Call for ISTR Board of Directors Nominations

The 2018 ISTR 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 (ISTR).

The Nominating Committee encourages all members of ISTR to suggest fellow members for consideration. Those wishing to do so should explain why they believe the person’s accomplishments, background, and views would make them a good choice for a leadership position. The nominating committee hopes to nominate a slate of accomplished scholars and practitioners who reflect the diverse membership of ISTR. To achieve this goal, they rely on the membership to forward suggestions and recommendations. Self-nominations are also encouraged.

Nominations are due by June 1, 2018.

The positions for which elections will be held are:

**President Elect** 2 year term
(January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2020)

**At-Large Board Members** (7) 4 year term
(January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2022)

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

Prospective candidates must be paid members of ISTR for 2018-2019 prior to the elections and must maintain membership in ISTR throughout their board term.

Please submit nominees to ISTRNomination@jhu.edu

If you have any questions, please contact Margery Daniels, executive director of ISTR at istr@jhu.edu.

ISTR Board of Directors Nominations Details:

In addition to the elected positions, President Elect and Members at Large

- Secretary, Treasurer, and Chair of the Publications Committee are appointed by the President with the concurrence of the Board, as per the By-Laws

- One additional board member will be appointed by the President in consultation with the current President Elect from one of the shortlisted Board candidates who has not been elected. The appointment is based upon a consideration of the characteristics of the successful candidates and the Board’s need for a complementary diversity, experience or skills. (Terms of Reference for the Nominations Committee)

In addition, board members responsibilities include setting the strategic direction of ISTR and the oversight of ISTR’s ongoing operations. Board members are also expected to do the following: 1) Attend the annual board meetings (2 to 3 days); 2) Participate actively in at least one board committee; 3) Assist with member recruitment, fundraising and resource development for the Society.
Current board members whose terms are ending December 31, 2018 are:

- Oonagh Breen *(UCD Sutherland School of Law, Ireland)
- Lesley Hustinx (Ghent University, Belgium)
- Hagai Katz (Ben Gurion University of Negev, Israel)
- Paula Chies Schommer *(Santa Catarina State University, Brazil)
- Bhekinkosi Moyo *(South Africa Trust, South Africa)
- Ola Segnestam Larsson *(Ersta Sköndal University College, Sweden)
- Steven Rathgeb Smith (American Political Science Association, USA)
- Stefan Toepler *(George Mason University, USA)
- Jiangang Zhu *(Nankai University, China)

*These current board members are eligible to run for a second term.

Current board members whose terms continue through December 31, 2020:

- Ruth Phillips (University of Sydney, Australia)
  President
- Kin-man Chan (Chinese University of Hong Kong)
- Nana Asantewa Afadzinu (West Africa Civil Society Institute, Ghana)
- Anna Domaradzka (University of Warsaw, Poland)
- Maria Nindita Radyati (Trisakti University, Indonesia)
- Theo Schuyt (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

The Nominating Committee will present the slate of candidates to the membership in September 2018. This slate may include up to two nominees for every position. Voting will be conducted on-line and ballots must be returned by November 26, 2018. Candidates will be notified on their election to the board by December 5, 2018 and will take office January 1, 2019.

The Nominating Committee is comprised of Max Stephenson, Chairperson (Virginia Tech, USA), Kin-man Chan* (Chinese University of Hong Kong); Lesley Hustinx* (Ghent University, Belgium); Yu Ishida (Miyagi University, Japan); Armine Ishkanian (London School of Economics, UK); Maria N. Radyati* (Trisakti University, Indonesia); Jose Ivan Vega (University of Puerto Rico); Richard Wamai (Northeastern University, USA/Kenya); Annette Zimmer (University of Muenster, Germany).

(*current board members)
Building a Bridge between Past, Present and Future within the ISTR Community and Beyond: The ISTR Mentoring Program

Domenico Carolei, PhD student at the University of Aberdeen School of Law, offers his reflections on what it has meant to be matched with Oonagh Breen, ISTR Board Member and Professor of Law at the Sutherland School of Law, University College Dublin, as part of the ISTR Mentoring Program.

Nearly two years have passed since I attended my first ISTR Conference in Stockholm. Since then, my professional life as a PhD researcher has positively changed. ISTR brought new colleagues into my academic life -- I consider most of them as faithful friends with whom I regularly discuss thoughts and ideas about our research while drinking ‘long-distance coffees’ on Skype.

At the ISTR Conference Stockholm I also had my first meeting with Professor Oonagh Breen, after we were ‘virtually matched’ through the ISTR Mentoring Program. As a young researcher working on regulation and self-regulation of CSOs in the Italian context, I must admit that personally meeting a well-established academic specializing in comparative charity law was truly an honor. During a coffee break, Professor Breen and I had an interesting exchange of opinions on strengths and weaknesses of self-regulation as a means of CSOs accountability at sectoral level and we also discussed the status of Italian CSOs that have been recently reformed through the Third-Sector Reform (August 2017). As a comparative lawyer, Professor Breen was extremely knowledgeable about the diverse types of Italian CSOs that populate the civil society landscape, including bank foundations, and we ended up debating about charity scandals and how the latter can trigger cyclically regulatory forces. It was a stimulating discussion. Once we left each other, I realized that our mentor match was already a success.

In September 2017, the Sutherland Law School of the University College Dublin hosted the annual conference of the Society of Legal Scholars. The Conference was a great occasion to showcase my case-note on whether the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises can be used as a means of NGO accountability. We also discussed the status of Italian CSOs that have been recently reformed through the Third-Sector Reform (August 2017). As a comparative lawyer, Professor Breen was extremely knowledgeable about the diverse types of Italian CSOs that populate the civil society landscape, including bank foundations, and we ended up debating about charity scandals and how the latter can trigger cyclically regulatory forces. It was a stimulating discussion. Once we left each other, I realized that our mentor match was already a success.

Professor Breen gave me invaluable feedback on my paper [which will be soon published by Human Rights Law Review] and we also spoke about applying empirical methods to study charity regulation, besides traditional doctrinal methodologies. At the same time, she encouraged me to apply for the ISTR PhD seminar in Amsterdam.

I could not, however, leave Ireland without inviting her to showcase her “Regulatory Waves” project to our multi-disciplinary research team at the Centre for Citizenship, Civil Society and Rule of Law (CISRUL) at the University of Aberdeen. Professor Breen accepted the invitation and she was our guest in February 2018. She was the first lawyer to ever deliver a guest seminar on civil society at the University of Aberdeen. My research fellows, even those working beyond the area of charity regulation, were fascinated by her presentation and the academic value of Professor Breen’s work beyond the boundaries defined by disciplines was widely acknowledged. Indeed, the book Regulatory Waves represents the first tangible and comprehensive academic work to study the inter-play between State-based regulation and self-regulation of charities in different jurisdictions.

At the end of her presentation we had another coffee break and my colleagues joined us too. We had a fascinating discussion on coffee production and the related benefits that caffeine can bring to academia in terms of productivity. For example, I learnt that the Irish Coffee (it’s a false friend!) was invented at Shannon Airport and it is not consumed at academic events as it contains whisky. I
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also explained to Professor Breen that there is a reasonable explanation for the academic quarter in Italy [the academic quarter is a 15 minute gap between the scheduled time for a lecture and the time the lecture actually starts]: academics take their time to drink coffee especially early in the morning. Lastly, I informed Professor Breen, with great pleasure, that I had been accepted to participate to the ISTR PhD seminar and that I would be presenting my research findings at the ISTR Conference in Amsterdam, so we left each other with a “See you in Amsterdam!!”

Our mentor-mentee relationship has been successful for many reasons, the most obvious of which are: a) mutual research interests coupled with a common professional background (we are both lawyers); b) a spontaneous commitment to keeping our professional relationship alive, regardless of ordinary rules and timeframes defined for the ISTR Mentoring Program; and c) a true love for academic debates in front of a good cup of coffee. More importantly, I learnt that the ISTR Mentoring Program is something that goes beyond mere networking and tips on research, publications or professional achievements; it is rather about the inter-generational responsibility that well-established academic and young researchers owe each other to build a bridge between past, present and future within the ISTR community and beyond.

Building ISTR Bridges – A Mentor’s Reflection

By Oonagh B. Breen, Professor of Law, UCD Sutherland School of Law, Ireland, ISTR Board of Directors

Benjamin Disraeli once said, “The greatest good you can do for another is not just to share your riches but to reveal to him his own.”

The opportunity to become one of ISTR’s inaugural mentors was too good an opportunity to miss when the first call went out in early 2016. I have benefitted greatly from wonderful mentors – male and female – in my own career to date and the opportunity to give something back, to be someone’s cheer-leader was too good to turn down. Anyone who has successfully come through the perils of the PhD writing process and emerged the other side; or has struggled with that blank page of paper when writing your first (or more recent) grant application or your first (or third or fourth) conference abstract; or has grappled with “revise and resubmit” requests (or; worse still, rejections) from journals and yet lived to see publication; or has survived their first few years of teaching and examining in one piece . . . has what it takes to be a mentor. Empathy for another’s plight – the “I’ve been there and survived and here’s how” story is something that we can all share.

The wonderful upside of mentorship, which is not promoted enough, is the unexpected payback. You are paired with an enthusiastic young researcher (Domenico Carolei, PhD student at the University of Aberdeen School of Law in my case) who is not only full of interesting questions but is ready to sally forth in the quest for interesting answers. You are given this amazing opportunity to witness and to be part of their journey from aspiring conference attendee to successful conference presenter and published author and, if you are very lucky, as I was, they will allow you to enter their world of research and research colleagues (my thanks to Domenico and all his colleagues at the Centre for Citizenship, Civil Society and Rule of Law (CISRUL) at the University of Aberdeen) so that bridges between non-profit disciplines can be built and collaborative networks shaped with the hope that as we go our separate ways our paths will cross again at future ISTR International Conferences. So, if you are a mid-career or senior scholar or a professional from outside the academy and have not yet signed up as an ISTR Mentor, make it your Amsterdam Resolution to sign up before the May 15 deadline!
Call for Participation in the ISTR Mentoring Program: 2018-2019

Deadline May 15

ISTR’s Mentoring Program draws naturally from the friendliness and collegiality of its members, and is designed to provide students with career, publishing, and funding advice and professional and networking development. We hope you will consider participating this year from June 2018 through May 2019. All mentors and mentees must be members of ISTR. Program details are provided below.

Mentors: Mid-career or senior scholars, as well as professionals from outside the academy.

Mentees: Graduate students at any stage of their careers or post-graduates and junior faculty within five years of receipt of their terminal graduate degree (including PhD, MA, and JD).

How it Works

• Mentors and mentees submit a short statement of interest to ISTR before May 15 (links provided below) and are subsequently matched by ISTR’s executive director based on mutual interests.

• This one-year mentoring relationship is intended for June 2018 to May 2019. Matches will have a chance to meet at a meet-and-greet at the 13th International Conference in Amsterdam.

• Mentors and mentees are expected to have 3-4 conversations over the course of a year, either electronically or in person, and will include an exchange of experiences and advice. More regular communication or additional engagement is at the discretion of the mentor. ISTR will provide periodic reminders to maintain communication, however mentees are expected to initiate communication with the mentor.

• Mentors are not substitutes for the mentees’ formal supervisors or advisors. While reading of dissertation chapters or grant proposals is helpful to every junior scholar, this program defers that labor to the mentee’s local networks. No commitment to reading is required of the mentor in ISTR’s mentoring program.

• Instead, mentoring conversations should focus on career advice, professional advancement, publishing/funding strategies, and facilitating contacts.

You can read reflections from a mentor and a mentee here: https://istr.site-ym.com/page/Mentoring

How to Sign UP: Deadline May 15

If you are interested in serving as a mentor to a student, please complete this short registration form.

Questions? Contact ISTR_Secretariat@jhu.edu
Amsterdam Conference Update

Early bird registration closed on March 18 and we are expecting a good turnout with some 650-700 participants. Now ISTR will begin the work of scheduling the sessions and expects the conference program to be ready at the end of April. Please check our conference website and conference blog for updates.

A major change has been announced for paper submissions and authors should take note. In an effort to streamline our processes, ISTR will no longer be sending emails connecting speakers and moderators directly. This year, authors will be asked to upload their papers to our online AllAcademic system www.istr.org/aap by June 10. This will allow your moderator and conference participants to read your paper in advance of the conference. Authors will be assigned a moderator in late April/early May and they will be given instructions for downloading your paper from AllAcademic. Everything online will also be synced with the conference app. This means that conference participants can download papers directly to their mobile devices in advance and during the conference. We hope that this will make it easier for authors to share their work with ISTR members.

For the first time this year, ISTR has also published paper drafting guidance. Please note that ISTR has published guidance for paper presentations and poster design and presentation, including information on how to print your poster at a local print shop.

And don’t forget to visit our special events page to learn about the free canal tours for conference participants, to sign up for professional development sessions, and to reserve your spot at the Meet the Author event.

See you in Amsterdam!