The Political Demography and Geography section of the International Studies Association has seen a steady growth in membership since its inception in 2011. Once again, I am pleased to report on the exciting developments happening in ISA’s Political Demography & Geography Section. First of all, we are holding our own; our membership stands at 125 (Figure 1) and is anticipated to grow as we reach out to ISA’s general membership.

Membership and Finance:

Our section’s finances are also in good shape as shown in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PDG Finances</th>
<th>5/31/15</th>
<th>9/30/15</th>
<th>12/31/15</th>
<th>1/31/16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance Forward</td>
<td>3978.85</td>
<td>4051.85</td>
<td>4051.85</td>
<td>4051.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YTD</td>
<td>4037.85</td>
<td>4051.85</td>
<td>4051.85</td>
<td>4051.85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As of December 2015, our funds stand at roughly $4,051. During 2014-15, contributions to PDG came from the USC’s Hatfield School of Government, Portland State University’s Center for Turkish Studies, PRIO/Journal of Peace Research, Texas A&M University’s Bush School, and The Stimson Center.
ISA 2016 Panels:

Our program chair Pat James and Distinguished Scholar Panel Director Valerie Hudson organized a rich collection for PDG sponsored/co-sponsored panels for ISA Atlanta 2016. PDG will be sponsoring and co-sponsoring 22 panels in Atlanta. We will recognize Professor Nazli Choucri as PDG Distinguished Scholar who will receive the Fourth Annual Myron Weiner Award. Professor Choucri (Department of Political Science, MIT) is an outstanding scholar whom we are pleased to honor as this year’s recipient of PDG’s Myron Wiener Distinguished Scholar Award. The author of eleven books and over 120 articles, she is a renowned expert on the sources and consequences of international conflict and violence. Her seminal insights into “lateral pressure” and its connections to conflict combine applied theorization with practical empirical research—a combination near and dear to political demographers and geographers. Nazli is the architect and Director of the Global System for Sustainable Development (GSSD), a multi-lingual web-based knowledge networking system focusing on the multi-dimensionality of sustainability. Dr. Choucri served as editor of the International Political Science Review and served two terms as President of the Scientific Advisory Committee of UNESCO’s Management of Social Transformation (MOST) Program. She will receive the award at ISA-Atlanta Conference. Furthermore, at the joint PDG/FPA/SSIP Reception our section will host 6 poster sessions.

Graduate Student Paper Award:

This year, we continued to award The Jacek Kugler Political Demography and Geography Student Paper Award to the best paper with a political demography and geography themes presented at the ISA Annual Convention in Atlanta. The award committee (Andrea DenBoer [Chair], Alex Braithwaite, and Ali Fisunoglu) selected the following winner and runner up for the Jacek Kugler Political Demography and Geography Student Award.

1. Robert Braun, “Religious Minorities and Resistance to Genocide: The Collective Rescue of Jews in the Netherlands during the Holocaust” has been awarded the Jacek Kugler Political Demography and Geography Student Paper Award.

2. Danielle Cohen, “Selective Adoption Under Social Pressure: Population Control, the Cairo Consensus, and the Reform of China’s One Child Policy,” has been awarded the runner-up Jacek Kugler Political Demography and Geography Student Paper Award.

PDG Board Members, 2015-2016:

Birol Yesilada, Section Chair & Treasurer, April 2014 - March 2016 (Portland State University)
Patrick James, Program Chair, February 2015 - March 2016 (University of Southern California)
Jonathan Potton, Newsletter Director, February 2015 - March 2016 (University of Aberdeen)
Valerie Hudson, Distinguished Scholar Event Dir., Feb. 2015-March 2016 (Texas A&M University)
Andrea DenBoer, Graduate Student Awards Director, Feb. 2015 - March 2016 (University of Kent)
Richard Cincotta, Past Section Chair, April 2014 - March 2016 (The Stimson Center)

PDG Board Members-At-Large:

Alex Braithwaite, February 2015 - March 2016 (University of Arizona)
Ismene Gizelis, February 2015 - March 2016 (University of Essex)
Scott Gates, February 2015 - March 2016 (PRIO)
Jack Goldstone, February 2015 - March 2016 (George Mason University)
Jacek Kugler, February 2015 - March 2016 (Claremont Graduate University)
Tadeusz Kugler, February 2015 - March 2016, (Roger Williams University)
Steven Pickering, February 2015 - March 2016 (Kobe University)
Jennifer Dabbs Sciubba, February 2015 - March 2016 (Rhodes College)
Ronald Tammen, February 2015 - March 2016 (Portland State University)
Henrik Urdal, February 2015 - March 2016 (PRIO)