Leadership

Section Chair 2013 – 2014:
Cristina Archetti (University of Salford)

Conference Program Chair 2013 – 2014 &
Incoming Section Chair 2014 – 2015:
Jenifer Whitten-Woodring (University of Massachusetts Lowell)

Executive Committee:

Amelia Arsenault (Georgia State University)
Babak Bahador (University of Canterbury)
Andrea Calderaro (European University Institute)
Craig Hayden (American University)
Selcan Kaynak (Boğaziçi University)
Lisa McInerney (Dublin City University)

Membership

The section’s membership is international and extremely diverse in terms of institutional affiliation, seniority and geographical reach: Our present membership is 184, the highest it has ever been and marking a steady growth pattern over the last nine years. We project further growth in the future.

Our aims are to: 1) support the involvement of young scholars in our section (through promotion of regional events where graduate members can present their work and network, for example); 2) more actively promote the scholarship of our members within and outside ISA both formally (awards) and informally (social media); 3) to enable greater interaction among our members, between them and ISA, as well as with external audiences (newsletter, website, social media).

ISA Annual Convention, San Francisco 3-6 April 2013

The ISA 2013 Annual Convention took place in San Francisco, California from Wednesday 3 to Saturday 6 April 2013. The theme, ‘The Politics of International Diffusion: Regional and Global Dimensions,’ was tightly related to core issues and concerns within our field, thus the IComm Section co-sponsored a significant number of Panels and Roundtables.

IComm Panels and Roundtables

There were a total of 32 IComm events—both IComm-only and co-sponsored—on the programme in San Francisco, consisting of 28 traditional Panels and 4 Roundtables. Our section was pleased to continue collaborating with a variety of other sections, 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; Comparative International Studies.

Cristina Archetti (University of Salford) was the IComm Program Chair for the 2013 Annual Convention.
IComm Business Meeting and Reception

The IComm Business Meeting and Reception took place at 7.30pm on Thursday 4 April. The Reception was jointly sponsored by Routledge & Francis and Provalis Research. A no-host dinner was organized on the same evening following the event for further networking opportunities.

Section Business covered at the meeting included:

- IComm Best paper Award 2012 was presented to Will Youmans for his paper ‘The “Domestic Foreign Policy” of the CIA’s Recruitment Efforts in Arab Detroit.’

- New volunteers were elected for the Section’s Best Paper Award Committee. The Committee Chair became Bob Boynton (University of Iowa). The other two members are Madeline Carr (Aberystwyth University) and Marie Thorsten (Doshisha University).

- A Best Book Award Committee was also formed, chaired by Elizabeth Hanson (University of Connecticut). The other two members are Robin Brown (PDNI) and Laura Roselle (Elon University).

- New members elected to the Executive Committee were: Amelia Arsenault (Georgia State University) and Babak Bahador (University of Canterbury).

- Section Chair duties were transferred from Selcan Kaynak (Boğaziçi University) to Cristina Archetti (University of Salford), 2013-2014 Chair.

ISA West 2013

The IComm section had the pleasure of co-sponsoring for the first time the ISA West 2013 Annual Conference. The conference, whose theme was ‘Disruption in World Politics: Policy Challenges, Normative Responses,’ took place in Pasadena 27-28 September 2013. Our Section was represented by three all-IComm panels (out of 28 total convention panels) and other papers presented on further mixed panels. Many young scholars from our section took advantage of this opportunity to present their work.

ISA Annual Convention, Toronto 26-29 March 2014

Programme Chair for the 2014 Convention Jenifer Whitten-Woodring prepared an exciting range of Panels and Roundtables. The conference theme, ‘Spaces and Places: Geopolitics in an Era of Globalization,’ is once again directly related to the work of the Section. At the upcoming Annual Conventions there will be 29 IComm events: 23 Panels and 6 Roundtables. 13 of the Panels and 5 of the Roundtables are to be co-sponsored by other sections: the Conference Theme; Diplomatic Studies; International Security Studies; Human Rights; Active Learning; Peace Studies; Political Economy; International Ethics; International Political Sociology

2014 Business Meeting and Reception

The IComm Business Meeting and Reception will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 27 March 2014. The Reception will be once again jointly sponsored by Routledge & Francis and Provalis Research.
A no-host dinner social will follow the event, as is now tradition, for further networking opportunities among our international membership.

**Distinguished Scholar Award 2014**
The Distinguished Scholar Award is going to be presented to Professor Daya Thussu (Westminster University) for contributing, through his extensive work, to the very establishment of the field. His scholarship has particularly engaged with international communication beyond Western countries. By writing International Communication textbooks adopted on courses all over the world, he has been supporting the development of a new generation of scholars. Professor Thussu will be honoured at the International Studies Association Awards Ceremony, the IComm Distinguished Scholar Panel, and he will receive a plaque at the IComm Section Reception and Business Meeting.

**Distinguished Scholar Panel 2014**
The IComm 2014 Distinguished Scholar Panel, titled “Rethinking the Geopolitics of International Communication,” will be discussing the work of Daya Thussu. The panel will take place on Thursday 27 March at 4.00pm. It will be chaired by current IComm chair Cristina Archetti (University of Salford). Participants will be, apart from honouree Daya Thussu (University of Westminster): former recipients of the Distinguished Scholar Award Elizabeth Hanson (University of Connecticut) and Philip Seib (University of Southern California); founders of the IComm section Robin Brown (PDNI) and Edward A. Comor (University of Western Ontario); J. P. Singh (George Mason University)

**Book Award**
The new Book Award has been added to the existing IComm awards (Best Paper Award and Distinguished Scholar Award) to recognize excellent scholarship in International Communication and further raise the profile of our section.

**Social Media**
We are working on developing social media tools to be embedded on the IComm ISA webpage. They will enable greater interaction among members, between members and ISA, as well as with external audiences. Volunteers will be recruited at the Business Meeting to follow and develop this project.

**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 2013 (Vol. 9, Iss.2). ISA IComm members Julien Mailland (University of Southern California) and Ken Rogerson (Duke University) are *The Catalyst's* current co-editors.