As we wrap up 2018, the Women’s Caucus (WCIS) represents 661 members of ISA. Our membership continues to grow each year as we encourage and embrace the addition of new members with the support of the WCIS executive team. At our April 2018 business meeting at ISA San Francisco, the membership approved an amended the WCIS Charter.

The new charter expands the executive leadership team to facilitate the caucus’s ability to pursue and deliver on multiple objectives. We now have 11 officers: Chair, Vice-Chair/Program Chair, Past Chair, six At-Large Members, and two Graduate Student Representatives with staggered terms. Each of these officers also lead or co-lead one of the four committees that the amended charter established: the Awards Committee, Communications Committee, Nominations/Elections Committee, and Fundraising Committee. The Awards Committee oversees the management of the three annual awards: the Gerner Grant, the Northcutt Award, and the WCIS Graduate Student Best Paper Award. The Communications Committee oversees outreach through multiple outlets, including social media and bi-annual newsletters. The Nominations/Elections Committee recruits and manages the selection of future officers to the executive team. Finally, the Fundraising Committee is charged with increasing our resources to fund the annual WCIS joint reception with FTGS (Feminist Theory and Gender Studies) Section and LGBTQA Caucus, as well as the breakfast business meeting.

This year, in consultation with the Committee on the Status of Women (CSW), the WCIS secured an ISA Special Projects Grant to promote association’s Pay-it-Forward (PIF) initiative – a mentoring program for female graduate students and junior faculty within the international studies profession – beyond the annual convention. The grant provides funding to support mini-PIF sessions at eight conferences (five in North America and three internationally), which includes a fixed amount to cover part of the travel expenses for mentors, a fixed stipend for some of the mentees, and a fixed amount to cover breakfast and/or lunch for all of the attendees at those events. Each session will have between 3-4 mentors and 12-20 mentees depending on North American or international conference venue. We will be planning the first-ever international mini-PIF session at the 2019 the Central and East European International Studies Association (CEEISA)-ISA joint conference in Belgrade, Serbia this June. We will also support and assist in the planning of mini-PIF sessions at all of the regional conferences throughout North America. This past fall, members of the WCIS Executive team participated in pilot mini-PIF sessions at the ISA West and ISA South conferences respectively. As we look to the future, we will continue to improve the status of women in the profession with initiatives like these and more.
FINANCES
The WCIS fiscal position remains strong. The current balance as of November 2018, for fiscal year 2019, is $7,681.36. Most of our revenue is generated primarily through membership dues and annual sponsorships. Our annual expenses covered the WCIS joint reception with FTGS and the LGBTQA Caucus, as well as the WCIS Breakfast Business Meeting at the ISA Convention in San Francisco. Additional expenses included the costs associated with our annual awards and executive leadership meeting at the ISA Convention.

As of 2017, ISA has provided an on-line registration and payment process for those attending the annual WCIS Breakfast Business meeting. At the 2018 ISA Convention in San Francisco, 192 people registered for the breakfast business meeting. The following is the fee structure for the breakfast business meeting in San Francisco:

- ISA member $25;
- ISA non-member $30; and
- ISA student $8

While the expense for our annual breakfast business meeting exceeds the amount we receive from individual registrations, sponsorship donations generally cover the remaining costs. For our 2018 breakfast business meeting, we received a generous donation from Routledge/Taylor & Francis to cover the shortfall. For our breakfast business meeting at ISA 2019 in Toronto, the fee structure is the following (per the current ISA registration system): Faculty/General $27; and Student $8.

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COMMUNICATIONS
The 2018 WCIS communications strategy supported our goals outlined in last year’s report. In doing so, we continued to reach out and engage members via Google Groups/Listserv (https://groups.google.com/forum/-!forum/wcis_isa), Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/groups/wcisisa/), and Twitter (@WCIS_ISA). We surveyed our membership earlier this year and found that these were the best ways to communicate with them. We also shared our first newsletter in September, which provided information about the executive committee, as well as promoting our Caucus awards before the deadlines. We plan on sending out another newsletter, highlighting WCIS panels and events at ISA 2019.
Program for Toronto 2019

For the 2019 ISA Convention in Toronto, we are sponsoring six panels/roundtables total. While this is less than last year, we continue to co-sponsor a variety of panels, with nine other sections/caucuses at ISA 2019. These include three co-sponsored Conference Theme panels, two co-sponsored panels with FTGS, and one co-sponsored panel with the LGBTQA Caucus; Global South Caucus; International Security Studies Section (ISSS); and the Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA) Section. The following are the WCIS sponsored/co-sponsored panels/roundtables at ISA Toronto 2019:

WCIS Mentoring Cafe  
Co-sponsors: FTGS and LGBTQA Caucus

Where are the Women? Publishing in the International Relations Mainstream Journals  
Co-sponsors: Conference Theme and FTGS

Spotlighting Parenthood in the Academy  
Co-sponsor: Conference Theme

Being a Woman in Security Studies: Challenges and Opportunities in Research and Teaching  
Co-sponsors: Global South Caucus and ISSS

Gender and Ethnicity in Foreign Policy  
Co-sponsor: FPA

Women, Gender, and Imagining Peace in a Liberal International Order  
Co-sponsor: Conference Theme

Elections

Since 2016, the WCIS conducts its elections to the executive leadership electronically (online) one month prior to the ISA Annual Convention. A call for nominations will go out in December 2018 to the WCIS membership via ISA, as well as our Facebook, Twitter, and Google Groups. The electronic ballot will be available to the WCIS membership no later than March 1, 2019, with a deadline of March 15, 2019, which is two weeks prior to our annual business meeting. At our business meeting in Toronto, we will announce the results of the election. This year we have five open positions: Program/Vice-chair (2019-2020), three At-Large Members (2019-2021), and one Graduate Student Representative (2019-2021). The incumbents have done a fantastic job, as have the remaining officers, and we look forward to their continued activity in the WCIS.
AWARDS

AWARDS DEBORAH (“MISTY”) GERNER GRANT FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – DAHLIA SIMANGAN
The recipient of the 2019 Gerner Grant for Professional Development is Dr. Dahlia Simangan, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, at the Japan Society for the Promotion Science-United Nations University, Tokyo. The Deborah Gerner Grant for Professional Development is awarded by WCIS and is sponsored by Lynne Rienner Publishers. Funds from this grant may be used to support any legitimate professional development need, as identified by the candidate. The 2019 Gerner Grant will support Dr. Simangan to travel and live in Marawi City, The Philippines, to interview relevant staff at government agencies, local government officials, and civil society organizations regarding the rebuilding programs, which were instituted in the city after a three-month siege by groups affiliated with ISIS. The data collected from Dr. Simangan’s field research will contribute to the emerging scholarship on urban peace building, and will inform policymakers on progress of the peace building efforts taking place in Marawi City. Dr. Simangan will be recognized at the 2019 ISA Annual Convention in Toronto with a $2,000 grant from Lynne Rienner Publishers to support her research.

SUSAN S. NORTHCUTT AWARD – MARY MEYER MCALEese
The Susan S. Northcutt Award was established in 2003 to honor Women’s Caucus founder, Susan S. Northcutt. The award “recognizes a person who actively works toward recruiting and advancing women and other minorities in the profession, and whose spirit is inclusive, generous and conscientious.” The recipient of the 2019 Northcutt Award is Mary Meyer McAleese, Professor of Political Science, Eckerd College. Professor McAleese has demonstrated an exceptional focus on inclusivity in her professional activities. She was the founding co-chair of the Women’s Caucus and has served ISA in numerous other capacities over several decades. Especially noteworthy are her efforts to create an Ad Hoc Gender Committee – later transformed into the standing Committee on the Status of Women. Mary has been a tireless advocate for women and minorities within the association, on her campus, and in the broader profession. WCIS is delighted to nominate Dr. Mary for the Northcutt Award (presented at the ISA Business Meeting).

WCIS GRADUATE STUDENT BEST PAPER AWARD – PERNILLA JOHANSSON
The 2015, the WCIS established the graduate student best paper award to encourage and promote excellence in graduate student scholarly work. Nominations and self-nominations were sought from ISA members for papers delivered at the annual convention in San Francisco. We received 16 papers, which were then reviewed and evaluated by a WCIS committee composed of three members of the WCIS Executive leadership team. Pernilla Johansson, PhD from the University of California, Irvine, was awarded the 2019 WCIS Graduate Student Best Paper Award for her paper titled, “Reembodying Practice Approaches to Investigate Listening in Peace building.” Pernilla Johansson will be recognized at the 2019 ISA Annual Convention in Toronto. The award includes a $500 cash prize plus $200 travel support to attend the ISA Annual Convention.
2018-2019 WCIS Governance and Leadership

Gigi Gokcek, Caucus Chair
April 2018 - March 2019
Dominican University of California

Marijke Breuning, Vice-Chair/Program Chair
(Section Chair 2019-2020)
April 2018 - March 2019
University of North Texas

Saira Bano, At-Large Member
February 2017 – March 2019
University of Calgary

Christina Fattore, At-Large Member
February 2017 – March 2019
West Virginia University

Jennifer Ramos, At-Large Member
February 2017 – March 2019
Loyola Marymount University

Penny Griffin, At-Large Member
April 2018 - March 2020
University of New South Wales

Jamie Scalera, At-Large Member
April 2018 - March 2020
Georgia Southern University

Aakriti Tandon, At-Large Member
April 2018 - March 2020
Daemen College

Ida Danewid, Graduate Student Representative
April 2018 - March 2020
London School of Economics

Annick T.R. Wibben, Past Chair
April 2018 - March 2019
University of San Francisco