The Global Health Section (GHS) was formally approved in April 2013 during the annual International Studies Association conference in San Francisco. Since its creation, it has had the following objectives:

- To facilitate disciplinary and interdisciplinary research collaboration on the politics of global health between ISA members from around the world;
- To promote global health as an important area of study in the discipline of International Relations, and as one that sheds light on the changing nature of international politics;
- To disseminate global health research being conducted in International Studies to policymakers and other practitioner audiences;
- To offer scholars from other disciplines a clear hub and means of organization for strengthening and advancing their work on global health politics;
- To actively collaborate with other research networks, associations, and programs focusing on the global politics of health.

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Following the section elections in 2016, the leadership of the section is as follows:

- Section Chair—Jeremy Youde, Australian National University
- Vice-Chair/Program Chair—Owain Williams, University of Queensland
- Secretary—Anne Roemer-Mahler, University of Sussex
- Treasurer—Sara Davies, Griffith University
- Executive Committee Members:
  - Stefan Elbe, University of Sussex
  - Christian Enemark, University of Southampton
  - Sophie Harman, Queen Mary University of London
  - Adam Kamradt-Scott, University of Sydney
  - Amy Patterson, University of the South
  - Simon Rushton, University of Sheffield

Thankfully, the transfer of power remains peaceful.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The GHS Executive Committee held its third meeting on Thursday, 23 February 2017, during the annual International Studies Association conference in Baltimore. Davies, Elbe, Harman, Kamradt-Scott, Roemer-Mahler, Rushton, and Youde attended the meeting; Enemark, Patterson, and Williams sent their apologies.
Much of the conversation focused on the activities of the Governing Council and responding to the Trump Administration’s recently-announced travel ban. While future conferences are booked (in North America) through 2023, there may be opportunities to either further virtual engagement with the conference or to find ways to work with local communities affected by the travel ban. There are also ongoing discussions within the Professional Development Committee (on which Youde sits) about reallocating Travel Grants to better support scholars from the Global South.

Other discussions focused on developing strategies for attracting new members, interest in organizing a panel or panels related to teaching global health, and a discussion of the section’s budget priorities. We also discussed how we could better engage the section’s Advisory Board going forward.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will take place on Thursday, 5 April 2018, from 12:30 to 1:30 during the annual International Studies Association conference in San Francisco.

**BUSINESS MEETING/RECEPTION**

The GHS Business Meeting took place on Friday, 24 February 2017 from 6:00 to 7:00pm with every seat in the room taken.

As with the Executive Committee, much of the discussion focused on responding to recent policy changes in the United States and how we—as a section and as a professional association—could address these changes. While breaking contracts or siting conferences outside of North America is not possible (at least through 2023), there may be other ways to build connections with groups in conference cities or facilitate virtual participation for scholars who were unable or unwilling to travel to the United States. Several attendees brought up avenues for affecting political change outside of ISA, including the Network of Activist Scholars. There was also a discussion about trying to identify conferences other than the main all-ISA conference—such as one of the regional ISA conferences—that could become a central home for work on global health politics. Meeting attendees also discussed strategies for increasing communication about publications, employment opportunities, and political action through the mailing list, the section’s Facebook page, and other outlets.

The meeting discussed an array of issues, including promoting the various prizes the section offers, discussing the Routledge Global Health book series, soliciting feedback on strategies for attracting more membership and sponsorships, and encouraging attendance at our first-ever GHS drinks reception immediately following the business meeting.

Following a robust, engaging, and respectful discussion at the Business Meeting, we adjourned for the 2nd Annual GHS Drinks Reception. We celebrated Catherine Worsnop receiving the Best Graduate Student Paper Award and Catherine Yuk-ping Lo receiving the Book Prize and toasted old and new friendships.

The next business meeting will be held on Friday, 6 April 2018, at 6:30pm. It will be followed by our 3rd Annual Drinks Reception at 7:30pm.
MEMBERSHIP AND OUTREACH

GHS has continued to grow each year since its creation. As of 2 November 2017, our section membership numbers 142—an increase of 6 (5 percent) over the past year. We continue to encourage those interested in global health politics to join the section.

GHS maintains an active Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/ISAGlobalHealthSection/?fref=ts). It currently boasts 976 members from around the world, and provides regular updates about publications, job postings, and other material of interest. We are also exploring sponsorship opportunities that will allow us to further our presence at the annual conference and open up new possibilities for awards and professional development opportunities for our members.

PRIZES

Winners of the 2017 prizes will be announced during our drinks reception at the annual conference in San Francisco in April 2018.

2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Global Health Section continues to maintain a vigorous academic presence, attracting papers and panels from scholars in international relations, public health, geography, demography, and other disciplines. Under the leadership of Owain Williams, our vice chair and program chair, we have successfully leveraged co-sponsorship opportunities with other sections to increase the number of opportunities to present global health-related research. At the 2018 conference in San Francisco, we will sponsor (on our own or in conjunction with other sections) 19 panels.