The Global South Caucus (GSCIS) is open to members of all sections of ISA who study the Global South regions; the south as a whole; relevant South societies in the North; or relations between the North and South. The GSCIS is a “trans-sectional” network that aims to: 1) provide a channel for the sharing of research, information and ideas among scholars and practitioners of/in the various regions of the south; 2) promote the ISA as the premier forum for the dissemination of cross-regional global south research; 3) encourage south scholars to participate in the association’s conferences (via GS panels as well as proposals to the relevant sections) and other initiatives; 4) encourage south scholars to publish in ISA journals; 5) work with the ISA committees and sections to encourage graduate students to work on south issues and regions, and engage in professional development activities intended to improve the employment opportunities and advancement in the profession of south-oriented scholars.

This new Caucus provides a wonderful opportunity for scholars of the South to work together. If you are working in any way on issues pertaining to the south, please join us.

Note: proprietary map; not to be copied.
SAN FRANCISCO REDUX: Note from the Chair

The San Francisco conference has been widely hailed as one of ISA's most well attended and successful for which thanks go out to President Etel Solingen, the conference organizers, and ISA HQ. The Global South Caucus sponsored or co-sponsored about seven well received panels. Despite some fears that our Saturday slots would not draw an audience, this was not the case at all. In addition, our luncheon for the Distinguished Scholar nominee Jomo Sundaram was a convention highlight for GSCIS members.

Thanks go out to ACUNS for their assistance, and to all who attended! This luncheon has set the standard for future presentations.

ACUNS Alistair Edgar

The surroundings, food and company were very pleasant and the talk by Dr. Sundaram was comprehensive, knowledgeable and stimulating. It was a pleasure to be surrounded by scholars who really believe in the promise of the south despite its difficulties.

We look forward to welcoming all members to the 2014 luncheon.
Dr. Jomo Sundaram, currently the Deputy Executive Director of the Food and Agriculture Organization, delivered the keynote address at a luncheon held in his honor at the San Francisco meeting. He was unanimously selected by GSCIS members as the 2013 Global South Caucus of the International Studies Association Distinguished Scholar. In his address entitled *Divide and Rule*, Dr. Sundaram drew on his own trajectory as a scholar-practitioner in the field of International Development to lay out a road map for future thinking on Global South issues. Referencing the utility of different forms of Global South solidarity including Bandung, Pan-Africanism, the South Commission, and the challenges present in fragmentation of the South into ideological and economic units, Dr. Sundaram posited that the Global South needed new modalities to protect its interests in the post-terror, the tensions Berlin War and post 9/11 era. The end of bipolarity, the decline in overseas development assistance, the war on between national sovereignty and the responsibility to protect doctrine have underscored the need for the South to find ways to protect its solidarity while addressing issues that threaten to divide the group.
ISA 2014:

Spaces and Places: Geopolitics in an Era of Globalization

International relations scholars are keenly aware of the role of temporal dynamics in understanding phenomena of international politics, and the influence of temporality is acknowledged in works adhering to diverse methodological traditions. It is important, however, in both refining extant theories of global politics as well as in developing new theories from evolving realities, to be attentive to the contexts of those theories and the phenomena to which they pertain. World politics must be contextualized not only in time (across history) but also across space. Whether the units of analysis being studied are world systems, regions, states, or other international actors, the external and internal contexts must include time as well as space and place. Broadly, space includes the spatial dimension of how things stand in relation to one another across physical space, the various ways in which the distance between and among them may be conceptualized and measured, and the meaning of spatial factors. Similarly, place is about where people live, where things are located, and the ways in which people give meaning to those places and draw their identity from them.

Temporality by itself offers an incomplete framework for understanding international relations. The theme of the 2014 annual meeting, “Spaces and Places: Geopolitics in an Era of Globalization,” calls for a more explicit and extensive atten
tion to the spatial elements, or the spatial contexts, of socio-political phenomena. We encourage the submission of theme panels and papers that explore the importance of space, the relationship between space and time, how space and place can be studied, and the continuing challenges of combining the study of spatiality and time in our analyses of world politics. Moreover, these relationships are emerging and converging in an increasingly globalized world, one in which the very meanings of space, distance, and place are called into question as technology–along with the growing and deepening of the interdependence it engenders–challenges traditional patterns of interstate interactions. ... Our theme calls for an integrative and synergistic approach to understanding critical problems in the current international system.

For more information on the theme, program, registration etc. go to: http://www.isanet.org/Conferences/Toronto2014.aspx
For information on hotels, go to: http://www.isanet.org/Conferences/Toronto2014/Travel.aspx

The GSCIS in Toronto:

The GSCIS Program Chair Nanette Svenson, in cooperation with the GSCIS Chair, have worked on expanding our outreach to other sections and maximizing our small panel allocations for the 2014 conference. We think that this year we have been very successful in accomplishing these goals. The GSCIS already has a record of collaboration with the other caucuses as well as with the FTGS, Global Development, and International Political Economy sections. This year we are adding International Security, ALIAS, and Peace Studies. In addition we will be among the sponsors of an innovative panel on indigenous issues. Finally we are sponsoring a panel on development headed by our members located in Denmark, which will also serve as a launch for a issue of Third World Quarterly.

Distinguished Scholar Nominee: This year we are honoring a Latin American and Caribbean scholar, in keeping with our prime directive: inclusiveness and geographical diversity. In our first year we honored an scholar of African affairs, Professor Ali Mazrui, and in 2013 we honored Dr. Jomo Sundaram from Malaysia. A call for this year’s nominations was sent out earlier in the summer and many fine, thoughtful suggestions have been received. By mid-September the Nominations Committee will make its selection. As usual the selectee will be treated to a luncheon and given an award at the ISA Convention.
Personal Items:

GSCIS Council member Zakia Afrin’s recent article on Gender Justice in Bangladesh is now available online. This timely article—given the controversies surrounding the tribunal—focuses on prosecutions for sex crimes committed during the war of liberation. Here is an abstract:

Ferdousi was one of the first women who came forward to acknowledge being a victim of rape and sexual slavery during the liberation war of Bangladesh in 1971. Today she has become part of the youth movement in Bangladesh, known as the Shahbag movement, supporting the International Crimes Tribunal and demanding the maximum penalty for those who are found guilty. In 2010, the Bangladesh Government, led by Sheikh Hasina, set up the International Crimes Tribunal and charged as many as 12 individuals for participating and assisting in war crimes and crimes against humanity during Bangladesh’s war of independence from Pakistan. The tribunals not only address the worst rape concentration camps in history; they also reveal the inner struggles of a society as it faces demands for gender justice, along with secularism and social justice. Unnoticed by most of the world, there is a revolution happening here.

http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/pubs/581

Ali A. Mazrui: Friend, Scholar Visionary


Membership Matters

The GSCIS sends announcements out to two separate lists: one list of bona fide members is maintained by the ISA and is not available to us, for privacy reasons; the second is a list of caucus friends as well as members, people who have opted in to our listserv. We are still trying to harmonize both lists. Please let us know if you are opting in to the listserv by sending an email to BOTH ceg@ncsu.edu as well as jbraveboy-wagner@gc.cuny.edu.

As part of its outreach activities, the GSCIS is adding an "institutional" category to its membership structure. Institutions that pay a $20 fee for membership, can establish various cooperative arrangements with us. We will disseminate information about the activities of affiliated institutions to members.
Upcoming Conferences etc.

Towards a New Middle East Society: Expectations and Reality after the Arab Spring
Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures, Polish Academy of Sciences
18 November, 2013 - 19 November, 2013, Warsaw, Poland
Application Deadline: 30 September, 2013

Global and Regional Powers in a Changing World
FLACSO-ISA Joint International Conference, Buenos Aires July 23rd-25, 2014
University of Buenos Aires, School of Economics, Buenos Aires, Argentina
GSCIS has sent out a call for proposals for this conference. We will be sponsoring four panels. Please send proposals by September 20—note, this is earlier than the actual conference submission deadline—to jbraveboy-wagner@gc.cuny.edu cc’d to nanette.svenson@gmail.com.
Be sure to check isanet.org for information on other ISA joint conferences.

Alternative Encounters: The ‘Second World’ and the ‘Global South’, 1945-1990s
Location: Friedrich-Schiller-Universität, Jena, March 28-29, 2014
(a collaboration between the Imre Kertész Kolleg, University of Jena; the Centre for Area Studies, University of Leipzig; and the Centre of Imperial & Global History, University of Exeter)
http://www.h-net.org/announce/show.cgi?ID=205849

Call for papers
Irinkéridò: A Journal of African Migration is seeking submissions for its upcoming issue on Return Migration.
African migration has often been explored in the context of the factors that generate migratory flows from the continent: political instability, environmental calamity, and desire for economic justice. This issue of Irinkéridò will explore the reversal of this migratory path, looking at the factors that bring members of the African diaspora back to the continent. We seek submissions of articles, book and film reviews, and creative pieces that critically explore the complexity of the homecoming experience and speak to these and other questions:
• What are the causes and consequences of return migration?
• How does return migration impact the changing narrative and positionality of people in the African diaspora, African nations, and the continent as a whole?
• How does return migration conform with or challenge the notions of Afro-pessimism and the ‘Hopeless Continent’ versus their counterparts, including Afro-optimism and ‘Africa Rising’?
• How, if at all, does return migration contribute to the forging of a new pan-African identity, culture, and so forth?
• Does return migration help construct different imaginaries of the West (and other sites of opportunity/desire)? If so, what, are these different/new imaginaries? What are their social, cultural, and political significance?

Articles must be original and should not be under consideration by another publication at the time of submission. All submissions should be emailed to mojubaolu@gmail.com by September 20, 2013. Articles should be between 20-25 pages long. They should be accessible and jargon-free. All submissions will be independently refereed. Accepted articles must conform to Irinkéridò: A Journal of African Migration style requirements. Please see submission guidelines:
http://www.africamigration.com/
NEW MISSION STATEMENT

While the recently independent states of the former Soviet Caucasus and Central Asia exhibit many of the conditions and characteristics associated with post-colonial and developing nations—including struggles with hegemonic influences, resource dependency, economic inequality, institutional incapacity and unresolved internal conflicts—the study of these countries in the U.S. academy has traditionally been either relegated to a generic "post-communist" or “Russian and Eastern European” subfield, or framed according to narratives of an enduring geopolitical dichotomy between competing power centers representing an objectified "East" and "West". It is thus arguable that these disciplinary conventions have imposed unnecessary limitations on the ability of regional scholars to introduce new approaches, and, more importantly, to generate novel findings regarding the domestic evolution and international relations of these states. It is in response to these concerns that the Global South Caucus for International Studies (GSCIS) seeks to establish a research agenda directed at designing conceptual frameworks that serve to both integrate theoretical approaches and facilitate comparative analysis of Eurasian and developing world (Asian, African, Middle Eastern, and Latin American) regions in IR. One recent empirical example which highlights the relevance of this endeavor is provided by the case of Azerbaijan, which in May 2011 became the fourth former Soviet republic (following Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Belarus) to join the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), defying the assumptions of observers who have sought to characterize its foreign policy as being inherently "pro-Western" or "Euro-Atlantic" in orientation. The introduction of the Developing Eurasia Initiative (DEI) is intended to attract greater participation by both scholars and professionals who question prevailing standards of categorization, to critically analyze current trends in Eurasian studies, and to expand the scope of regional knowledge within the IR discipline. Membership in DEI is open to all faculty, students and specialists in the fields of comparative politics, international relations, development policy and area studies interested in contributing to these activities. For questions and additional information please direct correspondence to:

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CURRENT PROJECTS


“The Former Soviet South in the Global South: Toward a Synthesis in Comparative Regional Studies.”

“Belarus and Non-Alignment: Non-Viable Policy or Systemic Alternative.”

ANNOUNCING:

**GSCIS Executive Council for 2013-4**

Jacqueline Braveboy-Wagner, Chair

Nanette Svenson, Vice-Chair/Program Chair

Lisa Richey, Second Vice President-Outreach

Zakia Afrin, Asia Representative

Imad Mansour, Middle East Representative

H. Ahmed, Africa Representative

M. Kahl, Latin American Representative

Jason Strakes, Developing Eurasia Representative and Initiative

C. Griffin, Secretary

Seifudein Adem, Treasurer

Elsada Diana Cassells, Newsletter Editor

Delidji Eric Degila, Africa Outreach Initiative
ISA-GLOBAL SOUTH CAUCUS

Find us on the Web!

Click on (http://www.isanet.org/global_south_caucus/) and (http://gscis.blogspot.com/) for Caucus news and announcements. Please send your news and op pieces to ecassells@gc.cuny.edu or to the Chair at: mailto:jbraveboy-wagner@gc.cuny.edu or to any EXCOM member representing your region or interests.

Please get involved with the GSCIS:

Join the caucus;
Participate in our panels and workshops at ISA;
Keep up to date via our blogs;
Send us information about you;
Send us short newsletter analyses;
Serve in any capacity.

Click to see countries where members of ISA reside. Join the caucus for only five US dollars.

http://www.isanet.org/about-isa/images/World-Map.png