Memo to Recharter a Section

TO:     International Studies Association
        Governing Council

FROM:   Sai Felicia Krishna-Hensel

DATE:   December 15, 2010

RE:     Re-chartering the Comparative Interdisciplinary Studies Section

In compliance with Article IV, Section 1(b) of the International Studies Association Constitution regarding the rechartering of ISA Sections, I herein request that the Comparative Interdisciplinary Studies Section be re-chartered by the ISA Governing Council for the period (2010-2015).

In support of this request, attached are:

1) Annual report of Section activities
2) Analysis of Section membership
3) Analysis of the financial base of the Section
4) Copy of Section’s charter
5) List of Section leadership with terms of office.
COMPARATIVE INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES SECTION
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION
Annual Report 2010
CISS continues to serve the needs of the international studies community by providing a forum, within the International Studies Association, for the exchange of interdisciplinary perspectives and comparative studies. The section’s emphasis in recent years has increasingly centered on encouraging a cross professional and cross-disciplinary dialogue amongst scholars, policy makers, military and business professionals, and non-governmental actors and organizations. The Millennium Series of international conferences were started in 1999 to draw together a small group of participants in a retreat like setting to engage in an intensive exchange of ideas and scholarship. This has led to increased participation by scholars and other interested individuals from a wide range of international institutions located across the globe. In addition, student participation has noticeably increased leading to the institution of a graduate student paper award, the Millennium Award, for interdisciplinary scholarship presented at the CISS Millennium Series conference.
Thus far, ten conferences have been successfully organized. The international millennium series conferences have been highly successful in achieving the goal of bringing together a diverse cross section of professionals from different disciplines.
MILLENIUM CONFERENCES Venice, Italy 2010 Potsdam, Germany 2009 Paris 2008
OUTREACH CONFERENCES
Global Cooperation Initiative
New Delhi, India 2007, 2008, 2010
Membership
The section’s membership has reflected a marked increase in recent years and the membership continues to be reflective 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, men and women, active professionals, and retired scholars.: As of February 2010, the section membership was reported to be 224.
Countries represented and number of members from each country:
Australia (4)
Brazil (3)
Canada (10)
Chile (1)
China (2)
Denmark (1)
England (1)
Finland (2)
France (2)
Germany (7)
Greece (1)
Hungary (3)
Financial Base
The section’s finances are sound and judicious disbursement has led to the largest treasury in the history of CISS. Substantial financial support for the Millennium Series conferences and other section activities has been forthcoming from several sources including, research centers, and university outreach offices. As of the most recent statement (October 28, 2010) from ISA Headquarters, the section had a balance of $11,311.42
CISS SECTION LEADERSHIP (2010-2012)

PRESIDENT
Sai Felicia Krishna-Hensel

VICE-PRESIDENT
(Planning)
George Andreopoulos

VICE-PRESIDENT
(Programs)
Howard Hensel

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Pawel Frankowski
Constantinos Koliopoulos
Raymond Miller
Rui Novais
Dan Papp
Mihaly Simai
Ioannis Stivachtis
COMPARATIVE INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES SECTION

BY-LAWS

Article I  Name

The organization shall be known as the “Comparative Interdisciplinary Studies Section.” (CISS).

Article II  Purpose

This section is dedicated to the application of an interdisciplinary perspective to the study of international, transnational, and regional issues, with special emphasis on sources of conflict, patterns of change and continuity, and the development of societies and institutions within the international system. The section encourages innovative research and exploration of paradigms and methodologies in analyzing these complex phenomena. CISS actively seeks to bring scholars, policy makers, and practitioners together in a cooperative effort to achieve a synergism between divergent disciplines and perspectives.

Article III  Membership

1. Full membership shall be accorded an ISA member who pays CISS dues.
2. CISS members have the right to elect the chairperson (or President), to participate in CISS activities, and to receive all CISS sponsored publications.

Article IV  Affiliation

1. CISS is a section of the International Studies Association and will meet annually with that organization.
2. CISS maintains a strong interest in establishing ties with other comparative organizations with similar purposes.

Article V  Organization

1. Decision-making authority on CISS programs and policies will be vested in all members attending the annual section business meeting.
2. The members present shall elect a chairperson (or President) for CISS every two years.
3. The members present will set dues, and will adopt and revise, as needed, the by-laws of the section.

Article VI  Officers

1. Ten officers who make up the Executive Council shall serve the section. The officers will be chairperson (or President), and nine Executive Council members. The members of
the Executive Council will consult with and advise the chairperson (or President) on all matters concerning the section.

2. Chairperson (or President)
   (a.) The chairperson (or President) shall be responsible for initiating CISS programs in consultation with other members of the Executive Council. The chair (or President) will also be responsible for fundraising activities. The chairperson (or President) will preside over meetings of the Executive Council and the annual business meeting, prepare an annual report, appoint the members of the Executive Council, and will serve as Program Chair for the Section.
   (b.) The outgoing chairperson (or President) shall be responsible for nominating the next chair.

3. Executive Council
   (a.) Members of the Executive Council shall serve in their designated position for a term of two years. One position on the Executive Council shall be filled by the past chairperson (or President) for the two years following his/her departure from office. Two positions on the Executive Council shall be reserved for CISS younger scholars and shall be filled on a two-year rotating (non-renewable) basis.
   (b.) Senior members of the executive council may be appointed as Vice-Presidents for Planning, CISS Programs, ISA Programs, Sections Relations, Members Relations, and to serve the section in any other capacity that may be determined.
   (c.) The members of the Executive Council shall be responsible for liaison and facilitating communication for the section. Their duties include the following:
      (1) Liaison and communication with:
          i. The International Studies Association;
          ii. Other comparative organizations across disciplines
          iii. Individuals engaged in comparative research across disciplines
      (2) Coordination of social activities and publicity at the annual business meeting.

Article VII Amendments

Amendments to this charter may be made by a majority of the CISS members present at the annual meeting, after endorsement by a two-thirds majority vote of members who respond within four weeks to notification of changes.