

The 2014 annual conference of the International Studies Association-South (ISA-South) was successfully held from October 25-26, 2014 on the campus of the University of Richmond. Participants stayed at the elegant Westin Hotel (2.5 miles from campus) on a good group rate.

The theme of this year's conference is "Bridging Theory and Practice: International Studies in the Twenty-First Century." It attracted 130 participants (including 112 on the conference program), ranging from senior scholars to junior scholars, graduate students, and undergraduate students, from not only the area covered by ISA-South (from Texas to Virginia), but also participants from other states and overseas (from South Korea, Taiwan, and Turkey, and a presenter Skyped in from Jordan). ISA-South is becoming an international conference. The conference organizer put together 30 panels, covering nearly all aspects of international studies (including four panels on undergraduate research in international studies and two panels on curricular and pedagogical innovation in international studies).

The highlights include:

- ISA President Amitav Acharya delivered a Keynote Speech, entitled, "Bridging the Academia-Policy Gap in Global IR." Professor Acharya's informative and provocative speech framed the discussions in several panels.
- A Professional Development Workshop, "Transitioning from Graduate Student to Professor: The First Year Challenges" was organized and chaired by Heidi Hobbs and featured an experienced faculty administrator, Betsy Brown, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, North Carolina State University. Being the only event for Saturday's late-afternoon, pre-dinner time slot, the Workshop attracted many participants and generated collegial discussions.
- The Woman's Caucus Breakfast meeting was held on Sunday morning.
- The conference dedicated four undergraduate panels featuring faculty-mentored research projects. These panels consisted of students from different schools, thus offering undergraduate students committed to research in international studies valuable opportunities for professional presentations and networking. Faculty mentors were on hand to provide support and guidance.
- To continue its tradition of rewarding research excellence and participation, ISA-South awarded the Jim Winkates Graduate Student Paper Award to three best student paper-authors and made 10 travel grants to graduate and undergraduate student participants to help defray the cost of their participation.
- ISA-South Business Meeting was held over lunch on Sunday. ISA-South President Alexa Royden presided over this well-attended meeting. Elections of the next president and new members of the Executive Council, effective January 1, 2015, took place over the meeting. Discussions were also held over future annual conference sites, Region finance, and other initiatives.

On the financial side, the conference ran on a lean budget. Total income (including registration incomes, sponsorship incomes, and professional development funds) was \$9,803.40. Total expenses (including catering, transportation, ISA administrative processing fee, event insurance, podcast video taping, travel grants, paper awards, and clerical help) amounted to \$9,115.22. The conference finished with a small surplus of \$688.18. The host institution, the University of Richmond, provided in-kind support (facilities) and \$700 in sponsorship from its School of Arts

and Sciences and Office of International Education. Senior administrators Associate Provost Joan Neff and OIE Interim Dean Joseph Hoff welcomed the participants.