

## **Name of Center**

Virginia Tech Institute for Governance and Accountabilities  
<http://www.ipg.vt.edu/>

## **About the Center**

The Institute for Governance and Accountabilities engages in research to deepen our understanding of philanthropic, nonprofit, nongovernmental and public institutions in a global society. Its faculty and students engage in education and outreach to assist those institutions across the United States and internationally. Our work is grounded broadly in Virginia Tech's public service mission and its dedication to integrated instruction, research, and problem solving through research and outreach.

Director: Dr. Max Stephenson Jr.

## **Major Education Initiatives:**

- The IGA now offers a Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit and Nongovernmental Organization Management
- The IGA has established a Visiting Scholar Forum series for civil society doctoral students which allows those students to interact closely- over a half day session- with a leading scholar following presentation of his or her work
- The IGA has established a long term partnership with School of the Arts and is developing another with the Via College of Medicine to offer study abroad programs, to share curricula and to create research options for faculty and graduate students

## **Major Research Projects:**

Research is central to the Institute. Our research is organized around four core areas related to philanthropic, nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) accountability, capacity building, social and organizational learning, and collaborative governance. Three of particular importance to the Institute follow:

- The IGA has initiated promising international work with USAID and the State Department to provide capacity building and governance consulting to NGOs and government agencies that promote civic education in Arab countries.
- The IGA is involved in a joint venture with the U.S. Forest Service and the Nature Conservancy to explore how learning networks could help restore natural fire regimes where fire management must be coordinated between many stakeholders such as NGOs, landowners, and government agencies, many with overlapping jurisdictions.
- The World Bank-Civil Society Joint Facilitation Committee (JFC) is a consultative body that seeks to produce a guiding framework for World Bank-civil society engagement and to establish transparent, accountable and democratic mechanisms for further engagement. The IGA's Dr. Alnoor Ebrahim has been engaged in a research project with CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, drafting and synthesizing a paper on central issues and options in World Bank-Civil Society engagement.