This is the second annual report for HIST, as 2013 was our first year in existence and we held our first business meeting at the San Francisco ISA conference in 2013, just days after being approved as a new section. Now after our second full year, with our third business meeting coming in New Orleans, we continue with a record of notable successes and accomplishments.

**The Founding Committee**
The section has the following roster of founding officers, whose two-year terms will expire in New Orleans where a new slate will be elected:
- **Section Chair** – Daniel Green
- **Section Program Chair** – Halvard Leira
- **Secretary** – Benjamin de Carvalho
- **Treasurer** – Andrea Paras
- **Member-at-Large** – Daniel Nexon

**Founding Mission:** The intended purposes of the 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 has gone a long way towards achieving these goals, and our activities in our first two years have seen these pledges fulfilled, and more.

**Section Membership and Finances (as of December 2014)**
It was another very good year indeed. Our membership at this time last year had reached the very healthy number of 224, ranking HIST 20th out of ISA’s then 30 sections. By the end of 2014 we have grown to 305 members, an increase of 81 and now ranking us 18th of 31 ISA sections. We are the second fastest growing section proportionally and the largest of the new sections again this year. This is truly 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. And as of October 31, 2014 the section had a new record account balance of $2,112.

**Section Activities Thus Far**
HIST has undertaken several 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 is now well established and in November announced its winners for the 2014 competition, to be formally presented at the section business meeting in New Orleans. 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 2014 winner, chosen from a strong field of eligible nominations, is *Disciplining Terror: How Experts Invented "Terrorism"* (Cambridge University Press, 2013), by Lisa Stampnitzky. The Committee found it to be “a major achievement of historically-grounded scholarship, which will be of interest to the discipline of International Relations broadly speaking, as
well as to publics beyond the academy.” Also this year two Honorable Mention awards were given, to Audie Klotz for *Migration and National Identity in South Africa, 1860-2010* (Cambridge UP, 2013) and to Jennifer Mitzen for *Power in Concert: The Nineteenth-Century Origins of Global Governance* (UChicago Press, 2013). Congratulations to all. The Award Committee is comprised of George Lawson (chair), Andrea Paras and Benjamin de Carvalho, each serving for two years. (A new slate of prize committee members will be chosen in New Orleans.) The deadline for submissions for the 2015 prize will be July 1.

2. **The 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 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. **Second Annual Business Meeting in Toronto.** This meeting was relatively well attended and served to further launch the section. All present quickly introduced themselves and mentioned their affiliations and research interests. We gave out the first Guicciardini Prize and discussed a variety of new initiatives for the coming year, including possible distinguished scholar panels, the establishment of special working groups on specific issue areas (see below), and other future activities. One specific initiative discussed was a possible workshop on the medieval-to-modern transition. There was also some reporting of news from the ISA Governing Council meeting.

5. **Historical IR at EISA-Warsaw 2013 and EISA-Sicily 2015.** HIST officers Halvard Leira and Benjamin de Carvalho of NUPI organized a very successful historical IR presence at the EISA meeting in Warsaw in September of 2013, and have put together another section and set of panels for the upcoming meeting in Sicily in September 2015. Much thanks for all their efforts.

6. **Nineteenth Century Working Group.** This is the section’s first working group focused on a specific, if very broad, issue area. Set up after the Toronto meeting, it already has over twenty-five active members and has organized a panel and a roundtable for ISA-Northeast, two panels and a roundtable for ISA-New Orleans and one panel for EISA-Sicily. These papers are loosely organized around the theme of “Orders, Order Projects, and Resistance in Nineteenth Century IR” and there are plans for turning them into an edited volume. A group meeting will be held in New Orleans as well.

**Preparations for the New Orleans Meeting, ISA 2015**

HIST’s first presence on an ISA conference program was at the meeting in Toronto, March 2014. For that we were 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 ended up with 4 solo-sponsored and 11 co-sponsored panels for the Toronto meeting – an excellent result. Nonetheless, Halvard was compelled to send an email message to those who submitted, apologizing for the many rejections he was forced to hand out.

For New Orleans, the HIST section’s panel allotment was quite generously and appropriately increased to 15 slots, with which Halvard again worked wonders, allowing HIST to solo-sponsor 6
panels and co-sponsor 23, for an overall total of 29 panels/roundtables, fully double last year’s presence. Submissions were again far more than this, with HIST as first choice for 70 papers, 10 panels and 7 roundtables, and an equal number as second choice; we can likely expect to grow further for Atlanta 2016. Thanks to our chief co-sponsoring sections the English School, International Political Sociology, and Theory for their collaboration.

Finally, HIST is again this year on board with the English School, Diplomatic Studies and CISS sections in co-sponsoring a Joint Reception on Thursday night, February 19 (7:30-8:30). The group reception in Toronto was very well-attended and a huge success. Our section business meeting will be on Saturday, February 21 (12:30-1:30) this year, hoping to avoid the massive crush of business meetings held on Fridays.

**Future Section Activities**
The following will be/have been the subject of ongoing discussion via email and at the next business meeting:
- 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