Leadership:

Section Chair 2012 – 2013: 
Selcan Kaynak (Bogazici University)

Conference Program Chair 2011 – 2012 & 
Incoming Section Chair 2012 – 2013: 
Cristina Archetti (University of Salford)

Executive Committee:

Andrea Calderaro (European University Institute) 
Craig Hayden (American University) 
Lisa McInerney (Dublin City University) 
Shawn Powers (Georgia State University)

Membership:

The section’s membership is vibrant: Our present membership is 171, marking a steady growth pattern over the last eight years. We project further growth over the next year; our goal is to 1) get our members connected through our Section’s social network, and, enable further opportunities to engage with the Section and ISA; 2) continue to maintain the diversity in our membership base, regarding geographic location, seniority, institutional affiliation and focus of research.

ISA Annual Convention 2012, San Diego:

ISA 2012 took place in San Diego, California from Sunday, April 1st to Wednesday, April 4th. The theme, 'Power, Principles and Participation in the Global Information Age' directly related to the work sponsored by our Section, thus we had our yet-to-date highest number of panels and roundtables at the 2012 Annual Convention.

Pre-Convention Working Group

IComm supported the Pre-Convention Working Group on 'New Media and Foreign Policy,’ which focused on political revolutions in North Africa and the Middle East. This Working Group was sponsored by the Foreign Policy Analysis section and coordinated by Amy Below (Oregon State University) and Jarrod Hayes (Georgia Institute of Technology), and featured as presenters/facilitators, IComm members Philip Seib (University of Southern California), Laura Roselle (Elon University & Duke University), and Bob Boynton (University of Iowa).

IComm Panels and Roundtables

There were a total of 37 IComm items—IComm-only and co-sponsored—on the
program in San Diego, consisting of 30 traditional panels, 4 roundtables, 2 poster sessions, and 1 innovative panel.

The 2012 convention theme highlighted work related to communication, globalization and international relations, thus, our Section was pleased to co-sponsor panels and roundtables with several other units, including the Conference Theme; Comparative Interdisciplinary Studies; Diplomatic Studies; Ethnicity, Nationalism & Migration Studies; Environmental Studies; Feminist Theory & Gender Studies; Foreign Policy Analysis; Human Rights; International Organisation; International Security Studies; Peace Studies; Scientific Studies of International Processes; and the Women’s Caucus.

Selcan Kaynak (Bogazici University) was the IComm Convention Program Chair for the 2012 convention.

IComm Business Meeting and Reception

The IComm Business Meeting and Reception took place at 7pm on Monday, April 2nd in Room 306A at the Hilton Bayfront. Our reception was jointly sponsored by Routledge Studies in Global Information, Politics and Society; the Routledge Journal Political Communication and the Department of Communication, Georgia State University.

Section business covered at the meeting included:

- Distinguished Scholar Award, 2012 was presented to Prof. Manuel Castells (University of Southern California). Prof. Castells was unable to join the Business Meeting, thus, the Section presented the award at a luncheon earlier on April 2nd. The lunch, sponsored by the Centre for International Studies at Dublin City University, was attended by Icomm Executive Committee and interested members.

- IComm Best Paper Award 2011 was presented to R.S. Zaharna (American University) for her paper ‘Relational Spheres and the Primacy of Domestic and Diaspora Publics in Global Public Diplomacy.’ Prof. Zaharna was present at the meeting to receive the award.

- Three new volunteers were elected for the Section’s Best Paper Award Committee. The Committee Chair became Shawn Powers (Georgia State University); the two other members are, Craig Hayden (American University) and Emily Metzgar (Indiana University).

- A Best Book Award, to be outlined and publicized in the upcoming year was announced. Consequently, a Best Book Award Committee has been formed, to be Chaired by Jenifer Whitten-Woodring (University of Massachusetts Lowell), Edward Comor (University of Western Ontario), Robin Brown (University of Leeds), and Betty Hansen (University of Connecticut).

- Three new members were elected to the Executive Committee, including
Andrea Caldero, Lisa McInerney and Craig Hayden.

Section chairing duties were transferred from Maura Conway (Dublin City University) to Selcan Kaynak (Bogazici University) 2012 – 2013 Chair.

ISA Annual Convention 2013, San Francisco:

Cristina Archetti, as the program Chair for the 2013 Convention, prepared an exciting list of Panels and Roundtables for the upcoming meeting. There will be 28 panels and 4 roundtables; several events are co-sponsored with other groups, including the Conference Theme, Diplomatic Studies, Ethnicity, Nationalism and Migration Studies, Scientific Study of International Processes, International Ethics, Human Rights, Feminist Theory and Gender Studies, and, Comparative International Studies.

2013 Business Meeting and Reception:

We will be hosting a Business Meeting and Reception on April 4th, Thursday at 7:30 pm. The Reception is jointly sponsored by Routledge and Provalis Research.

We will also organize a no-host dinner for the same evening, right after the reception, for further opportunities to connect and catch-up.

Awards:

Our Section is currently in the process of reviewing its awards, in order to enable wider participation during the nomination process. We are also planning to link our award winning Books and Scholars to the Program for the upcoming conventions.

Web Presence:

We are working on a social network tool for more efficient communication and interaction among the members. The tool will be announced at the Business Meeting on April 4th to encourage interaction among the members.

Virtual Meetings:

IComm's Executive Committee connects through virtual meetings approximately four times yearly between ISA conventions.

Newsletter:

The most recent issue of The Catalyst: Information, Communication, and Politics, the joint newsletter of the ISA IComm section and the Information Technology and Politics Organised Section of the American Political Science Association (APSA), appeared in Fall 2012 (Vol. 8, Iss.2). ISA IComm members Julien Mailland and (University of Southern California) Ken Rogerson (Duke University) are The Catalyst’s current co-editors.