This is actually the inaugural annual report for HIST, as 2013 was our first year of existence and we held our first business meeting at the San Francisco ISA conference, just days after being approved as a new section. This first year has been one of notable successes and accomplishments, testimony to the pent-up demand for a historical IR section and the great enthusiasm of its new members and officers.

The Founding Committee

The new section has the following roster of officers, who will serve two-year terms with the possibility of re-election:
- Section Chair – Daniel Green
- Section Program Chair – Halvard Leira
- Secretary – Benjamín de Carvalho
- Treasurer – Andrea Paras
- Member-at-Large – Daniel Nexon

As stated in various places and on the ISA website, the intended purposes of the new HIST section are to: 1) promote the exchange of ideas among HIST-interested scholars across both disciplinary and international boundaries; 2) support a scholarly community and promote HIST-related studies; 3) facilitate networking and cooperation among scholars and students working on Historical International Relations, and 4) strengthen research and teaching in the field and attract talented new scholars to it. Just founding HIST will go a long way towards achieving these goals, but we and our members pledge to do all we can to build a HIST intellectual community in the coming years, and see it grow.

Section Membership and Finances

The petition to establish the section, which circulated for a few weeks in the early fall of 2013, quickly garnered 175 signatures including those of several past ISA presidents. And now to date our official section membership has reached the very healthy number of 224. This ranks us 20\textsuperscript{th} out of ISA’s 30 sections and the largest of the three new sections created in San Francisco. It is a heartening vote of confidence in the section, a signal of the demand for it, and a hopeful sign of financial sustainability in the future. As of October 31 the section had an account balance of $1,046.

Section Activities Thus Far

HIST has already undertaken a few important initiatives to promote awareness of the section and advance our mission to promote historical international relations:

1. The Francesco Guicciardini Prize for Best Book in Historical International Relations. This book prize has now been established and has just announced its winners for the 2013 competition, to be formally presented at the section business meeting in Toronto. This prize, named after the Renaissance Italian historian and statesman, recognizes the best book on subjects related to historical international relations published in the previous calendar year. Recipients receive an honorary plaque and a check for $250. Our first winner, chosen from a strong field of 13 eligible nominations, is Patterns of Empire: The British and American Empires, 1648 to the Present (Cambridge University Press), by Julian Go. The Committee found it to be “an exemplary marriage of rigorous historical engagement with a bold
and clear theoretical ambition.” Also this year two Honorable Mention awards were given, to Andrew Phillips for Religion and Empire: The Transformation of International Orders (Cambridge UP) and John Hobson for The Eurocentric Conception of World Politics: Western International Theory, 1760-2010 (Cambridge UP). The Award Committee is comprised of George Lawson (chair), Andrea Paras and Benjamin de Carvalho, each serving for two years. The deadline for submissions for the 2014 prize will be July 1.

2. Establishment of a HIST Advisory Council (AC). The purpose of this initiative is to establish a council of friends of the section and enthusiasts of historical IR who can be (and have been) consulted on various topics and section concerns. Members of the AC have an ongoing voice in section business and will no doubt serve in more formal capacities as section officers at some point in the future. Current AC membership is: Lucian Ashworth, Stacie Goddard, Xavier Guillaume, Sandra Halperin, George Lawson, Jeppe Mulich, Ann Towns, and Ayse Zarakol. More members will be added periodically.

3. A HIST Facebook Page. Set up and maintained by our own Andrea Paras, this page allows us to further promote HIST initiatives, make announcements, etc.

4. Inaugural Business Meeting in San Francisco. There is not much business to report from this, actually. This meeting mainly served to launch the section, introduce its officers, and get ideas from those present as to future activities, etc. All present quickly introduced themselves and mentioned their affiliations and research interests. There was also some reporting of what took place at ISA Governing Council meeting.

Preparations for the Toronto Meeting, ISA 2014
HIST’s first presence on an ISA conference program will be at the upcoming meeting in Toronto, March 2014. For this HIST was allotted five panel slots, but received an overwhelming number of proposals: 6 full panels, 2 roundtables, and 52 paper proposals with HIST as first choice. After some scrambling by Program Chair Halvard Leira and a modicum of generosity from ISA in the shape of two more panel slots, HIST has ended up with 4 solo-sponsored and 11 co-sponsored panels for the Toronto meeting – an excellent result. Nonetheless, Prof. Leira was compelled to send an email message to those who submitted, apologizing for the many rejections he was forced to hand out. HIST hopes very much for a larger allocation of panel slots for coming meetings, and our membership size and submission volume certainly warrant that.

In addition, HIST is on board with the English School, Diplomatic Studies and CISS sections in co-sponsoring a Joint Reception and Poster Session on Thursday night, March 27 (7:30-9:30). We quasi-officially joined this grouping in San Francisco and it was a very well-attended event. Our section business meeting will be Friday, March 28 (12:30-1:30).

Future Section Activities
I will list these as bullet points, as they will be/have been the subject of ongoing discussion via email and at the next business meeting in Toronto:
- proposals for a distinguished scholar panel(s) for coming conferences
- section participation in the Compendium Project
- possibilities for submitting an ISA Workshop Grant proposal
- possible establishment of grad/faculty paper prizes

Thank you for your attention. Daniel Green, HIST Section Chair