In 2015, our membership increased slightly to 633 from 628 in 2014.

The ISA-West conference was held at the Pasadena Westin, on September 25-26. This year’s conference, organized around the theme “Innovations and Challenges in Teaching and Learning in a Globalizing World Order,” included two important events. One was the presentation of the Ole R. Holsti Distinguished Scholar Award, which was created to honor a senior scholar with a record of research, teaching and mentoring, and service to ISA. The 2015 honoree is Dr. Jacek Kugler of Claremont Graduate University. Dr. Kugler presented the keynote address, “Repercussions of the Eurasian Structural Realignments” at the Saturday luncheon. Additionally, ISA-West held an Emerging Scholars Forum as this year’s professional development activity. Modeled on a similar program held at main ISA, this program matches junior academics with senior scholars who discuss their work, i.e., its relationship to the relevant subfield.

ISA President Paul Diehl delivered the keynote address, “Turning Good Teaching on Its Head: A Thought Experiment,” at the Friday evening Reception.

Overall, we had 152 people register for the conference and held 35 panels and roundtables. It should be noted that participants included individuals from eight states outside of the ISA-West region as well as fifteen countries from around the world.

Thanks to the efforts of ISA-West board member Cameron Thies, the conference received generous sponsorships from Pepperdine University, School of Politics and Global Studies at Arizona State University, School of International Relations at the University of Southern California, ISA International Ethics Section (IETHICS) and ISA Active Learning in International Affairs Section (ALIAS). ISA-West would also like to acknowledge USC for again furnishing student volunteers to the conference.

With the election of Amy Below as program chair for the 2016 conference, Lui Hebron assumes the presidency of ISA-West. The 2016 meeting will again be held at the Pasadena Westin on September 23-24, 2016.