The Intelligence Studies Section (ISS) was established in 1985 in order to promote scholarly research and teaching in all aspects of intelligence, to internationalize the study of intelligence, and to build healthy, collaborative relationships with other academic disciplines. It has grown significantly over the past 10 years:

- ISS currently has 321 members, up from 83 members in 2005. Since 2012, membership has fluctuated between 312 and 339 members.
- ISS is sponsoring or co-sponsoring 24 panels at ISA 2015, up from 9 panels in 2004.
- ISS has a financial balance of $7035, up from about $4000 in 2008.

We attribute this growth to a number of factors, including greater awareness of intelligence among scholars, the high quality of the panels and papers presented by Section members at the ISA conference, the Section’s work to promote and encourage the study of intelligence among junior scholars and students, and the active participation of Section members in ISA.

As of March 2014, Section officers are:

- Stephen Marrin, Chair, elected to a three year term in 2013.
- Michael Andregg, Secretary-Treasurer, elected to a three-year term in 2014.
- Julian Richards and Bill Lahneman, Program Co-Chairs, appointed to one year terms in 2014.

The focal point of the Section’s activities is the annual ISA conference. At the 2014 conference:

- ISS sponsored or co-sponsored 19 panels and roundtables. An average of 40 people (participants and attendees) attended each of these panels.
- Loch Johnson received the ISS Distinguished Scholar Award for all that he has done to establish the field of intelligence studies. The reception was sponsored by Oxford University Press, Praeger/ABC-CLIO; and Routledge, and very well attended. Speakers included Arthur Hulnick, Gregory Treverton, and Michael Andregg.
- The 2014 Outstanding Student Paper Award was awarded to two recipients: Stephane Lefebvre for his paper on Reconciling Democracy and the Protection of State Secrets: South Africa’s Recent Experience, and Florina Cristiana Matei for her paper on the Media’s Role in Intelligence Democratization. This continues the effort to recognize scholarship by students by continuing its best student paper award program. Many thanks to Terry Quist and Erik Dahl for serving on that selection committee.
- There was a film showing of the documentary Our Man in Tehran: “Canadian filmmakers set the record straight with the help of real-life Canadian hero Ken Taylor, former Ambassador to Iran, who was actually responsible for the high-risk rescue of six U.S. citizens trapped in Iran,” and an associated roundtable on “Historicizing Argo” which included Ambassador Ken Taylor and other participants in the rescue effort.
- Gregory Treverton organized a lunchtime ISS event to showcase RAND’s ongoing Intelligence Studies projects.
- An ISS meeting was held to discuss the impact of NSA files disclosure on intelligence studies with Pete Gill, Richard Aldrich, Melina Dobson and Julian Richards.
- Two panels were created based on consultation with the Canadian Association of Security and Intelligence Studies (CASIS), a longtime ISS collaborative partner.
Additional ISS activities during the 2014-2015 year include:

- **Junior Scholars Committee:** This committee, chaired by Tamir Libel, has put together a number of activities and resources to encourage and facilitate participation and engagement with junior scholars, including acquiring information about funding; fellowships; scholarships; jobs; publication opportunities; syllabi; and some ideas for innovative works to be introduced at the 2016 ISA conference.

- **Updates to ISA’s Compendium Project:** Gail Helt, as the new ISS Section Editor, is soliciting/recruiting authors, managing the peer review process, and in general overseeing Section operations related to ISS contributions to ISA’s Compendium Project.

In 2015, ISS activities at the annual ISA conference will include:

- **Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of ISS:** The Intelligence Studies Section was created in 1985, and the 2015 conference provides an opportunity to celebrate the Section and provide an overview of where we have come from, where we are, and where we are going. Many of the former ISS section chairs and section program chairs will reflect on ISS activities over time. A related panel on “The study of intelligence in Britain: reflections on the past, present and future” is also scheduled as a part of this retrospective. The celebration will culminate in a reception on the evening of Wednesday 18 February. Sponsors include Georgetown University Press and Praeger/ABC-CLIO.

- **ISS Business Meeting(s):** An ISS business meeting is scheduled for lunchtime on Friday 20 February with a second meeting/event that evening, both with food & refreshments included.

Looking to the future, ISS members can support ISS activities by:

- **Improving communications:** This can be done specifically by sharing more information about conferences and publications of potential interest, calls for papers/presentations, other resources, and a variety of other research-oriented opportunities via the existing ISA email list. There are also prospects for creating a platform for direct communications between members of ISS (a wiki or blog) and/or updating the ISS website at: [http://www.isanet.org/ISA/Sections/ISS.aspx](http://www.isanet.org/ISA/Sections/ISS.aspx)

- **Increasing outreach and engagement with other intelligence studies associations:** In the 1980s and 1990s, ISS collaborated with CASIS as well as the British Security and Intelligence Studies Group. In summer 2012, ISS contributed two panels to the ISA/British International Studies Association conference and in 2014 CASIS contributed 2 panels to the ISA conference. These kinds of collaborations with other disciplinary, national or international associations provide significant opportunities for ISS members.

- **Promoting scholarship through the Compendium Project:** ISS seeks volunteers to write analytic review essays for the ISA Compendium Project. The Compendium Project is an effort to evaluate the state of the intelligence studies body of knowledge through evaluative literature reviews. Previous publications are listed here: [http://intellit.muskingum.edu/refmats_folder/teachingiss.html](http://intellit.muskingum.edu/refmats_folder/teachingiss.html)

- **Acquiring more benefits for ISS members:** There is untapped potential in terms of working with publishers and other interested parties to acquire benefits for ISS members. For example, ISS acquired a subscription discount for all ISA members to the International Journal of Intelligence and Counterintelligence. This is in addition to the existing discount for ISA members to the journal Intelligence and National Security. Additional benefits for members along these lines could be pursued by interested/engaged ISS members.