The FPA section held its annual business meeting in Baltimore on February 24, 2017. Elections produced a new leadership group, which included Brian Lai (President), Susan Allen (VP and Section Program Chair for Baltimore), Officers-at-Large Adrianna Boersner-Herrera, Patrick Mello, Amy Skonieczny, and Past President Dursun Peksen.

The FPA section sponsored or co-sponsored over 90 panels and roundtables at the 2017 annual convention. Officer-at-large Leslie Wehner (March 2016-February 2017) chaired the Alexander George Graduate Student Paper Award competition, which chose Jin Mun Jeong of University of Missouri as the 2016 winner for his paper titled “Financial Sanctions: A Better Tool to Protect Innocent Civilians.” The award was announced at the 2017 Business meeting. Officer at large Amy Skonieczny (Feb 2017-April 2018) chaired the Alexander George Graduate Student Paper Award competition for the best paper from the 2017 meeting. The committee selected Rachel Odell’s paper “Maritime Hegemony and the Fiction of the Free Sea”. She will be given the award at the 2018 Business Meeting in San Francisco.

Professor Marijke Breuning (University of North Texas) was honored as Distinguished Scholar at a special roundtable. Professor Breuning 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 organized by FPA President Dursun Peksen and 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.

Professor Juliet Kaarbo (University of Edinburgh) will be honored as Distinguished Scholar at a roundtable and the reception co-sponsored by SSIP and PDG at the 2018 annual meeting in San Francisco, CA.

At the annual business meeting, there was a discussion of creating a Best Book in FPA Award. Based on this discussion, an email election was held (per the FPA Charter rules) and the Best Book in FPA Award was approved. This award will be given every two years. The first best book award will be awarded at the 2019 ISA meeting in Toronto. This change was entered into the revised FPA charter.

We will also hold elections at our annual business meeting, where Susan Allen will take over as Section President through the 2019 convention in Toronto. The FPA section membership has been 941 in 2016, 886 in 2017, and projected for 963 in 2018. Our section is still the second largest section. Our financial account has a balance of $ $23,931.44 as of November 30, 2017.