With over 1,700 members, ISSS is by far the largest section in ISA. In 2019, the section continued its strong fundraising, chose six scholars for awards for their work in security studies, continued the work of the ISSS taskforce on diversity in security studies, co-hosted our annual security studies conference with the APSA International Security section, and sponsored or co-sponsored 161 panels for the 2019 Honolulu conference.

FINANCES
As of October 10, 2019, the section had $144,572 in its accounts. That accounting includes revenue for the October 2019 ISSS-IS conference held at the University of Denver, but it does not include any of the conference expenses yet – meaning that the true balance is substantially lower than implied by the October 10 snapshot. As we complete the books on the ISSS-IS conference, we have every reason to believe that the conference made a modest profit for the section. The section’s overall financial status is healthy.

David Malet, the ISSS treasurer, raised another record amount in sponsorship for the ISSS reception at the 2020 ISA annual conference in Honolulu: $14,750. To take advantage of the facilities at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, the ISSS will co-sponsor an outdoor luau reception there: the luau required a higher expended attendance than even the ISSS reception usually gets, so we are joining this year with Bridging the Gap, War on the Rocks, and the ISA Religion section to share the increased costs and to fill what promises to be the exceptionally nice (and large) reception location.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM FOR HONOLULU
ISSS’s conference program for 2020 in Toronto remains the largest section program. Section Program Chair Lise Morjé Howard (Georgetown University), assisted by Tufts University Ph.D. student Polina Beliakova, managed the gargantuan task of organizing the ISSS panels. Submission data is detailed in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submission Type</th>
<th>1st choice submissions</th>
<th>2nd choice submissions</th>
<th>Placed on the program by ISSS</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Papers</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preformed Panels</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>37.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roundtables</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When co-sponsorships are included, ISSS sponsored 161 panels and roundtables for Honolulu. Note that the total number of panel sessions on the ISA conference program in Hawaii is lower than the number of panels at previous ISA conferences, due to space constraints at the conference hotels. As a result, the reported percentage of proposals placed on the program this year is lower than it has been in past years. Note, though, that quite a few more papers, panels, and roundtables proposed by ISSS members
are on the conference program than indicated by the above table, because they are likely to have been picked up by other sections. For example, many proposals that listed ISSS as their second-choice section were likely already accepted by the proposer’s first-choice section; ISSS never had an option to place those panels on the program. It is also true that a number of proposals that listed ISSS as their first-choice section were likely placed on the program by the proposer’s second-choice section. Because we cannot track other sections’ acceptance choices, we cannot calculate a true “acceptance rate” for ISSS submissions – that is, we cannot calculate the fraction of submissions to the ISSS that ultimately made it onto the conference program. We also cannot track the fraction of submissions by ISSS members that ultimately made it onto the program.

The section expresses its gratitude to Lise and Polina for taking on the demanding task or organizing the section’s participation in the annual conference.

AWARDS

ISSS will present six awards at the 2020 conference. Professor Cynthia Enloe of Clark University won the ISSS Distinguished Scholar Award. Vipin Narang, associate professor of political science at MIT, will receive the section’s Emerging Scholar Award. Lindsey O’Rourke, an assistant professor at Boston College, won the ISSS Best Book Award for her book, Covert Regime Change: America’s Secret Cold War (Cornell University Press, 2018). Lise Morjé Howard and Alexandra Stark won the section’s Best Security Article Award for their co-written article, “How Civil Wars End: The International System, Norms, and the Role of External Actors,” International Security, Vol. 42, No. 3 (winter 2017/2018). The Patricia Weitsman Award for Outstanding ISSS Graduate Paper went to Audrye Wong, Princeton University, for “Reaping What you Sow: Public Accountability and the Effectiveness of China’s Economic Statecraft.” The winners will receive their awards at the ISSS reception at the ISA conference in Toronto. Each of these committee-selected ISSS awards comes with a $500 prize and plaque to honor the winners.

ANNUAL SECURITY STUDIES CONFERENCE

The annual ISSS-IS conference was held at University of Denver in October 2019. We are grateful to Debbi Avant, Julia MacDonald, David Goldfischer, and Paul Viotti for their leadership in hosting the conference. “A Transformed Security Environment” attracted 250 scholars from around the world. Dr. Emily Goldman, the U.S. State Department Lead for Cyber and Emerging Tech, gave the conference’s keynote dinner speech, “Strategic Cyber Competition.” Conference participants also enjoyed a lunchtime conversation with Ambassador Christopher Hill. The ISSS and IS are looking forward to their 2020 conference at Indiana University, which will be hosted by Sumit Ganguly.

ISSS TASKFORCE ON DIVERSITY IN SECURITY STUDIES

The ISSS continued to support the work of the Taskforce on Diversity in Security Studies, created in 2018 by then-section chair Maria Rost Rublee. The task force reported some of its initial data on membership and membership concerns in 2019, and it is working on publishing several articles to publicize its results. At the ISSS Governing Council meeting at the ISA Toronto conference, the GC voted to require that the section chair distribute demographic data on section membership to GC members along with the formal charges for their committee participation – and that the GC members then acknowledge having read the demographic data before beginning their committee duties. The GC implemented this policy immediately with the committee activities that began in the summer of 2019.

The Diversity Taskforce also collected more data in 2019, including conducting focus groups at several ISA conferences and working with Women in International Security to code data on diversity in security journal publications. Finally, the Taskforce sponsored an extremely successful “Pay It Forward” workshop just before the ISSS-IS conference at University of Denver.
Elections
The section conducted elections to elect five members to serve three-year terms on the ISSS Governing Council. The election illustrated significant interest in the section’s activities, with 16 members standing for election from seven different countries. Monica Duffy Toft and Pinar Bilgin oversaw the nominations and the voting.

Current ISSS Governance
- Section Chair (March 2019 – April 2021): Eugene Gholz, University of Notre Dame
- Section Vice-Chair (March 2019 – April 2021): Monica Duffy Toft, Tufts University
- Treasurer (April 2018 - March 2023): David Malet, American University
- Section Program Chair (March 2019 – February 2020): Lise Morjé Howard, Georgetown University
- ISSS-IS Conference Co-Chair (October 2019): Debbi Avant, University of Denver
- ISSS-IS Conference Co-Chair (October 2019): Julia MacDonald, University of Denver

Governing Council Members
- Jonathan Caverley (April 2018 - April 2021), Naval War College
- Jennifer Dixon (April 2018 - April 2021), Villanova University
- Julia M. Macdonald (April 2018 - April 2021), University of Denver
- Jennifer Spindel (Graduate Student Representative, April 2018 - April 2021), University of Oklahoma
- Pinar Bilgin (February 2017 - March 2020), Bilkent University
- Jennifer L. Erickson (February 2017 - March 2020), Boston College
- Sarah E. Kreps (February 2017 - March 2020), Cornell University
- James J. Wirtz (February 2017 - March 2020), Naval Postgraduate School
- Naazneen Barma (March 2019 – March 2022), Naval Postgraduate School
- Heidi Hardt (March 2019 – March 2022), University of California, Irvine
- Lise Morjé Howard (March 2019 – March 2022), Georgetown University
- Stephen M. Saideman (March 2019 – March 2022), Carleton University
- Maria Rost Rublee, ex-officio (March 2019 – April 2021), Monash University

Distinguished Scholar Award Committee (through March 2020)
- Jennifer L. Erickson (Chair), Boston College
- Jonathan Caverley, U.S. Naval War College
- Jennifer Dixon, Villanova University
- Jennifer Spindel, University of Oklahoma

Emerging Scholar Award Committee (through March 2020)
- Pinar Bilgin (Chair), Bilkent University
- Stephen M. Saideman, Carleton University
- James J. Wirtz, Naval Postgraduate School

Best Article and Graduate Paper Committee (through March 2020)
- Julia MacDonald (Chair), University of Denver
- Heidi Hardt, University of California, Irvine
- James J. Wirtz, Naval Postgraduate School
Best Book Selection Committee (through March 2020)
- Sarah E. Kreps (Chair), Cornell University
- Naazneen Barma, Naval Postgraduate School
- Stephen M. Saideman, Carleton University

ISSS Council Nominating Committee (through March 2020)
- Monica Duffy Toft (Chair), Tufts University
- Pinar Bilgin, Bilkent University

Communications Chair (through March 2020)
- Maria Rost Rublee, Monash University