics." Professor Elliott gave the closing keynote address on "Future Directions of IR in the Region" which was followed by a roundtable with Profs. Navnita Chaddha Behera, Chih-yu Shih and Dr. Pichamon Yeophantong. Thanks to Prof. Elliott and all the plenary participants for their thoughtful responses to the conference theme which was outlined in the first plenary session.

A limited number of travel grants were made available for selected participants in less economically developed areas of the region by the Southeast Asia Research Centre (SEARC) at City University of Hong Kong and by the Asia-Pacific Region. A reception was held on Sunday June 26 sponsored by the region and University of Nottingham, Ningbo, China.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

The conference was preceded on June 24 2016 by a Professional Development workshop for Early Career Researchers organized by Professor Elliott. It was attended by representatives from university and commercial academic presses and was supported by a grant from the ISA Professional Development Committee. The Australian National University covered the cost of the lunch for the participants. Special thanks to Professor Elliott's initiative for her initiative.

E-NEWSLETTER

It is anticipated that the next edition of the ISA Asia-Pacific Region newsletter will be circulated to ISA Asia-Pacific members by e-mail in February 2017 before the ISA Annual Convention in Baltimore. A Call for Items for inclusion will go out in the new year.

MEMBERSHIP

As of December 1 2016, the Asia-Pacific Region had 607 members, an increase of 70 members from last year. However, it is anticipated that the regional membership will increase significantly if the Region's charter is amended to include South Asia since there was a strong South Asian presence at the regional conference.

BUDGET

The balance of the Asia-Pacific Region almost doubled to \$19,430. 40 (from \$10,075 last year). Although there was a significant expenditure for the annual conference, this was offset by registration and membership fees. Special thanks to our treasures, Dr Al Cook, for his work in keeping expenses down.

As the region continues to both expand and diversify our membership base, we look forward to holding many more regional conferences in different parts of the region.

Best wishes for the festive season and look forward to seeing you in Baltimore.