International Studies Association
Political Demography and Geography Section
Annual Report 2012

Summary

The Political Demography and Geography section of the International Studies Association has seen a period of sustained high growth after our inception in 2011. Our inaugural 5 panels at the Montréal ISA Annual Convention in 2011 were well attended and more importantly allowed for the opportunity to attract new scholars to the section. This interest has allowed the section to triple its panel sponsorship at the San Diego ISA Annual Convention in 2012 with 15 panels and also 2 poster sessions. Importantly, these panels are split evenly between demographically interests and geographic with well over 50% of the papers being by non-US scholars. The research topics themselves are broad ranging from theoretical questions on space, demographical transitions, to spatial methods and public policy helping to illustrate the rising popularity of these two interconnected research agendas. As part of our sections continuing international presence we’re sponsoring an additional panel at the Edinburgh British International Studies Association Annual Convention in 2012.

We are conducting searches for officers whose service would start in 2013. Like many sections our officers serve two-year terms, which started in 2011. Our current President in Jacek Kugler (Claremont Graduate University), the Treasure is Ismene Gizelis (University of Essex), the Program Coordinator is Tadeusz Kugler (Roger Williams University). Ismene Gizelis and Clionadh Raleigh (Trinity College) are the co- editors of the section’s Newsletter.

Membership and Finance

We currently have 64 members as of January 2012 while in 2011 the section had 43. We are currently below the new ISA section minimum of 120 but are still within our accepted period of recruitment and growth. Two other sections started in the same year and we are within the normal range of both membership and growth for a 2nd year section. The Global South Caucus had 14 members in 2011 with 69 in 2012. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, Queer, & Allies Caucus had 42 in 2011 and 61 in 2012. Membership
growth continues to be a priority but we feel that the significant increase in both panels and papers sent to our section for sponsorship is a positive development for the future.

The next business meeting of the section will take place on Tuesday April 3, 2012 from 6:00-6:45 pm in room 411 at the Hilton Bayfront. The reception will take place the same day right after the business meeting at 6:45 pm in Sapphire A Ballroom at the Hilton Bayfront. We are currently continuing our relationship with Scientific Study of International Processes by co-sponsoring with them a joint reception.

We have received pledges by Claremont Graduate University for $500, as has Roger Williams University Department of Politics and International Relations for $200 and The Henry L. Simson Center for $200. Michael King of Routledge/Taylor and Francis in the UK has also pledged $500 towards our reception in San Diego; The Management School at La Sierra pledged $200 as has the Mark O. Hatfield School of Government for $200.

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**Highlights, Notes, and Research**

A member of our board Richard Cincotta (Demographer-in-Residence Henry L. Stimson Center H.L. Stimson Center) presented a “Distinguished Guest Lecture” on political demography to the assembled faculty and students of the U.S. government’s National Intelligence University in Washington, DC, November 28, 2011.
