This report was prepared by Shannon Lindsey Blanton, SSIP Section Chair

FULL REPORT

ORGANIZATION

- The SSIP leadership through the 2018 annual meeting was:
  - Shannon Lindsey Blanton (University at Alabama at Birmingham), section chair
  - Olga Chzyh (Iowa State University), program section chair
  - Govinda Clayton (University of Kent), secretary
  - Daina Chiba (University of Essex), treasurer
  - Jacob Kathman (University at Buffalo), councilor
  - Hanne Fjelde (Uppsala University), councilor
  - Carla Martinez Machain (Kansas State University), councilor
  - Michelle Benson (University of Buffalo – SUNY), ex-officio past chair

At the 2018 business meeting, SSIP returned to the convention of having a chair-elect for a one-year term. Erica Chenoweth (Harvard Kennedy School) became the section chair-elect, with her two-year term as section chair to begin at the close of the 2019 annual meeting following the completion of Shannon Lindsey Blanton’s term. In April 2018, Olga Chzyh (Iowa State University) completed her term as program section chair for the 2018 annual meeting, and transitioned to a three-year term as a member of the Advisory Council. Ragnhild Nordås (University of Michigan) became the new section program chair for the 2019 annual meeting.

Thus, following the 2018 business meeting in April, the current SSIP leadership is:

- Shannon Lindsey Blanton (University of Alabama at Birmingham), section chair
- Ragnhild Nordås (University of Michigan), section program chair
- Govinda Clayton (University of Kent), secretary
- Daina Chiba (University of Essex), treasurer
- Hanne Fjelde (Uppsala University), councilor
- Carla Martinez Machain (Kansas State University), councilor
- Olga Chzyh (Iowa State University), councilor
- Michelle Benson (University at Buffalo, SUNY), ex-officio past chair
- Erica Chenoweth (Harvard Kennedy School), ex-officio chair-elect
The SSIP Advisory Council and chair will nominate a section program chair and secretary/treasurer for vote at the 2019 business meeting. The section program chair will be responsible for conference programming for the 2020 ISA meeting. The secretary/treasurer will hold a two-year term for the 2019-2021 period.

**Activities**

*Sponsoring and organizing panels at the annual meeting of the Association:* Ragnhild Nordås organized the 2019 SSIP conference program. In preparation for the 2019 ISA annual meeting, SSIP has sponsored or co-sponsored 48 panels and roundtables, compared to 52 panels, poster sessions, and roundtables in 2018 and 44 in 2017. Our panel allocation has continued to decrease from previous years to only 31 panels in 2019. Out of the 48 total panels and roundtables, 31 are co-sponsored with one or more sections. We have co-sponsored with 11 other sections in addition to the Conference Theme of Re-Visioning International Studies: Innovation and Progress. Our most frequent co-sponsors this year have been Peace Studies (6) and Political Demography and Geography (4), followed by International Organization (3), International Security Studies (3), Human Rights (3), and Foreign Policy Analysis (3).

*Dina Zinnes award:* The section selects a recipient each year for the Dina Zinnes award for the best graduate student paper presented at a panel or poster session sponsored by the SSIP Section or the Convention Theme. At the 2018 business meeting, the award was presented to Hannah Smidt from the University College London for her paper “Making Electoral Peace: How Peacekeeping Activities Influence Electoral Violence Dirty Skills: Guerrilla Wars and Military” that was presented at the 2017 annual meeting. This year, SSIP has received thirteen nominations for the best graduate student paper presented in 2018. The Advisory Council and chair have selected a recipient, and Jessica Edry (Rice University) will be recognized at the 2019 business meeting for her 2018 ISA conference paper “Mastering the Double-Edged Sword: How Shallow Commitments to Human Rights Treaties Deepen over Time.”

*Maintaining and enhancing the SSIP website and listserv:* The section chair maintains a listserv hosted by Rice University. We use this listserv to send information to section members about section business. We have updated the ISA website to reflect current officer information, and the ISA-SSIP section listserv is used, through distribution requests to ISA staff, to share information.

*Reception:* SSIP continues to host jointly - with the Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA) and Political Demography & Geography (PDG) sections - a reception at the ISA annual meeting each year. For the 2018 annual meeting in San Francisco, the PDG section was responsible for obtaining sponsorships and organizing the joint reception; for the 2019 annual meeting in Toronto, SSIP has this responsibility. We have been very successful in raising sponsorship support of $7350, and added a new feature of “giving levels” to recognize different amounts of financial support from our 17 donors. We anticipate hosting a very nice reception for the sections’ membership.
MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCES

Based on data distributed by ISA headquarters in October 2018, membership for SSIP increased from 322 for 2017 to 342 for 2018. This represents the largest SSIP membership to date. As of October 2018, SSIP membership for 2019 is 339.

Based on data distributed by ISA headquarters in November 2018, the section balance at the end of October 2018 was $2,592.42. The 2018 SSIP reception, which we sponsored jointly with the FPA and PDG sections, ran an expense of $730.95 to the section after sponsorship dollars were applied to the cost. We expect the section expense for the 2019 reception to be less, at a little more than $200. The only other deductions from our balance sheet this year was a $400 sponsorship of the ISA Midwest meeting and a $100 honorarium for the recipient of the Dina Zinnes award.