



Inside ISTR

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THIRD-SECTOR RESEARCH

February – March 2019

President's Column

I am very pleased to take this opportunity to write my first President's Column for the ISTR Newsletter. Since taking over the role of President in January this year I have been extremely busy with the many activities of and changes in ISTR. We are well on the way to holding regional conferences in Bangkok, Thailand (where the entire Board will hold its annual meeting) and in Medellín, Colombia in July this year. We will also hold PhD seminars for local research students at both conferences. In addition, we are running a special PhD seminar in Johannesburg, South Africa in collaboration with the Africa Centre for Philanthropy and Social Investment at the Wits Business School in May, 2019.

I am personally looking forward to being part of faculty for this seminar along with a number of other ISTR colleagues. The PhD Seminar in South Africa is an ISTR investment in emerging third sector researchers in the Africa Region and is aimed at establishing a collaborative relationship with the newly established Wits Business School's Centre for Philanthropy and Social Investment, which is holding a forum subsequent to the PhD Seminar. The ISTR Board is very committed to supporting regional development and much of our collective energy goes into supporting these events every second year. Of course, this can only happen with the enormous efforts of local ISTR members investing many hours in organising such events and in doing so reinforcing ISTR's global reach and diverse membership.

Along with the Academic Chairs, Professor John Mohan and Associate Professor Patricia Mendonca and the local organising committee in Canada, we are ensuring that developments are well underway for the 2020 ISTR International Conference to be held in Montreal. As always, I am impressed by the forward planning that goes into these events, driven very much by the hard work of our secretariat and tireless Executive Director, Margery Daniels. Not only is Margery keeping all of the future events on track toward success, she has single-handedly managed significant transformations within ISTR as we have now decoupled from our embedded relationship with John Hopkins



University and become our own entity as ISTR Org. This transformation to greater independence was facilitated by many hours of voluntary work from expert ISTR members, particularly by Professor Oonagh Breen who has put her lawyer skills to the task of writing new bylaws for the new ISTR organization. I am very pleased to know that Oonagh will be following my footsteps as the next President of ISTR. This change also means significant restructuring of our financial management and we are very pleased to have an Accounting Academic, Professor Carolyn Cordery, as our newly appointed treasurer managing this transition.

Finally, I would like to comment on the importance of the work that our all of our member researchers are doing in a global context characterized by high political and economic volatility. These are uncertain times, where issues of inequality, poverty, marginalisation, conflict, climate catastrophes, undemocratic forces and social and political division are constant among the issues that we all face. The third sector, civil society, however, remains a constant in this divided world and our task is to continue to support, scrutinise and understand its role and impact in the world. For me, at this point in history, that is why ISTR is important and is hopefully building important knowledge for the ongoing role of the third sector.

Ruth Phillips
President

A MEETING OF MINDS: The Journey to A New Field of Study

The official launch in New York of the African Centre on Philanthropy and Social Investment (ACPSI) in January was a milestone in a long and exciting journey through unexplored territory.

It all started about twenty years ago when a group of African foundations started talking about the need to create a platform that would bring together pan-African voices in philanthropy. They recognised that philanthropy - and the practice of 'gifting' in Africa - is as old as the continent itself, but that there was no formal body of knowledge on the subject.

As Dr Bhekinkosi Moyo, Director of the ACPSI, says: "In Africa there are many, many people with a wealth of experience in philanthropy, but the knowledge is in their heads. This is a field that has not been studied or researched anywhere in Africa. It is imperative that we ensure that this information, these experiences, are documented so that we can understand the role that philanthropy can play in both the economic and ethical transformation of our continent."

Another milestone in this journey took place back in March 2016, when a group of academics and practitioners met at a symposium at Wits Business School in Johannesburg to discuss, for the first time, a new centre for research in the fledgling field of 'African philanthropy.'

This meeting gave rise to the first Chair in African Philanthropy, a collaboration between the University of the Witwatersrand ('Wits' University) and the Southern Africa Trust, with Professor Alan Fowler as interim director.

Fast-forward nearly three years to New York City and the official launch of the ACPSI, hosted by funding partner the Carnegie Corporation. The launch, which took place on 17 January 2019 drew together participants from all over the globe: academics, funders, non-profit organisations and policy makers. By then the field of African philanthropy has been widened to include social investment, in all its guises.

"In Africa, it is uniquely befitting that philanthropy be studied alongside social investment," says Moyo. "The private sector is a key player as an engine for economic growth and, as is normally the case, philanthropy gets its financial muscle from this sector. It will be



ISTR Board Members (past and present) celebrate the Centre launch in New York City. (l to r) Bheki Moyo, Adam Habib, and Kathleen McCarthy

the role of this Centre to influence how this money gets ploughed back into communities."

Africa is poised for an exciting period of convergence of opportunities and challenges in the 21st century, along with unprecedented growth in urban populations, as well

as a substantial increase in the number of high net worth individuals (HNWIs) on the continent. At the same time, extreme poverty and inequality are on the increase in sub-Saharan Africa. This begs the question: how effective is philanthropy, and by extension social investment, in Africa? How can philanthropists give to communities in more effective and innovative ways?

"No doubt this century belongs to the African philanthropists, whose capital, influence, local knowledge, and moral authority have the power to address these pressing challenges," says Moyo. "Philanthropy, in all of its various forms, engages stakeholders from the private, public, non-profit, and religious sectors. It nimbly cuts across geographies, social classes, and demographic groups in a way that governments and businesses often cannot. But what is the impact of African philanthropy? And what role can academia play in helping to facilitate more effective giving?"

In a nutshell, the ACPSI, which is housed at the Wits Business School, aims to advance the field of African philanthropy by filling the current gaps in teaching, research, and publication. Dedicated to interpreting the philan-

thropic and donor landscape in Africa, it is both a teaching/research platform and a repository of recorded knowledge.

“It is the first institution on the continent that will bring together business and public policy makers, academics and practitioners, to identify solutions to challenges affecting the continent. In this way, it is where academia meets practice,” says Moyo.

The next milestone in the Centre’s journey takes place on 16 and 17 May 2019 with the first annual ACPSI Conference at WBS. This will be a two-day workshop which aims to explore key themes in African philanthropy and social investment and to formulate a coherent framework for the future. The Conference will address a number of themes,

including private sector giving, impact investing, sustainable development goals, philanthropy and civil society.

Alongside the conference is a PhD Seminar, co-hosted with ISTR, taking place on 14 and 15 May for more than 20 PhD students at all stages of their doctoral research related to the Third Sector, i.e. civil society, the non-profit sub-sector, philanthropy, social investment, venture philanthropy and corporate social investment (CSI). Candidates chosen to participate hail from all parts of Africa as well as other parts of the world, including the UK and Australia.

For more information on the Conference or the PhD Seminar, please contact: Katiana Sandra Ramsamy, email: katiana.ramsamy@wits.ac.za

Regional News

ISTR/Wits African Phd Seminar



ISTR and the newly launched **Africa Centre for Philanthropy and Social Investment** at Wits Business School are co-hosting an African PhD Seminar May 14-15, 2019, two days prior to the First Annual Conference on Philanthropy. We were thrilled to have received 43 applications, far exceeding expectations! Of these, a diverse group of 23 were accepted into the program. Of the accepted students: half of female, 5 are from West Africa, 4 are from East Africa, 8 are from Southern Africa, and 6 are from outside of Africa – 2 of these are Africans studying abroad.

Six core faculty have been recruited to facilitate the small group discussions and lead professional development workshops that will offer the state of the art in research methodologies, writing, and publishing in third sector studies. The faculty committee includes senior scholars from both Africa, the US, and Europe, including ISTR and ACPSI board members.

ISTR’s PhD Seminars are designed to both support students in the Third Sector and to strengthen the network for the next generation of scholars. Building on the success and increasing popularity of the PhD Seminars we



John Mohan, Conference Co-chair and Mentor (left) with Albert Kagande, PhD Student and Mentee, at the Amsterdam Conference.

host at our international conferences, ISTR is expanding access to these PhD Seminars for emerging scholars across the globe, especially in regions like Africa where students face significant barriers. We are grateful that together with ACPSI we have raised enough funding to support the travel of all 23 students attending the African PhD Seminar.

Related content: **Read the reflections** of *Titilope F. Ajayi* (Ghana) and *Albert Kagande* (South Africa) on their experience participating in our International PhD Seminar in Amsterdam.

Asia Pacific Regional Conference Update

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Our keynote speaker will be Anthony Spires, Senior Lecturer and Deputy Director of the Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies at The University of Melbourne. Anthony will focus on *An Analysis of China's Charity Law and INGO Law*.

Our closing plenary, *The Third Sector Environment and Regulatory Change in the Asia Pacific Region*, will include:

- Ms. Nguyen Thi Bich Diep, Team Leader/Civil Society, British Council (Hanoi);
- Professor Jia Xijin, Institute of Philanthropy, School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University (Beijing);
- Professor Ingrid Srinath, Centre for Social Impact and Philanthropy, Ashoka University (Delhi);
- Professor Juree Vichit-Vadakan, National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA, Bangkok) (TBC);
- David Moore, Vice President for Legal Affairs, ICNL; and
- Mark Sidel, University of Wisconsin-Madison and ICNL (chair).

In addition, a panel comprised of the board of directors of ISTR, has been organized and Ruth Phillips will chair.

Regulator Impositions on the Third Sector: International Perspectives

- NGO Regulatory Backlash? A Cross-National Examination of State Motives for NGO Regulation, Elizabeth Bloodgood and Joannie Tremblay-Boire
- What can we expect of charity regulators? Charity scandals, declining public trust and confidence ... and regulator accountability, Carolyn Cordery
- Riding the Regulatory Wave: Reflections on recent explorations of the statutory and non-statutory non-profit regulatory cycles in 16 jurisdictions, Oonagh B. Breen
- The Shifts in the Regulatory Regime of State and Civil Society Organizations Partnerships in Brazil, Mario Aquino Alves & Natasha Caccia Schmitt Salinas
- State Control on INGO in China, Kin-man Chan

Registration for the conference is open— www.istr.org/AP. We hope you will join us in Bangkok for what is shaping up to be a high-quality academic conference and memorable time networking with colleagues and meeting friends.



National Institute of Development Administration, Bangkok

ISTR Latin America & the Caribbean Regional Conference update

In early February, our new ISTR Regional Secretariat hosts Jacqueline Butcher, Director of the Center for Research and Civil Society Studies, CIESC, at the Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico City Campus and Romina Farías, Research Coordinator at the Mexican Center for Philanthropy, Cemefi, traveled to EAFIT University in Medellín, Colombia to meet with the EAFIT conference hosts, Juan Luis Mejía, Dean of EAFIT, Laura Moscoso, Director of the Political Analysis Center, and Valeria Montoya, Project Coordinator at EAFIT. In addition to ironing out plans for the conference, they made important progress in ensuring local engagement in the conference by participating in meetings with Colombian universities, foundations, and local organizations.

All of the submissions are now in the blind review process. Authors and PhD students will be notified by April 8 of the results.

Registration for the conference is open www.istr.org/LAC and we hope you will join your colleagues at EAFIT University in Medellín, Colombia. ISTR, the regional ISTR Secretariat, and EAFIT University have collaboratively raised funding to provide support to many of those who will need it. Check the website for details.

Program highlight: Local panel

This panel will feature a presentation of a process the Centro de Análisis Político at EAFIT has been developing with Fundación Exito for the past 2 years. The purpose of this joint work is to develop specific tools to influence policy-making from the third sector and to provide the conception of a strategic framework to organize and direct the different actions of the Foundation in order to influence explicitly and intentionally throughout the public policy cycle.

ISTR Participates in European Investment Bank's Board of Director's Seminar with Civil Society

ISTR Board Member and President Elect, *Dr. Oonagh B. Breen*, Professor of Law at the UCD Sutherland School of Law in Ireland, attended a Seminar for Civil Society with the Board of Directors of the European Investment Bank on February 4, 2019. The official summary from the EIB, list of participants, and program is available **on the EIB's website**. Oonagh's summary is provided below:

This day-long meeting consisted of 3 interactive panel sessions with Board Members and officials of the EIB and invited civil society members. In each session, the EIB gave an outline of current work or policy stances and then asked civil society how it could do better. The audience in attendance numbered approximately 180. There was also a policy dialogue session with the Board Members of the EIB. There were many civil society organisations represented, a number who appeared to be regular attendees (particularly those in the area of climate change). The event provided a good opportunity to connect with academic and civil society conference participants to make them aware of and invite them to participate in ISTR.

Highlights of sessions attended

Session 1: Rising to Global Environmental and Social Challenges

For our colleagues who are interested in climate change and energy policy, the EIB is currently carrying out an Energy Policy Lending Review and this is open to public consultation. **[Click here for more information.](#)**

Session 2: Tackling Fraud and Corruption with Innovative Approaches to Big Data

Michaly Fakekas, a lecturer at Central European University and *Carl Dolan* of Transparency International provided some interesting insights into how big data may provide stakeholders with innovative ways to eradicate fraud and corruption in projects. It's worth noting in this regard that the EIB plans to review its Anti-Fraud Policy and there may be opportunities for ISTR members interested in anti-corruption or regulatory issues to feed into this consultation – current version **can be found here** (dating from 2013).

Session 3: The New EIB Group Complaints policy

This New EIB Complaints Policy was approved by the EIB Board in November and is just about to be implemented. It was developed in consultation with Civil Society (who submitted 54 pages of comments to the EIB) and with the European Ombudsman's Office. A **new complaints mechanism website** was launched in November 2018 and the EIB is interested in feedback from users on what it might further improve.



EIB

In response to my question to EIB Vice President Alexander Stubb on how proposed InvestEU policies will allow philanthropic organisations to use endowed funds to fund social investment in the EU in a manner that protects their capital, both Vice President Stubb and Martin Spolc (of the EU Commission) confirmed that this will indeed form part of the new multi-financial framework in Europe which is due to come into force from 2021-2027 so it may present interesting opportunities for philanthropic investment in the future.

Here is the link for more details of the **EIB's engagement with civil society during 2018.**

Oonagh B. Breen

On behalf of ISTR

In Memoriam

Remembering Yeheskel 'Zeke' Hasenfeld

By Hagai Katz, PhD, Senior Lecturer, Department of Business Administration, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel



On Feb. 28, 2019, at age 81, Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus **Yeheskel 'Zeke' Hasenfeld** of UCLA's School of Public Affairs, likely the most influential scholar of human service organizations, passed away after a fierce battle with cancer.

How does one conclude the life and contribution of a scholar such as Zeke? Is it by his prolific research? By the impact his writings had on his field? By what his students say about him? By how his colleagues express their respects? Or perhaps by his personality and virtues as a human being? In the case of Zeke, it doesn't really matter. Zeke excelled in all those measures.

Zeke was a pioneer and a leader in the study of human service organizations, earning the Society for Social Work and Research Distinguished Career Achievement Award in 2011. In 2013 he was inducted as a fellow in the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare. In February 2019, he was listed among the 100 most influential contemporary social work faculty by the Journal of Social Service Research.

He published extensively, in the most important and prestigious outlets, and shaped the research agenda on human services. His research received to date thousands of citations, in all major journals of social work and nonprofit organizations. His colleagues and students praise his collegiality, his friendship, his good nature and his empathy, as well as the kind humor that accompanied all his interactions with colleagues and students alike.

All this was achieved despite and perhaps because of the challenges that Zeke had to face. A polio survivor, he was deeply committed to promoting fairness, justice and effectiveness in human services. He never let adversity limit him or allowed others to treat him differently. Nor did it ever dampen his positive outlook and optimism. Zeke was true to his call, and engaged with many organizations and policy campaigns as a volunteer, including most recently at the American Civil Liberties Union, working on issues related to homelessness and advocating for the rights of people with disabilities to his last days.

As for me, I feel fortunate to have had the privilege to be Zeke's student. Much of what I know now I owe to Zeke's teaching and mentorship. He taught me the utility

of theory, the importance of empathy, the value of vigor. The most useful course in my doctoral studies was Zeke's course on epistemology and philosophy of science. His calm and supportive mentorship helped me through the obstacle course of earning a doctorate in a foreign country, while caring for a family and having to pay my own way. He had the unique capacity of being stern and humorous at the same time. If my students will remember me as fondly as I remember Zeke, I can consider myself a lucky man. He will be sorely missed by his wife and co-author Eve Garrow, his daughters Rena and Rachel, his granddaughters, his former wife Helen, and all those who crossed paths with this inspired and inspiring 'Mentch.'

Remembering Jack Quarter

By Laurie Mook, Associate Professor and Co-director, Master of Nonprofit Leadership & Management Program, Arizona State University, USA



Jack Quarter passed away February 6, 2019 after a short battle with cancer. Jack was known for his work on the social economy, worker co-operatives, non-profit organizations, and supported social enterprises. At the beginning of his career, he was interested in democratic forms of work management and the equitably distribution of

wealth. This led to his writings on worker-owned cooperatives, unionized employee ownership and investment funds, and socially innovative business owners. Then his work then broadened, and he focused on the larger social sector – the social economy. He was particularly successful in leading large grants that brought together large numbers of university professors, independent researchers, students and community members. His mentorship of students was legendary.

In addition to his many published works, Jack was instrumental in starting the Canadian Association for Non-profit and Social Economy Research (he was the founding President), and its associated peer-reviewed journal, ANSERJ.org which, in line with the values of the social economy, is open access. He was recognized with numerous awards, and there is now a website to honour his life (jackquarter.org).

There are few that have had such a wide reach as Jack in bringing together scholars, community members, and students across Canada. Jack touched the lives of many with his kindness, dedication, and search for a better way. He will be missed immensely.