MEMORANDUM TO RE-CHARTER A SECTION

TO: International Studies Association Governing Council

FROM: Mark Schafer, President, Foreign Policy Analysis Section

DATE: March, 2008

RE: Re-charter of the Foreign Policy Analysis Section

I, the Undersigned, in compliance with Article IV, Section 1(b) of the International Studies Association Constitution with regard to the re-chartering of International Studies Association Sections, do hereby request the re-chartering of the Foreign Policy Analysis Section by the International Studies Association Governing Council for the period of March, 2008 through March, 2013.

I have attached hereto the following items in support of this request (check all that are applicable):

- Annual Report of Section Activities
- Analysis of Section Membership
- Analysis of the Section Financial Base
- Copy of Section Charter
- List of Section Leadership with Terms of Office

DATED this 1 day of March, 2008.

This copy was sent via email, hard copy with signature to follow.

Mark Schafer, President, Foreign Policy Analysis Section
Foreign Policy Analysis Section of International Studies Association  
Re-chartering General Report  

Prepared for the ISA Annual Meetings, March, 2008, San Francisco  

Part 1: Report of Section Activities  

Each year the Foreign Policy Analysis Section (FPA) undertakes several activities. We hold nominations for, and then select a Distinguished Scholar (DS) in the area of foreign policy analysis. These scholars are honored and listed on the web site (http://www.isanet.org/fpa/). This year’s DS is Bruce Bueno de Mesquita. At the annual meetings of ISA, we conduct a special panel honoring the career of the DS. Then, in conjunction with some other ISA-affiliated organizations, we hold a reception that honors the DS. This reception is, I believe, the second largest at ISA, behind only the President’s Reception.

FPA also accepts nominations, and then selects a recipient for the Alexander George Graduate Student Paper Award for the best paper delivered by a graduate student at the ISA annual meetings. This year’s winner is Christopher J. Fariss of the Department of Political Science at the University of North Texas for his paper entitled "Breadbasket or Basket Case? Determinants of US Foreign Food Aid 1977-2000." This year the section had a record number of submissions for this award.

This year we will also be presenting a special award to Doug Van Belle for his work in initiating the new journal Foreign Policy Analysis. Doug has also served as the journal’s first editor.

The section holds its regular business meeting each year at the annual meetings of ISA. During this meeting the officers give an update on section activities, membership, and finances, make announcements from the Executive and Governing Councils of ISA, hold elections for officers, and conduct any other business that comes before the membership.

Over the last year the officers of the section have also been busy working on the website for the section and considering updates to the bylaws and charter, though those are not yet ready for submission to the membership.

Finally, the section received a record number of paper and panel proposals for this year’s ISA annual meetings. Section Vice President Christopher Jones, of Northern Illinois University also served as program chair for the section and did an outstanding job with this challenging task.

Part 2: Analysis of Section Membership  

Membership in FPA has been stable, with a slight increase this year. In 2006 the section had 383 members; in 2007 there were 382 members; this year we have 393 members.

Part 3: Analysis of Section Finances.
FPA appears to be in solid financial shape at this time. The section currently has a cash balance of $6366. This is up about 15% from last year’s balance at this time ($5528) and is about double the cash balance we had in March of 2006 ($3076).

Major expenditures for the section include the section’s annual reception, award money for the George award, and other special activities that may come up.

Part 4: Section Charter

[Please see attached document.]

Part 5: Section Leaders and Terms of Office

The Executive Council of FPA consists of a president, vice president, immediate past president, and three at-large officers. All terms of office are for one year, though the vice president is also the president-elect and thus serves on the section’s Executive Council for three years (including her or his year as immediate past president). All officers are elected at the annual FPA business meeting at ISA. Here is a list of the current officers:

President: Mark Schafer, Louisiana State University
Vice President/President Elect: Christopher Jones, Northern Illinois University
Immediate Past President: Jeffrey Pickering, Kansas State University
Officer At Large: Yasemin Akhbaa, Gettysburg College
Officer At Large: William A. Boettcher, North Carolina State University
Officer At Large: Övgür Özdamar, TOBB-University of Economics and Technology