The SAWP business meeting was held on March, 28th from 12:30-1:30 pm at the ISA Annual Convention in Toronto. The results for the new governing council elections were announced at the meeting. The new members in charge are:

**Section Chairs:** Surupa Gupta and Nicolas Blarel  
**Program Chair:** Sumit Ganguly  
**Treasurer:** Aseema Sinha  
**Secretary:** Ananya Sharma

The items discussed during the meeting have been listed below:

1. **Conducting elections for the post of Officer at large**
   - The members present discussed holding elections for the post of officer at large. Ananya would send out the call for applications for the position.

2. **Setting up Twitter handle and Website/Blog for the SAWP section**
   - Nicolas would work on setting up the twitter handle for ensuring better visibility of the section on social media platforms.
   - Ananya would get in touch with other members who could volunteer to help with the setting up of the website/blog

3. **Deliberations on deciding the venue for the 1st ISA-SAWP Conference, 2021**
   - The members decided to start planning for the first “ISA in South Asia” conference, possibly in 2021. They decided to explore two potential options: **New Delhi and Colombo**. Goa was also considered as a potential venue during discussion on the topic. Neil DeVotta volunteered to begin contacting possible partners in Sri Lanka. The current and former section chairs will reach out to likely partners in India. The members expressed a preference for Colombo but a final decision will be taken at a later date.
   - There were three important points of consideration- **Location, size and funding** for the conference. The members discussed reaching out to think tanks, private universities in India, publishers and philanthropists.
   - The venue will be **finalized** after consultation with the ISA headquarters.

4. **Ensuring Visibility**
   - We need to reach out to other sections for co-sponsorships to increase the number of panels and roundtables.
   - The need to more effectively advertise the best paper award for the section and the subsequent opportunity to publish in the journal Asian Security.
   - Identify a journal for a second award for non-security related paper submissions to the section.
● Setting up the best dissertation prize as an incentive for young scholars.
● Publicize the availability of ISA research grants through various channels.

5. **Expanding Section membership**
   ● An expanded list of scholars that could potentially be part of the SAWP section has been created by Ananya. Surupa to collect their emails and then contact them.
   ● Contacting prominent scholars situated in India and other networks for publicizing the section. Ananya to send the list to the section chairs.
   ● Sending reminder emails to unresponsive members.

6. To formally incorporate diversity as one of the founding principles of the SAWP charter.
   ● Rani Mullen had already formulated the item, read it out to the SAWP members present, and it was decided that the new item would be put to vote for the members before the charter could be revised.