Foreign Policy Analysis Section Annual Report 2011-2012

The FPA section held its annual business meeting at the convention in Montreal on March 18, 2011. Elections at the meeting led to the leadership team for the 2011-2012 cycle of Patrick Haney (President), Cameron Thies (VP and Program Chair for San Diego), Laura Neack (Past President), and Officers at Large Amy Below, Jarrod Hayes, and Trevor Rubenzer. A variety of revisions to the Section Charter were enacted through the voting of the membership leading up to the business meeting that brought the document in line with our recent practice.

The section sponsored or co-sponsored 100 panels and roundtables, and two poster sessions, at the Montreal convention. We recognized Jonathan Renshon as the 2011 winner of the annual Alexander George Graduate Student Paper Competition for his paper, “Dissatisfied States: Status and Aggression in World Politics.” Matthew Moore (“Trading with the Embargoed: State Decisions to Violate Arms Embargoes”) and Jenifer Whitten-Woodring (“Does Promoting Media Freedom Promote Human Security for Women? Rethinking the Assumptions of USAID”) received honorable mention as well. Thanks also go to Stephen Saideman for leading the George process. The section held a special roundtable honoring Professor Stanley Hoffmann as the Section’s annual Distinguished Scholar. Hoffmann was also honored at our annual reception, which was cosponsored with the International Security Studies Section and funded by the sections as well as by the donations of many partner groups and publishers. In addition, Amy Below helped lead the Section’s Innovative Panel, “Meeting of the Minds: Expanding Foreign Policy Analysis Scholarship.”

Looking forward to the San Diego Convention, Cameron Thies has organized 96 panels and roundtables that are sponsored or co-sponsored by the Section, and 2 poster sessions. The Section is also involved with one innovative panel (“Debate: The Role of Constructivism in Foreign Policy Analysis”) and one working group (“New Media and Foreign Policy”). We will honor Professor Yaacov Vertzberger as our Distinguished Scholar with a special roundtable, and also honor him and an Alexander George graduate student paper award winner at a reception that this year we will co-sponsor with the Scientific Study of International Processes Section and the Political Demography Section. We will also hold elections at our annual business meeting, where Cameron Thies will take the helm as Section President through the 2013 convention in San Francisco.

The section proposed an “official” FPA panel for the joint ISA/BISA conference in Scotland in June 2012. Other panels at the conference will also include FPA members.

The FPA Section currently has 828 members (582 standard members and 246 student members) and a treasury of around $10,000, some of which will be spent at the San Diego convention and reception.