

Final Report for 2013 ISA Catalytic Workshop Grant Nuclear Politics: Beyond Positivism

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I. Budget Reconciliation

We underspent our budget by \$800.81, all in the category of accommodation costs. Some participants shared rooms (leading to lower costs), others found less expensive accommodation, and others had accommodation paid for by their universities.

Actual Expenditures		\$3772.19
<i>Workshop Costs</i>		<i>\$675</i>
Room Rental	\$200	
Computer rental	\$375	
Internet connection	\$100	
<i>Lodging Costs</i>		<i>\$1443.19</i>
<i>Per Diem Costs</i>		<i>\$1500</i>
<i>Food</i>		<i>\$154</i>
Coffee/tea breaks (\$7 pp x 11 people x 2 breaks)		

II. Workshop Schedule

Welcome and Introduction (9-9:15 am)

Panel One (9:15-10:45 am): Disturbing the Nuclear Discourse

- Benoît Pelopidas, “Innovation in Nuclear Thinking: Incompetent, Dangerous or Futile?”
- David Mutimer, “Picturing Armageddon: Imagining Nuclear Weapons on Screen”

Panel Two (11 am-12:30 pm): Imagination and Nuclear Strategy

- Anthony Burke, “Nuclear Time: A Materialist Critique of Nuclear Politics”
- Rens van Munster and Casper Sylvest, “Forgotten Political Theories of the Thermonuclear Age: Globality and the Reconfiguration of Military Force”
- Anne Harrington, “The Power of Nuclear Politics: Deterrence and Compellence in a Nuclear-armed World”

Panel Three (1:30-2:30 pm): Rethinking the Regime

- Ursula Jasper, “Reassessing the Grand Bargain: The NPT as a Permanently Re-negotiated Order”
- Carmen Wunderlich, “Overcoming False Dichotomies: Iran and Sweden as Norm Entrepreneurs within the NPT”

Panel Four (2:30–4:00 pm): Critiques Toward Nuclear Zero

- Nick Ritchie, “Valuing and Devaluing Nuclear Weapons”
- Marianne Hanson, “Normalising Zero”
- Maria Rost Rublee, “Nuclear Omelas”

Concluding Forum (4:15-5:30 pm)

The workshop organizers (Burke, Hanson and Rublee) chaired this forum, leading an open discussion around content presented during the workshop, avenues and priorities for future theorizing and research, and formalizing a network of scholars in this research area.

III. Workshop Outcomes

All participants agreed that the workshop was an outstanding success, for a number of reasons. First, all participants provided drafts of their papers in advance so that the workshop could focus on feedback rather than paper presentations. The papers and feedback led to very rich discussion on not only paper topics, but on ways of extending critical analysis further into the field of nuclear politics. We also gave each other detailed ideas for improving papers for future publication. Second, participants were quite diverse in terms of geographic location, nationality, and seniority level, leading to real cross-fertilization of ideas. Finally, the workshop was tremendously successful in terms of establishing a network of scholars, with the concluding session being used to plan mechanisms for communication, future funding ideas, and future publication ideas. Specifically, we have set up a google group for the participants and all other interested scholars, entitled Nuclear Politics Beyond Positivism. We are in the process of establishing an academic.edu webpage so that we can share resources on non-positivist and post-positivist analyses of nuclear politics. Two of us committed to investigate funding sources for a future workshop to be held separate from the annual ISA meeting.

The only disappointment was that we had hoped to attract a number of observers, especially Ph.D. students. However, our workshop was on the same day as a nuclear-related workshop being held at the Center for Nonproliferation Studies at the Monterey Institute for International Studies, and many of the people we hoped would attend were already committed to the other workshop. However, what we lacked in quantity, we made up in quality: two outstanding Ph.D. students participated as observers, and their contributions to the discussion were very useful. We have invited both to join our google group and other networking activities.

IV. Planned Outputs

2014 ISA Annual Conference

We are currently finalizing 1-2 panels to propose for the 2014 ISA conference in Toronto. We are seeking chairs and discussants from outside our workshop participants to help enlarge the circle of people in the network. In addition, we will use the panel(s) at ISA to let people know about our network and encourage them to join.

Publications

While we originally planned to produce an edited volume from the workshop, we have seen decided to pursue 1-2 special issues in academic journals. We proposed a special issue for

the *Review of International Studies*, but we were not selected for it. So we have approached other journals, and both *Ethics & International Affairs* and *Global Governance* have asked us to submit formal proposals. We are confident that we'll be able to place our papers in high-quality journals that will ensure visibility for the subject matter.