

ISA Catalyst Grant “Beyond the Boomerang: Evolving Transnational Advocacy” Final Report

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The Beyond the Boomerang workshop was a resounding success, based on the feedback of the panelists, conversations with scholars who did not participate in the workshop but attended the ISA Annual Conference in Baltimore, and comments that were heard in other panels that referenced our workshop. A total of fifteen people attended, including 1 observer. Unfortunately, Ronald Holzacker was unable to attend (and notified us prior to the event) and Lisa Sundstrom was struck ill the day she was to fly to Baltimore. One participant, Amanda Murdie, presented in the morning, but had attend the governing council meeting in the afternoon. She has not sought reimbursement for her hotel. We thus had fourteen people at the final workshop dinner (paid for by Christopher Pallas per prior agreement from ISA). The funding for graduate student travel was not fully utilized as several graduate students obtained post-doctoral fellowships subsequent to our grant application and thus it was not clear if they would qualify.

Our proposed budget and final budget are below. Note that in the actual expenses we have extracted the portion of the per diem allocated for the group dinner:

Budget

	<u>Proposed</u>			<u>Actual</u>	
	Price	Number	Subtotal	Number	Subtotal
Accommodations					
Domestic (1 night)	201	10	\$2010	9	\$1628.05
Foreign (2 nights)	402	6	\$2412	4	\$1537.34
Parking	50	1	\$50	0	0
Per diem					
Domestic (1)	75	11	\$825	9	\$250
Foreign (2)	150	3	\$900	4	\$400
Dinner	NA	NA	NA	14 ¹	\$781
Lunch	44.35	17	\$754		
Coffee	90	3	\$270		
Room rental	250	1	\$250		
Power strips	18	5	\$90		
Graduate student travel	500	4	\$2000	1	\$345.60
Total			\$9561		\$4941.92

¹ Dinner was a set menu reserved ahead with the restaurant (Eat4Life) for a predetermined number of participants. The reservation could not be changed, despite the drop from 14 to 13 participants, because of the sudden nature of the illness that prevented one of the participants from coming.

The workshop met from 8 am until 4:30 pm and then the participants registered for the main ISA conference prior to meeting again to head to a local restaurant for dinner. The conversations across the workshop, and dinner, were lively and informative. While the workshop was organized around three thematic areas, namely what does transnational activism look like today, how do we build a better understand of transnational activism given these changes, and how do we test our ideas about transnational activism (and the extent and nature of change), many of the points of discussion and larger ideas evolved usefully over the course of the day. The final session was particularly valuable for taking stock of the state of knowledge and our best (most productive) paths forward. The full schedule for the workshop is attached at the end of this report.

While many of the participants had met one or two of the others, and some are involved in prior collaborative projects with other participants, everyone met at least a few new scholars working on transnational advocacy. There was good representation across the career lifespan; one of the most useful sets of conversations occurred on the theme of change within the study of transnational activism, and the extent to which claims of change in empirical reality and theoretical programs of study were under or overstated. Comments offered on the nature of transnational activism, and the origins of the study of transnational mobilization and non-state actors, from Drs. Keck and Scholte were invaluable in shaping our plans regarding the products to come from the workshop.

We have planned the following publication strategy based on the input of the participants and the nature of discussions at the end of the day. First, we plan to propose a second, follow-on panel at the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) in Michigan in November 2018. This will allow us to solicit, and discuss, new chapters with authors who can fill important gaps in the emerging design of the edited volume planned as the primary output from the ISA Catalyst Workshop. These gaps were only clear after the ISA workshop, and thus we did not consider inviting these scholars. Second, we plan to submit four or five of the papers from the ISA workshop as a special edition of an international relations journal. Our top venue is the *International Studies Review*. This special edition will enable a quick return from the workshop and allow authors to submit their workshop papers for publication. This is particularly important for junior scholars who participated in the workshop. The special edition will help us to refine our framing of the beyond the boomerang argument, and generate interest in, and more of a market for, the planned edited volume. Third, we are working on designing a tightly connected, and thus more feasible, edited volume based upon the discussions at the workshop. While the initial papers submitted by participants were related, they were not tightly interconnected. We thus plan to ask authors to write more focused and shorter chapters for the final edited volume, using some but not all of their initial material and speaking directly to a carefully crafted topic. This will allow us to increase the competitiveness of the edited volume, as we'd like to publish with Cornell, Cambridge, or Oxford University Press. This will also enable us to develop a more coherent theoretical frame and thus produce a more useful final product for scholars of transnational advocacy networks and transnational advocacy.

Beyond the Boomerang: Evolving Transnational Advocacy

Tuesday, February 21, 2017 in the Ruth Room, Hilton Baltimore

8:00 Introductions and Welcome

8:30-9:45 Session 1: Asserting Independence: Southern NGOs Leadership and Control

Discussant: Margaret Keck, Johns Hopkins University

Language Practices and Cultural Exchange in Transnational Advocacy Networks: Communicative Encounters between Northern and Southern Actors

Angela Crack, University of Portsmouth, and Hilary Footit, University of Reading

The privatization of the global socioenvironmental agenda – impacts on local and transnational activism

Maria Rodrigues, College of the Holy Cross

Transnational Advocacy without Northern Partners: Vietnamese NGOs in the HIV/AIDS Sector

Christopher Pallas, Kennesaw State University, and Lan Nguyen

9:45-10:00 Coffee Break

10:00-11:15 Session 2: Shifting Weight in Transnational Advocacy Networks

Discussant: Christopher Pallas, Kennesaw State University

Targeting Individuals Instead of States: Transnational Activism Against Gender-based Violence

Karisa Cloward, Southern Methodist University

Solidarity on the Reef: Southeast Asian Responses to Land Grabbing

Julie Gilson, University of Birmingham

11:15-12:30 Session 3: Beyond the Reach of International Partners

Discussant: Elizabeth Bloodgood, Concordia University, Montreal

Are Funders Really Responding? Analyzing the Impact of Global Restrictions in NGOs

Andrew Heiss, Duke University, and Suparna Chaudhry, Yale University

INGO Data: The Horrible, the Bad, and the Way Forward

Amanda Murdie, University of Georgia, and Jonathan Moyer, University of Denver

12:30-1:30 Lunch

1:30-2:45 Session 4: The Evolving State of Transnational Advocacy

Discussant: Jan Aart Scholte, University of Gothenberg

Advocacy in the Digital Era: Campaigning for Refugee Rights in 2015 & 2016

Nina Hall, Hertie School of Governance

Confronting Goliath Without David: Transnational Corporations, Biotechnology and Civil Society in Mexico

Shana Starobin, University of Pennsylvania Law School

Changing Climates in Russia and China: NGOs and Transnational Advocacy in Authoritarian States

Laura Henry, Bowdoin College, and Lisa McIntosh Sundstrom, University of British Columbia

2:45-3:00 Coffee Break

3:00-4:30 Session 5: Wrap Up and Next Steps

6:00 Dinner, local restaurant