ISA Midwest
Annual President’s Report

Summary
The ISA Midwest annual conference was held Nov 4-7, 2010 at the Hilton Ballpark in St. Louis MO. Dr. Carolyn Shaw served as program chair. Two other regional associations partnered with ISA for the conference: Central Slavic Conference (CSC) and Midwest Association of Latin American Studies (MALAS). We also had support from two ISA sections: ALIAS and FPA. ALIAS sponsored the teaching workshop, and FPA sponsored the reception and a special panel on the Future of FPA. Although overall attendance was up at the conference, this was due in large part to the 88 members of MALAS who attended. ISA faculty was down from 79 to 70, and ISA graduate student attendees were down from 109 to 70, compared to 2009. There is no clear explanation for this decline. There were twenty-six ISA panels/roundtables, nine CSC panels, and twenty MALAS panels. Financially, the conference basically broke even, leaving approximately $5,000 in reserves. We exceeded our hotel contract block of rooms, with a (unaudited) total of 202 room nights. Our current contract extends through 2013 in St. Louis.

Highlights
This year’s Quincy Wright Distinguished scholar award went to Dr. John Vasquez, University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign, who gave a presentation at the award luncheon. Dr. David Lake, ISA President, gave the keynote address following a reception on Saturday night. Dr. A. Cooper Drury and Dr. Dursen Peksen were given the Klingberg award for outstanding faculty paper (2009). Paul Bellinger received the Lynne Rienner best student paper award (2009). Baris Kesgin received the Hermann award for best textual analysis from Social Science Automation (SSA).

Special workshops and roundtables included: Job Search Strategies, Developing your Teaching Philosophy and Crafting a Syllabus, Engaged Learning in Undergraduate Research, and Strategies for Success in Scholarship and Publication. Six members of the South Korean Truth and Reconciliation Commission also presented a special roundtable on their current work.

The Central Slavic Conference sponsored a special exhibit titled “Prijedor: Lives from the Bosnian Genocide” that was on display throughout the conference. The Prijedor exhibit is a unique community collaboration among Bosnians from Prijedor, the St. Louis Holocaust Museum staff, and students and faculty from Fontbonne University who recorded video interviews with local Prijedor survivors.

New Developments
At the business meeting, members decided to give the Quincy Wright award on alternating years, rather than every year. Following further discussion among the Board, we have decided to offer a best book award (for a first book written by a member of the Midwest region and nominated by a person within the region), and an innovative teaching award on a three-year rotational basis. In 2011, the best book award will be presented, followed by the innovative teaching award in 2012. The board is in the process of formalizing these changes.

The Central Slavic Conference will be joining us again in 2011. We are currently looking for at least one other association to partner with us for the conference to ensure that we meet the hotel room block.

2011 Board Members
Past President Terry Clark
President
President Elect/ Co-Program Chairs
Secretary
Members at large:
John Ishiyama (2010-2011)
Matt Moore (2010-2012)
Baris Kesgin (2010-2012)

Carolyn Shaw
Marc O'Reilly and Wesley Renfro
Michael Rudy
Peter Rudloff (2009-2011)