

ISA- Asia Pacific Region Annual Report 2014

Giorgio Shani, International Christian University (Japan)

Overview

2014 was a year of transition for the Asia-Pacific Region with the election of a new executive committee in time for the 2014 Annual Convention in Toronto and negotiations proceeding over a regional conference provisionally scheduled for 2016. The new executive committee wishes to thank the outgoing committee, and particularly President Tim Dunne (University of Queensland, Australia), for their service to the region and continued support and advice.

Regional Section Meeting

A section meeting was held at the Annual Convention in Toronto on March 27, 2014 and was chaired by outgoing President Professor Tim Dunne. The following members were present: Professor Lorraine Elliot, Dr. Giorgio Shani, Dr Ding Ding Chen, Professor Jacqui True, Professor Yoichiro Sato, Professor Kosuke Shimizu, Dr Laura Shepherd, Dr Steven Rothman, Dr Joel Campbell, Dr. Marcin Grabowski.

Committee election:

The new executive team elected by members of the region was presented at the regional section meeting. The committee comprises of:

President:

Dr. Giorgio Shani (International Christian University, Japan)

Vice Presidents:

Prof. Lorraine Elliott (Australian National University)

Dr. Dingding Chen (University of Macau)

Treasurer:

Dr. Alistair Cook (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore)

In addition, the following were elected as Members at Large at the meeting:

Dr. Laura Shepherd (University of New South Wales, Australia)

Professor Kosuke Shimizu (Ryukoku, Japan)

Dr. Joel Campbell (Troy University, Japan)

Conference

Negotiations on a possible venue for a regional conference in 2016 to be provisionally held in Hong Kong are in an advanced stage and we hope to confirm early next year. A proposed conference theme and draft call for papers will be discussed at the annual business meeting at the ISA.

The section is also exploring the possibility of holding a professional development workshop for Early Career Researchers either as part of our regional conference or the ISA Annual Convention in 2016.

Future Developments

The Asia-Pacific Region plans to start an electronic newsletter and will solicit a call for items for inclusion in the newsletter soon. It is anticipated that the newsletter will be circulated before the ISA Annual Convention in February.

The new executive is particularly interested in strengthening networks between scholars in the region by providing support for intra-regional workshops on common themes. However, our priority remains the proposed regional conference to be provisionally held in Hong Kong in 2016.

Membership

As of November 2014, the Asia-Pacific Region had 537 members, an increase of 95 members from 2013.

Budget

The balance of the Asia-Pacific Region going forward into 2015 stands at over \$8,000. There was no major spending against the regional sectional budget in 2014. It is anticipated that there will be a significant outlay in 2016 when the region plans to host its second regional conference.