FULL REPORT

This is the fifth annual report for HIST, as 2013 was our first year in existence. Now coming to the end of our fifth full year, with our sixth business meeting coming in Toronto, we continue with a record of notable successes and accomplishments.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

The section has the following roster of officers, with terms indicated:

Section Chair: Benjamin de Carvalho (2017-19)
Section Program Chair: Ayşe Zarakol (2017-19)
Member-at-Large: Ellen Jenny Ravndal (2017-19)
Member-at-Large: Lucian Ashworth (2018-20)
Member-at-large: Or Rosenboim (2018-20)

All terms are two-year, with the Program Chair being the Chair-Elect.

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.

SECTION MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCES (AS OF DECEMBER 2017):

Last year, we thought our section membership had reached an equilibrium with 420 members. This year, we have gone from being the 16th largest to the 14th largest section/caucus of the ISA, with 453 members. This is a good development for our section in terms of finances and future panel slots. While we are in general very happy with the development in membership, like a number of other ISA sections we continue to have a gender imbalance in our membership. Last year, the non-male membership of the section was 28%, which we agreed at the Business Meeting was much too low. The figure is 31% this year. This is still far from ideal, but at the very least we are moving in the right direction. There have been roundtables organized at for instance the EISA in Prague in September 2018 to discuss this, and
the general belief is that the figures may be the result of earlier trends in the profession and that the advent of new generations of scholars may over time contribute to a better balance.

The finances of the section are healthy. Although with a balance of USD 7.672 we are currently down from USD 10.068 which we had a year ago, this is due in part to the fact that we had not been charged with part of the cost of the 2017 reception. Our experience with solo receptions has been quite good in 2017 and 2018, so we will continue to do the same this year. Food at the reception is very expensive, so we are working to find the right balance for future years. We have managed to secure financial support for the Distinguished Scholar reception we will hold in Toronto (The Department of Political Science of Lund University has contributed USD 500, and the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) contributed 1.000). We are grateful for their contributions, as they contribute greatly to the life of the section.

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 GUIACCIARDINI PRIZE FOR BEST BOOK IN HISTORICAL INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.
In 2019 (for books published in 2017), the award was shared between:


and


The prizes will be formally presented at the section business reception 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 certificate and a check for $250 (shared if the prize is shared).

The Award Committee is comprised of Lucian Ashworth (chair), Halvard Leira, and Julia Costa Lopez, each serving for two years (2018-19). A new committee will be chosen in 2019. We thank them for their great work! The deadline for submissions for the 2020 (books published in 2018) prize will be August 1, 2019.

2. THE BARBARA W. TUCHMAN PRIZE FOR BEST PAPER IN HISTORICAL INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS BY A GRADUATE STUDENT
2018 was the first year the section awarded the Tuchman award for best graduate paper. The award was shared between Amanda Cheney and Tomas Wallenius, with honorable mention to Claire Vergerio. Congratulations! The committee consisted of Jordan Branch (chair), Or Rosenboim and Dan Green.
3. 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: Daniel Green (past Chair, ex officio), Halvard Leira (past Chair, ex officio), Stacie Goddard, Xavier Guillaume, Sandra Halperin, George Lawson, Jeppe Mulich, Ann Towns. There hasn’t been too much communication with the AC as such, although individual members are active in the section.

4. Social Media
The section still needs a Facebook strategy, as the past group did not function due to high membership from non-interested parties.

5. Sixth Annual Business Meeting in San Francisco.
This meeting was well attended. There was reporting of news from the ISA Governing Council meeting, as well as adjustments to the Section Charter. The charter with amendments is attached below.

6. Historical IR at EISA.
Julia Costa Lopez and Zeynep Gulsah Capan organized a section for EISA in Barcelona in September 2018. It was the largest section of the EISA. They have proposed a section for the 2019 EISA in Sofia as well.

7. Working Groups
The section counts the following active working groups.

- Nineteenth century
- Global Connected Histories
- Empires and World Order are functioning.

8. Distinguished Scholar Prize and Panel
After Yale Ferguson and Richard Mansbach received the first Distinguished Scholar award of the HIST Section in 2017, Jens Bartelson will be honored at the 2019 convention and reception.

9. Preparations for the Toronto Convention, ISA 2018
Since its inception, HIST has had a steadily growing presence at ISA Annual Conferences. Submission-numbers have been high since our first year, and with a growing number of slots, we have been able to accommodate a steadily increasing proportion of those desiring to present under the HIST umbrella. In the past the section has had the following number of panels:

- 15 in Toronto 2014 (4 solo-sponsored and 11 co-sponsored panels)
- 29 in New Orleans 2015 (6 solo-sponsored and 23 co-sponsored panels)
- 44 in Atlanta 2016 (10 solo-sponsored and 34 co-sponsored panels)
- 56 in Baltimore 2017 (8 solo panels and 48 co-sponsored ones)
- 50 in San Francisco 2018 (5 solo-sponsored and 45 co-sponsored panels)
In 2018, we will have a total of 55 panels, with 3 solo-sponsored panels and 52 co-sponsored ones. Of those, 14 were panels crafted by the section based on single paper proposals, 24 were submitted as panels, and 17 are roundtables. Thanks are due to our excellent program chair, Ayse Zarakol.

This year’s Business Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 27 March between 12:30 and 13:30 in City Hall, Sheraton Centre Toronto**, and the distinguished scholar reception will be on the same night between 19:00 and 20:00 in the same room.

**Future Section Activities**

The section still needs to address the gender imbalance in its membership. Furthermore, the web presence and mailing lists need to be better attuned to the needs of the section. Conceived as a broad church for any member interested in historical IR – however defined and whatever topic – the section also needs to continue to ensure that we accommodate all strands of historical work within the panels we organize. I believe intellectual openness and curiosity account for much of the success of the section thus far, and it is important that we work together to maintain this.

**Items For Consideration At The Next Business Meeting:**

- The Guicciardini Prize has so far not opened up for edited volumes. This is in many ways a shame, as there are plenty of good ones coming out these days. I believe the business meeting should consider opening up for giving a prize to edited volumes as well. It could be done every second year, or each year, in addition to the prize we have for monographs. Perhaps we could set the cash prize at USD 100, with a certificate?
- Over the years there has been little contact between the Advisory Council (AC) and the Executive. With the current changes in statutes (with an elections committee), I am unsure if this is something we need to continue with. A strong AC was perhaps more important to the section in its early days than it is now that the section is well-established and thriving. It is up to the Business Meeting and/or the Executive to determine the composition of the AC, but a way to increase the involvement of the AC may be to change the composition to past section chairs.
- Information about the working groups should be more prominent on ISA website.

Thank you for your attention.

Benjamin de Carvalho, HIST Section Chair