

ISA Canada President's Report 2012/13

Overview

ISA Canada has had a successful year. Our membership has increased from 384 members in 2013 to 560 members at the time of this report. We have two guaranteed panels at the ISA Convention in 2014 and continue to have strong attendance by our members at the Annual Convention. Our regional conference held in conjunction with CPSA was a success. We maintain a good working relationship with the CPSA and look forward to another promising regional conference in the spring of 2014. Both the student paper prize and distinguished scholar award and related panel continue to be prominent mechanisms for recognition within the Canadian academic community.

Sommaire

ISA Canada a eu une année couronnée de succès. Nos inscriptions ont augmenté considérablement, passant de 384 à 560 en 2013 (au moment d'écrire ce rapport). Nous avons deux panels garantis à la Convention de l'ISA en 2014 et nous continuons à avoir une grande participation de nos membres à la Convention annuelle. Notre conférence régionale tenue conjointement avec l'ACSP a été un succès. Nous maintenons une bonne relation de travail avec l'ACSP et nous nous attendons à avoir une autre conférence régionale prometteuse au printemps 2014. Autant le prix pour le meilleur texte étudiant que le prix pour le chercheur distingué ainsi que le panel qui lui est associé continuent d'être des mécanismes importants de reconnaissance au sein de la communauté universitaire canadienne.

ISA Annual Convention, San Francisco 2013

ISA-Canada held its annual business meeting and reception in San Francisco during the ISA's annual convention. The reception was sponsored by Canadian Foreign Policy Journal (CFPJ) and Routledge.

ISA-Canada held its first emerging scholar panel in San Francisco. The emerging scholars were chosen by the 2012/2013 Distinguished Scholar, Professor Claire Turenne Sjolander (University of Ottawa). This panel was chaired by Mark Salter (University of Ottawa) and Claire Turenne Sjolander was the discussant. The emerging scholars chosen for the panel were Jean-Christophe Boucher (Dalhousie), Nisha Shah (Univ. of Ottawa), Heather Johnson (Queen's University Belfast), Nicole Wegner (McMaster) and Seantel Anais (UVic). This roundtable explored a variety of new methods employed by these scholars. In addition to being intellectually driven by feminist and post-positivist engagements in affective, materialist, and ethnographic research, this panel showcased some of the excellent emerging scholars in the ISA Canada community.

ISA Annual Convention, Toronto 2014

Until a few years ago, ISA Canada was given a quota of two guaranteed panels for the annual conventions. This was a unique situation amongst regional sections. However, the section faced pressure to remove the panels. Under an agreement Marc Doucet reached with ISA HQ, ISA Canada retains one panel per year: either a distinguished scholar or an emerging scholars panel. However, since the ISA convention was to be held in Canada in 2014, Mark Salter made the case for our

section to be allotted an extra panel. This panel, titled “Canada’s International Borders” will be on the program for the ISA Convention in 2014.

ISA Regional Conference

All ISA sections are obliged to run a regional conference. ISA Canada holds our annual meeting in collaboration with the Canadian Political Science Association annual convention, co-sponsoring the IR sections. This has been a fruitful collaboration and we hope to continue it in the future.

University of Victoria, 2013

We appreciate sincerely the work of Scott Watson (UVic) and Benjamin Muller (King’s University College) to generate and curate a very successful section with 22 panels, including a professional development workshop. To meet the explicit requirements set out by ISA-HQ, our professional development workshop was 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

ISA Canada would like to express its appreciation to Hevina Dashwood (Brock) and Colleen Bell (Saskatchewan) for their efforts in pulling together what looks like an excellent regional conference. We foresee 26 panels, one roundtable (on Fieldwork and converging practices of security and development) and a workshop headed up by Hevina Dashwood titled: “Varieties of Global Governance Arrangements and their Impact on Resource-Rich Developing Countries” that will consist of two (additional) panels and a keynote by Timothy Shaw.

ISA Canada will also offer a series of three professional development workshops at the regional conference in 2014. The response to the professional development workshop in Victoria was extremely positive so the professional development committee, chaired by Heather Smith (UNBC), proposed the following for Brock¹:

The first workshop will be: “How to write a lot”. This workshop is based on Paul Silvia’s book of the same title. This workshop will present strategies to overcome the barriers to writing and will discuss tactics to improve your writing productivity. This workshop will be facilitated by Françoise Moreau-Johnson.

The second workshop will be “Teaching my first class”. This interactive workshop is designed to ease anxiety related to teaching a first class. This workshop will be co-facilitated by Dr. Marshall Beier (McMaster University) and Dr. Heather Smith (University of Northern B.C). Drs Beier and Smith are both winners of the 3M National Teaching Fellowship, and winners of the Canadian Political Science Association Excellence in Teaching Award.

¹ The following description is borrowed from the Professional Development funding application.

The third workshop will be a session called: "Questions around the watercooler". Watercooler sessions are designed to be fast paced rotating interactive sessions. This workshop will be facilitated by Ms. Moreau-Johnson. Topics for the 'watercoolers' will include: balancing life and work, balancing teaching and research, how and when to say no, how to write a cover letter, tips for interviews, how to talk to publishers about book proposals, writing a teaching dossier, thinking strategically about tenure and promotion, 'I'm an Associate Professor...now what?' and mentoring.

ISA Canada greatly appreciates the work of the professional development committee in organizing and securing the funding for these workshops.

Other Developments

ISA Canada Student Prize

The 2013 ISA-Canada student prize was awarded to Cameron Harrington (Western) for his paper entitled "Toward a Critical Water Security: Hydrosolidarity and Emancipation".

The committee reported: "the paper to be exceptionally well written and interesting theoretically, while relating its theoretical argument to some important trends and possibilities in global water politics. We also would like it noted that the 'field' this year was highly diverse, epistemologically, theoretically, and substantively. This made adjudicating between papers very challenging, but also reflects well on the strength and future of the international studies community in Canada."

The retiring Student Paper Prize Jury was David Black (chair) (Dal), David Grondin (UofO), and Claire Cutler (UVic). ISA- Canada would like to express its appreciation for their work on the jury.

The jury for the 2013/2014 paper prize is Marc Doucet, chair (Saint Mary's), Heather Johnson (Queen's Belfast), Jean- Philippe Therien (Montreal) and Luke Ashworth (Memorial).

ISA Canada Distinguished Scholar Committee:

2014 coincides with the biennial ISA-Canada Distinguished Scholar award. The award honours exceptional scholarship accomplishments and contributions to the development of the study of International Relations in Canada. The nomination process for this award is placed under the responsibility of the Distinguished Scholar Award Committee. The Chair and three members of this committee were elected at the annual business meeting. The committee members were Heather Smith (chair) (UNBC), Stéphane Roussel (ENAP), Rebecca Tiessen (RMC), and Benjamin Muller (King's).

The committee unanimously voted to nominate Dr. Kim Richard Nossal from Queen's University. As the committee noted in their recommendation to the executive council, "Dr. Nossal is a prolific scholar, having produced numerous books and articles on diverse topics in the fields of Canadian foreign policy and Australian foreign policy. To the Canadian community he is probably most well known for his text *The Politics of Canadian Foreign Policy*. This text has been read by generations of students in undergraduate Canadian foreign policy classes and is on the shelves of all Canadian foreign policy scholars. Not only has Dr. Nossal's scholarly work shaped the discussion of the field, his service to the community and his mentoring has had a profound impact on the Canadian foreign policy community."

A Distinguished Scholar panel and reception will be held in honour of Dr. Kim Richard Nossal in Toronto.

Financial Position (January 2013 to September 2013)

Opening Account Balance (January 2013): \$10,738.28

Revenue Sources:

The annual ISA-C regional membership dues.

A portion of ISA conference registration fees.

Sponsorship arrangements for ISA and ISA-Canada Regional conferences. The amounts vary from conference to conference. For example, in autumn of 2013 ISA Canada raised a total of \$4000 from the following sponsors: Faculty of Social Sciences at McMaster, Political Science department at McMaster, York Centre for International and Security Studies, The Canadian International Council, Canadian Foreign Policy Journal, Department of Political Studies at Queen's University, Faculté de science politique et de droit (Université du Québec à Montréal), and the Balsillie School of International Affairs.

Expenses:

- 2012 Student paper prize (\$300)

-Receptions held at ISA and ISA-Canada Regional conferences (San Francisco 2013 cost \$958.64)

-Translation services (\$800)

Upcoming expenses in 2014:

- Receptions to be held at ISA and ISA-Canada Regional conferences (Toronto and Brock)

- 2014 Student paper prize (\$500)

ISA-Canada's current balance (as of September 30, 2013): \$9,909.94.

Respectfully submitted,
Lana L. Wylie
ISA Canada President