

**INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION-SOUTH REGION**  
**ISA-SOUTH 2012 ANNUAL REPORT**

The 2012 ISA-South Annual Meeting was held at the Hilton DoubleTree Atlanta-Buckhead on 12-14 October 2012. Kennesaw State University served as the host institution. The theme of the conference was “Contestation and Change in International Affairs”. Program co-Chairs Stephen Collins and Thomas Doleys (both of Kennesaw State University) reported that, by all accounts, the conference was a great success. Turnout was strong. There were 128 registered participants – from both the US and abroad. Although most participants hailed from institutions in the ISA-South region, the conference also attracted faculty and graduate students from other parts of the US and from abroad, including the UK, India, Brazil and South Africa.

The conference featured thirty-six (36) panels. One of these was a professional development workshop. Entitled “Navigating the Academic Publishing Environment”, the workshop was proposed, organized and chaired by David Keithly (Fulbright Association). Participants included Nikolaos Zahariadis (University of Alabama-Birmingham), Laura Roselle (Elon University), William Spracher (National Intelligence University) and Marie-Claire Antoine (Continuum Publishing). For the first time, the conference organizers assigned the workshop its own program time slot. The result was remarkable. The workshop was extremely well-attended, with over 50 graduate students and junior faculty present. The 90 minute session was videotaped and should be available via the ISA website.

On Saturday morning, the annual Women’s Caucus Breakfast was convened. The breakfast was well attended and provided occasion for attendees to network, discuss issues relevant to the Caucus, and set the agenda for the next meeting. The Women’s Caucus members wish to thank ISA-South for its continued support and sponsorship of this annual event.

For many, the highlight of the conference was the Saturday luncheon. We were honored to have Dr. John Stremalau as the keynote speaker for the event. Dr. Stremalau is Vice President of Peace Programs at the Carter Center. Dr. Stremalau captivated the assembled with a presentation highlighting what he viewed as the under-exploited synergies between the academy and those who engage politics “on the ground”. He recounted his own path from academic political science to the Carter Center, and used the opportunity to encourage the assembled to consider how their own interest and work could be used to make a greater difference.

True to the region’s mission to mentor and cultivate the next generation of scholars, the conference had several student-focused elements. There was one panel (FB01) devoted explicitly to undergraduate research. These students and their mentors are to be commended for the high quality of the research presented. But, as has become tradition, the centerpiece of our efforts to promote student scholarship is the annual Jim Winkates Graduate Student Paper Competition. This year’s competition was judged by Thomas Badey (Chair, Randolph Macon College), Mary Meyer McAleese (Eckerd College), Adam Van Liere (University of Wisconsin-La Crosse), Susan Northcutt (University of South Florida) and Melanie Kolbe (University of Georgia). The members of the committee are to be thanked for giving generously of their time to evaluate what were, by all accounts, a strong collection of entries. I also wish to extend my

congratulations to the winners of this year's competition. They include: Sarah Fisher (Grand Prize, University of Georgia), Jeremy Wells (1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up, Louisiana State University), and Theresa Schroeder (2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up, University of Kentucky). Finally, to promote student attendance and participation, ISA-South distributed fourteen (14) student travel stipends totaling \$1,985.

The conference organizers are very pleased (and eager) to note that the event was a financial success. This was due in no small part to our generous sponsors. The Friday evening reception was paid for by a financial contribution from the Dean of the Kennesaw State University College of Humanities and Social Sciences. We also received financial support from the Edward Mellen Press, Soomo Publishing, the International Policy Management program at Kennesaw State University, and the PhD program in International Conflict Management, also of Kennesaw State University. After all expenses and reimbursements, ISA-S realized a net gain of just over \$2,100.

Immediately following the close of the conference, interested participants gathered for the ISA-S business meeting. It was confirmed at the meeting that the 2013 meeting will be hosted by Queens University in Charlotte, North Carolina. Alexa Royden and Margaret Commins will serve as conference co-chairs. We also received tentative commitment from the University of Richmond to act as host institution for the 2014 conference. We hope to have the 2014 location firmed-up at the next business meeting (scheduled for Thursday, April 4 at 7 am during the ISA annual convention in San Francisco). The final order of business was to finalize the slate of candidates for ISA-S officer elections. The results of those elections, announced in January 2013, were as follows:

President	Thomas Doleys (Kennesaw State University)
Co-Vice Presidents	Alexa Royden and Margaret Commins (both of Queens University of Charlotte)
Secretary	Thomas Badey (Randolph Macon College)
Treasurer	Andreea Mihalache-O'Keef (Roanoke College)
Executive Council	Sandy Mihal (Roanoke College)
	Aart Holtslag (Shepherd University)
	Dorian Crosby (Spelman College)
	Mary K. Meyer McAleese (Eckerd College)

The Officers and Executive Council of ISA-South would also like to recognize the excellent work done by Naomi Malone in her efforts to maintain the region's website. Naomi was recognized at the business meeting for her sustained efforts in this area.

Any successful conference is the work of many, many individuals. In addition to the financial support of individuals and organizations noted above, a special thanks goes out to the staff of the PhD program in International Conflict Management – Rose Proctor and Chelsea Van Bergen – who gave of their time and shared their expertise in conference organizing. The staff at the DoubleTree-Buckhead was accommodating and responsive – even as we struggled with some unexpected construction. We also wish to recognize the staff at ISA Headquarters, especially Jeanne White and Elizabeth Fausett. Conference panel chairs and discussants did an exemplary job discharging their duties. Finally, the program co-chairs would like to thank past ISA-South Presidents Sean Giovanello, Tom Badey and Mary

Meyer McAleese who provided invaluable advice and guidance throughout the conference planning process.

Respectfully Submitted by Thomas Doleys, President ISA-South