This report was prepared by Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, chair of the ISA Publications Committee (members include A. Cooper Drury, Stacie E. Goddard, James H. Lebovic, Jon Pevehouse, Norrin M. Ripsman, James M. Scott, Jacqui True, Wesley Widmaier, with ex-officios Daniel Nexon, Amanda Murdie, Klaus Brummer, Brian Lai, Laura Neack, Debbie Lisle, Michael Colaresi, Deborah Avant, Gerald Schneider, Renée Marlin-Bennett, Brett Ashley Leeds, Patrick James, Cameron G. Thies, Mark A. Boyer and Jennifer Fontanella). The report was submitted January 7, 2019 for the 2019 Governing Council meeting in Toronto.

**FULL REPORT**

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This report summarizes the discussions of the ISA Publications Committee in 2018 and provides information about the ISA journals based on the editors’ annual reports. Deliberations from the Committee produced recommendations for editorial teams for *Journal of Global Security Studies (JoGSS)*, *International Studies Perspectives (ISP)* and the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of International Studies (OREIS)*.
The committee met in San Francisco on April 5, 2018. Topics of discussion included editors’ use of the virtual editorial office (VEO) services from Oxford University Press (OUP), editors’ policies for desk rejections, expansion of pre-submission exchange to multiple ISA journals, and future changes in open access policies. OUP representatives reported that journal subscriptions were renewing at a health rate and that journal article downloads increased by 48,000 in 2017.

The ISA Editorial Summit occurred on May 11, 2018 in New York. OUP provided information about updates for the Oxford Academic platform and discussed how to effectively use data analytics in Altmetric Explorer and other platforms to maximize the reach of ISA publications. Participants also discussed experience with foreign language translation of journal abstracts and how we could expand translations to all ISA journals. We also discussed strategies for using VEO services for more ISA publications and what tasks could be centralized most effectively.

The Publications Committee Chair attended the Oxford Journals Days event in North Carolina on November 8-9, 2018. In addition to serving as a co-leader for a mini session on Altmetrics, the chair learned more about changes in open access policies that will impact ISA publications. The chair and executive director of ISA followed up with OUP staff with a phone call in December to discuss open access issues and how to address them moving forward. OA issues will be discussed at the 2019 ISA Toronto meeting and editorial summit in New York in May.

ISA editors and their staffs each year compile a very impressive set of data that provides details regarding manuscript submissions, acceptance rates, turn-around times, manuscript reviewers, diversity in authors/reviewers, and journal’s impact scores. It is truly impressive how much thought and effort the editors and staff at each journal puts into these annual reports, and they are easily found under the Publications tab on the ISA site. We urge you to take a closer look at these individual reports housed at the ISA website. Some highlights in 2018 are detailed below.

- **Contracts**: Continued success in our contracts with Oxford University Press (OUP) and Taylor and Francis, including an updated website for OREIS.

- **Virtual Reach**: Enhanced web presence for ISA journals through blog posts, podcasts, and virtual issues; increases in ISA journals’ article downloads and impact factors in 2017 and 2018. All ISA journals were very active on Twitter and other social media outlets. *Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA)* and *International Political Sociology (IPS)* produced digital video abstracts and podcasts for articles.

- **Submission Rates**: ISA’s journals processed close to 2,200 new manuscript submissions last year, a 22% increase from 2017. Acceptance rates ranged from 10% to 25%. Several journals including FPA and *International Studies Quarterly (ISQ)* continued taking successful steps to handle the large back-log of accepted articles.

- **Turnaround Time**: Our target for ISA journals’ turnaround time is 75 calendar days. All journals were better than this standard in 2018 (ranging from 47 to 63 days), which makes our journals attractive to potential authors.
• **Female Participation in ISA Publications**: Women authors represent 29-42% of the authors for accepted articles in ISA journals in 2018, paralleling the rates for female submissions. Reviewer pools at our journals also show that gender participation closely parallels their manuscript submission rates. Moreover, the rates at which women and men decline to review is nearly equal. II provides detailed information about their efforts to collect more information about reviewer behavior by gender in their annual report.

• **Addressing Gendered Citation Gaps**: Many ISA journals address potential biases in citations to women’s research in accepted publications. *International Studies Review (ISR)* created a new policy of using the Gender Balance Assessment Tool (GBAT) to report to authors the percentage of females cited in the bibliography and provided authors with 100 additional manuscript words to address gender gaps.

• **Non-North American Participation in ISA Publications**: We see improvements in participation by scholars from outside the United States and Canada in ISA journals. Submissions by authors range from 36 to 67 distinct countries across the journals, with most publications receiving submissions from a higher number of countries in 2018 compared to 2017. Editors engaged in a variety of activities to increase non-North American submissions including panels and other sessions at international conferences. ISP expanded foreign language publication of its article abstracts in English and Spanish to French in 2018 and held a writing workshop at the FLACSO-ISA meeting in Ecuador. *JoGSS*’s successful pre-submission exchange program to provide feedback to authors typically underrepresented in mainstream international relations journals was adopted by several other ISA journals including *IPS* and *FPA*.

• **Financial Reporting**: ISA instituted a policy of requiring editorial teams to provide a financial report each summer. The publications committee received and reviewed reports for all seven journals and we are pleased to report that the journals are in strong financial shape.

The state of ISA Publications appears to be very solid and trending in desirable directions in several ways. The quality of our editorial teams is excellent, the relationship with our publishers is first-rate, and the management of our journals is very sound. The readership and external impact of ISA publications continues to rise markedly, as does the number of scholars seeking to publish with us. We are increasingly diverse in both gender and geographic terms, although we can and will continue to improve on these fronts.