Announcing a New ISTR Award for Civil Society Policy Impact Research

Two awards of $1,500 each will be given for evidence of research documenting effective civil society action resulting in a demonstrable public policy change.

- Submissions should cover one policy case study or an interlinked set of cases that took place during the preceding decade.
- Location may be anywhere in the world, with particular interest in cases from the global South.
- The policy change could be at local, national, or regional level.
- Researchers may apply as an individual or a team.
- At least one applicant must be a current member of ISTR in order for an application to be considered.

The deadline for completed applications is midnight GMT on January 26th, 2020. One individual and one team award will be announced at the ISTR conference in Montréal in July, 2020.

To be considered, applications should include the following:

Full name, affiliation and email address of applicant (if individual) or all members (if a team)

A research summary of no more than 1000 words describing the policy change case and comprising the following elements:

1. Statement of the policy gap or social problem addressed
2. Identifying key stakeholders, including change agents and beneficiaries
3. Modes of collaboration and public engagement employed
4. Policy impact achieved
5. Role of the research in making a conceptual and/or instrumental contribution

An article-length research paper may be included as an attachment but is not necessary for consideration.

Applications can be accepted in English, Spanish, French, Mandarin Chinese or Arabic.

Applicants of winning submissions will be informed in late February and will be invited to present their research in a dedicated panel at the Montréal Conference. Completed applications should be submitted online at www.istr.org/CSPIR
Conference News October 2019

Abstract Submission Deadline
26 October 2019

Abstracts for papers, panels, posters, and round-tables (including innovative new formats) will be accepted until 26 October 2019. See the full call in English and French for details.

The link to the submission portal is here. Note: you must be logged in at istr.org in order to submit your abstract. Having trouble? Submission tutorials are available in English and in French.

What are reviewers looking for?
• Sample abstracts are available here.
• “How to Write a Conference Abstract” worksheet available here.
• The abstract review process is described here.

PhD Seminar
PhD Seminar applications closed on September 30. We received a total of 115 applications from students in 34 countries! To apply, students submitted abstracts of their doctoral research, a letter from their advisor, and a statement of motivation. The applications are currently out for review by the faculty to determine who will be offered the 50 spots available.

Conference Partners
The ISTR Conference in Montréal will be hosted by a consortium of Universities in Montréal and in Canada more broadly. Six universities have officially signed on and more are expected in the coming months: University of Montréal, Concordia University, McGill University, HEC Montréal, University of Quebec, Montréal (UQAM), and Carleton University.

In addition, ISTR is also partnering with Canadian groups, including the Canadian network of partnership-oriented research on philanthropy (PhILab), and the ARIMA partnership, which will be hosting an international colloquium embedded within the ISTR Conference. Proposals can be submitted in French or in English and must be submitted before October 26, 2019.

Air Canada - The official airline of the ISTR Conference
ISTR has partnered up with Air Canada to offer you discounted airfare to Montréal-Pierre Elliott Trudeau International Airport (YUL). Click here to learn more about booking a flight.

Tourisme Montréal
It’s not too early to start planning your visit to Montréal and ISTR is partnering with Tourisme Montréal. www.mtl.org/en

Montréal provides a diversity of choices of activities for visitors day and night. It is host to a dizzying array of events, exhibitions, and festivals year-round. While Montréal’s masterful chefs continue to elevate its reputation as a gourmet destination, creative artists and artisans draw admirers in droves to the haute couture ateliers, arts galleries and charming boutiques that line the city streets.

Tourisme Montréal provides a constantly updated events calendar, www.mtl.org/en/what-to-do, searchable by date, type of activity, and area of the city to help make the most of your visit. July in Montréal brings Formula One races, the International Jazz Festival, Francofolies, Juste pour rire, Fireworks, and a Circus Festival for just a start. Foodies can search for hidden restaurants at www.restomontreal.ca/, while city and area tours by bike, scooter, boat, and foot can be found at www.mtl.org/en/what-to-do/tours.
Nonprofit Management in East Asia Summit
Monday, July 6, 2020
9:00am – 5:00 pm
Concordia University, Montréal

Beginning in the 1990s, the number of university-based programs to educate future leaders of nonprofit and non-governmental organizations has seen tremendous growth throughout the world (Mirabella, Hvenmark, & Larsson, 2019; Mirabella, 2015; Mirabella, Hvenmark, & Larsson, 2015; Murdock, Tekula, & Parra, 2013). While we know quite a bit about these developments in the Western context (Malcolm, et. al., 2015; Mirabella, Hoffman, Teo & McDonald, 2019; Mirabella, Gemelli, Malcolm & Berger, 2007; Palmer & Bogdanova, 2008; Young, 1999), there has been far less written about these programs in the global south. In the case of East Asia, there is probably only one major study available examining university-based education, focused on the case of China (Zhang & Guo, 2015). A group of scholars from Southeast Asia has been working for several years to fill this knowledge gap through a comprehensive regional study of the current state of nonprofit management education programs. The proposed summit to be held in Montréal in conjunction with the ISTR Bi-Annual Conference will provide an opportunity for these researchers to share their findings to date, compare and contrast findings on a country, regional and international basis, and receive feedback from leading NGO education scholars. Those presenting at the summit will trace the development of nonprofit education programs in East Asia, determine the extent to which curricular options for future nonprofit leaders exist in these countries, and explore the challenges presented to future programmatic development by the social, economic and political environments of the region.

Discussants confirmed: (as of October 2019)

Nonprofit education in China
Ming Hu, Nanjing University

Nonprofit education in Japan
Aya Okada, Tohoku University
Yu Ishida, Miyagi University

Nonprofit education in Korea
Sung-Ju Kim, North Carolina State University
Bok Gyo Jeong, Kean University

Nonprofit education in Singapore
Teo Terence, Seton Hall University

Nonprofit education in Taiwan
Helen K. Liu, National Taiwan University

Pre-registration is required and space is limited. If you are interested in participating please contact: Roseanne Mirabella at email: Roseanne.Mirabella@shu.edu.
Just Launched: NGO Knowledge Collective Data Portal

We are happy to announce the launch of the NGO Knowledge Collective (NKC) Data Portal: ngoknowledgecollective.org. This website catalogues 3,400 journal articles on nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in development published in English from 1980-2014. Users can identify individual or sets of articles by country or region of study or by searching more than 200 keywords related to sectors and development issues. Each article is tagged with the frequency of selected keywords in the text, allowing users to fine-tune their searches and analyze the prevalence of these keywords in relation to citation information. Each article entry in the data portal contains a link to the article permanent DOI location on the internet. We continue to add articles published from 2015 forward.

The portal also includes a topic model visualizer, allowing users to identify literature using topics pre-generated through machine-learning, rather than just keywords. For example, the topic model visualizer allows users to identify articles from the early 1980s on NGOs providing small loans before the term “microcredit” entered the literature.

The NKC works against the “silo” effect in the study of NGOs. The data portal builds on a four-year effort to collect and synthesize journal articles across social science disciplines, geographies, and methods. We hope that the NKC Data Portal will be the “first stop” in research on NGOs, making it easy for researchers to identify the full range of articles on topics of interest, as well as to identify unanswered questions. We invite you to use the data portal—let us know when you do, and we will add your published work to our bibliography. Help us further build the intellectual community studying NGOs in development.

Pls of the NGO Knowledge Collective are Allison Schnable and Jennifer Brass (Indiana University), Rachel Sullivan Robinson (American University), and Wesley Longhofer (Emory University). Read the findings from our systematic review of the NGO Literature from 1980-2014 in World Development, or contact us at ngoknowledge@gmail.com.

ISTR 2020 Emerging Scholar Dissertation Award

This award is presented biennially for a PhD dissertation completed or defended in the two calendar years (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2019) preceding the award. Self-nominations are accepted.

To submit your application, click here.

Dissertations that contribute to the field of comparative study of civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), philanthropy, voluntarism and related issues are eligible.

The winner will be announced and the award will be given at the ISTR 14th International Conference in Montréal, Canada, which will be held July 7-10, 2020. The award is US $1,000.
Dissertations may be submitted in English, French, German, Spanish, and Portuguese. Applications must include:
• Letter of acceptance for the degree
• A summary of the dissertation that clearly states: the dissertation’s subject matter, research question(s) addressed, the approach taken, key finding(s), and the dissertation’s specific contribution(s) to the field. This needs to be in English and not exceed 1,000 words in total (i.e. including any references, etc.). Submissions that do not comply with this word limit will not be considered.

• One full copy of the dissertation

Deadline: Dissertations and accompanying materials must be submitted prior to January 15, 2020.

Entries will be judged by a committee based on the following:
• The dissertation’s contribution to the study of, knowledge on, and understanding of the Third Sector and/or related fields
• The dissertation potential to influence new thinking on the Third Sector and/or related fields

Call for Potential Hosts of the 13th Latin America Regional ISTR Conference in 2021

The ISTR Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Network requests researchers and affiliated institutions from any country of the Region to step forward if they are interested in hosting and co-organizing the 13th Regional Conference and PhD Seminar for Latin America and the Caribbean, which will be held in 2021. Final decision on the location will be made during the International ISTR Conference in Montréal in July 2020.

Hosting a regional conference is a prime opportunity for strategic engagement of stakeholders and promotion of the third sector within the host nation and with its neighbors and to promote fruitful alliances at the local and national level and with other countries in the region.

The organizations - or consortia of organizations - that are interested in coordinating the 13th Regional Conference should have the ability to:

• Establish a Local Host Committee composed of key members of the host institution(s) and relevant stakeholders. Members of this committee serve voluntarily and support the key tasks noted below:
• Engage a range academics or practitioners that promote civil society or the third sector from within the host coun-
try to participate in the conference, including planning an academic plenary session with a focus on the host country/region;
• Make fundraising efforts to ensure conference success;
• Coordinate the planning of all the on-site logistics to carry out the event, including but not limited to:
• Hosting the LAC Secretariat for a planning meeting several months before the conference;
• Secure conference space and technical services for all academic sessions and conference events;
• Identify service providers as needed, including caterers, photographers, transportation providers, hotel partners, etc.;
• Identify and secure a reception venue;
• Arrange for printing the final conference program, signage, and name tags;
• Support VISA requests for conference attendees;
• Organize volunteers, student assistants, or others to provide on-site support during the conference; and
• Liaise with the Conference Academic Committee as needed (The ISTR LAC Secretariat, in coordination with ISTR headquarters, will form an Academic Committee that will oversee the review of conference submissions).

The process of selecting the host for the 2021 Regional Conference will be facilitated by the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Secretariat in coordination with the Board of Directors of ISTR.

Interested individuals and institutions should prepare a letter of proposal to the ISTR LAC Regional Secretariat (istr.lac.sec@gmail.com) before April 1, 2020.

Please include information about the suggested venue, possible hosting partners, potential members of the host committee, likely funders, and other information pertinent to those reviewing applications.

Thank you for your interest!

Expressions of Interest to Host 2021 ISTR Asia-Pacific Regional Conference

The ISTR Asia-Pacific Regional Network seeks preliminary expressions of interest from colleagues and institutions throughout the Asia-Pacific region to organize and host the 12th ISTR Asia-Pacific Regional Conference, to be held in 2021. ISTR will decide on the host institution and location for the 2021 Asia Pacific Regional Conference during its meeting at the ISTR Conference in Montréal in July 2020.

ISTR Asia-Pacific Conferences have been held in Thailand 1999, Japan 2001, China 2003, India 2005, Philippines 2007, Taiwan 2009, Indonesia 2011, Korea 2013, Japan in 2015, Indonesia 2017, and most recently in Thailand in 2019. It is desirable that the opportunity to host the conference be shared across this diverse region from north to south and east to west. Hosting a conference provides an opportunity for strategic engagement of stakeholders and promotion of the third sector within the host nation and with its neighbours.

The organizations - or consortia of organizations - that are interested in coordinating the 12th Regional Conference should have the ability to:

• Establish a Local Host Committee composed of key members of the host institution(s) and relevant stakeholders. Members of this committee serve voluntarily and support the key tasks noted below:
  • Engage a range of academics or practitioners that promote civil society or the third sector from within the host country to participate in the conference;
  • Make fundraising efforts to ensure conference success;
  • Coordinate the planning of all the on-site logistics to carry out the event, including but not limited to:
    • Secure conference space and technical services for all academic sessions and conference events;
    • Identify service providers as needed, including caterers, photographers, transportation providers, hotel partners, etc.;
    • Support VISA requests for conference attendees;
    • Organize volunteers, student assistants, or others to provide on-site support during the conference; and
    • Liaise with the Conference Academic Committee as needed

The process of selecting the host for the 2021 Regional Conference will be facilitated by the regional board members of ISTR.

Interested individuals and Institutions should send a letter of proposal before March 30, 2020 to Margery Daniels, ISTR Executive Director, at mdaniels@istr.org

Please include information about the suggested venue, possible hosting partners, potential members of the host committee, likely funders, and other information pertinent to those reviewing applications.