The International Political Economy section has had another excellent year. The section membership remains robust and growing, with IPE the fourth largest section behind International Security Studies, Foreign Policy Studies and Peace Studies. For the 2016 conference, the IPE section is involved in sponsoring 91 roundtables or panels.

These include three roundtables for its standing awards. Every year, the IPE section recognizes scholars in three categories: IPE Distinguished Scholar, Society of Women in International Political Economy (SWIPE) Mentor Award, and Outstanding Activist Scholar for eminent scholar-practitioners.

The Distinguished Scholar Award recognizes senior scholars of exceptional merit whose influence and intellectual works will likely continue to impact the field for years in the future. This year’s Distinguished Scholar Committee was chaired by J.P. Singh, with the full committee comprised of Dorothee Bohle, Matthew Eagerton-Pierce, Kathryn Lavelle, Carla Norrlof and Wesley Widmaier. Following a nomination process, the committee selected Professor John Ravenhill of the Balsillie School of International Affairs as the 2016 honoree. His influence on IPE scholarship has come through his research work, his teaching and mentoring, and his intellectual leadership and policy engagement. Specifically, Professor Ravenhill is widely known as the premier scholar on the IPE of the Asia-Pacific. He is the author and editor of a long list of books on the IPE of Asia-Pacific and Africa, including single-authored monographs, from Collective Clientelism (Columbia University Press 1985) on North-South relations, to APEC and the Construction of Pacific RimRegionalism (Cambridge University Press 2002) on regional trade areas. He has also published extensively in the field’s top journals, including International Organization, World Politics, Review of International Political Economy, and many others. Professor Ravenhill has also consistently provided public goods by serving on IPE journal editorial and advisory boards. On teaching and mentoring, Professor Ravenhill has both left an imprint on teaching through his textbook, Global Political Economy, and through his mentoring of the scholars (male and female) who have benefitted from his supervision. On intellectual leadership and policy engagement, Professor Ravenhill has held important positions in top institutions on three continents (University of Waterloo, Australian National University and the University of Edinburgh), as well as numerous visiting professorial positions. He has also worked with the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, ASEAN, and the US Department of State.

The SWIPE Mentor Award pays tribute to women and men who have invested in the professional success of women in the IPE field. Originating in the early 1990s, the Society for Women in International
Political Economy (SWIPE) observed that many women in IPE did not have the close mentoring relationships that their male counterparts benefitted from. Indeed, while research across disciplines has shown that mentoring can be key to higher publication rates and successfully achieving tenure, women tend to get less mentoring than men. The SWIPE Committee, chaired by Ayse Kaya, and including Ida Bastiaens, Silke Trommer, Kimberly Weir and Byungwon Woo, selected Professor David Leblang, University of Virginia as the 2016 honoree. Professor Leblang is currently Chair of the Politics Department and is working on questions relating to diasporas and labor mobility. His previous work includes the co-authored book *Democratic Politics and Financial Markets: Pricing Politics* (2006) and more than thirty journal articles in publications such as *The American Political Science Review*, *The American Journal of Politics*, *International Organization*, *Economics and Politics*, and the *Journal of International Money and Finance*. Professor Leblang was selected as the next SWIPE mentor honoree for his selfless contributions to improving the role of women in IPE. As part of the nomination process, it was noted that he “consciously and systematically counters the gendered nature of academic social networks that undermine women’s career advancement”. The committee found impressive, and exemplary to others, Professor Leblang’s many efforts to increase the profile of women in IPE, including facilitating their participation in publications and conferences. Further, the committee was impressed by Professor Leblang’s deep and long-term commitment to mentorship relations, including for female scholars with no direct institutional ties.

The Outstanding Activist Scholar Award is given to an honoree who has successfully straddled academia and activism. Recipients should have a record of writing that is used and recognized within the academic community, as well as a record of work that moves beyond academia into activism. This year’s committee, chaired by Hasmet Uluorta and Andrej Grubacic, selected Professor Margaret Levi of the University of Washington. Professor Levi’s scholarship includes *Competition and Cooperation* (1999), *Cooperation Without Trust* (2005) and *In the Interest of Others* (2013), amongst others. In addition to her academic work, Levi started The Brand Responsibility Project and served as a board member with Jobs with Justice and Scholars. She is also an active member of Just Supply Chains while initiating a similar network in Australia called Ethical Supply Chains Network.

In terms of panels for the 2016 Convention to be held in Atlanta, IPE Program Chair André Broome assembled an impressive set of roundtables and panels, including co-sponsored sessions. The IPE program includes 83 panels and 8 roundtables (including the three awards roundtables), of which 27 are co-sponsored. The section engaged in co-sponsorship with the following sections/themes: Science, Technology and Art in International Relations, International Political Sociology, Environment Studies, Global Development, International Security Studies, Comparative Interdisciplinary Studies, Religion and International Relations, Feminist Theory and Gender Studies, Foreign Policy Analysis, International Organization, Exploring Peace (Theme), Global Health.

The finances of the section remain robust, with available funds for the section currently standing at USD 15,215.46. Future commitments include a USD 750 contribution towards the IPE reception at the annual convention, sponsored by Lynne Rienner. The reception is an excellent occasion to toast the three honerees and for members to interact informally. It customarily takes place on the Friday of the Convention, at the end of a packed day of formal section events, including the three honoree roundtables and the section business meeting. In the past 12 months, the section spent funds on the
following activities: contribution towards the annual reception; expenses related to the attendance of the OAS honoree Angela Davis; and a USD 500 contribution towards the creation of an informal email list for section members.