

ISA Canada President's Report 2012/13

Overview

The state of our section is strong: we have a firm and stable membership, 384 members based exclusively on mailing address; we have a guaranteed panel at ISA and a very respectable showing at our regional conference, held in conjunction with CPSA with whom we have a good working relationship; we have a slate of nominations that finds a balance of regional, linguistic, and gender diversity in our governance structure; and we have established two mechanisms for recognition: student paper prize and distinguished scholar.

Sommaire

Notre section est en très bon état : nous avons une communauté stable de 384 membres basés exclusivement sur l'adresse postale, un panel garanti à l'ISA et une performance très concrète à notre conférence régionale, organisée conjointement avec l'ACSP avec qui nous avons une bonne relation de travail. Nous avons une liste de candidats qui trouve un équilibre entre la diversité régionale, linguistique et de genre dans notre structure de gouvernance, et nous avons mis en place deux mécanismes de reconnaissance: un prix pour un article étudiant et un prix pour un universitaire distingué.

ISA Annual Convention, San Diego 2012

ISA-Canada held its annual business meeting and Distinguished Scholar reception in San Diego, sponsored by the University of Ottawa and the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI).

Following the unanimous selection of Prof. Claire Turenne Sjolander, University of Ottawa, as the ISA Distinguished Scholar, a panel was held in celebration, chaired by Elizabeth A. Smythe (Concordia University College of Alberta), with Heather A. Smith (Univ. of Northern British Columbia), Marc Doucet (St. Mary's Univ.), David Black (Dalhousie), and Mark Neufeld (Trent).

ISA-Canada had previously been guaranteed two panels at each annual ISA convention, unique amongst regional sections. Faced with some pressure to remove these panels altogether, a quota has been set to one annual panel, thanks to the advocacy of Marc Doucet. Since the distinguished scholar is biennial, there is a natural choice for a panel that celebrates the ISA-Canada Distinguished Scholar every second year. We encourage that Distinguished Scholar to identify emerging scholars for the ISA-Canada panel on alternate years following their election: this has the effect of both promoting new voices in our section and also provide vital networking and publication opportunities for those scholars.

2013: ISA Panel on New Scholars

Based on the selection of the 2012 ISA Distinguish Scholar, Claire Turenne Sjolander, a roundtable explores a menu of new methods advocated by emerging scholars. In addition to being intellectually driven by feminist and post-positivist engagements in affective, materialist, and

ethnographic research, this also presents an excellent opportunity to showcase new talent in the ISA Canada community. This panel will include Claire Turenne Sjolander as discussant, Jean-Christophe Boucher (Dalhousie), Nisha Shah (Univ. of Ottawa), Heather Johnson (Queen's University Belfast), Nicole Wegner (McMaster) and Seantel Anais, (UVic).

ISA Canada Student Paper Prize

Following our successful experiment and collaboration with the Canadian Journal of Foreign Policy, the ISA-Canada student prize was awarded to Theodore McLaughlin (McGill), "Desertion and Collective Action in Civil Wars". The committee also identified Matthew Mitchell (Queen's) and Nathan Andrews (Alberta) as honorable mentions.

ISA- Canada would also like to express its appreciation to David Black (chair) (Dalhousie University); David Grondin (University of Ottawa); and Claire Cutler (University of Victoria) for agreeing to sit as jury members for the student paper prize again this year.

ISA Regional Conference

As a section, ISA-Canada is obliged to run a regional conference. Because of the geographic scale of the Canadian section, we hold our annual meeting in collaboration with the Canadian Political Science Association annual convention, co-sponsoring the IR sections. Thanks to an explicit MOU negotiated with the CPSA last year, relations between the two organizations are excellent, and we hope to continue this very fruitful collaboration, even as CPSA rejoins the Congress of Social Sciences and Humanities after its referendum.

After a consultation process and referendum, the CPSA has decided to regularly rejoin the Congress of Social Sciences and Humanities (the Learned's). This has been a topic of debate at ISA-Canada, and indeed the topic of a special committee. While there are advantages to holding our ISA-Canada regional meeting coincident with CPSA – more efficient use of time and funding, greater potential for interdisciplinary and inter-field debates – there are costs, notably the cost of registration at the Congress itself. At the moment, it is my judgment there is insufficient will or resources to launch a ISA-Canada conference independent of the CPSA, and so whatever our feelings about Congress, it would require a significant increase

Univ. of Alberta, 2012

We appreciate sincerely the work of Greg Anderson (Alberta) and Brian Bow (Dalhousie) to generate and curate a very successful section with 24 panels, including a workshop "Building without Architecture: Understanding the New North America/ Batir sans architecture: comprendre la nouvelle Amerique du nord". The ISA-Canada reception and business meeting was sponsored by Canadian Foreign Policy Journal.

University of Victoria, 2013

Under the leadership of Scott Watson (UVic) and Benjamin Muller (King's University College), we forsee 25 panels and a workshop on International Relations and Indigenous Politics. We would like to thank them for their efforts.

Due to changing policy by ISA for the sponsorship of professional development workshops at regional conferences, our funding strategy changed this year. To meet the explicit requirements set out by ISA-HQ, our professional development workshop is explicitly oriented towards new and early career scholars, focusing on the questions of strategic career planning and writing led by Francoise Moreau-Johnson from the University of Ottawa's Centre for Academic Leadership. Professional development funds from the ISA need to directly contribute to those skills, and we thought that bringing in expertise was the best way forward.

Brock University, 2014

We would also like to announce that with the same spirit of collegial consensus that CPSA and ISA-Canada have nominated Hevina Dashwood (Brock) and Colleen Bell (Trent).

Financial Position

Account Balance: ISA-Canada's current balance (as of 1 February 2013) is \$10,533.28.

Revenue Sources:

The annual ISA-C regional membership dues (range \$1500-\$2000 per year), as we receive \$5 for every ISA member with a Canadian address. These dues arrive month by month, and are deposited in the ISA-C account under the auspices of ISA. We also receive a portion of ISA conference registration fees.

Sponsorship arrangements for ISA and ISA-Canada Regional conferences; amounts vary from conference to conference. For example, in October 2012, we received \$500 from Routledge / Taylor & Francis for the 2013 conference.

Expenses:

- PCMA Insurance (\$375.00), which all ISA regions must pay on an annual basis.
- 2012 Student paper prize (\$300)
- ISA-C Constitution and other translation fees (\$800)
- Receptions held at ISA and ISA-Canada Regional conferences (e.g., San Diego 2012 cost \$3799.71).
- Upcoming expenses in 2013:
 - Receptions to be held at ISA and ISA-Canada Regional conferences (San Francisco and Victoria)
 - 2013 Student paper prize (\$300)

Respectfully submitted,
Mark B. Salter
ISA Canada President