



# NORTHEAST REGION

## 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

*This report was prepared by Harry D. Gould, ISA-Northeast Region Chair*

### FULL REPORT

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The ISA-Northeast had a successful 2016. With the invaluable support of the ISA HQ staff, on November 4 and 5, 2015, we had a well-attended and well-reviewed conference in Baltimore, MD at the Embassy Suites.

ISA-NE continues to be the largest of ISA's regional organizations, although our membership, currently at 1157, is down slightly from 2015. As of the October 31 balance sheet, ISA-NE had \$37403 in its account. This is NOT inclusive of Annual Conference income and expenditure for which final figures are still pending.

Jessica Auchter (University of Tennessee – Chattanooga), our 2016 program chair and current President-Elect, and program co-chair Matthew Weinert (University of Delaware), put together an excellent program. **223** people registered for the conference, which featured **42** panels in addition to special events. The conference featured a keynote address delivered by Neta Crawford (Boston University), and a luncheon address delivered by Lee Ann Fujii (Princeton University).

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 Michelle D. Jurkovich (University of Massachusetts - Boston), for her forthcoming book, *The Politics of Hunger: Blame Diffusion in International Anti-Hunger Advocacy*.

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); Palgrave-Macmillan; *Perspectives on Terrorism*; Towson University Department of Political Science; Routledge / Taylor and Francis; the University of Delaware; the University of Tennessee – Chattanooga; and the Active Learning in International Affairs Section of ISA.

In conjunction with our conference, ISA-Northeast hosted its 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Workshop in Interpretive and Relational Research Methods on the Saturday of the conference. This year's Workshop was organized by Stefanie Fishel (University of Alabama) and Nicholas Kiersey (Ohio University), who selected student participants, invited faculty mentors, and ran the workshop itself. Faculty mentors this year were Nicholas Rowland (The Pennsylvania State University), Elizabeth Dauphinee (York University), Daniel Levine (University of Alabama), and Laura Sjøberg (University of Florida). 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.

This year a *new workshop* was run for early-career faculty that was focused on pedagogy in the first session and the drafting of teaching statements in the second session. It was organized by Jamie Frueh with the encouragement and sponsorship of ALIAS. In addition to Jamie Frueh, the mentors were Patrick Thaddeus Jackson (American University), Renée Marlin Bennett (The Johns Hopkins University), Rosemary Shinko (American University), and Brent J. Steele (University of Utah).

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

- The 2016 Fred Hartmann Award for Best Graduate Student Paper Presented at ISA-NE 2015 was jointly awarded to Alena Drieschova (University of Toronto) for her paper, “Forms of Representation and Changes of International Order” and to Eric van Rythoven (Carleton University) for his paper, “Dystopian Idealism and Fear in Security Studies: From the Absolutist to the Contentious Politics of Fear”. (n.b. the program erroneously left out the first “the” in van Rythoven’s paper title.)
- The 2016 A. Leroy Bennett Award for Best Faculty Paper Presented at ISA-NE 2015 was awarded to Giovanni Mantilla (CIDE) for his paper, “Compromised Commitments: Social Pressure and Rational Dysfunction in the Making of the Laws of War”.
- The 2016 Yale H. Ferguson Award for the book that most advances the vibrancy of International Studies as a pluralist discipline was awarded Ayten Gündoğdu (Barnard College, Columbia University) for her book, *Rightslessness in an Age of Rights* (Oxford University Press). The runner up was Lauren Wilcox for her book, *Bodies of Violence* (Oxford University Press).

At the completion of the ISA-Northeast conference, Daniel Levine (University of Alabama) succeeded Harry Gould as President of ISA-Northeast, with Gould moving to Past President, succeeding Jennifer Lobasz (University of Delaware). Jessica Auchter (University of Tennessee – Chattanooga) became President-Elect. Stefanie Fishel (University Alabama) succeeded Jessica Auchter as Program Chair, joined by Ben Meiches (University of Washington - Tacoma) as Program Co-Chair. Randall Neumann (Penn State Berks) continues as Secretary.

Continuing our practice of alternating conferences between Baltimore and Providence, the 2017 ISA-Northeast conference will be held in Providence at a new site, the Providence Hilton, because we have been priced out of the Biltmore. We are now contracted with Providence Hilton and the Baltimore Embassy Suites through 11/2024 after Jeanne White at ISA and Peggy Parker sent out calls for bids to several Northeastern cities with very few bids returned, and most of those far outside of our price range.