CISS/ISA continues to serve the needs of the international studies community by providing a forum within the International Studies Association for a cross-disciplinary dialogue on critical world order issues amongst scholars, policymakers and representatives of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

CONFERENCES AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

ISA Annual Convention, Atlanta, March 16-19, 2016
Exploring Peace
For the 57th annual convention in Atlanta, our section was originally allocated 22 panels. As a result of co-sponsorship arrangements with other sections, CISS sponsored/co-sponsored a total of 43 panels in Atlanta. In addition, CISS co-sponsored a reception with DPLST, ES and HIST sections.

ISA Annual Convention, Baltimore, February 22-25, 2017
Understanding Change in World Politics
For the 58th annual convention in Baltimore, our section was originally allocated 20 panels. As a result of co-sponsorship arrangements with other sections, CISS is sponsoring/cosponsoring a total of 42 panels. In addition, CISS is once again co-sponsoring a reception with DPLST and ES sections.

Building on our tradition of organizing annual conferences on cutting-edge issues, CISS, in collaboration with the American College in Thessaloniki, organized a conference on *Boundaries and Borders in an Evolving World Order: Challenges and Prospects*. The Organizing Committee consisted of: Stephen Rosow (SUNY-Oswego), Tina Mavrikos-Adamou (Hofstra) and George Andreopoulos (CUNY-chair). Dan Golebiewski (CUNY) served as the Organizing Committee’s Administrative Assistant. The venue was the American College of Thessaloniki (ACT) which co-sponsored the conference. Papers covered such diverse issues as national and social boundaries, migration, securitization of the refugee discourse, identity formation, religion, human security, domestic and international accountability mechanisms, and the role of the media and of civil society organizations.

The conference program covered two and a half days. The conference began on Monday, June 13, with
an opening reception at the Municipality of Thessaloniki hosted by the Mayor’s Office. The sessions were held on Tuesday, June 14 and Wednesday, June 15. Each day was composed of four sessions with 3-4 concurrent panels per session. On the evening of June 14, a private tour of the Museum of Byzantine Culture was conducted for conference participants. ACT provided all the meeting rooms, audiovisual equipment and wireless internet for conference participants. An “information help and check-in desk” was set up to inform and assist participants with any kind of inquiry that might arise during their stay; it was the place where participants signed-in, picked up their badges, and obtained a copy of the conference program.

The conference committee plans to produce a book and/or a special issue of a journal with selected papers from the conference.

**CISS/ISA Conference in Bologna, Italy, June 28-30, 2017**

The Comparative and Interdisciplinary Studies Section (CISS), in collaboration with the School of Political Science at the University of Bologna and its Department of Political and Social Sciences, is organizing a conference on *Cooperation and Contestation in World Politics*. The Organizing Committee consists of: Stephen Rosow (SUNY-Oswego), Tina Mavrikos-Adamou (Hofstra) and George Andreopoulos (CUNY-chair). Dan Golebiewski (CUNY) will serve again as the Organizing Committee’s Administrative Assistant.

The conference will critically examine the interplay between conflict and cooperation in key issue areas of world affairs. More specifically, it will analyze and assess the factors that are relevant to our understanding of how state and non-state entities cooperate and compete in their efforts to address challenges and advance or undermine resolutions to problems of common concern. The organizers welcome the exploration of these issues from a variety of perspectives (security studies, international law, philosophy, economics, organization theory, human rights, critical theory, and religious studies) and invite interdisciplinary proposals employing various conceptual and methodological approaches. All types of submissions (individual papers, panel proposals, and roundtables) are welcome. Panel and roundtable proposals must include at least three papers, a chair and a discussant (the chair may also serve either as a paper presenter or as a discussant). Proposals may address a broad range of issues including, but not limited, to:

- Contending approaches to understandings of cooperation and conflict;
- Role of state and non-state actors;
- The manifestations and effects of legalization;
- The legacy of colonialism and the post-colonial experience;
- The strengths and limitations of democratic peace theory;
- Challenges in addressing traditional and non-traditional threats;
- Secular v. religious approaches to conflict resolution;
- Development assistance and its limitations;
- Rethinking cooperation and conflict in the world of ICTs;
- Pluralism and Monism in World Politics;
- The continuing relevance of Diplomacy;
- The Art(s) of Negotiation and Conflict Resolution;
- Affect and Global Conflict;
- Justice v. Order in the world community.

**Membership:**
The section’s membership is representative of a broad range of countries, institutions, and professional levels. Diversity has also been achieved in that members represent senior scholars, as well as junior scholars, active professionals, and retired scholars. The section membership was reported to be 234. Countries represented include: Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom, USA, Russia, South Korea, Colombia, Philippines, Singapore, India, and Qatar.

**Financial Base:**
The section’s finances are sound and judicious disbursement has enabled the Section to continue hosting its various conferences and outreach activities. As of the most recent financial statement (October, 2016) from ISA Headquarters, the section had a balance of $1,743.85.