



Inside ISTR

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THIRD-SECTOR RESEARCH

January – February 2020

Call for ISTR Board of Directors Nominations

The 2020 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 nominations from the Third Sector research community. 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, 2020.

The positions for which elections will be held are:

President Elect 2 year term (followed by a 2 year term as President)
(January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2022)



At-Large Board Members (5) 4 year term
(January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2024)

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

Prospective candidates must be paid members of ISTR for 2020-2021 prior to the elections and must maintain membership in ISTR throughout their board term.

Please submit nominees to Secretariat@istr.org
If you have any questions, please contact Margery Daniels, executive director of ISTR at mdaniels@istr.org.

Additional Information is located at www.istr.org/20Nom



Inside ISTR

Asia Pacific Third-Sector Researchers Network Newsletter

In case you have not noticed yet, our ISTR website has just gotten a comprehensive face-lift! It is now mobile-device friendly and has a lot of new photos as well. Check it out and maybe you will find a surprisingly charming image of your good self. Also, it is time to **renew your membership**, if you have not done so yet.

It is a heartbreaking start of 2020 for Australia. As many of you have been deeply concerned, the country has been hit



ASIA PACIFIC THIRD-SECTOR RESEARCHERS NETWORK NEWSLETTER
亞太地區第三部門研究人員網絡通信

Issue 1 / January 2020

by the worst bushfires in history and already lost almost half billion wild animals and 27 humans, including two volunteer firefighters! There are many ways we could help, and here are just a few links: Donations to the NSW Rural Fire Service ([donate here](#)), VIC Country Fire Authority ([donate](#)



here), Donations to the NSW Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service ([donate here](#)), Port Macquarie Koala Hospital ([donate here](#)), and WWF – Help Save Koalas ([donate here](#)).

To many of you who are to celebrate the Spring Festival when receiving the Newsletter, we take this opportunity to wish a Very Happy Year of Metal Rat and a productive year ahead!

Fengshi and Qianjin
<https://bit.ly/2SQFTpB>



Knowledge Sharing to Preserve Civil Society Space

Time: 9:30-17:00
 Date: July 6, 2020

Deadline to register: May 31, 2020 or until all spots are filled
 Register here: <https://forms.gle/o4Kf6QweFAhZoLb88>

The Global Nonprofit Data Workshop, co-organized with Michael Lenczner and Jesse Bourns (Ajah / Powered by Data), Elizabeth Bloodgood (Concordia University/GRNDS), Wendy Wong (University of Toronto/GRNDS), and Sarah Stroup (Middlebury College/GRNDS), brings together nonprofit data experts from NGOs, government, and academia to engage in knowledge sharing around how to develop better nonprofit data environments. Nonprofit data environments, including all available information about themselves, their funders, their governments, and their clients, can enable robust nonprofits working more effectively in collaboration with other nonprofits and their local and national governments. At this point, however, there is limited knowledge of what data is available across national contexts, much less how to provide useful access to nonprofit organizations. The workshop will spend the day first examining the nature of current nonprofit data projects at nonprofits, foundations, and academic institutions such as



the Open Government Partnership, the Open Nonprofit Data Collaborative, and the Global Registry of Nonprofit Data Sources, in order to understand how access to data and analysis using this information can be enhanced to empower nonprofits, especially smaller nonprofits and organizations in the Global South, and to develop infrastructure to encourage collaboration between the interested actors for better practices in data collection and use at national and global levels.

Some of the questions that this workshop will explore include: What kinds of data are currently available and where should access be expanded? How can the nonprofit sector encourage government to be more responsive to the data needs of the sector? What mechanisms are available to ask for more data, and how well do these work?



Find a place to stay: Lodging Near the Conference

A range of hotels, hostels, and dormitories are available for ISTR Conference participants. **Click here** to see a complete list and instructions for booking.

A Note About Our Conference Partners

The consortium of Universities and research networks

hosting the conference is growing! Our partners now include Concordia University, University of Montréal, University of Quebec, Montréal (UQAM), HEC Montréal, Carleton University, McGill Institute for the Study of Canada (MISC), ARIMA Partnership, ANSER-ARES, Philab, University of Toronto, and Queens University.



Call for a Special Issue to *Voluntas: Paradoxes within the Management of Volunteers*

Guest Editors:

Anders la Cour, Associate Professor at Copenhagen Business School, Denmark (corresponding guest editor)

Nina Eliasoph, Professor at University of Southern California, USA

Lesley Hustinx, Associate Professor at University of Gent, Belgium

Proposal for deadlines:

Abstract submissions due: August 15, 2020

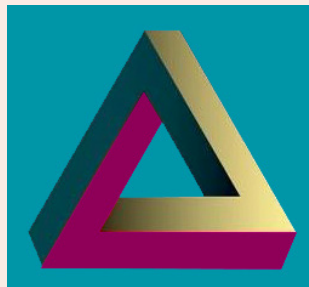
(between 400 and 700 words, send to Anders la Cour, email: al.mpp@cbs.dk)

Full paper submissions due: January 30, 2021

The study of paradoxes has once again become fashionable in the studies of organizations and management. Leading journals within the field have devoted special issues on the topic, and central scholars have discussed the concept's analytical relevance. This special issue will build on a broadly defined concept of "paradox," and will use it as an important tool for understanding the interactional tensions that are specific for the management of volunteers.

Probably all organizations have to cope dilemmas: mis-

matches between elements of their stated missions, or between their missions and their funding sources' requirements, or between their stated missions and their unstated actions (Schneiberg and Clemens 2006; Clemens and Cook 1999). Accordingly, some scholars have suggested that the notion of paradox is enabling the next generation of organization and management theory (Weatherbee et al. 2008; Lewis & Smith 2014).



The notion of paradoxes in organizational studies has provided a steady stream of research since Weber, running through Thompson (1967) and of course, Simon and March (1958). Smith & Lewis (2011) further this approach, in a review paper, which defines the concept as "Contradictory yet interrelated elements that exist simultaneously and persist over time" (Smith & Lewis 2011:382) (see also Lewis (2000) for an earlier statement). Since managers need to preserve both sides of a paradox, choosing one at the expense of the other is not an option. Instead, managers realize that choosing one side in favour of the other only gives rise to further problems. Because of this, Lewis and others says that actors' first step, in managing a paradox, is to gain a better understanding of what kind of tensions are at stake and how they work. Actors'



second step, for this approach, is to find a way to treat the contradictions as complementary and to embrace them, in order to fuel virtuous instead of vicious cycles (e.g., Lewis, 2000; Smith & Lewis, 2011).

Researchers from a wide range of disciplines and theoretical persuasions investigate how actors develop different strategies for how to create such virtuous cycles. This special issue aims to contribute to this stream of research in two ways.

First, while we thus have seen an increase in the study of paradoxes within general organization studies, the same has not been the case within the studies of voluntarism and the management of it. There are, however, some exceptions. Some scholars have focused on how the increased orientation toward results and formalization have challenged the spontaneous character of voluntary social care and its ability to be flexible and creative (Hustinx et al., 2010; Brandsen and Pestoff, 2006; Hwang and Powell, 2009; Jäger et al., 2009; Salamon, 1995; Smith, 2003). Some studies have instead focused on how the practice of voluntary social care represent a paradoxical practice in itself (la Cour & Hoejlund 2008, Toraldo et al. 2016). And others again, have investigated how the management request for authentic relationships within voluntary social care creates paradoxes of how to be loyal towards the organization (la Cour 2019). Many have examined the tensions between profit-making, political advocacy, and social giving in both corporate volunteering and corporate social responsibility efforts (Shachar et al. 2018, Sharma & Bansal 2017).

Others examine tensions between treating volunteers as “experts” in their own experience versus treating them as needing advice from experts (Meriluoto 2018, Berger & Charles 2014); or between treating volunteers as recipients of needed aid versus inviting or forcing them to become “active citizens” in participatory democracy (Carrell 2013, Hamidi 2011, Lee 2002; Lee et al. 2015; Montambeault 2016).

Others examine the effects of contradictions in a social policy. For example, in some countries, people have a universal right to welfare, and on the other hand, some marginalized populations are considered to be less deserving than others; how does this inflect the volunteer experience? Sometimes, the puzzle involves the boundary be-

tween paid and unpaid labor (Krinsky and Simonet 2017). In all of these, the question is, “How, in everyday practice, do people manage these dilemmas in everyday interaction?”. Or how does concepts such as “empowerment” or community” as organizational and political aspirations, sometimes paradoxically undermine the very possibility of being empowered (Eliasoph 2011; Levine 2017). This special issue wants to contribute to the body of knowledge by further exploring what kinds of paradoxes that are challenging the organization of voluntary social work, in order to develop our understanding of the complexity, dynamics and social embedding of these emerging paradoxical situations.

Second, many researchers show that resolving the tensions is not necessarily the only a route to “success” (Lewis 2000; Lewis et al. 2014; Smith & Lewis 2011). Often, voluntary organizations develop a style for “navigating” the paradoxes without resolving them, (Eliasoph et al. 2019, la Cour 2019, Grubb & Henriksen 2019, Berger 2016, Tugal 2016, Clemens, forthcoming). In this, the question is, “How do organizations keep going, without resolving their characteristic dilemmas?”

The guest editors of the special issue welcome contributions dealing with different kinds of paradoxes that are challenging and/or stimulating management of volunteers. Papers submitted can be solely conceptual in nature and/or based on empirical insights, but must, in any case, make a significant contribution to the understanding of how paradoxes are at stake within the management of volunteers.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- What characterizes voluntariness as a certain paradoxical form of practice, and how do actors attempt to manage it?
- How can an organization manage the relation between the need for formal integration and at the same time respect the autonomy of the volunteers?
- What kinds of dilemmas appear within different “empowerment projects?”
- How might volunteers’ ideas of what care should be come into tension with the reality of the people who become objects for these caring ambitions?
- How and why avoiding intimacy becomes an important ambition within certain forms of voluntary care, and how is this achieved?



Timeline:

August 15, 2020: Submission of extended abstract (between 400 and 700 words), send to Anders la Cour, email: al.mpp@cbs.dk

September 20, 2020: Selection of abstracts by guest editors

January 30, 2021: Full paper submission to guest editors.

March 30, 2021: Informal review by the guest editors.

May 15, 2021: Submission of the special issue for review to *Voluntas*.

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