Introduction
Founded in 1983, the Environmental Studies Section seeks a better understanding of feedbacks between human and natural systems within global, regional, and national contexts. We promote interactions within the scholarly community and engagement with practitioners and policy makers when appropriate. ESS encourages innovative research, theoretical diversity, interdisciplinary perspectives, and the application of a wide array of methodologies for analyzing international environmental issues and global environmental governance. 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. We have a highly dedicated and enthusiastic membership and encourage participation by junior scholars.

Section Membership
ESS membership has been increasing on average in recent decades. As shown below, current membership is about three times greater than membership in 2005. The section has worked to expand its membership, striving to recruit not only established, but also junior and international scholars. The slight decline in membership for 2014 may reflect the fact that the deadline for annual reports was moved back by 2 months, so numbers are not entirely comparable.
**Finances**

As of September 1, 2013, ESS had a positive balance of $5,231.07. This figure does not include the $3,000 in sponsorship that is being provided by Ashgate Publishing, MIT Press, and the Earth System Governance Project for the 2014 ESS reception in Toronto.

In 2013 ESS expenses included awards ($200), mailing expenses for plaques ($59.95), printing expenses ($135) and the 2013 ESS reception ($4,462.53).

**Awards**

The section administers several awards. 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 2013 was Andrew S. Mathews, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz, for his book, *Instituting Nature: Authority, Expertise, and Power in Mexican Forests* (MIT Press)

The runners-up were Eve Annecke (Schumacher College) and Mark Swilling (The Sustainability Institute), for their book, *Just Transitions: Explorations of Sustainability in an Unfair World* (UCT Press).

The section also presents a Graduate Student Paper Award for the best paper by a student at the annual ISA Convention. In 2013 the award was given to Kate Neville (University of British Columbia) “The Political Economy of Biofuels” and to Josh Gellers (University of California, Irvine) “Constitutional Environmental Rights: A Quantitative Analysis of Intra-Regional Influences”, both of which were presented at the ISA 2012 meeting in San Diego.

In 2013, the section also presented its first annual Distinguished Scholar Award to Oran R. Young, Professor Emeritus in Institutional and International Governance, Environmental Institutions at the Bren School of Environmental Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. A round table was held in honor of Prof. Young and he was given the award during the ESS reception.

The Distinguished Scholar Award of the Environmental Studies Section of the International Studies Association recognizes outstanding scholars whose long history of excellent research and teaching has had substantial impact on fields associated with international relations and environmental issues.
Activities
The annual ISA Convention is the major event of the year for ESS. For the 2013 Convention in San Diego, 28 panels and roundtables and 182 papers were submitted to ESS as a first or second choice. We sponsored or co-sponsored 54 panels and roundtables at the Convention.

For the upcoming 2014 conference in San Francisco, 42 panels, 7 roundtables, and 208 papers were submitted to ESS as a first or second choice. These numbers are slightly higher than 2013 and reflect section growth. We are sponsoring or co-sponsoring 53 panels and roundtables in 2014.

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 2013 there was one issue: Winter (February 2013).

ESS continues to maintain a web site (developed by Ron Mitchell and currently administered by Rachel Tiller). The website provides information about ESS, the ESS charter, ESS Officers, Sprout Award Winners, the ESS Newsletter, Journals of interest to the section, and environmental studies graduate programs. We are also working with ISA to set up the ESS page on the new ISA website.

ESS 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.

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