Dear friends and colleagues,

Greeting in peace from Sabah, the land below the wind! I am Janice Nga (nickname DocJ), an associate professor and head of cluster for planning and development at the Centre of Economic Development and Policy (CEDP), Faculty of Business, Economics and Accountancy, Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS). Indeed, it is an honour to serve as the Guest Editor for this issue of ISTR Asia Pacific Researchers Network Newsletter.

Hope this summer or winter 2023 is treating you well. While you are enjoying the teaching break, we would like to draw your attention to the call for the 16th International Conference of ISTR with the theme “Crisis After Crisis After …: What About the Third Sector?” Hopefully you may attempt to submit a paper or two. As a tradition, the 8th International PhD Seminar is also scheduled ahead of the main conference. The Spotlight section in this issue would introduce to you the leading women organisation in Malaysia i.e. Girl Guides Association Malaysia that have 300,000 members.

We are also looking for a new institutional home for our Newsletter! The Newsletter was hosted by the University of Melbourne from 2018 to 2019 and since then has been with UNSW Sydney. Interested party may get in touch with Fengshi Wu. The editorial team would like to take the opportunity here to thank Fengshi for her dedication and commitment over the past years.

Many thanks. God bless.

All the best,

Janice
In Spotlight: Girl Guides Association Malaysia: Its Relevance in Advocacy and Academic Pursuits

Janice L. H. Nga, Universiti Malaysia Sabah

The Girl Guides Association Malaysia (GGAM) is one of the largest women's organizations in Malaysia. There are several other prominent women's organizations in Malaysia that focus on various aspects of women's empowerment, advocacy, and community development, e.g., the Women's Aid Organization, All Women's Action Society, and Malaysian Women’s Action for Tobacco Control and Health. GGAM holds a significant role in both advocacy and academic spheres, making a profound impact on the lives of young girls and women across Malaysia. With a legacy spanning more than a century, GGAM has been steadfast in its mission to empower and educate girls, nurturing their personal growth and development with unwavering dedication.

In terms of advocacy, GGAM serves as a prominent voice for girls and women's rights and gender equality in Malaysia. The organization actively engages in campaigns and initiatives that aim to challenge societal norms, stereotypes, and discrimination faced by girls and women. Through advocacy programs, GGAM promotes awareness about gender issues, empowers girls to become agents of change, and encourages the community to embrace gender equality and inclusivity.

Moreover, GGAM plays a vital role in promoting academic excellence among its members. The organization offers various educational programs and opportunities for girls and young women to enhance their knowledge, skills, and intellectual capabilities. GGAM's academic initiatives include workshops, seminars, and mentorship programs, providing guidance and support for girls and young women to excel in their academic pursuits.

Additionally, GGAM promotes lifelong learning, disciplines and personal development through proficiency badges and awards. These badges cover a wide range of subjects encouraging girls to explore diverse interests, disciplines and acquire practical skills. By participating in these activities, girls not only gain knowledge but also develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and leadership abilities, preparing them for future academic challenges and career opportunities.

The Girl Guides Association Malaysia stands as a testament to the transformative power of advocacy and education. Through their relentless efforts, GGAM equips girls with the necessary tools to navigate through societal barriers, empowering them to achieve their full potential academically and making a positive impact in their communities.

In recently concluded Girl Guides Conference and the 58th Annual General Meeting held in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, 22-25 June 2023, the delegates have elected their new chief commissioner namely Dato’ Yeoh Soo Keng to helm the association for a 5-year
term (2023 – 2028). Dato' Yeoh's campaign for the chief commissioner position focused around the theme of UNITY, a cause that has always ignited her passion. With unwavering dedication, she aims to foster a sense of togetherness and collaboration among members of the Girl Guides Association Malaysia. For more details, please check GGAM website.

**Core Academic Journals**

**Nonprofit Management & Leadership, Volume 33, Issue 4**

I Selected Abstract

Nonprofits' external stakeholder engagement and collaboration for innovation: A typology and comparative analysis

DaJung Woo, Kiara Actis, Jiawei Sophia Fu

Nonprofit organizations (NPOs) increasingly consider how to engage external stakeholders, such as clients and partners, in their efforts to adapt to the fast-changing and highly competitive environment through innovation. Although the existing literature offers evidence that stakeholder engagement can help promote organizational innovation, much of the discussion focuses on top-down strategies of stakeholder identification and management. Drawing on in-depth interviews with executive directors from 38 different NPOs, we developed a typology of stakeholder engagement to capture the repertoire of approaches grounded in data including: targeted feedback seeking, intentional exploration, engineered empowerment, and emergent engagement. Findings demonstrate how these four approaches contributed to NPO innovation and were related to NPO leaders' beliefs. This typology's inclusion of the emergent engagement approach suggests that external stakeholders can drive NPO innovation not only by participating in organizationally planned top-down processes but also by offering unsolicited inputs proactively when they recognize the need or opportunity for new services or collaborative partnerships. Other conceptual implications and practical suggestions are discussed.

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1. Tubs, tanks, and towers: Donor strategies for donor-advised funds giving
   H. Daniel Heist, Benjamin F. Cummings, Megan M. Farwell, Ram Cnaan, Erinn Andrews

2. Nonprofits' external stakeholder engagement and collaboration for innovation: A typology and comparative analysis
   DaJung Woo, Kiara Actis, Jiawei Sophia Fu
3. The effects of commercialization on nonprofit efficiency and the moderating roles of government funding and organizational size Annika Becker, Carolin J. Waldner, Laura Chia Ko Hung, Jessica Berrett

4. The equivocal image of young social enterprises—How self- versus other-oriented values influence external perceptions Yasmine Yahyaoui, Eva A. Jakob, Holger Steinmetz, Marius C. Wehner, Rodrigo Isidor, Rüdiger Kabst

5. Female representation at the national level and women sport volunteering in European countries Katrin Scharfenkamp, Pamela Wicker, Bernd Frick

6. Determinants of social enterprise performance: The role of passion, competence, and organizational legitimacy Jianlin Wu, Wenjun Cai, Yi Song

7. Nongovernmental organizations’ leaders’ attitude toward social innovation: The validation of a research tool Sławomir Pasikowski, Katarzyna Karolina Zajda

8. When do arts organizations merge? A window of opportunity for nonprofit mergers Rawon Lee

9. The color of nonprofit leadership: Nonprofits with a CEO of color Young-joo Lee


Publications | News | Reports in the Sector

ISTR Mentoring Program

Mentors and mentees submit a short statement of interest to ISTR before the deadline and are subsequently matched by ISTR’s executive director based on mutual interests. This one-year mentoring relationship is intended for September 2023 to July 2024 - we hope you can meet in person at the ISTR Conference in Antwerp in July 2024

Mentors and mentees are expected to have 3-4 conversations over the course of the duration of the program, 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.
Mentoring conversations should focus on career advice, professional advancement, publishing/funding strategies, and facilitating contacts. Many research partnerships have developed organically from ISTR’s mentoring program relationships. We are delighted to hear where these partnerships occur, but your engagement beyond the ISTR Mentoring Program is not expected.

Opinion – Preparing the NFP sector for Privacy Act and cybersecurity reforms

David Spriggs

The past month has seen some major changes take place in both legislation and government agencies that may have significant impacts for the not-for-profit sector. This includes key changes and proposals to reform the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) as well as the announcement of a new National Office for Cyber Security.

These changes follow extensive surveys and reports conducted by Infoxchange and professional services firm PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) which reflect community wide concern regarding data security, cybersecurity breaches and a general lack of capability and confidence in the sector on how to address such concerns.

According to PwC’s 2022 Global Digital Trust Insights report, more than 60 per cent of organisations expect an increase in cybersecurity incidents this year. Further, not-for-profit leaders ranked security and privacy maturity as low.

Whilst PwC’s NFP CEO Survey identified that 48 per cent of respondents are making progress on establishing a cybersecurity and privacy uplift program, 30 per cent have not considered, or have not made progress on, establishing such a program.

Meanwhile, Infoxchange’s 2022 Digital Technology in the Not-For-Profit Sector report revealed that 53 per cent of not-for-profits surveyed hadn’t provided cybersecurity awareness training to their staff, placing their data at greater risk of a security breach. Further, more than 1 in 3 organisations are yet to implement multi-factor authentication, a simple step to significantly improve information security.

Please visit here for full article.

New Book – The Fundraising Reader

Edited By Beth Breeze, Donna Day Lafferty, Pamala Wiepking

Fundraising is an important topic for all who study the nonprofit sector and we would like to bring your attention to The Fundraising Reader. This new book is edited by fundraising scholars, including ISTR member Dr Beth Breeze and Dr. Pamala Wiepking, and including contributions from several ISTR members.

From the publisher:

"The Fundraising Reader draws together essential literature establishing a one-stop body of knowledge that explains what fundraising is, and covers key concepts, principles and debates. The book shines a light on the experience of being a fundraiser
and answers an urgent need to engage with the complexities of a facet of the non-profit sector that is often neglected or not properly understood.

This international compilation features extracts from key writing on fundraising, with a comprehensive contextualising introduction by the editors. Uniquely, this Reader shares conflicting positions relating to age-old and current debates on fundraising: Is fundraising marketing? Should donors or the community be front and centre in fundraising? How can fundraisers deal with ethical dilemmas such as ‘tainted’ donors and money? Best practice and future trends are also covered, including the impact of new technologies and responding to demands for greater diversity, inclusion, and equity in fundraising teams."

Learn more on the publisher's website at https://www.routledge.com/The-Fundraising-Reader/Breeze-Lafferty-Wiepking/p/book/9780367703707

**New Book – Philanthropic Response to Disasters: Gifts, Givers and Consequences**

Edited by Alexandra Williamson, Diana Leat and Susan Phillips

When disaster strikes, our instinctive response is to make things better, not only as individuals but also as groups, organisations, communities and major institutions within society.

With increasing climate-related disasters and the potential for future global pandemics, philanthropy will continue to play an essential role. Yet our knowledge of how philanthropic responses to disasters are motivated, organised and received is fragmented.

This book is a step toward curating our existing knowledge in the emerging field of ‘disaster philanthropy’ and to building a robust base for future research, practice and public policy.

The authors highlight unknowns and ambiguities, extensions and unexplored spaces, and challenges and paradoxes. Above all, they recognise that philanthropic responses to disasters are complex, conditional and subject to change.

For more details about this book, please visit here.

**Call for Papers**

**ISTR 16th International Conference and 8th International PhD Seminar**

**Crisis After Crisis After ...: What About the Third Sector?**

From the first ISTR conference in 1994 (Pécs, Hungary) onwards, different themes have appeared on the Third Sector research agenda, some of which disappeared quickly, while others remained. Examples of the latter are, at the macro-level, issues of legitimacy, inequality, democracy, and at the micro-level, organizational aspects, volunteering, or philanthropic behavior. However, these traditional research topics have been and are complemented as a response to emerging global and local phenomena generating substantial turbulence all over the world. Salient examples are the current refugee crises on all
continents, the (post-)pandemic, (civil) wars, etc. Over the last decade, the world has been hit by consecutive crises both at the global and local levels. In almost all of them, the Third Sector plays a critical role in solving different problems caused by these crises. This context explains the focus of ISTR’s Sixteenth Conference (Antwerp, 2024) on the role and position of the Third Sector in times of crisis and conflict, which are frequently marked by increasing inequalities and challenges to democracy and participatory governance. Further, the Third Sector plays a crucial role in the pursuit of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), for which it might also be engaged by governments and for-profit firms to establish goal-oriented networks and cooperations. This requires particular attention as it is evident that the Covid19 pandemic has at least ‘slightly derailed’ SDG efforts.

Finally, citizen participation in governance at all levels is under threat in times of crisis. A strong Third Sector is needed to respond to those environments facing the rise of more authoritarian regimes. In all civic spaces, Third Sector organizations have a role to protect and improve citizen participation in governance. This requires standing up to subtle and not so subtle limitations on freedoms of expression, assembly and association, and also fully embracing opportunities enabled by innovations in digital technology. These considerations result in the following list of conference themes:

1. The role and position of the Third Sector during crises and conflicts
2. The Third Sector, sustainable development, climate change, and climate justice
3. Social work, social innovations, and activism in the pursuit of human rights, social justice, equity and diversity
4. Measuring Third Sector output and impact
5. Third Sector organizations and civil society under different political regimes and contexts: role and regulations
6. Populism and the Third Sector
7. Local and global philanthropy and voluntarism
8. Social entrepreneurship, management, leadership, and governance of Third Sector organizations
9. Hybridity, networks, virtual space, digitization, and the Third Sector
10. Uni/multidisciplinary Third Sector theory
11. Teaching on the Third Sector
12. Special Conference Theme - The Impact of New Public Management on the Third Sector: Comparative and Critical Case Studies (see note below)
13. Other Third Sector related topics

Paper, poster, panel and roundtable proposals from around the world reflecting work that is theoretical as well as empirical, unidisciplinary as well as multidisciplinary, and pertaining to all continents, will be welcomed.
**Forms of Participation:** Papers, Panels, Roundtable (or another innovative format), and Posters Please indicate your choice of presentation when you submit your abstract. To submit your abstract, go to [www.istr.org/ISTR2024](http://www.istr.org/ISTR2024) and follow the link for ‘Submit a Proposal.’

**Submission Deadline:** October 30, 2023

**ISTR Working Paper Features**

The newly created [ISTR Working Paper Features](http://www.istr.org/ISTR2024) is a designed publication opportunity for ISTR members, particularly advanced stage PhD students, early career academics, and pracademics, to present fresh-from-the-field works, innovative thought pieces, theoretical reviews, and more; and, to use this space as an important steppingstone for further development of scholarship and research collaboration. Moreover, the ISTR Publications Committee, acting as the interim editors of this Series, would like to invite all members to consider this space to showcase work-in-progress with grounded observations and reflections. If you are not an ISTR Member, please join today to submit your work.

**1. Scope**
Open to all relevant topics covered by ISTR scholarly community, but the preference is given to pieces with fresh fieldwork notes and original theoretical engagement and manuscripts submitted by PhD students, early career researchers/academics, and professional members.

**2. Length, how to submit, language, and format**
5000-6000 words (everything included);
Submit by clicking on the submit button. ISTR members must log on to access the website. For 2023, only English manuscripts will be reviewed. In the future, the Working Papers Features will publish manuscripts in other languages;
A format file will be sent to the author once the manuscript passes the initial review.

**3. Timeline**
Deadline for submission: 5 August, 2023
All accepted manuscripts will be published on the ISTR website starting in late 2023 on a rolling basis.

**4. Peer review process**
All submissions will be reviewed by two ISTR academic members from relevant sub-fields. The Publications Committee will coordinate the process.

**5. Intellectual Property**
The Publications Committee will work with individual authors to ensure the accepted publication will obtain a DOI before it is published online, which means that 1) the intellectual property of the paper will be protected; and, 2) the author can further develop the Working Paper and publish it in a conventional journal later.

**6. Editorial team**
The current Publications Committee will serve as the Editorial Team for this Series for the year 2023.

**Call for papers: 2023 ARNOVA-Asia Special Issue of Nonprofit Policy Forum**

This NPF Special Issue explores the role of nonprofit organizations, civil society, and philanthropy in Asia and welcomes both theoretical and empirical studies from all disciplines with a focus on any of the regions of Asia (West, Central, South, Southeast and East Asia). Questions to be addressed in this special issue may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- What roles have nonprofits and/or other civil society actors in Asia played in the policymaking process during this recent – and ongoing – period of pandemic and social justice and economic challenges? How have the unique relationships between nonprofits and the state in Asia affected nonprofits’ roles in the policymaking process?

- In this recent, difficult period, what has been the impact of Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity, and Ambiguity (VUCA) on nonprofits’ sustainability and involvement in policymaking, advocacy, and service delivery in Asia? What are the policy implications of nonprofits’ strategic responses to the challenges they have faced?

- What are recent policies and laws affecting the governance and behaviors of nonprofit organizations and social enterprises in Asia? How do these policies affect the ability of nonprofits and social enterprises to respond to the pandemic and other societal needs?

- What theoretical perspectives best explain the state of and the policies for the nonprofit sector and civil society in a nation or across nations in Asia?

The mission of *Nonprofit Policy Forum (NPF)* is to serve as an international journal that publishes original research and analysis on public policy issues and the public policy process critical to the work of nonprofit organizations.

**Full papers should be submitted for peer review via NPF’s online submission portal by September 30, 2023** (submission to this NPF Special Issue is open to all authors addressing the theme regardless of their participation in the ARNOVA-Asia conference this year). For further information, please contact Tamaki Onishi at t_onishi@uncg.edu

**Call for proposals: 7th Annual Symposium on Muslim Philanthropy and Civil Society**

The Muslim Philanthropy Initiative (MPI) of the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy invites you to present at the 7th Annual Symposium on Muslim Philanthropy and Civil Society, organized by Indiana University’s Muslim Philanthropy Initiative. The Symposium will be held virtually from October 30 to November 4, 2023.

This year’s symposium themes include:
• Muslim Philanthropy in Sacred Spaces (charity & volunteering at sacred sites)
• Islamic Finance, Economics, & Development (zakat, waqf, takaful, etc.)
• Muslim Philanthropy in Asia (broadly defined: South, East, Southeast, Central Asia)
• Religion, Gender, and Charitable Giving
• Religion, Pluralism, and Civil Society

The symposium will prioritize papers that touch on one or more of these themes. We are especially interested in those papers that seek to expand the concept of Muslim philanthropy beyond monetary giving in order to consider the place of religious discourses, practices, and contexts in which Muslims engage civil society. We ask that participants submit final versions of their papers for publication in the Journal on Muslim Philanthropy & Civil Society, an open-access journal published by Indiana University Press. All submissions will go through a double-blind peer review process before publication. Those interested in participating should submit their paper abstracts by August 15, 2023, and a pre-recorded video presentation by October 16, 2023. Presenters will receive an honorarium of $250 USD.

The Symposium is being held in partnership with the Lake Institute on Faith & Giving at Indiana University’s Lilly Family School of Philanthropy and the University Library at Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis. Please send submissions to the JMPCS Editorial Team (jmpcs@iupui.edu) or reach out with any questions or concerns.

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About Us

The Asia Pacific Third-Sector Researchers Network (formerly the East Asia Third-Sector Researchers Network) is an initiative first launched by the ISTR (International Society for Third-Sector Research) and the Centre for Social Innovation Studies in the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2016 to help scholars and students in East Asia and beyond to exchange information about publications, conferences and job vacancies in third-sector studies through this Newsletter. The scope of the Newsletter and the network has expanded to cover the entire Asia Pacific region since November 2018. Starting from January 2020, the School of Social Sciences, University of New South Wales, Sydney, has been the host of the Newsletter.