

The UN Studies Working Group
NEWS – February 21, 2008

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We hope you had a good start into the new year! A variety of UN-Studies projects is in full swing, and we are happy to provide you with an update on our joint planning of the Bonn seminar, the ACUNS 2008 annual meeting, and the Journal on International Organization Studies, among other news. Please enjoy the reading!

Past / future events and activities:

Results of the online meeting about the seminar on UN research and teaching. The seminar is scheduled to take place in Bonn on June 4, prior to the ACUNS conference. On January 28, 2008, we discussed the general theme and topic as well as details of the agenda and logistical issues. As part of a series of seminars on UN Studies, the first seminar will focus on the fundamental question of how the UN is viewed in research and teaching.

- On June 4, we will hold **three rounds of presentations and brainstorming** to address the different perspectives about the UN and how to translate these views into innovative research and teaching; followed by a joint dinner.
- We will arrange for a **meeting of the UN Studies Working Group** on June 5 (morning only), with the aim to provide an update on our projects and to discuss future activities and the overall direction of the group.
- On June 3, we will meet for an **informal dinner** at a Bonn restaurant.

For a summary of the online meeting and the concrete details of the seminar, please visit <http://www.unstudies.org/twiki/bin/view/Main/ProjectSeminarTeaching2008>. **We look forward to receiving your feedback and suggestions**, such as possible introductory presentations to kick off our brainstorming. On the wiki page cited above, we have set up comment boxes for each discussion round, so adding your input should be relatively easy.

Seminar location / accommodations. The German Development Institute has agreed to host our seminar, for which we are very thankful. We now **encourage all interested parties who plan to attend the seminar as well as the ACUNS 2008 annual meeting to make their travel and hotel arrangements**. Starting with June 4 and for the ACUNS conference duration, ACUNS has reserved a block of reasonably priced rooms at the Gustav-Stresemann-Institute (the conference location), which might go quickly. Further booking information can be obtained at: www.acuns.net. We will inquire into hotel options for June 3, and get back to you.

Proposed UN Studies workshop panel at ACUNS 2008 Annual Meeting in Bonn. We have submitted our joint proposal for a workshop panel titled: "Institutionalizing UN Studies - Progress report on the Working Group on UN Studies". For the final version, please visit: <http://www.unstudies.org/twiki/bin/view/Main/ProjectACUNS2008>.

Journal of International Organization Studies (JIOS). We have gathered more ideas for the draft journal proposal, which will be hopefully submitted to publishers in early Summer. Our *JIOS Action Plan for 2008* and all initial ideas can be found on our wiki portal at: <http://www.unstudies.org/twiki/bin/view/Main/ProjectJIOSActionPlan2008>. We would like to **renew our call to provide us with further feedback and suggestions** concerning potential content, the editorial board, the peer-review process, among other issues.

ISA Annual Conventions 2008 and 2009. To participate in next year's ISA Convention, we would like to start our planning well ahead of time. In this context, we would be interested in learning of working group members that will be attending the upcoming 2008 Convention *Bridging Multiple Divides* in San Francisco in late March.

Working group news

Legal form, privacy. We are still preparing for the foundation of an association as well as the legal policies of our group. In terms of privacy, starting with this newsletter issue, we will use an anonymous email list to circulate group messages. If for any reason you do not wish to receive emails any longer, please send an email to workinggroup@unstudied.org.

Members list. Furthermore, please take a look at the updated members / email distribution list which is attached. This list is now confined to include names and affiliations only, and will be primarily used for outreach purposes. Please let us know, if you have any objections.

Thank you for your attention! Your feedback is highly appreciated as always!

Best wishes,

Julia and Henrike