The FPA section held its annual business meeting in New Orleans on February 20, 2015. Elections produced a new leadership group for 2015-16, which included Klaus Brummer (President), Dursun Peksen (VP and Section Program Chair for Atlanta), Officers-at-Large Christian Cantir, Sibel Oktay, and Brian Lai, and Past President Deborah Larson.

For the 2015 convention, the FPA section sponsored or co-sponsored 90 panels and roundtables and one poster session held in conjunction with the reception, due to the efforts of Klaus Brummer as VP and Section Program Chair. Officer-at-Large Cristian Cantir organized a Working Group on “Foreign Policy Analysis and the Diplomacy of Sub-State Actors.” Officer-at-Large Dursun Peksen organized an Innovative Panel on “Foreign Military Interventions as Tools of Foreign Policy.” Officer-at-large Amanda Murdie chaired the Alexander George Graduate Student Paper Award competition, which chose as the 2015 winner Benjamin Martill (University College, Oxford) for his paper on “Of Power and Partisans: Challenging the 'Postwar Consensus' in British Foreign Policy”.

Professor Valerie M. Hudson (Texas A&M) was honored as Distinguished Scholar at a special roundtable. Professor Hudson was also honored at our annual reception, which was co-sponsored by Scientific Study of International Processes Section (SSIP) and the Political Demography and Geography Section (PDG). The reception was funded by donations from several partner groups and publishers, as well as by the sections. The reception was quite successful, and we hope to work with SSIP and PDG again in the future.

For the 2016 convention, VP and Section Program Chair Dursun Peksen has organized as a sponsor or co-sponsor 108 panels and roundtables as well as one poster session. We will have an Innovative Panel on “External Influences on Democratization: Engaging Academics and Practitioners,” organized by Officer-at-Large Brian Lai. As a follow-up to the very successful 2015 working group, Officer-at-Large Christian Cantir submitted a proposal for a workshop on “Sub-state Diplomacy: Theoretical and Methodological Challenges,” which unfortunately was not accepted. Officer-at-Large Sibel Oktay chaired the Alexander George Graduate Student Paper Award competition. Unfortunately, there were not enough submissions to have an actual competition (i.e., just one paper was submitted). Thus, no winner was chosen for 2016.

Cameron G. Thies (ASU) will be honored as Distinguished Scholar at a roundtable and reception (the reception is again co-sponsored by SSIP and PDG).

We will also hold elections at our annual business meeting, where Dursun Peksen will take over as
Section President through the 2017 convention in Baltimore.

The FPA section currently has 941 members, up from 893 the previous year; FPA still is the second largest section. Our financial account has a balance of $20,220,48 (as of November 30, 2015), of which the section will contribute around $1,250 to the annual reception.