The Theory Section continues to grow in membership. According to the figures provided by the ISA Headquarters, the membership of the Theory Section has reached 660. Our membership has steadily grown from 5 in 2010 to 53 in 2011, from 260 in 2012 to 433 in 2013, from 543 in 2014 to 569 in 2017. This year we were the 8th largest section of the ISA sections and caucuses, of which there are a total of 33.

PREPARING FOR THE 2018 ANNUAL CONVENTION (STEFANO GUZZINI, VICE-CHAIR/PROGRAM CHAIR)

The Theory Section received an allocation of 40 panels for the 2019 Convention. This is the same number as last year, with one of these allocations used for the distinguished scholar panel.

Co-sponsorships helped us to enhance significantly our presence on the 2019 Convention Program, beyond what is allocated to the Section. We have a total of 102 panels on the final program, consisting of 39 panels, 30 roundtables, 33 crafted panels and the distinguished scholar panel. The Section was listed as the primary choice of submission for 15 panels, 93 papers, 18 roundtables. 21 panels, 155 papers and 27 roundtable submissions listed the Section as their second choice.

The program chair aimed to reflect the diversity and vibrancy of scholarship in IR theory; make room for niche theoretical innovations; encourage and draw in junior scholars; build stronger ties with other sections of the ISA and increase the presence of the Section in the program. These concerns translated into sponsorship of papers, panels, roundtables covering a wide range of topics, as well as the high rate and diversity of co-sponsorships. It is also reflected in the increasing number of crafted panels from individual papers, most of which were submitted by junior scholars. The number doubled from last year, thanks also to the close collaboration with other sections with whom such panels were built together.

The highest numbers of co-sponsorships were with International Political Sociology, Global Development, Historical International Relations, Science, Technology and Art in International Relations.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

The Theory Section will hand out its 2018 awards at the 2019 ISA Annual Convention in Toronto. The book and paper awards committees have bestowed the following awards:

**Best Monograph:**

**Honorable Mention for Monograph:**

**Best Edited Volume:**

**Honorable Mention for Edited Volume:**

**Best Pre-PhD Paper Award:**
Goettlich, Kerry. "Enclosure and Survey Rationality"

**Best Post-PhD Paper Award:**
Heath-Kelly, Charlotte. "Survivor Trees and Memorial Groves"

Please join us for the Theory Section *business meeting*, where we will present these awards. The business meeting will be held at 6:15 pm on March 29 in Sheraton A, Sheraton Centre Toronto. We would like to thank the members of the award committees for their efforts: (Book Awards) Emma Hutchison, Aida Hozic, Russell Kerr, Marta Bashovski, Asli Calkivik; (Paper Awards) Scott Hamilton, Ritu Vij, Axel Heck Joanna de V. Cordeiro, Mark Laffey.

Our sixth *distinguished scholar* to be honored in Toronto in 2019 is Professor Siba Grovogui from Cornell University. The *distinguished scholar panel* will include Anna M. Agathangelou, Mustapha Kamal Pasha, Benjamin Meiches, Robbie Shilliam, Cecelia Lynch, Timothy Vasko, Russell Kerr, R.B.J. Walker, Alexander Barder and Asli Calkivik. It is scheduled at 1:45 pm on 29 March (Friday) in Sheraton A, Sheraton Centre in Toronto. Please join us for this event and at our joint reception with *International Ethics* that is sponsored by *Cambridge University Press*, where we will honor Professor Grovogui. The latter will take place at 7:30 pm on March 29 in Provincial South, Sheraton Centre in Toronto.
Two very promising initiatives launched in 2017 in collaboration with *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* are coming to fruition. One of these is the symposium organized around last year’s Theory Section book award recipient (Emma Hutchison’s *Affective Communities in World Politics*) first published online in November 2018. The special symposium brings together contributions by Benjamin Meiches, Anna Agathangelou, Andrew Ross, Jessica Auchter, joined by a response by Emma Hutchison with a foreword co-authored by Asli Calkivik and Jessica Auchter. The second initiative in collaboration with the Millennium concerns a Millennium-sponsored travel grant ($500) to support the attendance of the Section’s Best Pre-PhD Paper Award winner at ISA.

**COMMUNICATIONS (Martha Bashovski, Communications Officer)**

The main ISA Theory website is live at [http://www.isanet.org/ISA/Sections/THEORY](http://www.isanet.org/ISA/Sections/THEORY). With HQ, we undertook a series of updates in April and May 2018 to ensure that the lists of awards recipients and sections officers, as well as award descriptions, were up to date.

We continue to host most resources at an external site: [http://www.isa-theory.org/](http://www.isa-theory.org/). This includes a syllabus database that currently hosts 28 theory-related syllabi contributed by members.

For news relating to the ISA Theory section and its substantive concerns, all are welcome to join our Google Group (located at [https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/isatheory](https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/isatheory)), follow us on Twitter at [@TheorySectISA](https://twitter.com/TheorySectISA), and like our Facebook Page ([https://www.facebook.com/isatheory/](https://www.facebook.com/isatheory/)).

We currently have 1,271 followers on Twitter (increase of over 300 from 2017), and 1,372 Likes on Facebook (increase of over 100 from 2017). ISA Theory Section sends out three to four newsletters to members per calendar year via ISA HQ. These newsletters include convention and section awards highlights, as well as conference and publication calls for papers and notices of recent publications by members.

**COMMUNICATIONS (Jason R. Weidner, Treasurer)**

The Theory Section account held as of January 1, 2018 was $4897.11. As of the end of October 2018, our operating section balance stood at $1,936.88. This dramatic drop in our budget stems primarily from the high expenditure in San Francisco at the ISA Annual Convention in 2017. Lacking a sponsor, we had to shoulder the full cost of the Section reception and spent $3,660.23.

This year we are delighted to note that Cambridge University Press will sponsor our Reception that we jointly hold with International Ethics, which will help our section immensely.

As a section, we need to converse further on how to sustain and grow our membership, how to find sponsors to improve our declining revenues.