Introduction

The aim of ESS/ISA is to seek a better understanding of the reciprocal influence of natural and human systems within global, regional, and national contexts, and to promote scholarly interactions among social and natural scientists and policy-makers interested in these issues. Following the prominence of global, regional and national environmental issues and the active scholarly interest they have raised, the section has experienced steady growth since 1983, both in the number of members and in the number and variety of panels offered at annual meetings. The section has highly dynamic and enthusiastic members.

1. Section Membership

Section Membership of the ESS has been steadily increasing, tripling since 2005. The section has worked to expand its membership, working to recruit not only established, but also junior and international scholars. Here are the membership figures for the past 9 years:

2005 = 139  
2006 = 176  
2007 = 188  
2008 = 221  
2009 = 304  
2010 = 314  
2011 = 349  
2012 = 394  
2013 = 412

2. Finances

As of January 31, 2013, the ESS had a positive balance of $7,625.02. This figure includes the $3,500 in sponsorship that is being provided by Ashgate Publishing, MIT Press, the Earth System Governance Project and Routledge for the 2013 ESS reception in San Francisco.

In 2012 the ESS expenses included awards ($100), printing expenses ($35) and the 2012 ESS reception ($2946.43).
3. Awards

The section administers the ISA annual Harold and Margaret Sprout Award given for the best book or article published in the field of international environmental politics – one that makes a contribution to theory and interdisciplinarity, shows rigor and coherence in research and writing, and offers accessibility and practical relevance. Nominated works must be published during the two years prior to the year they are nominated. The winner for 2012 was Rob Nixon, Department of English, University of Wisconsin-Madison, *Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor* (Harvard University Press)

The runner-up was Matthew J. Hoffmann, Department of Political Science, University of Toronto, *Climate Governance at the Crossroads: Experimenting with a Global Response after Kyoto* (Oxford University Press)

The section also presents a Graduate Student Paper Award for the best paper by a student at the annual ISA Convention. In 2012 the award was given to Teresa Kramarz, University of Toronto, for her paper “World Bank Alliances: Evaluating the Partnership Promise,” which was presented at the 2011 ISA Convention in Montreal.

4. Activities

The annual ISA Convention is the major event of the year for the ESS. For the 2012 Convention in San Diego, 28 panels, 9 roundtables and 222 papers were submitted to ESS as a first or second choice. We sponsored or co-sponsored 51 panels and roundtables at the Convention.

For the upcoming 2013 conference in San Francisco, 28 panels and roundtables and 182 papers were submitted to ESS as a first or second choice. These numbers are slightly lower than 2012 but still healthy. We are sponsoring or co-sponsoring 54 panels and roundtables in 2013.

The ESS Newsletter is currently edited by Richard Matthew and Beth Carlin, University of California, Irvine. The ESS Newsletter includes sections on: ESS Section News, New Publications (Books, Articles and Chapters), Dissertation Abstracts, on the Web, Announcements, Career Resources, Student Resources. In 2012 there were two issues: Winter (February 2012) and Fall (October 2012).

The ESS continues to maintain a web site (developed by Ron Mitchell and currently administered by Rachel Tiller). The website provides information about the ESS, the ESS charter, ESS Officers, Sprout Award Winners, the ESS Newsletter, Journals of interest to the section, and environmental studies graduate programs.

ESS also maintains an active discussion list (open to all) on teaching global environmental politics. The list was created by ESS member Michael Maniates. This list provides a forum for discussing substantive and pedagogical issues related to the teaching of global environmental politics (GEP) at the undergraduate and graduate level. The list was initially organized to provide a place for college and university teachers of GEP to compare notes and explore alternative curricular and pedagogical approaches. The list, gep-ed@googlegroups.com, is certainly one of
the largest list serves of its kind with several hundred professors, graduate students, and experts participating.

5. Officers 2012-2013 (year term expires in parentheses)

Chair: Pamela Chasek (2013)
International Studies, Manhattan College
pamela.chasek@manhattan.edu

Vice Chair: DG Webster (2013)
Environmental Studies Program, Dartmouth College
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Executive Committee (6 member, rolling 2-year terms):

David Downie (2013)
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Nomination Committee (4 members, rolling 2-year terms):

Mark Axelrod (2013)
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Nikki Detraz (2014)
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Sikina Jinnah (2014)
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Sprout Award Committee (5 members, rolling 2-year terms):

Peter Newell (2013)
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Representative to the Global Environmental Politics Editorial Board (3-year term):

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