FULL REPORT

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 encourage member engagement with practitioners and policy makers when appropriate. ESS supports innovative research, theoretical diversity, interdisciplinary perspectives, and the application of a wide array of methodologies for analyzing international environmental issues and global environmental governance.

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 a wide array of academics in the field, with particular focus on 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. This assumption is verified by the renewed increase from the new baseline in 2015. However we did lose members from this high in 2016 (from 439 members in February 2015 to 422 members in October 2016).

FINANCES

As of 30 September, 2016, ESS had a positive balance of $15,640.97. This figure includes the $3,500 in sponsorship provided by MIT Press, Routledge and Earth Systems Governance for the 2017 ESS reception.
in Baltimore. We still have not replaced the sponsorship we had from Ashgate publishing, who ceased to publish on global environmental governance and therefore sponsor us. Attempts to replace Ashgate to the same amount were unsuccessful but we were very pleased to have an increase of sponsorship from MIT press to $1500 and continued support from Routledge and ESG.

In 2016 ESS expenses included awards ($650), travel bursaries ($500) and the 2015 ESS reception in Atlanta ($4350.24).

**Awards**

The section administers several awards. The ISA annual Harold and Margaret Sprout Award is given for the best book 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.


There was no runner-up.

The section also gives a Graduate Student Paper Award for the best paper presented by a student at the annual ISA Convention. In 2016 the award was given to:

- Scott Hamilton, London School of Economics ‘Our Climate is Nuclear’

The paper was presented at the ISA 2016 meeting in Atlanta.

In 2016, there was no Distinguished Scholar Award.

**Activities**

The annual ISA Convention is the major event of the year for ESS. For the 2017 Convention in Baltimore, 34 panels and roundtables and 85 individual papers were accepted to ESS. We were able to sponsor or co-sponsor 71 panels and roundtables for the 2017 meeting.

- For 1st preference, ESS received: 27 panels, 6 roundtables, 27 papers.
- For 2nd preference, ESS received: 8 panels, 4 roundtables, 15 papers.

For the 2016 conference in Atlanta we had, 29 panels, 9 roundtables, and 172 papers submitted to ESS as a first or second choice. The section sponsored or co-sponsored 66 panels and roundtables in 2016, up by 10 from the previous year.

The ESS Newsletter is currently edited by Richard Matthew and Connor Harron, 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. The next edition is due in Spring 2015.
ESS continues to maintain a website (developed by Ron Mitchell, University of Oregon, and currently administered by Rachel Tiller, Norwegian University of Science and Technology). 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 maintain our ESS page on the ISA website. We will continue to have parallel sites but ensure that there are clear links between the two. Rachel Tiller also maintains our facebook and twitter accounts.

ESS maintains an active discussion list (open to all) on teaching global environmental politics. The list was created by ESS member Michael Maniates, Yale-NUS College, Singapore. 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, gep-ed@googlegroups.com, is certainly one of the largest list serves of its kind with several hundred professors, graduate students, and experts participating.
ESS Officers 2016-2017 (Year term expires in parentheses)

Chair: Susan Park (2017)
International Relations, University of Sydney
susan.park@sydney.edu.au

Vice Chair: Fariborz Zelli (2017)
Department of Political Science, Lund University
fariborz.zelli@svet.lu.se

Executive Committee (6 members, rolling 2-year terms):
Juliann Emmons Allison (2017)
Gender & Sexuality Studies and Public Policy at the University of California, Riverside.
juliann.allison@ucr.edu

Shannon Orr (2017)
Political Science, Bowling Green State University
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Samuel Barkin (2017)
McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, University of Massachusetts, Boston
samuel.barkin@umb.edu

D.G. Webster (2018)
Environmental Studies Program, Dartmouth College

Pia M. Kohler (2018)
Williams College

Wil Burns (2018)
Forum for Climate Engineering Assessment, American University

Nomination Committee (4 members, rolling 2-year terms):
Teresa Kramartz (2017)
Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto
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Tabitha Benney (2017)
Department of Political Science & Center on Global Change & Sustainability, University of Utah
tabitha.benney@poli-sci.utah.edu

Deborah Barros Leal Farias (2018)
University of British Columbia

Kimberly R. Marion Suiseeya (2018)
Purdue University

Sprout Award Committee (5 members, rolling 2-year terms):
Note: one of the Sprout Committee members extended her term to 2018 term, to ensure overlap in the Committee is staggered.
Chair: Raul Pacheco-Vega (2017)
Public Administration Division, Centre for Economic Research and Teaching, CIDE (Centro de Investigacion y Docencia Economicas)
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Josh Gellers (2017)
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Rachel Tiller (2017)
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Fengshi Wu (2018)
Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University
isfswu@ntu.edu.sg

Elizabeth R. DeSombre (2018)
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**Representative to the Global Environmental Politics editorial board (3-year term):**
Mark Axelrod (2018)
James Madison College and the Department of Fisheries & Wildlife, Michigan State University
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