



ISA-NORTHEAST REGION

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

This report was prepared by Harry D. Gould, ISA-Northeast President

FULL REPORT

The ISA-Northeast had a successful 2015. With the invaluable support of the ISA HQ staff, on November 6 and 7, 2015, we had a well-attended and well-reviewed conference in Providence, RI at the Biltmore Hotel. We were also very pleased to have many members of the ISA HQ staff as well as Mark Boyer, the Executive Director, as our guests at this year's conference.

ISA-NE continues to be the largest of ISA's regional organizations, and our membership, currently at 1212, continues to grow. As of November 30, ISA-NE had \$28971 in its account. Final costs for the 2015 conference are still being calculated due to accounting and billing errors on the part of the Providence Biltmore.

Daniel Levine (University of Alabama), our 2015 program chair and current President-Elect, and program co-chair Alexander Barder (Florida International University), put together an excellent program. 243 people registered for the conference (the most to-date), which featured 56 panels (likewise the most to-date) in addition to special events. The conference featured a keynote address delivered by Laura Sjøberg (University of Florida – substituting for the hospitalized ISA President), and a luncheon address delivered by Anne Norton (University of Pennsylvania).

Each year, ISA-Northeast holds the Northeast Circle, honoring and discussing a forthcoming book likely to be of impact in the field. This year's honoree was Stefanie Fishel (University of Alabama), for her forthcoming book, *New Designs for Global Thriving* (University of Minnesota Press).

The conference was sponsored by the Global Governance and Human Security Program at the University of Massachusetts Boston; the University of Michigan Press; the Academic Council on the United Nations (ACUNS); American University, School of International Service; and Providence College.

In conjunction with our conference, ISA-Northeast hosted its 8th Annual Graduate Student Workshop in Interpretive and Relational Research Methods on the Saturday of the conference. This year's Workshop was organized by Jessica Auchter (University of Tennessee at Chattanooga) and Stefanie Fishel (University of Alabama), who selected student participants, invited faculty mentors, and ran the workshop itself. Faculty mentors this year were Cecelia Lynch (University of California, Irvine), Annick T.R. Wibben (University of San Francisco), Naeem Inayatullah (Ithaca College), and Andrew A.G. Ross (Ohio University). The Workshop was funded by an ISA Professional Development Grant, with additional funding from ISA-Northeast's conference funds.

The workshop continued the format followed in previous years: a morning of open presentations on the craft of interpretive and relational research from faculty mentors; an informal lunch that included

students, mentors, and the leadership of the ISA-Northeast; and small-group conversations on dissertation prospectuses and chapters in the afternoon. The organizers matched mentors to students. Students also attended what has become another ISA-Northeast tradition, a panel session on academic publishing jointly organized by the ISA- NE Program Chair and University of Michigan Acquisitions Editor Melody Herr, with the additional participation of Daniel Nexon, editor of *International Studies Quarterly*, and Renée Marlin-Bennett, general editor of the *International Studies Compendium*.

The Governing Council also announced the winners of our three annual awards.

- The 2015 Fred Hartmann Award for Best Graduate Student Paper Presented at ISA-NE 2014 was awarded to Taesuh Chah (The Johns Hopkins University) for his paper, “The Formation of American Exceptional Identities: A Three-Tier Model of the ‘Standard of Civilization’ in American Foreign Policy”.
- The 2015 A. Leroy Bennett Award for Best Faculty Paper Presented at ISA-NE 2013 was awarded jointly to Boaz Atzili (American University) and Anne J. Kantel (American University) for their co-authored paper “Accepting the Unacceptable: Lessons from West Germany's Changing Border Policies”.
- The 2015 Yale H. Ferguson Award for the book that most advances the vibrancy of International Studies as a pluralist discipline was awarded jointly to Séverine Autesserre for her book, *Peaceland: Conflict Resolution and the Everyday Politics of International Intervention* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) and to Michael G. Findley, Daniel L. Nielson, and J.C. Sharman for their book, *Global Shell Games: Experiments in Transnational Relations, Crime, and Terrorism* (Cambridge University Press, 2014).

At the completion of the ISA-Northeast conference, Harry Gould (Florida International University) succeeded Jennifer Lobasz as President of ISA-Northeast. Daniel Levine (University of Alabama) became Vice President and President-Elect. Jessica Auchter (University of Tennessee at Chattanooga) succeeded Daniel Levine as Program Chair, joined by Matthew Weiner as Program Co-Chair. Randall Neumann (Penn State Berks) continues as Secretary. Stefanie Fishel (University of Alabama) and Nicholas Kiersey (Ohio University) were elected co-conveners of the Workshop for 2015.

Continuing our recent pattern of alternating conferences between Baltimore and Providence, the 2016 ISA-Northeast conference will be back in Baltimore at the Embassy Suites and Grand Historic Venue. We will continue this rotation through 2018, although we have been priced out of the Biltmore. We will hold the 2017 conference at the Providence Hilton, and the 2018 conference at the Embassy Suites and Grand Historic Venue in Baltimore. Discussions are underway about whether to remain in Providence, or to seek a new city.