



The International Society for Third-Sector Research is an international and multidisciplinary scholarly association to promote research and teaching about the Third, Voluntary, or Nonprofit Sector.

January-March 2016

Volume 24/Number 1

ISTR Africa Regional Network will hold its 3rd Conference

19-20 April 2016 in Accra, Ghana

The ISTR Africa Regional Network supports emerging African scholarship in civil society by holding conferences and professional development workshops once every two years. It is the goal of the network to support African scholars examining the role and functions of third sector organizations in their countries and communities, and to create a platform to share and discuss findings, as well as explore ways through which such findings can be useful for policy purposes.

The ISTR Africa Regional Network (ISTRAN) is pleased to partner with the West Africa Civil Society Institute and the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana with the support from the African Women's Development Fund (AWDF) to host this conference. The meeting will be held at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana at Yiri Lodge, Accra.

The conference theme is "Civil Society and a Renascent Africa: A Stock Taking." The conference will explore the following pertinent questions:

Has civil society contributed to African development, democratization and integration?

Can the civil society sphere in Africa and its organizations be sustained?

The ISTRAN conference shall be examining these questions

as well as the different dimensions and roles of civil society.

Thirty two papers have been accepted for presentation at the conference. We anticipate that authors from Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Portugal, South Africa, Uganda, United Kingdom, and Zimbabwe will present their research.

The keynote speaker will be Bhengkosi Moyo, Executive Director of Southern Africa Trust. He is a writer, author, researcher and thought-leader with keen interest in ques-

tions of African resources, democracy and governance. He has so far championed African discourse on philanthropy, contributed to the growth of many African civil society formations and has taken part in most of the continental processes of development and governance. He has written extensively on African philanthropy, civil society and governance. Equally, he has gained considerable experience in management, leadership and strategic roles over a significant period of time. Bheki also serves as Secretary of the Board of Directors of ISTR.

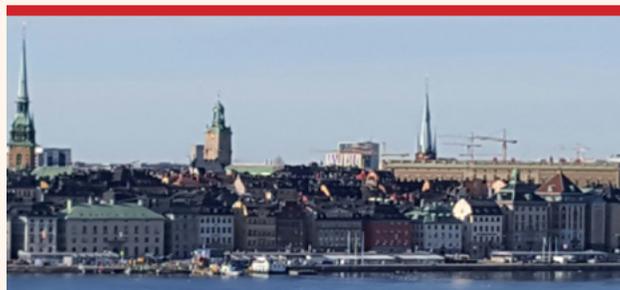
Theo Sowa, CEO of the African Women's Development Fund, has been invited (not confirmed) to give a keynote address as well.

Conference details can be found at: <http://www.istr.org/Africa>

Registration contact: Isaac Hubert Arthur, WACSI at email: iharthur@wacsi.org ■



ISTR Africa
African civil society research network



VIEW FROM ERSTA SKÖNDAL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
STOCKHOLM

Conference News and Updates on Page 3.

Join the blog at <https://istrconference.wordpress.com>

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Members and Friends of ISTR:

Time is going by far too fast. Already, I am looking back upon one year of chairing ISTR's board. It has been an exciting year of excellent ISTR regional conferences in San Juan, Puerto Rico and Tokyo, Japan. It has also been a year of many opportunities to make new contacts and to touch base with other scholarly associations that similar to ISTR are working on civil society and nonprofit issues such as ERNOP (European Research Network on Philanthropy), EMES (International Research Network on Social Enterprises), ARNOVA (Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action) and the EFC (European Foundation Center). Also, as a representative of ISTR, I had the opportunity to take part in two international conferences in Beijing, one hosted by Tsinghua University and one organized as a joint venture of the city and the University of Beijing.

The meetings, conversations and scientific discourses clearly showed that our scholarly community is growing worldwide and that the work of the third sector as a provider of social services and as an important avenue for the integration of citizens into society is increasingly appreciated around the globe. However, it also became clear that in many regions of the world, the sector's important advocacy role, its function to give the needs and worries of citizens a voice is increasingly less appreciated by governments and ruling elites. More and more, third sector organizations are perceived as a proxy and cheap alternative of social provision by government or commercial enterprises. In particular, volunteering is highly welcomed throughout the world and is increasingly promoted and supported by governments as a cost-effective way to care of the elderly, keep your neighborhood clean and tidy, look after the kids around the block and many other useful social tasks. In other parts of the world, organizations and social groups are getting more and more powerful – and for sure they have nothing in common with civil society. They are cruel, inhumane and they commit atrocities which remind us of the times of the Crusades. As a rule, savageness and barbarism are legitimized by referring to norms and values, inspired by religion.

These developments around the globe force associations such as ISTR and others whose members are working on topics and issues, affiliated with democracy and civicness, to take a firm stand. As a scholarly association, we are nowadays confronted with an environment which makes our work more and more difficult. We are not a lobby group nor a think tank which positions itself in just one corner of the political spectrum. But, we are also not a scholarly association that proclaims to be thoroughly neutral and to just exclusively provide a forum for the exchange of neutral research. Indeed, providing possibilities for scientific advancement constitutes our core task; however, it is almost impossible to investigate civil society without following a



Annette Zimmer

normative idea and concept of how our world and society should look like. Hence as a scholarly society, we need to expand our mission and vision for those who are already or who would like to engage in civil society studies.

Against this background, last year the ISTR board and Secretariat launched a strategic planning process with the aim of making our scholarly society fit for the challenges of the upcoming decade. During the year, we tried to further identify its strengths that make us proud to be a member of ISTR, as well as the weak points of our association. Talking with colleagues, board members and chairmen and women from other scholarly associations, it became clear that the traditional concept of membership as

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

a commitment to a specific organization is changing.

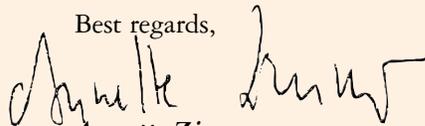
As the results of last years' membership survey conveyed: We are no longer members of an organization in the classical sense of being strongly affiliated. Instead scholars, researchers and young professionals want to be a member of a community which is distinctive, stands for specific values, provides a forum for scholarly exchange but simultaneously offers a somehow protected environment in which he or she can freely talk, get advice how to advance best in their professional career and also how to reconcile the scholarly profession with personal life and with political and or societal engagement. Communities are distinct and differ from organizations. Organizations are to be managed efficiently and effectively. However, communities have to be kept together. They need flexibility and space for controversies. They are built on trust and not on efficiency. The outcome of the membership survey clearly underlines that the community character of ISTR is mostly appreciated by the membership. Remarks such as "I owe ISTR a lot" or "I made life-long friends through ISTR" are proof that ISTR as a scholarly association is kept together by something different than just renewing his or hers membership every two years. However, the survey also showed that the core of the ISTR community is getting older and that the community is still very unequally present in the different parts of the world.

This leads directly to the question of how to enlarge the ISTR community and how to make it accessible for the next generation or even how to convince the next generation that becoming a member of the ISTR community is worthwhile and rewarding in a scholarly as well as in very personal sense. From my point of view, there are a couple of measures that need to be taken in order to safeguard ISTR's sustainability. In parallel, we must allow some time for experimenting and finding out what works best. To strengthen ISTR in the regions through supporting and working with the ISTR networks in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia-Pacific, as well as in Europe and in North America, seems to me as the approach of first choice which flags out that we are a global scholarly community. But how to facilitate that members of the new generation of scholars

join the ISTR community in the regions? To provide possibilities of scholarly exchange, support for career development and networking among like-minded colleagues might be a good way to proceed. From a more practical point of view, this could be achieved through a multi-facetted approach which encompasses the organization of PhD seminars in the regions and the start of a mentoring program specifically addressing the needs of emerging scholars in the field. In addition, and most prominently, the launch of truly international research projects that focus on most salient issues of our field and which explicitly provide young researchers with possibilities to start or to continue doing research on civil society as a doctoral student or in a post-doc position.

In order to make this happen, the board of ISTR needs your advice and support. The upcoming conference in Stockholm will provide an ideal opportunity to pin down topics and issues which are of salient importance for the further advancement of our scientific field and community. Furthermore, ISTR needs access to those who support third sector research (including both foundations and others) in times that are troublesome and in which civil society as a source of inspiration and as a countervailing power has become of utmost importance. And finally, let me finish with a strong wish. Indeed, I have a dream. Since in many countries almost 80% of the personnel working in third sector organizations are women and since in many countries around the world women definitely are the losers of current developments in terms of downsized salaries, odd-jobs and most prominently the impact of the rise of a new conservatism, it is my dream, vision and mission that ISTR will start an global research project on women in the third sector, philanthropy included, in the near future. ■

Best regards,



Annette Zimmer

President

zimmean@uni-muenster.de

CONFERENCE NEWS

ISTR Conference News

Planning for the 12th ISTR Conference in Stockholm is well underway. Here are some important updates to note:

- **ISTR Conference Blog:** Regular updates, news, and opportunities to engage and ask ISTR questions are provided on the conference blog <https://istrconference.wordpress.com>. Sign up to receive updates sent directly to your email by clicking on the “follow” button.

- **Book Signing:** Authors of recently published books are invited to sign and sell books at the conference. Visit our website <http://www.istr.org/?page=SpecialEvents> to learn more about how to sign up – free of charge – for one of our most popular events.

- **Advertising and Exhibiting:** We are seeking advertisements in our conference program and online app to help cover the costs of registration subsidies and travel support for PhD students. If you are interested in placing an ad, please visit: <http://www.istr.org/?page=AdsandExhibits>

- **Conference App:** Be on the lookout for the conference app which you will be able to download to your smart phone, which will offer the full conference program, maps, transportation and tourist information, and will allow you to develop a personalized plan for which sessions you want to participate in and the opportunity to connect with other participants. More details to come.

- **Discount Flights:** As a reminder, ISTR has partnered with the Star Alliance Conventions Network to offer you discounts on your flights to Stockholm. Book directly with them by visiting <http://www.istr.org/?StockholmTravel>

- **Important note about the opening reception at Stockholm City Hall:** Be on the lookout for an email requesting your RSVP for this event. Stockholm City Hall’s security measures require that participants register in advance and only those who register will be permitted to attend.

- **Regional Network meetings:** The Africa, Asia Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Europe Regional Network meetings will take place Thursday, June 30th 6-7 pm.

- **Affinity Group meetings:** The Affinity Group on Gender, the Law and Regulation Affinity Group, and the Research on Volunteering Affinity Group meetings will take place Friday, July 1st 12:30 – 1:30 during lunch. Others are welcome to form new affinity groups and schedule a meeting during this time.

ISTR 2016 Plenary Panel Nordic Civil Societies – Mutations and Continuity

The Nordic countries are well-known for their national welfare states and their extensive foreign aid policies. Less well understood is the extent and character of their civil societies. This panel will take a closer look at both the historical legacies and the current patterns of change against the backdrop of migratory pressures, economic globalization, and changes in the welfare mix: which is the role of civil society in addressing the refugee crisis, reinventing welfare, and invigorating democracy at a time when the traditional social contract is facing a deep crisis?



Stockholm City Hall— Conference Venues

CONFERENCE NEWS

Moderator: Lars Trägårdh

Professor of History at Ersta Sköndal University College in Stockholm. Lars is a historian whose research interests include the Nordic model, social trust, the Swedish social contract and children right's regimes in Sweden, France and the US. At present Lars is working with issues concerning the welfare state as it is challenged by globalization.

Participants:

Kirsten Grønberg

Professor of Public Affairs at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs and Efroymsen Chair in Philanthropy at the School of Philanthropy, Indiana University, USA.

Kirsten is a sociologist and currently directs a major project on the Indiana Nonprofit Sector. Her other research focus on the non-profit sector and the American welfare system. She is a member of the reference group for a major research program on Danish civil society and voluntary work.

Lars Skov Henriksen

Professor at Department of Sociology and Social Work, Aalborg University, Denmark.

Lars is a sociologist and currently directed a major research program on Danish civil society and voluntary work. His other research and publications focus on voluntary organisations, trust and comparative social politics

Per Selle

Professor at the Institute for Comparative Politics; Bergen University, Norway.

Per is a political scientist and a leading scholar of Norwegian politics and political culture. He has pioneered the modern study of Norwegian civil society and its role in politics and society. Currently he is studying Sami policy in Norway and new forms of collective action.

Kari Steen-Johnsen

PhD. Senior research fellow at the Institute for Social Research in Oslo.

Kari is a sociologist and her fields of expertise are civil society, organizational change, network society and the public sphere. At present Kari is involved in a project on the state of freedom of speech in Norway. ■

REGIONAL NEWS

Chair in Philanthropy a First for the Continent



In a collaboration between the Wits Business School (WBS) and the Southern Africa Trust (SAT), Dr. Alan Fowler has been appointed visiting Professor in the Chair in African Philanthropy at WBS.

Prof. Fowler, a former president of ISTR and currently Emeritus Professor at the Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University, The Hague, says, "This initiative, funded by the Ford Foundation, aims to take forward a pan-African perspective on the practice and epistemology of gifting on the continent, a topic of many ISTR African network conferences over the years."

An inaugural conference to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in March this year will bring together academics and practitioners from across the continent to co-design a chair around four themes, namely; teaching, research, outreach to diverse audiences and the difficult issue of measuring performance.

The work of the Chair will bring a home-grown African narrative and perspective on gifting, adding impetus to continent's development. It will also contribute to international debates about the role of philanthropy, for example in relation to the newly approved sustainable development goals.

Stakeholder engagement during this process will include consultation with policy makers, public, private and civil society leaders, academics, foundations, social investors and high net worth individuals investing in the philanthropic sector.

Prof. Fowler says, "It's a personal honour to take on this formative role and I look forward to the appointment of a permanent professor within the next few months. The cause of philanthropy and social investment in Africa will gain a practical boost as well as an academic home with the establishment of Chair in African Philanthropy within the continent."

It is anticipated that the full profile of the chair will be approved before the end of June 2016.

For more information, please visit the page on the WBS website: www.wbs.ac.za/centres/chair_in_philanthropy ■

INSIDE VIEW

INSIDE VIEW OF A CONFERENCE ROUNDTABLE

The Closing Space for Civil Society*By Julie Melton Fisher, Kettering Foundation,
Retired Program Officer*

More than two decades ago, I published a book about indigenous development NGOs in the Third World.¹ At that time, my overall impression was that governments were largely unaware of the significance and dramatic growth of civil society in Asia, Africa and Latin America. This remained true even after the collapse of the Soviet Union and the spread of civil society in Russia and Eastern Europe in the 1990s.

However, by the 1990s governments began to notice that civil society threatened politics as usual. One reason for this sea change was foreign financial support. Whereas the major international support for Third World NGOs in the 70s and 80s had been “voluntary foreign assistance” provided by international NGOs, by the 1990s, governmental donors (U.S. and western European) had become more prominent, particularly in Russia and Eastern Europe.

And this led to another problem. International NGOs were, and often continue to be, skilled at finding indigenous partners that already have track records in their own countries. Official donors, especially in the former Soviet sphere in the 1990s, often created NGOs and then funded them, in part because the growth of indigenous civil society was weaker than in the Third World.

Not surprisingly, governments in both the Third and the so-called Second World first turned against NGOs focused on democratization, especially human rights organizations. So, when I did field interviews in preparation for my recent book on democratization NGOs in South Africa and Argentina, I was pleased that at least in these two “flawed democracies,” democratization NGOs were not suppressed.² More surprising was Tajikistan, where the 30 plus organizations I interviewed were able to operate despite its authoritarian government, and often had a real impact, particularly on local political participation and freedom of the press. As I researched democratization NGOs in other countries, in preparation for an appendix to the book, I remained encouraged.

There are signs throughout the world, however, that this has begun to change and that government repression has moved beyond traditionally repressive countries such as

China, to the rest of the world. Thomas Caruthers has described this worrisome trend as the “closing space” for civil society. In 2013, Darin Christensen and Jeremy Weinstein found that most of the 98 countries they studied had either prohibited or restricted foreign funding for local NGOs.³ Uganda prohibits any organization “prejudicial to the dignity of the people.” In Russia during the 1990s the Soros Foundation helped literary journals survive and supported university connections to the internet. Now it is banned. In Israel, a proposed NGO bill targets peace and human rights organizations while Settler’s Councils are not regulated at all and receive massive government financial support. As a result of a sweeping law in Azerbaijan, the government has jailed key veterans of the human rights movement. And in a number of countries NGOs have been replaced, not by the old-fashioned but functioning GONGOs (government-organized NGOs), but by what are now called “zombie” NGOs, moribund, but funded by governments.

Would a return to funding from international NGOs produce less of a backlash? Probably not, given that their activities could also be targeted as foreign interference. And, sadly, many governments who focus on “foreign intervention,” also repress local donors. In Egypt, for example, local philanthropic supporters have been targeted. Environmental NGOs in India supported by local businesses have been attacked by the Modi administration because of perceived challenges to official development plans. Independent local media, another important component of civil society, is also targeted.

Ironically, many governments attacking foreign support for civil society are supportive of foreign business investors as well as foreign aid that replaces government service provision. Not surprisingly, their key concern is whether funding contributes to reinforcing government policy. So while official foreign support bears some responsibility for what has happened, it is not clear that a shift to international NGOs and/or local donors would help.

So, what is to be done? The first priority, directly related to ISTR’s mission, is better reporting and research. But this can also be misleading. As Jay Ulfelder has pointed out, the State Department had one human rights staffer in the early 1970s, and now has over 100.⁴ So while repression of civil society has undoubtedly increased, it went largely unreported for many years. Now, when scholars and journalists write about the repression of civil society, they have to be careful, particularly about the scope and dimensions of their conclusions.

INSIDE VIEW

Among the questions to be discussed in this informal roundtable will be:

1. What, if anything, is the difference between government opposition to foreign funding, and opposition to its own civil society?
2. Is government opposition selective, in other words, focused mainly on democratization NGOs, or does it constitute a widespread crackdown on civil society?

3. How should foreign donors respond to this challenge? If foreign donors withdraw, what are some of the alternative ways that local civil society could support itself?

4. What should our role be, as scholars of the non-profit sector? How can more local scholars be brought into the process? What questions should we be asking, about civil society, and about governments? ■

1. *The Road from Rio: Sustainable Development and the Nongovernmental Movement in the Third World*. Westport: Praeger, 1993.
 2. *Importing Democracy: The Role of NGOs in South Africa, Tajikistan and Argentina*. Dayton: Kettering Foundation Press, 2013.
 3. Darin Christensen and Jeremy Weinstein, "Defunding Dissent: Restrictions on Aid to NGOs," *Journal of Democracy*, April 2013.
 4. See Jay Ulfelder, Dart-Throwing Chimp, Wordpress.com.1/29/2015.

VOLUNTAS NEWS

Book Editor Appointed

As of January 1, 2016, Marc Jegers (Free University Brussels, VUB) took over the book editorship of *Voluntas* from Silvia Ferreira (Coimbra University, Portugal). This will not entail major changes in the book review procedure: Marc will solicit reviewers for each book he receives for review through the ISTR listserv system and assign a reviewer, who is supposed to submit her/his review to him within 60 days.



After being approved by Marc, final approval will be sought with the *Voluntas* editors, Taco Brandsen and Ruth Simsa, as part of the overall 'four eyes' assessments applicable to all *Voluntas* submissions.

Marc Jegers is professor of managerial economics at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel in Belgium. His main research interest relates to the managerial economics of non-profit organisations, with a focus on governance, accounting, and finance, on which he extensively published in all international academic journals devoted to the Third Sector and Non-profit organisations. Other work has been published, in the *American Economic Review*, the *Academy of Management*

Journal, the *Journal of Corporate Finance*, the *Journal of Health Economics*. He also serves as a member of the board of editors of a number of scholarly journal, amongst which *Voluntas*, as is an associate editor of *Nonprofit Management and Leadership and Financial Accountability and Management*.

The LAC Network and *Voluntas* Special Issue on Latin America and the Caribbean

Jacqueline Butcher and Beatriz Balian de Tagtachian, Guest Editors

At the Mexico City ISTR Conference in 1996, the ISTR Latin American and the Caribbean Network (LAC) was formed. In the spirit of building an inclusive global research community and with the support of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, experts and researchers from the region initiated communication and exchange of information to strengthen this initiative. Mexico, Argentina, Brazil and Chile were among the present forces to give impulse to the network. Steadily other countries such as Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Costa Rica, and most recently, Puerto Rico joined in this effort and have been supporting the network ever since. The Latin American network began its meetings in Rio de Janeiro in 1997 with a strong presence of the ISTR Board of Directors headed by its president, Virginia Hodgkinson. In the past 15 years these meetings have been sustained by a large array of interested universities and Third sector organizations and have continued in Santiago de

VOLUNTAS NEWS

Chile (1999), Buenos Aires (2001), Costa Rica (2003), Lima (2005), Salvador de Bahía (2007), Mexico (2009), Buenos Aires (2011) and Santiago de Chile (2013). Our most recent meeting was held in Puerto Rico in 2015.

Each encounter opened a space for interdisciplinary exchange to analyze, discuss and study a series of main themes and issues that are varied and on each occasion have been in synchronicity with the context and needs for research in the region. They have included: development, inequality, citizen participation, organizations and volunteering and connections with other sectors in relationships with governments and the corporate sector. Issues that have to do with democratization, transparency, legitimization, social investment, satellite accounts and others, have been on the research agenda for the region as well. In the latter years concerns for accountability, sustainability, empowerment and building citizenship in a still unequal environment in this particular region of the world, present current material for important investigations.

With the support of Instituto de Comunicación y Desarrollo (ICD), Uruguay, a civil society research center and sustained by ISTR, the LAC network has been informed of activities, research projects and meetings in the area. These meetings have found the support of local universities, institutions, CSOs and on occasion, of local governments and have followed the processes and requirements of all ISTR international conferences. Thus, the papers derived from these conferences have found on many occasions the opportunity to

appear in worldwide interdisciplinary journals.

The participation of prestigious universities and civil society centers through these years also allowed an awareness of the need for competent researchers while stressing the importance of international comparative work and publications in peer reviewed journals. Due to the amount of research that this region has produced over the years and the interest in understanding the issues that concern the Third sector, the editorial Board of *Voluntas* decided to create a Special Issue dedicated to Latin America and the Caribbean, issuing a Call for Papers in 2013 for this purpose.

Researchers from all over the globe that have cast their interest and studies in this direction responded to this invitation. As guest editors for this issue we appreciate the opportunity that *Voluntas* provided for us to offer to the international research community an overview of the political, economic, and social issues of this region as well as an actualized version of its context, exposing the needs and trends that individuals and civil society organizations have experienced in the past 20 years. The original articles placed into three distinct axis or categories that correspond distinctively to major trends identified by us: social inclusion and development, human rights and public policies and governance of Third sector organizations. It is our hope that this issue provides ideas and pertinent information for further studies in the LAC region.

<https://istr.site-ym.com/?VOLUME27No1> ■

CALL FOR PAPERS

ISIRC 2016: Social Innovation in the 21st Century: Beyond Welfare Capitalism?

ISIRC is the world's leading interdisciplinary social innovation research conference. The conference brings together scholars from across the globe to discuss social innovation from a variety of perspectives. ISIRC 2016 will be held in Glasgow from 5-7 September 2016.

This year we are delighted to welcome keynote speakers Ana Maria Peredo, Taco Brandsen, Alex Nicholls, Rafael Ziegler, Pascal Dey, and Ute Stephan.

Abstracts and proposals for panel sessions are due by 1st April 2016. A full list of conference themes can be found on our website <http://www.isircconference2016.com/>. We

look forward to welcoming you to Glasgow in September.

For more information please see the website or contact the ISIRC team, Glasgow Caledonian University, isirc2016@gnu.ac.uk

Special Issue: Call for Papers from Corporate Governance

Corporate Governance: The International journal of business in society is pleased to invite papers for a special issue on "Contemporary issues in social enterprise education."

http://www.emeraldgroupublishing.com/products/journals/call_for_papers.htm?id=6457 ■

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Call for ISTR Board of Directors Nominations

The 2016 Nominating Committee invites the ISTR membership and global research community to submit nominees for President Elect and the Board of Directors of the International Society for Third-Sector Research.

We are seeking members that are interested in leading the organization and playing an important role as part of the Board of Directors. **Nominations are due by June 3, 2016.**

The positions for which elections will be held are:

President Elect 2 year term
(January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2018)

Board Members (5) 4 year term
(January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2020)

Self-nomination is encouraged. Biographical information for each nominee, as well as currently held board positions in other organizations, and a statement of interest and motivation from the nominee must be submitted. If the nominee's country of residence differs from his/her nationality, please indicate how long the nominee has lived in the country of residence.

Skills and experience that are of interest to the Nominating Committee and should be included in the nomination

include the following:

- Previous service to ISTR
- Previous membership in ISTR and participation in conferences, committees or publications
- Leadership experience in third sector organizations (including research organizations)
- Previous board experience
- Relevant skills including strategic planning, membership and partnership development, financial management and budgeting, editing and publishing, fundraising, marketing, facilitation, governance, information technology, governance, etc.

Nominees for President Elect are not required to have served on the Board of ISTR but previous service to ISTR is of interest. Please also include information about previous leadership experience and success.

Prospective candidates must be paid members of ISTR for 2016-2017 prior to the elections and must maintain membership in ISTR throughout their board term.

Additional information is located [here](#).

Please submit nominees to:

Anabel Cruz, ISTR Nominating Committee, c/o ISTR, 624 North Broadway, Hampton House 356, Baltimore, MD 21205, USA, e-mail: istr@jhu.edu ■

SURVEY REPORT

ISTR Members Satisfied, Request Increased Networking Around Shared Research Interests

As a members' organization, ISTR considers members' inputs a critical input for its planning and development. Accordingly, we conducted our annual membership survey in the summer. The membership survey results have been tabulated and presented before the board, and now we can share the results with the membership.

Firstly we wish to thank everyone who took the time to complete the survey. Your answers to the various questions are most important to the life of the association as we move ahead with new initiatives, programs, member benefits, regional conferences, etc. The information collected from colleagues in over 40 countries is very useful to the board of

directors for strategic planning. We received 576 responses – an impressive 20% response rate.

Not surprisingly, being a research association, the majority of survey respondents are from institutions of higher education, mostly from universities (80%), but also from colleges (2%). However, responses came also from staff of independent research institutes (6%), think tanks (2%) and members not in academia working for NGOs, foundations and nonprofit organizations (10%). Gender distribution of respondents was even – 50-50.

It is encouraging to note the high rate of members satisfied with ISTR: 82% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the work of ISTR, and only 1% reported being dissatisfied. As well, 86% reported being satisfied or very satisfied with their ISTR membership. The most important reasons respondents listed for choosing to be members of

SURVEY REPORT

ISTR are opportunities for networking and sharing results, access to *Voluntas* and staying informed about the profession.

When asked, what if anything, do you think ISTR should focus more attention than it currently does, the overwhelming response was “focused intellectual networking around shared research interests.” Consistently with that response, there was a wide range of interest in thematic issues including NGO’s and development, nonprofit management, public governance and social entrepreneurship.

Conference attendance was impressive. Almost two out of every three respondents have attended an ISTR conference, and of those 57% attended more than one conference. Members reported various reasons for attending the ISTR international conferences. These include the following:

- The meeting offers good opportunities for professional development and disciplinary networking.

- The interdisciplinary composition of ISTR offers opportunities not offered by other professional or academic associations.
- The regional diversity of conference attendants.
- Presenting at conferences is important for my career opportunities.

The top reasons hindering attendance included lack of institutional funding, conference fees, and scheduling conflict.

Your feedback is important and we appreciate your time in responding to the survey! The findings of the survey are being instrumental in the strategic planning currently undertaken by the executive committee and the board, and will feed into the current and long term work of ISTR. Many thanks to board members, Hagai Katz, Lesley Hustinx, Steven Rathgeb Smith and Annette Zimmer who helped in developing the survey, conducting it and analyzing the data. ■

MEMBER NEWS

Andrés Thompson has been appointed the new Coordinator of the Brazilian Network of Independent Funds for Social Justice. In his new role, and with the support of the members organization, Thompson will lead the management, institutional strengthening, resource mobilization and communications of the network. The Network of Independent Funds for Social Justice was created in 2012 and gathers nine independent funds and community foundations in Brazil, focusing its work in human rights, equality and social justice. (<http://www.rededefundos.org.br/>)

Andrés currently works as an independent consultant, co-leads the program ELLAS on Women and Philanthropy at CEDES (Argentina) and is an active member of Fondo Región Colonia (Uruguay). He previously served as Program Director for Latin America and the Caribbean at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation from 2004-2010.

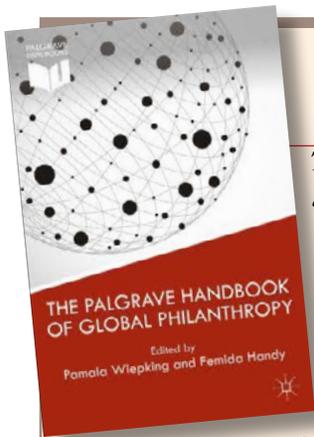


Mark Sidel has been appointed the Charles Stewart Mott Visiting Chair on Community Foundations at the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. Sidel is the Doyle-Bascom Professor of Law and Public Policy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a member of the Council on Foundations Community Foundations National Standards Board.

Sidel is developing and teaching the school’s first course on community foundations during the 2016 spring semester, including leading a series of workshops on community philanthropy and community foundation issues.

Through teaching, research and public service, scholars and foundation professionals serving in the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation Chair on Community Foundations contribute significantly to understanding and enhancing the important work of community foundations. The chair was established in 2014 with a gift from the Mott Foundation to commemorate the centennial of community foundations in the U.S. The Foundation’s goal in supporting the chair is to elevate the level of research in the field that will ultimately help produce better outcomes in local communities. ■

BOOK NOTES



The Palgrave Handbook of Global Philanthropy. Edited by Pamela Wiepking and Femida Handy. Hampshire, UK: Palgrave Macmillan UK, 2015. 669 pages. Cost: Hardback US \$210; E-book US \$159. To order: www.palgrave.com

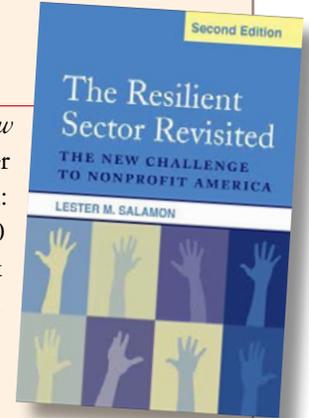
Nonprofit organizations provide important public goods and services in societies across the world. In times of economic crisis, when governments are forced to decrease public spending, these organizations become even more important in meeting demands for these goods and services. But what motivates individuals across societies to voluntarily give away portions of their own financial resources to benefit the public good and to enable nonprofit organizations to carry out their work? Why are nonprofit organizations much more omnipresent and successful in some countries than in others?

The Palgrave Handbook of Global Philanthropy is a comprehensive reference guide to the practice of philanthropy and the nonprofit sector across twenty-six nations and regions. In addition, thematic chapters examine cross-national issues to provide an indispensable guide to the latest research in this field. Drawing on theoretical insights from management, sociology, economics, political science, and psychology, and including a stellar international line-up of leading philanthropy scholars, this reference work describes the non-profit sector and empirically analyzes philanthropic endeavors country by country, providing a global overview that covers Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Australia and the Americas. In addition, thematic chapters examine cross-national issues, including the social origins of the non-profit sector and charitable giving; the influence of government support; the role of religion; fiscal incentives; and fundraising to outline how major country-specific differences in governmental, economic, and legal policies for philanthropic actors and nonprofit organizations shape philanthropic giving and the nonprofit sector, demonstrating how country-specific factors may facilitate or inhibit philanthropy. The editors conclude the *Palgrave Handbook of Global Philanthropy* by presenting theoretical insights into eight contextual factors facilitating philanthropy and nonprofit organizations across nations, derived from the work presented in this volume.

Co-editor Pamela Wiepking and chapter authors Beth Breeze (University of Kent) and Chris Einolf (DePaul University

Chicago) explained the results of *The Palgrave Handbook on Global Philanthropy* in a webinar organized by WINGS last January, which is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5v6nmScvd1s>

The Resilient Sector Revisited: The New Challenge to Nonprofit America. By Lester M. Salamon. Washington, DC, USA: Brookings Institution Press, 2015. 120 pages. Paper US \$19.95/£10.00; E-book US\$19.95/£10.55. To order: www.brookings.edu

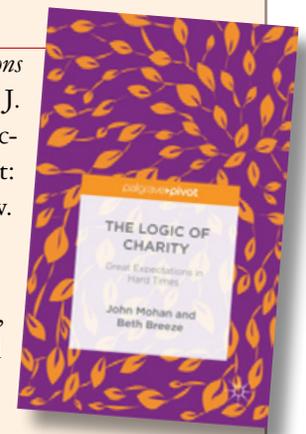


Nonprofit America is one of the least understood segments of national life, yet also one of the most crucial. Author Lester Salamon, who pioneered the empirical study of the nonprofit sector in the United States, provides a wealth of new data to paint a compelling picture of a set of institutions being buffeted by a withering set of challenges, yet still finding ways to survive and prosper. These challenges, however, are posing enormous risks to the historic character and role of nonprofits.

Operating in an increasingly competitive environment in which traditional sources of government and philanthropic support are difficult to maintain, nonprofits have turned decisively to the market. In the process, however, they may be losing their *raison d'être*, sacrificing their most crucial missions, and risking loss of public understanding and support.

To remedy this situation, Salamon recommends a “renewal strategy” for the nation’s nonprofit sector that begins with a wider articulation and application of the sector’s “value proposition”—the attributes that continue to make it deserving of the special privileges and benefits it enjoys.

The Logic of Charity: Great Expectations in Hard Times. By Beth Breeze and J. Mohan. London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan UK, 2015. 128 Pages. Cost: Hardback US \$67.50. To order: www.palgrave.com



What is charity? How does it operate, who does it benefit and what should we expect it to do? This important

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book helps to tackle the most common misunderstandings and misconceptions of charitable activity in contemporary British society, especially insofar as these affect the thinking of politicians and policymakers. The authors present and discuss over a dozen studies, including public attitudes to giving, large datasets on the geography and funding patterns of third sector organisations, and interviews with a wide range

of donors, charity leaders, fundraisers and philanthropy advisers. This data enables them to explore the logic of charity in terms of the distribution of resources across causes and communities in the UK, and the processes behind philanthropic decision-making, to reveal a picture of charitable activity at odds with widespread assumptions. ■

ON LINE PUBLICATIONS



The first of three special issues examining national and regional training and education programs for individuals with leadership roles as either civil society leaders or managers has been published in the *Journal of Nonprofit Education and Leadership*. The articles provide a thorough review of curricular offerings of credit-based civil society education programs located within universities and colleges. Edited by Roseanne Mirabella, Johann Hvenmark and Ola Segnestam Larsson, their aim and hope is that the compilation of manuscripts focused on various countries and regions as well as topics in each one - as well as the three special issues together - will inform a future development of more conceptual and theoretical approaches in this knowledge field. The compilation of these inquiries may also help us create a more holistic understanding of the field and make us better equipped for future comparisons and analyses of national and regional roles of civil society education and training programs around the world. The contributors to these three special issues are all experts from the field of civil society education in various regions of the world. It will be argued that the development of future civil society leaders and managers, who face the dual demands of improving the effectiveness of civil society organizations while at the same time grappling with inequality, injustice, violation of rights, and the important role that civil society actors play in democratization through increased participation of underrepresented groups, will require two different curricular approaches. By focusing on both sets of educational needs for those who will lead civil society organizations – management of organizations and advocates for communities - new curricular forms may result from the synthesis of current

approaches with this expanded understanding of the dual role of civil society leaders. Finally, by studying and analyzing civil society education around the world and developing an analytical approach, this work will move us closer to our ambition of implementing the first comparable census of civil society education and training programs and courses around the world. This first issue examines the current curricular offerings of credit-based civil society education programs and courses in universities and colleges in Australia, China, Ecuador, Finland, and Lebanon and the corresponding education models that have been developed to support future leaders of civil society organizations.

<http://js.sagamorepub.com/jnel/issue/view/741>

Report: Active Participation in Civil Society

Active Participation in Civil Society: International Standards, Obstacles in National Legislation and Proposals Report has been published by TUSEV within the scope of Strengthening Civil Society and Civil Society Public Sector Dialogue Project that is funded by European Union and Turkish Republic. Authored by Gökçeçişek Ayata from Istanbul Bilgi University Human Rights Research Centre and Assistant Professor Ulas Karan from Bilgi University Law School, the report determine the legal obstacles before the enabling environment for civil society in Turkey and introduce proposals for amendments. Please click here to download the report in English.

<http://www.tusev.org.tr/en/research-publications/online-publications/active-participation-in-civil-society-international-standards-obstacles-in-national-legislation-and-proposals-report>

ONLINE PUBLICATIONS

INTRAC online publications
How aid really works

“How aid really works” is a comic strip, which highlights the gap between our lofty ideals and the messy reality of the aid business. Alan Fowler, Rod MacLeod and Arantxa Mandiola Lopez shine a light into the darkness. Does this resonate? How can we do different?

ONTRAC 61 Post-closure evaluation: an indulgence or a valuable exercise?

How do we evaluate a partnership or programme that is closing or has already closed? What are the benefits and risks of doing this? Our latest edition of ONTRAC explores the value of post-closure evaluation and brings together four different perspectives.

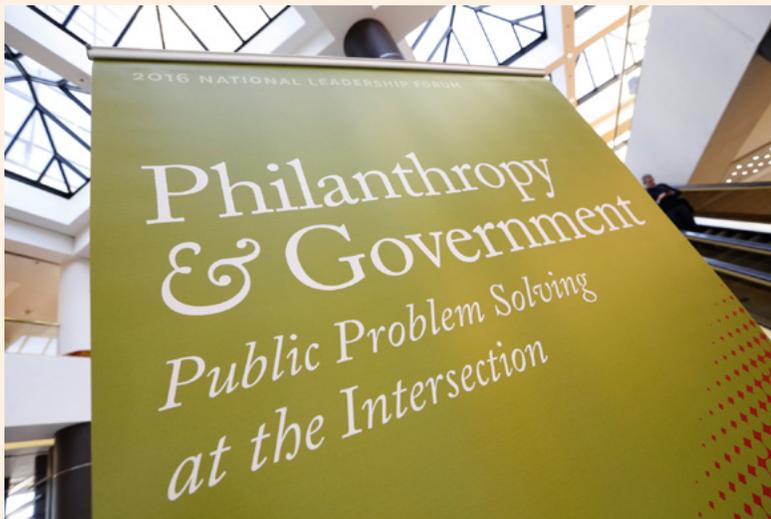
Praxis Paper 31: Developing a timeline for exit strategies

Many practitioners are struggling with issues including how to approach exit and how to ensure sustainability of interventions. This paper by Sarah Lewis collects and analyses learning from a year-long Action Learning Set on exit with the British Red Cross, EveryChild, Oxfam GB, Sightsavers and WWF-UK.

Summarising portfolio change: results frameworks at organisational level

Over recent years, many international development agencies have been expected to summarise results and learning across large portfolios of work, carried out in different regions, countries and sectors. This paper by Nigel Simister describes some of the different methods and options available to help achieve this.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**2016 National Leadership Forum at USC**

On February 11-12, 2016, The Center on Philanthropy and Public Policy at the University of Southern California hosted its 2016 National Leadership Forum examining what happens at the intersection between government and philanthropy to create impact. Leaders from across

the philanthropic sector gathered to address a wide range of policy issues from health reform to revitalizing cities to tackling political polarization to immigrant integration to charter schools. Lessons from efforts working across philanthropy, government and business were examined, with a focus on what philanthropy can do better to build its capacity for public problem solving, including taking bigger risks, supporting movements, forging partnerships, growing the field of impact investing, and communicating for change. A write-up about the forum and videos from twelve different topical discussions can be found at the following link: <http://cphp.usc.edu/forums-roundtables/philanthropy-and-government/>

Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy Appoints Director

Shena Ashley is the new director of the Urban Institute's Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy (CNP). Previously, Ashley was an assistant professor at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.

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Ashley's specialties include philanthropic studies, nonprofit management and finance, government–nonprofit relations, and community economic development. She began teaching in Syracuse's Department of Public Administration and International Affairs in 2009. Before that, she was an assistant professor at Georgia State University and the director of research and policy at the Annie E. Casey Foundation Atlanta Civic Site. Her career included five years of training as an agricultural economist with the US Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Ashley earned a doctorate in public policy from Georgia State University and Georgia Institute of Technology. She has numerous scholarly publications and is, most recently, a coauthor of *Public Administration in the Context of Global Governance*.

EMES

The 5th EMES summer school for PhD students in the fields on social enterprise and social economy will take participants to Glasgow in Scotland, where it is hosted by EMES member Yunus Centre for Social Business and Health, Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU). We are looking forward to a wide variety of presentations by students from 26 countries, conceptual workshops, and feedback sessions with faculty recruited from EMES' international membership. Application and selection processes are now closed, but EMES PhD summer schools are back every second year.

<http://emes.net/training-education/phd-summer-schools/5th-emes-international-phd-summer-school-glasgow-scotland-uk-2016/>

A tradition following EMES research conferences is the 'Best Conference Paper' Award. Last year's conference in Helsinki was dedicated to contributions focussed on fostering social enterprise fields and we were thrilled by the many excellent presentations on this growing field of research. The awards evaluation committee finally selected a "Best Conference Paper" and a "Best PhD Presentation" by María L.

Granados from the University of Westminster (UK) and Merie Joseph Kannampuzha from the Jyväskylä University School of Business and Economics (Finland).

<http://emes.net/news/and-the-winners-of-the-helsinki-best-paper-awards-are/>

Third Sector Impact

The Third Sector Impact project (TSI) published a new policy brief aimed at policy makers at EU-level, "Assessing the impact of the third sector in Europe: From concept to metrics. Progress on indicators and methods". It marks the completion of TSI's objective to assess existing approaches to measure the multiple impacts of the third sector and volunteering and outlines what is needed to establish documentation of the impact of the third sector and volunteering: concepts and metrics suited for the distinctive features of the third sector; standardised and comparable indicators at micro-, meso- and macro-level; methods that can deal with problems related to identifying causal relations between third sector activities and impacts; reliable and comparable data on individual, organizational, and country level.

<http://thirdsectorimpact.eu/documentation/tsi-policy-brief-022015-assessing-the-impact-of-the-third-sector-in-europe/>

Beginning in April 2016 TSI will launch a series of reports on barriers impeding the ability of third sector organizations to generate socio-economic impact across Europe. These reports are based on extensive empirical work in seven countries. In line with TSI's focus on involving stakeholders preliminary results were shared with third sector networks working at European level during the TSI mid-term meeting in Brussels last October. We are now looking forward to discuss findings with national networks, meeting the TSI consortium in Rome from 7-8 April.

<http://thirdsectorimpact.eu/events/2016/04/07/discussing-barriers-with-third-sector-networks-in-rome-7-8-april-2016/> ■

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