



Inside

I S T R

The International Society for Third-Sector Research is an international and multidisciplinary scholarly association to promote research and teaching about the Third, Voluntary, or Nonprofit Sector.

July-September 2011

Volume 19/Number 3

10TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE NEWS

World Renowned Speakers to Present at the 20th Anniversary Conference



John Keane is Professor of Politics at the University of Sydney and at the Berlin Social Science Research Center—Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin (WZB) and will deliver the keynote address on Wednesday, July 10, 2012, about democracy and global civil society. He is the Director of the recently founded Sydney

Democracy Initiative (SDI). In 1989, Keane founded the Centre for the Study of Democracy (CSD) in London. In recent years, he has held the Karl Deutsch Professorship in Berlin, co-directed a large-scale European Commission-funded project on the future of civil society and citizenship, and served as a Fellow of the London based think tank the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR). He recently held a Major Research Fellowship awarded by the Leverhulme Trust and is a Fellow of the Fudan Institute for Advanced Study in Social Sciences in Shanghai.

During his many years in Britain, *The Times* ranked him one of the country's leading political thinkers and a writer whose work has 'world-wide importance'. The Australian Broadcasting Commission recently described him as "one of the great intellectual exports from Australia". His *Life and Death of Democracy* was short-listed for the 2010 Non-Fiction Prime Minister's Literary Award.

Rami Khouri is the Director of the Issam Fares Institute of Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut as well as editor-at-large of the Beirut-based *Daily Star* newspaper. He is an internationally syndicated political columnist and author. He is a



Senior Fellow, The Dubai Initiative, a joint venture between the Dubai School of Government and the Harvard University Kennedy School. Mr. Khouri was a visiting scholar at Stanford University in October 2006, and in November 2006, he was the co-recipient of the Pax Christi International Peace Award for his efforts to bring peace and reconciliation to the Middle East. He will speak on Friday, July 13th at the closing plenary and will focus on the Arab Spring and emerging democratization, including the role of the Third Sector in this process.

Deadline for abstract submissions is October 24, 2011. Panel proposals in particular are encouraged. Model Abstracts are available for your review at http://www.istr.org/conference/siena/Abstracts_model.htm

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7TH ISTR ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE

24-26 November 2011

Sanur Paradise Plaza Hotel

Bali, Indonesia

Registration: <http://istrbali2011.com>

President's Column

Dear ISTR Colleagues,

As I sit down to write my column for the September newsletter, I am reflecting on all the good news that we have had at ISTR in recent months.

First was the news that we have achieved our ISI ranking for *Voluntas*. This has been a long and arduous process for ISTR, our publishers, and especially for our current and recent editors, Bernard Enjolras and Rupert Taylor. But now that this milestone has finally been achieved, it means that our journal will be recognized by a much larger number of scholars all over the world as being a quality outlet for their publications, a necessary addition to the libraries at their institutions and an essential “read” four times a year. But attaining ISI status is not simply a matter of increasing the reputation of our journal. This recognition of *Voluntas* is a very large step in terms of establishing our reputation as one of the main institutions underpinning the global field of third sector research and a necessary part of achieving our mission of establishing third sector studies as a recognized and legitimate field of scholarly research.

Other good news is that in the last two months there have been two very successful ISTR regional conferences. The Latin American and Caribbean conference in Buenos Aires in July attracted over 100 participants who presented 102 papers and 16 posters. Eighty-six new members joined ISTR through participation in this conference and we welcome all of you! In August the newly-organized African regional network conference was held in Stellenbosch, South Africa. Over forty participants attended and joined together for three plenary sessions, a workshop on CSO Accountability, and 33 papers, many of which are on the website, so have a look. We also welcome twenty new members from the African regional network to ISTR.

In November, our third regional conference will take place in Bali, Indonesia, which looks to be as successful as the other two. This level of activity in the year between international conferences is very important. The regional conferences are important mission-based activities for ISTR. It is through these conferences that scholars continue to disseminate research and discuss ideas in the years between our biannual international conference; they are also important mechanisms through which we are able to connect regional researchers, who may not be able to attend international conferences, with the larger global research community.



Brenda Gainer

A new initiative that has been long in the works is being announced this month, an ISTR PhD workshop and seminar to be held in conjunction with the 10th International Conference in Siena in July 2012. This is also a milestone for ISTR. At the last conference in Istanbul we convened a group of individuals who wanted to discuss ways to encourage more young scholars to work in the area of civil society and third sector studies and this workshop is the fruit of that meeting. Lesley Hustinx, a young scholar herself, is working with an international committee, including two former winners of our dissertation prize, to put the program together. ISTR will be contributing funds to underwrite the cost of the seminar for students who are accepted.

Finally, I want to mention an issue that has been raised in other scholarly associations about accessibility to third sector research journals around the world. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find an article about *Voluntas*. I urge you to read this in detail to see how seriously ISTR and our publishers take this issue and how widely we have made *Voluntas* available compared to other third sector journals. The fact that we have recently become available on JSTOR will also increase accessibility in many parts of the world.

I am not listing all this good news merely to “pat ourselves on the back.” It is true that the board has been implementing strategic plans for many years now that have been driven by goals that pertain to many of the specific outcomes I have outlined above. There is no question we have made important strides in terms of building ISTR and all ISTR members should be proud. But we must not lose sight of the fact that the mission of ISTR is not only the development of our society or even the institutionalization of third sector research, but the development of research excellence and impact. So one of the happy outcomes of all the successful activity that has come to fruition this year is that now we may have a little more time to pause and consider some deeper questions about our research mission.

At the recent Latin American and Caribbean regional conference, Andrés Thompson, the keynote speaker, likened the state of third sector research to that of a “hamster wheel,” suggesting that we are running around in a circle looking at the same questions and theories over and over again. These remarks generated controversy, of course, and much spirited debate at the conference. His remarks also caused me to reflect on the relationship between building ISTR and building research excellence.

President's Column

As we plan for our 20th anniversary conference next year, we will celebrate twenty years of achievements. ISTR has spent 20 years successfully developing an institutional framework that underpins a legitimate and sustainable field of research. We have built regional and international networking systems, publication outlets, forums for intellectual debate and discussion—and let's not overlook the fact that we have also built a respected brand name!

So the time is right for us to look inward and examine where we need to go and what we need to concentrate on in the next twenty years. It seems to me the big issues in our field now are not institutional or strategic. Our 10th International Conference will follow a year of great turmoil and change in political and economic systems around the world. What a wonderful time for a rethinking of our intellectual approaches to the third sector and civil society and a re-examination of the theories and frames of reference with which we approach our work.

We frequently get feedback from members saying they would like to see more theory at our conferences. So I'm challenging you, the researchers who bring your work to

our conferences, to submit theory papers and to put together panels on theory. Let us think together about how the third sector is changing, the essential nature of civil society now and in the future, new theoretical models and frameworks, and what that means for the research we conduct. And, because our vision is not only to develop a field of scholarly research but also to improve human well-being, we also need to think about the impact of our research from an activist point of view: is our work contributing to the change we want to see in the world? The deadline for papers for the conference is coming up next month (October 24th). I hope we will see many papers, panels and workshops submitted that focus on the theory of civil society and the third sector and I hope we will host many debates and discussions about where we go next—not just as a research society, but as a research field. ■



Brenda Gainer
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10TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE NEWS

Speakers Announced

Continued from page 1

The Academic Committee is now in place and will be responsible for the review process which will be completed in early January 2012. Members of the Conference Academic Committee include:

Wendy Earles, Co-Chair
James Cook University, Australia

Alberto Hernández Baqueiro, Co-Chair
Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico

Giulio Ecchia
University of Bologna, Italy

Ferenc Farkas
University of Pécs, Hungary

Samiul Hasan
United Arab Emirates University, UAE

Lesley Hustinx
Ghent University, Belgium

Hagai Katz
Ben Gurion University, Israel

Riccardo Mussari
University of Siena, Italy

Alejandro Natal Martinez
El Colegio Mexiquense, Mexico

Ebenezer Obadare
University of Kansas, USA

Ruth Phillips
University of Sydney, Australia

Ramya Ramanath
DePaul University, USA

Yayoi Tanaka
National Institution of Academic Degrees and University Evaluation, Japan

Georg von Schnurbein
University of Basel, Switzerland

Annette Zimmer ■

VOLUNTAS NEWS

JSTOR

Voluntas is now available on JSTOR and will now reach faculty, students, and researchers at more than 7,000 participating libraries and organizations of all size, types, and missions, in 156 countries! *Voluntas* is part of the Arts & Sciences X Collection which has a focus on Social Sciences and Business. The announcement date for this collection is expected in October 2011. JSTOR includes scholarship published in over one thousand of the highest-quality academic journals as well as monographs and other materials. <http://www.jstor.org/action/showPublication?journalCode=voluntas>

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that enables discovery, access, and preservation of scholarly content. It was conceived by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to help university and college libraries struggling to provide adequate space for an every-growing amount of published scholarship. In 1995, JSTOR was founded as a shared digital library to help academic institutions save costs associated with the storage of library materials and to vastly improve access to scholarship.

JSTOR archives and provides access to archival and current issues of more than 1,400 scholarly journals across more than 50 academic disciplines. Scholars, teachers, and students around the world are making use of JSTOR daily, searching JSTOR directly or locating articles and other content through search engines and specialized portals. New initiatives to support innovations in scholarship, such as using the content for text mining and enabling the pre-publication sharing of ideas among scholars, are also underway.

More than 90% of participating institutions are medium to very small schools, and organizations that have never before had broad access to this content.

Fourteen percent (14%) of institutions participate through two special programs for free or reduced fees. These programs are African Access Initiative (AAI) and the Developing Nations Access Initiative (DNAI).

Users downloaded more than 63 million articles in 2009, and total accesses of the database (including searches and page views) eclipsed 520 million.

ISI/Social Science Citation Index

Voluntas has been accepted to ISI/Social Science Citation Index. This acceptance is most significant for the academic recognition of the quality of the journal. It is our hope that the journal will now attract a growing number of scholars who seek to publish in ISI rated journals.



The abstracting and indexing of *Voluntas* will begin with the 2009 volume. The first impact factor will be based on the volumes published in 2009 and 2010 and will be published in June 2012. We are looking forward to being part of the Journal Citation Reports (JCR) which presents quantitative data that supports a systematic, objective review of the world's leading journals and their impact and influence in the global research community.

We extend our deepest thanks and congratulations to our current journal editor, Bernard Enjolras, and our former editor, Rupert Taylor, as well as the editorial board. Their dedication and commitment to the academic rigor of the journal has made this acceptance possible. We are also most grateful to our publisher, Springer, and our very capable editor, Teresa Krauss.

Open Access to Research and Scholarship

Voluntas is also participating through our publisher, Springer, in a number of initiatives that provide open access to research and scholarship. Currently, the journal is available through the following projects:

INASP (International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications): Focusing on the needs of developing and emerging countries INASP provides (1) access to national and international scholarly information and knowledge; (2) use, creation, management and uptake of scholarly information and knowledge via appropriate ICTs; (3) national, regional and international cooperation, networking and knowledge exchange.

Partner countries are:

- *Africa*: Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
- *Asia Pacific*: Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Vietnam
- *Latin America*: Bolivia, Cuba, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua

The Journal Donation Project (JDP) assists in rebuilding major research and teaching libraries throughout countries of the former Soviet Union, through the provision of current subscriptions to English -language scholarly, professional and current events journals. One of the principle aims of the Project has been to create the best possible scholarly resources at recipient libraries; another has been to identify libraries dedicated to change and the opening of archives. Thus, all of the

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libraries within the network - national, university, academy of science and public libraries - have been selected as sites where users would have the greatest possible access to the journals provided. The journals serve to connect scholars, students, and professionals to a global community of research and debate, and thereby contribute to the crucial task of reconnecting them with the mainstream of modern intellectual life.

The goal of the project was and is to provide major research and teaching libraries with current key journals published in the West until they are able to procure materials with their own resources. Until 1995, the Project was based entirely upon the donation of subscriptions by publishers and editors. In 1996, however, the Project introduced a reduced-cost subscription program, in which participating publishers now offer discounts that average over 50%. The number of publishers participating in these ways is continuously increasing.

Today, the JDP represents a major international library assistance programme, with over 2,000 different English-language journals in the social sciences, humanities, law, public policy, business, technology, agriculture and medicine. Additionally, over 90% of the print titles provided by the Project are accompanied by complimentary electronic subscriptions. Through an agreement with EBSCO/eIFL the Project is able to provide three large online databases - Academic Search Premier, Business Source Premier and MEDLINE - to its network libraries.

Currently, the Project's library network is comprised of over 300 libraries throughout 30 countries, in the former Soviet Union, Eastern and Central Europe and more recently Ghana, Nigeria and Iran. Through JDP, these libraries receive approximately 6,000 subscriptions annually.

ACU (Association of Commonwealth Universities): As the oldest international association of universities, the ACU has approximately 500 member institutions in over 30 Commonwealth countries. ACU has established a scheme to facilitate the purchase of high quality print journals for ACU member institutions in developing countries. This scheme started as a pilot in 2002 for ACU member universities in most of Sub-Saharan Africa and has since expanded to other regions. This program allows publishers to help some of the world's poorest universities and authors to reach a worldwide audience.

Beginning in 2012, *Voluntas* will be included in all three Research4Life programs which provides developing countries with free or low cost access to journals. More details on the Research4Life programs will be forthcoming.

Nonprofit and Civil Society Studies Book Series

An International Multidisciplinary Series of Springer in cooperation with ISTR

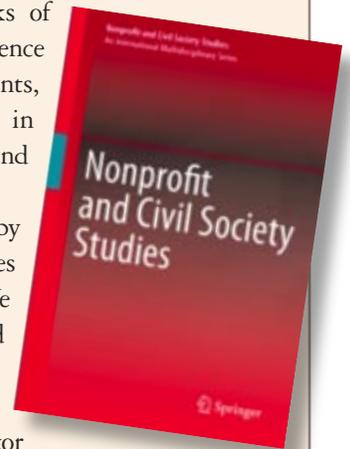
Research on the nonprofit sector and civil society has gained momentum in the last two decades. Whereas interest in the institutional arena located between the state and the market remained a small specialty field until the late 1980s, since that time it has become a growth area. Research and funding opportunities have multiplied, as has the number of scholars and practitioners taking part in the development of a broad and ambitious agenda across the major social science disciplines.

This series publishes books of interest to a wide-ranging audience of researchers, advanced students, policymakers, and practitioners in this international area of study and practice.

The series was set up by Helmut Anheier, who was series editor from 1999 until 2011. We are grateful for his initiative and for the work he did to develop this into an authoritative series of worldwide nonprofit, third sector and civil society research. We (Paul Dekker and Annette Zimmer), have taken over the editorship and hope to continue this development in stronger cooperation with ISTR. We welcome proposals for monographs as well as edited volumes, for state of the art overviews as well as explorations of new issues, and for conceptual work as well as empirical analyses, provided the expectation is warranted that the book will be of high quality and of interest for a broad international readership. You are welcome to contact us with first ideas before writing down a full book proposal.

A small selection of titles that have appeared in the series so far:

- Broadbent, Jeffrey; Brockman, Vicky (Eds.), *East Asian Social Movements* (2011)
- Gidron, Benjamin; Bar, Michal (Eds.), *Policy Initiatives Towards the Third Sector in International Perspective* (2010)
- Hasan, Samiul; Onyx, Jenny (Eds.), *Comparative Third Sector Governance in Asia* (2008)
- Hewa, Soma; Stapleton, Darwin (Eds.), *Globaliza-*



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tion, Philanthropy, and Civil Society (2006)

- Flynn, Patrice; Hodgkinson, Virginia A. (Eds.), *Measuring the Impact of the Nonprofit Sector* (2002)
- Schmid, Hillel, *Neighborhood Self-Management* (2001)
- Anheier, Helmut K.; Toepler, Stefan (Eds.). *Private Funds, Public Purpose* (1999)

ISTR members get a 25% discount on these and other

books from the series as well as on any other title of Springer: please go to www.istr.org and log-in to the members only page. The ISTR promo code for the discount is listed in the journal section.

Paul Dekker (p.dekker@scp.nl) & Annette Zimmer (zimmean@uni-muenster.de) ■

PHD NEWS

ISTR PhD Seminar

Siena, Italy, July 8-10, 2012

Universita degli Studi di Siena

Call for Applications

ISTR is pleased to announce the launch of the first ISTR PhD Seminar preceding the 10th International Conference in Siena, Italy, in July 2012. (<http://www.istr.org/conference/siena/PhD.htm>) The ISTR PhD Seminar will be a recurring event that takes place bi-annually in conjunction with the international conference.

The ISTR PhD Seminar is open to all doctoral students in the field of third sector and civil society research, across the different regions in the world, and at all stages of their doctoral research. The aim of the workshop is to provide doctoral students with the opportunity to receive extensive intellectual and methodological advice on their doctoral research, to introduce them to main theories and developments in the field, to reflect upon publication and career strategies, and to provide a unique opportunity to network with junior and senior scholars with the international ISTR research community.

More specifically, the seminar will consist of both plenary sessions with presentations by leading scholars in the field, and parallel group sessions in which the participants have the opportunity to present and discuss their doctoral research with peers, junior and senior faculty. Participants will be grouped thematically, but the group composition will be heterogeneous in terms of concrete research topics, disciplinary background, research stage, method, and regional affiliation.

The seminar is limited to a group of (up to) 50 doctoral

students. Applicants must be members of ISTR and register to attend the conference. The ISTR PhD Seminar will start with an informal dinner on Sunday evening, July 8, 2012. Plenary and group sessions will take place on Monday, July 9 and Tuesday, July 10 in the morning. Participants are expected to arrive on Sunday. ISTR will cover two nights of accommodation (Sunday July 8 and Monday July 9) as well as coffee breaks and meals during the Seminar. Travel costs will not be refunded. ISTR will offer conference registration subsidies. Applicants for discounted registration conference fees should go directly to ISTR. Applications for subsidies will be available in January 2012.

Eligibility and selection criteria

To be eligible for participation, possible applicants should consider the following criteria:

- To be enrolled as a doctoral student (all stages of the doctoral research are allowed)
- Working in the field of third sector and civil society research (all academic disciplines are invited)
- To be a member of ISTR and register to attend the 2012 conference
- To be able to participate in the PhD Seminar from Sunday evening to Tuesday around noon
- Be prepared to present and discuss their doctoral work to peers and faculty, and to participate in an active and constructive way in group discussions

Application process

Interested students should send their application directly to the Chair of the ISTR PhD Taskforce 2012, Dr. Lesley Hustinx (lesley.hustinx@ugent.be), no later than January 15, 2012, and include the following information:

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Universität Münster, Germany

- Contact details (including e-mail and phone number)
 - Disciplinary background
 - Institutional affiliation and name(s) of the supervisor(s)
 - Working title of PhD project and formal start/end dates
 - Abstract of PhD research (min. 500 – max. 800 words)
 - A brief description (100-150 words) of your motivation to participate in the ISTR PhD Seminar
- (Application form is online)

The ISTR PhD Taskforce 2012 will consider all applications that meet the eligibility criteria. In line with ISTR's mission to build a global community of scholars and subscribe to the values of diversity and pluralism, participants in the ISTR PhD Seminar will be representative in terms of gender and region, as well as disciplines and stages in the PhD process.

For further inquiries, please contact the ISTR Secretariat (istr@jhu.edu).

Selected applicants will be notified by February 15, 2012.

ISTR Emerging Scholar Dissertation Award

The International Society for Third-Sector Research (ISTR) is pleased to announce the ISTR Emerging Scholar Dissertation Award. This award is presented biennially for a PhD dissertation completed or defended in

the two calendar years (July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2011) preceding the award. Self-nominations are accepted.

Dissertations that contribute to the field of comparative study of civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), nonprofit organizations, philanthropy, voluntarism and related issues are eligible. We encourage submissions of PhD dissertations from all parts of the world. Dissertations focused exclusively on the United States are not eligible.

The winner will be announced and the award will be given at the ISTR 10th International Conference in Siena, Italy, which will be held July 10 - 13, 2012. The award is US \$1,000. Dissertations may be submitted in English, French, German, Spanish, and Portuguese.

Submissions must be submitted online at www.istr.org :

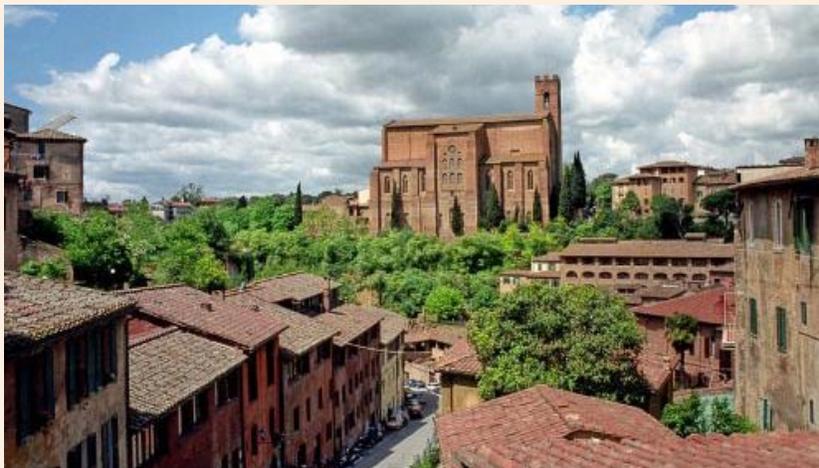
- letter of acceptance for the degree
- 500 word abstract of the dissertation's subject matter (in English)
- one full copy of the dissertation

Deadline: Dissertations and accompanying materials must be submitted online prior to January 27, 2012.

Entries will be judged by a committee based on major criteria including:

Is the thesis directly related to the Third Sector, does it have potential to influence mainstream disciplines, and/or introduce something new? Is the thesis grounded in original research and grasp existing literature and does it move the literature forward?

For inquiries or questions, contact: Margery Daniels, Executive Director: istr@jhu.edu ■



SIENA, ITALY – SITE OF 10TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

REGIONAL NEWS

Reflections of a First-timer on the ISTR Africa Civil Society Research Network Conference

23-27 August 2011

By Fundi Nzimande, National Labour and Economic Development Institute (NALEDI)

This forum lived up to and beyond its expectations. The first day was dedicated to professional development and it was ably facilitated by Professor Alan Fowler and Bev Russell. The idea of civil society in the African context was presented in a refreshing way with the caveat that we consider whether there is an African civil society or there is a universal civil society with an African complexion. The second discussion was one which asked the question of whether there is a norm-full or norm-free qualitative research. The last presentation focused on the challenges of capturing the core dimensions of civil society in a quantitative framework. All the discussions on this day showed me that there is a need for a certain level of activism within the research community. It is important for civil society researchers to play a role in the generation of knowledge and in influencing the methods and challenging underlying assumptions that all researchers use in this noble pursuit. I found this important as it helps in improving the quality of the knowledge generated, it minimizes gaps and it broadens the paradigms within which researchers work. In a context where most research on and about Africa is done by outsiders, it is critical especially for African researchers, to begin to create knowledge and to write research and hopefully through this exercise the African perspective will shine through.

Papers presented at the plenary sessions were extremely eye-opening. It was such a thrill to have the scholars of that calibre present their papers to us. One of these esteemed scholars was Adebayo Olukoshi. His input was truly inspirational. What found resonance with this author was his refer-

ence to a demobilised and depoliticised civil society. In his input, there were also echoes of a civil society that has been whitewashed, “my term” into abandoning any relationship with political rights and political activism or any claim to the political space. Considering that almost everything we do or do not do relates to access to power or lack thereof, it is one area where I feel African civil society may be failing. The very idea that you can abandon political space is a political one. This was a critical input for us at a period when political appetite amongst the continent’s elite seems to be waning fast and the media seems to be advancing a message of amnesia relating to the atrocities that Africans have experienced in the hands of their colonisers. Another paper presented in the plenary session was delivered by Adam Habib. He reflected on the contradiction between the massive growth of organised civil society and the concurrent growth in inequality. To this author, the idea mentioned in Olukoshi’s paper of a depoliticised civil society explains this contradiction. Habib also reflected on the tensions between the global human rights movement and progressive nationalist governments on

the continent. The case used was that of South Africa’s role in the Security Council when it comes to decisions taken around some countries e.g. Myanmar. This presentation suggested some innovative moves that could have been considered in dealing with these matters without denting South Africa’s record on human rights. This author felt that there are severely constraining factors to the role of progressive nationalist governments that limit creative interventions in responding to human rights abuses across the globe. The

third paper presented in plenary was delivered by Alan Fowler. In this paper Fowler explained that his motivation for writing the paper was located in the “lack of a critical mass of African scholars...” which resulted in “making Africa a battleground of ...foreign ideas and prescriptions”. This further emphasised for this writer the need for improving the role of African researchers in knowledge generation to better inform the understanding of relationships between state and



Participants at the Africa Regional Meeting included: Left to right: Paul Okumu, Eva Ayiera, and Priscilla Wamucii

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society in the African context, public and aid policies, and the correct interpretation of African data.

The other sessions had a powerful, dual purpose of introducing new or fledgling ideas and at the same time strengthening the emergence of a critical mass of researchers on the African continent. This session helped us first-timers or others who are PhD students to fill in the gaps in the projects that we are working on. There were reflections on uprisings and protests in different parts



Pictured here are: Left to right: Jendele Hungbo, Charles Dube, Wendy Willems, Paul Okumu

of the continent, not the least Egypt. Whilst the private sector in ICT is rushing to claim a role in the transformation taking place in Egypt, civil society organisations still take a different view. Other sessions reflected on the role of religious organisations within the civil spaces. The discussion on this topic revealed some suspicion that the research community has of the religious community. This author feels that a lot of power resides in the religious community leadership. The research community needs to find ways of enhancing this power for the benefit of communities instead of being wary of it. The session on the media was very informative; it became clear that organised civil society formations are beginning to use social media for organising, mobilizing and for “electronic toyi-toying.” On established or traditional media though, it became clear that civil society is still under-represented. This is still a space for powerful interests such as ruling parties and business. Evidence presented from Cameroon introduced a very new concept of Samaritan migrants’ contribution to the development of local communities. From a South African perspective, this was an interesting and creative way of dealing with the needs of poor communities in the context of a similarly impoverished state. Whilst this may be a scary new concept, it may prove a better tool in the future with more ideas on how to improve it. The discussion on women and gender was informative; to this writer, however, it showed that a lot of work still needs to be done even amongst Africa’s intelligentsia to ensure women’s development and the eradication of gender and economic inequality that women face. There was an admission that women are not a unitary organism but diverse actors within society with

differing views about how the women’s question needs to be dealt with. This author is of the view that it is this divergence that allows the exploitation of women to thrive.

The ISTR Africa Conference in Stellenbosch was fruitful and a great space for individual and collective growth. Not all the wonderful (and weird) ideas floated in the Conference have been covered here; but for people looking to improve their research skills and expand their knowledge horizons, ISTR is the space to

utilize. ISTR Africa has outdone itself in putting together such a conference. Perhaps more pan-African gatherings under the auspices of the ISTR could contribute to the entrenchment of “One Africa, One Love.” All kudos go to the conference organisers.

Excerpt of Editorial (ISTR Africa Newsletter)

Is Africa Destined to Remain Dependent? Ideas, Domination, and Developments on Past, Present and Future African Civil Spaces

By Jacob Mati, University of the Witwatersrand

What is the future of African Civil Society? I am aware the challenges are many. But if the conversations in Stellenbosch last month are anything to go by, there are possibilities of critical self-reflections in the way knowledge is produced- by whom, and for what purpose- that may be evolving, at least in the area of research in civil society. Specifically, there was a solid intellectual leadership emerging in the continent that recognizes that civil society is a contested space that may allow for alternative hegemonies to emerge. We are refusing to just ‘sidonluk!’ This is the message we took home from that conference. It is the message that the three reflective pieces in the third issue of the ISTR Africa Newsletter stresses.

In this issue, we bring reflective pieces from three participants who attended last month’s (August 23-27) confer-

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ence at the University of Stellenbosch. Paul Okumu's piece titled "When Activism Meets Knowledge: Reclaiming Africa's Civic Movement" moans the apparent disconnect between civil society in Africa and its citizens, as well as the compartmentalisation of society. As a result, civil society- especially after the events in North Africa and the Arab world since January 2011- 'the verdict from the researchers' assessment is that civil society in Africa has been killed and buried by the very thing intended to have made it stronger-AID and Professionalism.' He concludes, however, on a positive note the need to work closely together to confront our collective challenges: "I've got to use what I have to get what I need." Fundi Nzimande's piece "Reflections of a first-timer on the ISTR Africa Civil Society Research Network Conference" reflects mainly on the take aways from the plenary sessions as well as other key themes during the conference. She concludes that the conference was enlightening and useful from a wide variety of viewpoints. In her article, "I loved every moment of it" Maryanne Iwara reports that "the conference represented an unparalleled opportunity to encourage regional commitment to indigenous and context based research, promoted interdisciplinary understanding of development theories, CSO's and created the access to interact with academics, local and international donor communities on issues in the broadest sense." Enjoy reading them.

Of course the conference would really never have taken off without the financial support of four key funders who trusted us to deliver. These were: the University of Stellenbosch, the Southern African regional office of the Ford Foundation, Southern Africa Trust, and Trust Africa. As those of us who have been behind efforts to fundraise will attest, it was no walk in the park. Despite numerous promises, by multiple would be donors, there would always be a last minute disappointment. We thank you most sincerely for believing in us.

One of the conference outcomes was the need to continue building the network. As some fresh blood has been ejected into the steering committee, we hope to tap on their energies in developing the network further.



Taking Stock and Moving Forward

The 8th ISTR Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean

By Anabel Cruz and Beatriz Balian

The 8th ISTR Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 12 to 14 July 2011. The event was organized by the Instituto de Comunicación y Desarrollo (Communication and Development Institute, ICD) from Uruguay and the Francisco Valsecchi School of Economics of the Argentina Catholic University (UCA) and it took place at the premises of the University in Puerto Madero in Buenos Aires.

The Conference was attended by more than 100 researchers and practitioners from Argentina, Ecuador, Chile, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay, Bolivia, Brazil, Mexico, and also from Spain, Israel and Japan. Local companies and foundations such as the Telefonica Foundation, Pan American Energy, and the Foundation of La Nacion Newspapers supported the event, which allowed the organizers to cover local and logistical aspects. The ICD, through a subvention from ISTR was able to offer partial support for travel and lodging for 40 participants from outside Argentina, and all participants covered partially, and in some cases totally, their trip and accommodation expenses.

One hundred and two papers were presented at the conference, either in plenary meetings or parallel sessions along with 16 posters. The 26 sessions of the Conference represented a space for academic exchange and learning and the papers and posters covered different issues included in the four main program tracks of the Conference:

1. Volunteerism and solidarity practices to coincide with the 10th Anniversary of International Year of Volunteers (IYV+10) celebration
2. Social economy and economy of solidarity and their contribution to regional development (non-profit organizations that promote economic activities in the fields of work,

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health, education, housing, financing and other areas, focused on general interest).

3. Civil society – government relations (taking into account especially the new configurations of governments in the region); and civil society – business relations (in accordance with the current economic context).

4. Legitimacy, transparency and accountability of activities linked to various civil society sectors.

Brenda Gainer, President of ISTR, could not attend the meeting but sent a letter that was read at the opening ceremony and that was very much appreciated for the audience. In her letter, Brenda Gainer affirmed that “ISTR’s ultimate goal is to build the importance and legitimacy of the field of third sector research” and that the regional conferences are an important aspect to fulfill this ISTR mission. She underlined the value of ISTR conferences for bringing researchers together in a particular part of the world to share their work on issues of mutual interest and to build future research collaborations, and for bringing scholars from all over the world into the larger ISTR community of researchers on the third sector, civil society and philanthropy. In her letter, Professor Gainer also acknowledged and thanked Andrés Thompson, whom the Conference chose as the keynote speaker, for the tremendous role that he played in starting the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Network of ISTR.

The keynote address

The 8th Regional ISTR Conference selected Andrés Thompson, a founder of ISTR and initiator of the ISTR Regional Network for Latin America and the Caribbean, as the keynote speaker of the Conference. Both as an ISTR board member and in his capacity as the former Regional Director of the Kellogg Foundation in Latin America, Andrés Thompson was responsible for starting the ISTR network at both the global level and in Latin America, and supporting its development. Andrés Thompson has been committed to global social change and development for the last 35 years in various roles and in various institutions and social movements. Born in Argentina, he has also lived in Brazil, the Netherlands, United States and Uruguay. Until August 2010 he was a program officer for Latin American and Caribbean programming at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Michigan (since 1994). Prior to joining the Foundation, Andrés served as a researcher at the National Council of Scientific and Technological Research and the Center for the Study of State and Society (CEDES) in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He wrote sever-



At the podium, Adriana Siritto, (Catholic University, Argentina and member of the organizing committee) and seated from left to right: ISTR board members, Alberto Hernandez (Mexico) and Beatriz Balian (Argentina), and Anabel Cruz (ICD, Uruguay) and LAC network coordinator.

al books and articles on philanthropy, non-governmental organizations, and development. As a consultant, he worked for UNICEF-Argentina, the Latin American Council of Social Sciences, and various nonprofit organizations in Argentina and Latin America. Andrés studied psychology at the University of Rosario in Argentina and earned a master’s degree in development studies from the Institute of Social Studies at The Hague in Holland. As a volunteer, Andrés served as a member of the Board of Directors of ISTR and as director of the Argentine magazine “Tercer Sector” (Third Sector); he is currently a member of the editorial boards of the journals *Voluntas* and of *Alliance Magazine* and the General Coordinator of Global Street Football.

Andrés Thompson spoke in depth, critically and from his heart, about the history of civil society and third sector research in the region of Latin America, bringing personal stories from his times as a graduate student in Holland, when for the first time he came in contact with civil society studies. He also gave credit to his research work in the 80’s with the National Council of Scientific and Technological Research and the Center for the Study of State and Society (CEDES) in Buenos Aires, and the questions about identity of the sector that he and other colleagues from Latin America (some of them listening to him from the audience) tried to answer. The foundation of ISTR and later the launch of its Regional Network for Latin America and Caribbean, both with active participation of Andrés, were seen in his address as important milestones that tried to address the challenges of the 90’s. Which are main characteristics of the Third Sector and its advancements in the last two decades in the Latin American

REGIONAL NEWS

Region? This was one of his key questions, which he answered with the consideration that the States and Governments are now reclaiming many aspects of the social agenda that in the past had belonged to civil society and the third sector. Poverty reduction programs in Brazil or child and family programs in Argentina are some examples, which are causing trembling and shakings at many NGOs and which has implication for the generation of knowledge and research on the sector. *“There is a sort of identity crisis with civil society organizations and this is not a question of management, but of identity. Many topics and facts affect leadership capacities in the organizations and their capabilities to read the new realities and to adapt to them.”* According to Andrés, one of the important paths for third sector organizations is to work in partnership, both within the sector as with other actors such as State bodies, so to really exert lobbying and generate more and substantive impact. Andrés made and provoked the audience to think and reflect, not only during his speech, but during the duration of the whole conference.

The John Hopkins Comparative Nonprofit Sector Project: 15 Years After

The second plenary expanded on the ideas that Andrés Thompson had presented in his keynote address the day before. His metaphor on the hamster and its perpetual circular movements was mentioned indeed more than once. Anabel Cruz (ICD, Uruguay), Mario Roitter (CEDES, Argentina), Felipe Portocarrero (Universidad del Pacífico, Peru) and Gustavo Verduzco (El Colegio de Mexico) were on the panel to share their experiences and learning as country researchers associated with The John Hopkins Comparative Nonprofit Sector Project (JHCNSP) and their vision 15 years after the launch of the pioneer project to evaluate civil society. The panelists and audience agreed that the project made notable and significant contributions. The Third Sector as thematic field or as an academic discipline was discussed, and the fact that it has broadened and now includes research from sociology, education, anthropology, and many other sciences, is indeed both a forceful strength but also a challenge for a society like ISTR.

Some highlights

The 26 sessions of the Conference represented a space for academic exchange and there were individual papers and several panels on specific and common issues. In this way, the conclusions of the implementation of the CIVICUS Civil Society Index in Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Uruguay and Venezuela was presented in one session. Other panels analyzed the rela-

tionships of civil society organizations with progressive governments, with different case studies made in Uruguay. The work of volunteers and their contribution to the promotion of civil society and democratic space was the common link for another session.

Many papers dealt with social economy, impact evaluation and transparency, and the presentation of the nonprofit national satellite account made by the Mexican Institute of Statistics was very welcome and considered to be an example and guideline for the work in other countries.

The development of the 8th Regional Conference in the LAC region allowed making visible some aspects that brought positive surprise. On the one hand, there were many young people attending the conference, both young researchers and practitioners with civil society organizations. On the other hand, there was an interesting combination of civil society leaders and civil society researchers, which allowed comments from the organizers and attendants to predict a Third Sector society more active and with an energetic future. Some gaps were also mentioned, as the need to incorporate studies on inequality or research regarding aspects about racism or indigenous people, which were pretty much absent in the Conference.

Beatriz Balian, Vice President of the Catholic University, member of the ISTR Board, and an organizer of the Conference, mentioned at the closing ceremony three important lines of discussion that this conference had put on the table:

- a) Is the research on the Third Sector reiterating and duplicating the same topics over again but at the same time gaining in new approaches?
- b) From the conceptual point of view, is the Third Sector an academic discipline on its own or is it a thematic area that gathers research from different disciplines?
- c) Do we have to approach the different topics as a discipline or with an interdisciplinary model?

Some recommendations emerged from the discussions and presentations in order to strengthen the quality and the quantity of future Third Sector studies. It is very important to maintain and broaden the dialogue between researchers and practitioners, since it improves and enhances the analysis and enables the generation of new research areas, thus bringing academics are closer to reality and can contribute with elements to change that reality.

The organizers of the 8th Regional Conference of ISTR hope and wish that papers and posters from Latin America and the Caribbean will have a strong presence in the ISTR 10th International Conference to be held in Siena, Italy in July 2012.

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Eleventh Annual Seminar on Third Sector Research in Mexico.

By Lorena Cortés, Director for Research and Public Policy at Cemefi

The Eleventh Annual Research Seminar on the Third Sector in Mexico, *The Challenges of the Civil Society in the Construction of the Public Space*, organized by the Mexican Center for Philanthropy (Cemefi) and the University of Guanajuato was held at this prestigious academic institution on August 24 to 26, 2011. The main purpose of the Seminar was reflecting upon ways to strengthen citizen participation in the context of the consolidation of the Mexican democracy, as well as to propose new ways to study and analyze civil society participation in the construction of public policy and public spaces. More than eighty-five papers were presented in twenty roundtables, which focused on topics such as “Citizen Response over Public Insecurity,” “Universities as Privileged Spaces for the Construction of Active Citizenship,” “Social Responsibility,” among others. Scholars and members of civil society organizations from all over the country and abroad took part in the most important Mexican academic forum to discuss the

nature and perspectives of Third Sector research.

The keynote speaker of the Sixth Seminar was Dr. Bernardo Toro, member of Fundación Avina, from Colombia, who spoke about the importance of civic engagement for the construction of democratic public spaces. His presentation stressed the idea that it is crucial for a real democracy to consider spaces for civil society, where solutions to public problems have to be considered from multifaceted experiences and views. Organized citizens are a main public actor and should be considered in every phase of the formulation of public policy.

In order to promote research on the civil society, the organizing committee of the Annual Research Seminar on the Third Sector established in 2005 an Award for the best PhD and Masters dissertation. This year the PhD Award was granted to Asthriesslav Rocuts for her thesis *Afrontar los Asuntos Globales: Fundamentación teórica y propuesta metodológica para la creación de Alianzas Estratégicas entre Organizaciones de la Sociedad Civil*. The first place in Masters dissertation was given to América Nallely Lutz Ley for her thesis *Medio ambiente y organizaciones de la sociedad civil en Hermosillo, Sonora: configuración, rasgos y efectos de sus relaciones*. ■

Members News

Debbie Haski-Leventhal has been appointed Senior Lecturer of Management at Macquarie Graduate School of Management (MGSM), Sydney, Australia. She is also the Faculty Leader of Global Citizenship. In addition, she served as a consultant to the United Nations Volunteers in regards to the State of the World Volunteerism Report during 2011.

Ramya Ramanath has been appointed Assistant Professor at the School of Public Service at DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois. She previously taught at Grand Valley State University School of Public and Nonprofit Administration. She earned her Ph.D. from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in environmental design and planning with a concentration in nonprofit management and leadership. She served as a consultant in development finance in Mumbai and as project coordinator for the Indian Association for Savings & Credit, Tamilnadu, India.

Mark Sidel has moved to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he's now Doyle-Bascom Professor of Law and continues his work on the nonprofit sector and philanthropy in Asia and the United States. Sidel is co-organizing an ISTR workshop in Tokyo with Prof. Naoto Yamauchi, and now serves on the US Council on Foundations Community Foundations National Standards Board as well. ■

RESEARCH REPORTS

Assessing the Impact of Multi-purpose Community Organisations

<http://www.ivar.org.uk/publications/reports-and-publications/assessing-impact-multi-purpose-community-organisations>

IVAR has published a report of a two year collaboration between researchers and nine community organisations interested in finding new ways to assess the difference they make. The research proposes three principles for impact assessment:

1. Impact assessment needs a clear rationale and purpose
2. Impact assessment needs to be fit for purpose
3. Impact assessment needs to be jointly understood and designed by organisations and their funders.

Community Organisations Controlling Assets: A Better Understanding

<http://www.ivar.org.uk/publications/reports-and-publications/community-organisations-controlling-assets-better-understanding>

This report is the culmination of a two year research project commissioned by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF). It examines the variety of organisations engaged in asset ownership and management from small volunteer only groups in rural areas, through medium sized organisations involved in partnerships through to large social enterprises working from a business model. It builds on the first UK-wide survey of the field which informed case study investigation of the different types and provides a three part framework for understanding the field.

Pathways through Participation: What Creates and Sustains Active Citizenship?

<http://pathwaysthroughparticipation.org.uk/resources/financialreport/>

The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), the Institute for Volunteering Research (IVR) and Involve are pleased to publish this important new report about how people participate in society. *Pathways through Participation* is an ambitious research project that aims to improve our understanding of how and why people participate, how their involvement changes over time, and what pathways, if any, exist between different types of activities.

The project emerged from a common desire across our three organisations to create a fuller picture of how people

participate over their lifetimes. It builds on work completed at NCVO on active citizenship, adds to IVR's research into volunteering by exploring it in relation to other forms of participation, and extends Involve's research and practice in empowering citizens to take and influence the decisions that affect their lives. National and local governments have grappled for decades with the challenges of how to encourage people to be more active citizens. Their reasons have varied over time, from improving public services to reducing public spending or enhancing democracy. Recent policy developments around localism, the Big Society, outsourcing public services, encouraging charitable giving and the role of the voluntary sector have made questions about participation more topical than ever.

This report provides the practical intelligence that will enable voluntary and community organisations, public service providers and government at all levels to better support and develop participation. It is only through hearing people's personal stories, and focusing on their individual experience, that the complexities and dynamics of how participation works in practice can be fully understood. We interviewed over 100 people across three localities – their stories of participation provide the powerful body of evidence drawn on in this report.

This research shows that people participate in a myriad of ways, depending on what has meaning and value to them. They participate as individuals and collectively. Their reasons for participating are sometimes altruistic and sometimes it is to achieve something more explicitly for themselves. We have found many stories of how life enhancing participation can be, but also of its negative effects. Participation can be a core part of people's lives or something they do once in a while. It doesn't happen in a bubble but connects to different aspects of their lives. And it is shaped by their circumstances and capabilities, as well as the personal, practical and political opportunities and barriers they face.

We hope that policy-makers, practitioners and researchers will find this report useful in developing a richer and fuller understanding of how and why people participate, and what makes them start and continue (and stop) participating. Beyond promoting understanding, we hope that this report will help institutions and organisations find ways in which they can support and encourage opportunities for participation that better meet people's aspirations and expectations.

Sir Stuart Etherington, NCVO

Simon Burall, Involve

Nick Ockenden, IVR ■

CALL FOR PAPERS

16th Annual Conference of the International Research Society for Public Management (IRSPM) Contradictions in Public Management: Managing in volatile times

11th – 13th April 2012, University of Rome Tor Vergata
Special Track on Philanthropy, Public Services, Policy: 'New' Localism and 'Big Societies'

Co-chairs:

Prof Jenny Harrow, *Centre for Charitable Giving and Philanthropy, Cass Business School London, City University, UK*

Dr Tobias Jung, *Cass Business School London, City University, UK*

Prof Susan Phillips, *School of Public Policy and Administration, Carleton University, Canada*

The last decade has seen a 'revival of the local'¹. As governments have realised that developments at supra-local level are beyond their control, the idea that 'place matters' and that local communities should be enabled to flourish has gained momentum. Governments now consider communities as spaces for innovation and bottom-up economic rejuvenation. With its seemingly simple and intuitive logic, this 'new' localism has become a global interest. Widely endorsed by governments and driven by some communities themselves, examples range from Brazil's Porto Alegre² to the United Kingdom's 'Big Society' agenda³, albeit with contested ideas and expressions.

As public management changes its style and/or realigns its roles to incorporate localism, there has been an increasing interest in and role for philanthropy as a vital policy propellant for localism. Thus, policy makers, civil servants, a variety of publics, and individual communities are looking towards and are relying on philanthropy to contribute to and assist with the funding, design and provision of this changing policy agenda.

This track explores these issues and the questions that arise from philanthropy's changing role as it intersects with public management in the (sometimes contradictory) elements in localism – those of local autonomy, local relative need and local democracy. The track focuses on:

- gaining a better conceptual and practical understanding of philanthropy;
- philanthropy's capacity for, contribution to and role within localism, public services and policy making;
- practical issues that arise from cross-sectoral boundaries spanning between philanthropy and the public and third

sectors/policies (e.g. individual and organisational differences in working contexts, communicative/culture clashes; managerial challenges, performance issues);

- the wider challenges philanthropy represents in relation to democracy, advocacy, power, influence, trust and accountability, services equity, mutual dependencies and the potential for 'collaborative disadvantage'⁴, as well as advantage for philanthropy managers and public managers in shared working to endorse and promote (or limit) localism.

Please submit your abstract (no longer than 700 words) online at http://www.irspm2012.com/abstract_upload.shtml

The deadline for submissions is October 11, 2011. For questions about this track, please contact tobias.jung.1@city.ac.uk

¹ Brenner, N and N Theodore (2002). From the 'New Localism' to the Spaces of Neoliberalism, *Antipode* 341-347

² Fung, A. and Wright, E. O. (2001) 'Deepening Democracy: Innovations in Empowered Participatory Governance,' *Politics & Society*, 29 (1): 2001 5-41

³ Cabinet Office (2010) Building the Big Society. http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files/resources/building-big-society_0.pdf

⁴ e.g. Gazley, B. (2010), Why Not Partner With Local Government? Nonprofit Managerial Perceptions of Collaborative Disadvantage, *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, 39, 1, 51-76

Workshop on Accounting, Non-governmental Organizations and Civil Society

December 2012, London School of Economics

Sponsored by Accounting, Organizations and Society and Department of Accounting, London School of Economics and Political Science

Organizers: Matthew Hall (LSE), David Lewis (LSE) and Brendan O'Dwyer (Amsterdam Business School)

Description: In recent years the non-government/non-profit sector has expanded in numerous ways, whether through a rise in the number of organizations, an increased level of economic activity, or a greater role in welfare provision, humanitarian and development assistance and the formation of public policy. Despite these developments, little is understood about the practice, meanings and implications of accounting in this expanding and increasingly more influential sector. Thus, the aim of the workshop is to promote examination of the role of accounting in the context of non-governmental organizations

CALL FOR PAPERS

and civil society. The workshop is interdisciplinary in focus and aims to bring together scholars from a variety of fields, including accounting, management and organization, development studies, social entrepreneurship, philanthropy and the non-government and voluntary sectors.

Paper Submission Procedure: Conference papers must be submitted via email by 30th September 2012 to Matthew Hall (m.r.hall@lse.ac.uk). Authors will be notified of their acceptance to the workshop by 30th October 2012. A financial contribution towards conference expenses will be made to authors of accepted papers. Authors of selected papers from the conference will be invited to submit revised papers for a special issue of *Accounting, Organizations and Society*, subject to the normal review processes of the journal.

More information about the workshop is available at the following website:
<http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jaob>

Special Issue on Nonprofit Branding *International Review on Public and Nonprofit Marketing*

Branding has become a topic of emerging importance among nonprofit scholars and practitioners. Therefore,

dedicating a special issue to this area of inquiry is especially timely.

All relevant nonprofit branding topics are encouraged. Some possible topics are measurement issues related to nonprofit branding; antecedents and outcomes of effective branding; nonprofit brand awareness; nonprofit brand equity; and the relationship between nonprofit branding and public relations, fundraising, or volunteer recruitment. Our aim is to increase our level of knowledge in this area, especially in depicting nonprofit branding as having its own conceptualizations distinct from consumer products branding.

Deadline: March 1, 2012

Procedure: Follow the submission guidelines for IRNPSM available online at <http://www.springer.com/business+management/marketing/journal/12208>. Total paper length should not exceed 25 pages, with everything included.

Questions: Please direct any questions you have about this special issue to Walter Wymer at walter.wymer@uleth.ca

Special Issue Editor: Walter Wymer, Professor of Marketing, University of Lethbridge, Canada ■

BOOKS NOTES

Managerial Economics of Non-Profit Organisations. By Marc Jegers. Brussels, Belgium: ASP, Academic and Scientific Publishers, 2011. 180 pages. Hardcover €19.95; US \$28.50. To order: www.aspeditions.be

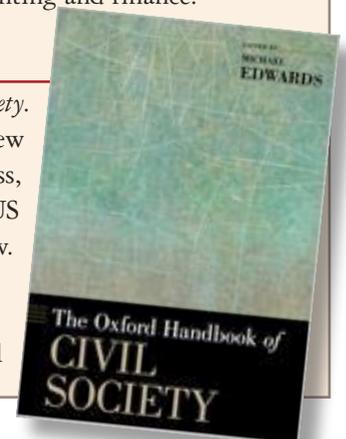
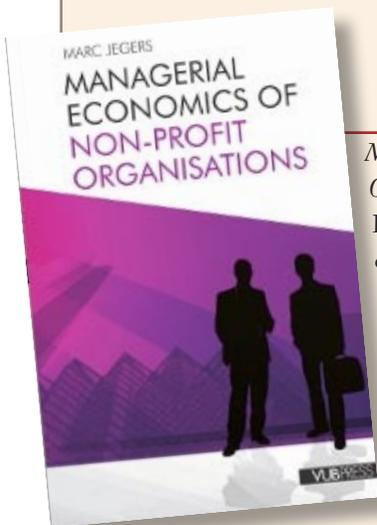
This is the second edition of a book that was, in 2008, the first to bring together the microeconomic insights on the functioning of non-profit organisations, complementing the wide range of books on the management of non-profit organisations by focusing instead on both theoretical and empirical work.

First, definitions of non-profit organisations are con-

sidered, after which the economic rationale behind their existence is examined, followed by a study of the demand for them and its implications for their functioning. The final chapters look at the economic idiosyncrasies of non-profit organisations' management, focusing on the fields of strategic management, marketing, accounting and finance.

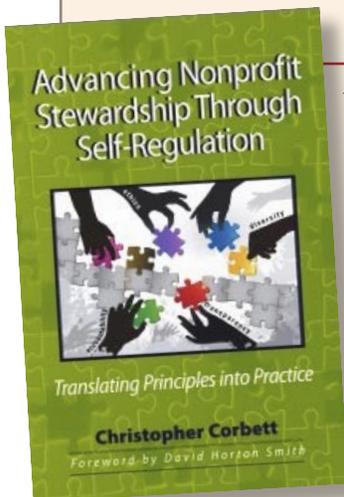
The Oxford Handbook of Civil Society. Edited by Michael Edwards. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011. 552 Pages. Hardcover US \$150.00. To order: <http://www.oup.com/us/>

In the past two decades, "civil



BOOKS NOTES

society” has become a central organizing concept in the social sciences. Occupying the middle ground between the state and private life, the civil sphere encompasses everything from associations to protests to church groups to nongovernmental organizations. Interest in the topic exploded with the decline of statism in the 1980s and 1990s, and many of our current debates about politics and social policy are informed by the renewed focus on civil society. Broadly speaking, the book views the topic through three prisms: as a part of society (voluntary associations), as a kind of society (marked out by certain social norms), and as a space for citizen action and engagement (the public square or sphere). It does not focus solely on the West (a failing of much of the literature to date), but looks at civil society in both the developed and developing worlds. Throughout, it merges theory, practice, and empirical research.



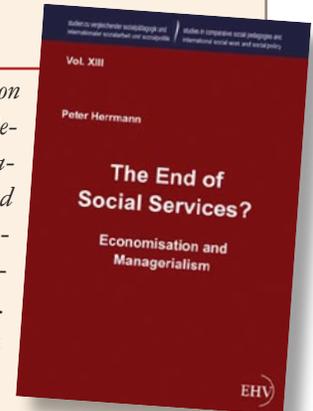
Advancing Nonprofit Stewardship Through Self-Regulation: Translating Principles into Practice. By Christopher Corbett. Sterling, Virginia: Kumarian Press, 2011. 120 Pages. Paperback US \$19.95; e-book US \$15.95. To order: www.kpbooks.com

In 2004, Senators Grassley and Baucus requested that Independent Sector, the major trade organization for nonprofits in the US, convene a panel to recommend actions to strengthen nonprofit governance and ethical standards. They expressed concern that current laws and guidelines failed to hold tax-exempt organizations accountable. After embarking upon an industry collaborative, Independent Sector’s advisory panel issued a report in October 2007, highlighting 33 principles it recommended nonprofits adopt. The report was overwhelmingly welcomed by the nonprofit sector, but the daunting challenge of implementing these principles remains.

Advancing Nonprofit Stewardship Through Self-Regulation points the way forward for nonprofits by identifying specific strategies for implementing Independent Sector’s principles. It also urges other researchers and practitioners to create competing strategies of implementation to give nonprofits choice. This guidebook shows how organizations can navigate demands for increased accountability and transparency

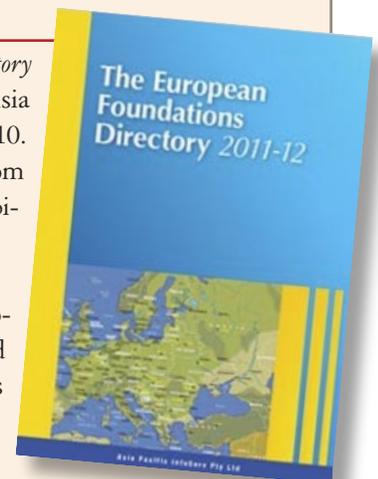
through constructing and executing improved bylaws while creating a setting of integrity and trust.

The End of Social Services? Economisation and Managerialism. Vol. XIII of the Series: Studies in Comparative Social Pedagogies and International Social Work and Social Policy. By Peter Herrmann. Bremen, Germany: Europaischer Hochschulverlag GmbH & Co KG, 2011. 200 pages. Cost: € 60,00. To order: www.socialcomparison.org



The book looks at the development of social and health services. It discusses contemporary issues, but the focus is a more fundamental critique, dismantling the ideological questions behind these developments, in the context of capitalism and modernisation. One contribution looks at the development of human resources in the UK and another provides an analysis of empirical data, from the perspective of EU-NGOs active in the sector of social service provision. The book concludes with a contribution compiled by an informal network of various EU-NGOs, looking in an exemplary way at difficulties faced by the recent developments of marketisation and liberalisation.

The European Foundations Directory 2011-12. Sydney, Australia: Asia Pacific Infoserv Publishing, 2010. Cost: Book US \$295; CD-Rom US \$295. To order: www.api-publishing.com

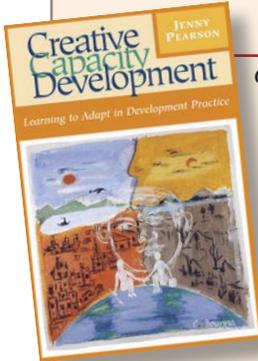


This comprehensive new directory lists every major national and international foundation NGOs and other charitable and grant-making organizations located on the entire European continent. All of the major established foundations and NGOs are included, as well as some of the less well-known grant-making organizations. Presenting names and contact details for almost 2000 institutions, this new publication is the most comprehensive and up to date information on this growing sector.

Countries covered include: Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Den-

BOOKS NOTES

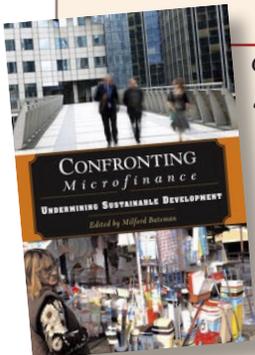
mark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the Ukraine, and the United Kingdom.



Creative Capacity Development: Learning to Adapt in Development Practice. By Jenny Pearson. Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press, 2011. 256 pages. Paperback US \$24.95. To order: kpbooks.com

The development community seems constantly and restlessly in search of a singular approach that will “solve” poverty, unveiling new buzzwords every few years only to toss them aside. Author Jenny Pearson argues that the fundamental flaw with this system is that each new approach fails to break out of the underlying technocratic and specialized paradigm in development work. As Director of Cambodia’s leading capacity-building NGO, VBNK, Pearson explains how creative risks and an innovative spirit can revive development work, especially in post-conflict settings.

Creative Capacity Development provides an unflinching appraisal of the author’s own assumptions and setbacks as she established VBNK and explains how a dynamic and open learning process allowed the organization to move beyond them. Pearson’s account, drawn with insights from cultural studies, mental health practice, and the arts, will guide other practitioners in broadening their own understanding of capacity-building. The book reveals that development work, far from requiring a singular solution, is and should be a never-ending process.



Confronting Microfinance: Undermining Sustainable Development. Edited by Milford Bateman. Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press, 2011. 274 pages. Paperback US \$27.50. To order: kpbooks.com

Despite the popularity of microfinance, it is a field that remains remarkably under-theorized. Most evaluations carried out by international development agencies, academics, and independent researchers focus on tweaking what they see as

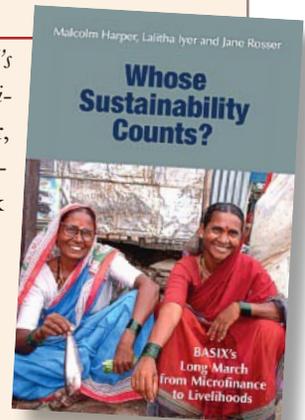
an already beneficial system. Rarely are the very foundations of microfinance brought into question. Instead, their studies presuppose impact without evidence, ignore potentially important issues, and utilize faulty evaluation methodologies.

Bateman and contributors provide critical perspectives on microfinance that reach beyond the desire for technical perfection held dear by almost all microfinance institutions. It charts actual economic and social impacts registered in Southeast Europe to date, both in the context of post-communist transition and post-conflict reconstruction. It examines key cross-cutting issues, providing a more holistic and comprehensive approach to microfinance. The book uses empirical evidence and contributor fieldwork to get at the heart of debates on microfinance claims and incorporates global perspective but focuses on Southeast Europe, a key arena for microfinance and microcredit programs.

Whose Sustainability Counts?: BASIX’s Long March from Microfinance to Livelihoods. By Malcolm Harper, Lalitha Iyer, and Jane Rosser. Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press, 2011. 288 pages. Paperback \$29.95. To order: kpbooks.com

By the end of 2010, the glowing reputation of microfinance was beginning to tarnish. The collapse of the microfinance industry in Andhra Pradesh, well-publicized client indebtedness, and the Bangladesh’s government’s sacking of Grameen Bank President Muhammad Yunus, the Nobel prize-winner and venerated father of microcredit, represented a critical turning point for the industry.

Where does microfinance go, then, in the midst of such crises? Are the basic principles of finance for the poor salvageable? From its inception in 1996, BASIX, one of the largest microfinance institutions in India realized that focusing solely on loans wasn’t going to improve the lives of its poor clients. It recognized that the complex problems of poverty require complex solutions and it melded financial services with livelihoods development and institutional sustainability to achieve its goals. The BASIX experience presents a vital model for the microfinance organization of the future, one that responds to client’s diverse needs by fostering diversity in the institutions that serve them. ■



ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Blog for PhDs to Share Their Research and Opinions

The EMES Junior Experts' Blog (EJEB) offers a window for PhD students and early-stage researchers from around the world to share their views on current issues from their own countries as well as related topics covered in their own research around social enterprise, social entrepreneurship and the third sector. The blog will be officially launched in September 2011 with a post from María Irurita, a Doctoral Researcher from Middlesex University (UK). Access the EJEB at <http://emesphdnetwork.wordpress.com/>

European University for Voluntary Service 2011

In order to mark the European Year of Volunteering, the European University for Voluntary Service (EFU) took place in Basel, Switzerland, 31st August – 3rd September. Issuing tensions of “volunteer work between freedom and professionalization,” researchers and practitioners from 10 different countries, from Croatia to New Zealand, presented their papers based on volunteering experiences in the spheres of arts, social work, faith-based organizations, environmental advocacy, development cooperation, community development and corporate citizenship. The presentations provided insights on qualification strategies, theoretical considerations, unique value and impact (measurement) of volunteering, state volunteer relationships and trends in episodic, virtual, older-age and corporate volunteering.

The European University for Voluntary Service 2011, organized by the Centre for Philanthropy Studies of the University of Basel among others, continues the tradition of previous universities of voluntary service held in Barcelona (1995), Lyon (1997), Santiago de Compostela (1999), Freiburg im Breisgau (2001) and Lucerne (2005). The objective of these conferences is, on the one hand, to map the current state of research on voluntary work in Europe and, on the other hand, to contribute to knowledge transfer and exchange between theory and practice. Different institutions expressed interest in hosting future European Universities for Voluntary Service.

Maxwell School's Transnational NGO Initiative to Host Leadership Institute

Leaders from a range of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) converged at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University Sept. 14-20 to attend the inaugural Transnational NGO Leadership Institute 2011, which will prepare participants to take the next step in their organizational leadership roles. Hosted by the Maxwell School's Moynihan Institute, the intensive and interdisciplinary weeklong program will provide participants with the skills necessary to make the leap to top leadership positions in transnational NGOs (TNGOs).

The TNGO Leadership Institute caters to those working at the second-tier of leadership within NGOs: assistant secretaries general, vice presidents, senior directors, and other similar positions. The participants — 12 women and four men — represent the United States as well as Chile, Egypt, South Sudan, Ukraine and other countries. The NGO sectors cover the environment, international development, human rights and more, with participants representing organizations such as Greenpeace, NAS Association for Persons with Disabilities, ActionAid, and Humanas.

The program will address topics that include understanding the broader landscape of TNGO actors and issues; networking and collaborative governance; and strategic resource mobilization, allocation, and management. At the Leadership Institute, participants will learn about their own individual leadership styles and how to apply leadership to workplace and peer interactions.

The Institute will feature contributors from within the Maxwell School, including faculty with expertise in the NGO field, as well as NGO practitioners who have made the transition to top leadership positions. Maxwell alum Susan Hayes of ReSurge International, for instance, will participate in three of the Institute's events.

“Our whole initiative, all our work, not just the Institute, is an example of scholarship in action,” said Tosca Bruno-van Vijfeijken, the director for Education and Practitioner Engagement at the Transnational NGO Initiative. “Our research and faculty expertise, we're putting it in front of NGO practitioners, the action people.”

During the Leadership Institute, the Transnational NGO Initiative will conduct video interviews with several participants and one practitioner. The interviews will cover topics such as working for NGOs, preparing to lead, and transitioning to top leadership positions.

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The videos will be posted online at www.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan_tngo.aspx.

The Transnational NGO Initiative has received funding to support several participants at the Leadership Institute. The Ford Foundation is providing four scholarships, the Moynihan Institute 1.5 scholarships and an anonymous Maxwell alum half a scholarship. Each scholarship covers the \$2,500 training fee as well as room, board and transportation.

Bruno-van Vijfeijken hopes to continue the Leadership Institute with one or two sessions each year, with up to 30 participants per session. Future subjects could include organizational change processes within TNGOs. For more information about the Transnational NGO Leadership Institute, visit www.maxwell.syr.edu/leadershipinstitute.

First Report from the WILCO Project

The “Welfare Innovations at the Local Level in Favour of Cohesion” project (WILCO), coordinated by Taco Brandsen from Radboud University Nijmegen (The Netherlands) aims to examine, through cross-national comparative research, how local welfare systems affect social inequalities and how they favour social cohesion with a special focus on the missing link between innovations at the local level and their successful transfer and implementation to other settings. The 14 members of WILCO will explore innovation in cities, not as a disconnected phenomenon, but as an element in a tradition of welfare that is part of particular socio-economic models and the result of specific national and local cultures. By contextualising innovations in local welfare, understanding will be gained on how they could work in other cities for the benefit of other citizens. Numerous initiatives involving stakeholders are planned. Sign up for WILCO Up! (the project’s periodic news alert system) at info@wilcoproject.eu. Project website: www.wilcoproject.eu

Under the Radar: The Contribution of Civil Society and Third Sector Organisations to eInclusion

DG Information Society and Media, Unit H3 (ICT for Inclusion) asked the Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS)³ to carry out specific research work to support the implementation of the eInclusion goals and

the more recent Digital Agenda for Europe goals on digital literacy, skills and Inclusion.

With a view to understanding better how EU-third sector synergies could be strengthened in favour of the eInclusion process and given the scarcity of data available about the structure, characteristics, needs and challenges of civil society and Third Sector Organisations, JRC-IPTS carried out the exploratory research on which this report is based to shed some light on the above questions.

The study starts by analysing the European policy framework for the third sector, and clarifies the nature and specificities of the civil society and Third Sector Organisations (TSO) activities and their contribution to social innovation. It analyses TSOs’ contribution to eInclusion objectives and makes an attempt to classify the different types of TSO from this perspective, providing many inspiring examples of TSO actions. Finally, it proposes some policy options to support and further develop the role this sector plays in achieving eInclusion goals, in the light of the recent Digital Agenda for Europe.

<http://ipts.jrc.ec.europa.eu/publications/pub.cfm?id=4339>

Notification of Closure of the “Giving Wisely” Website

By Prof. Eliezer D. Jaffe, Founder and Project Director of Giving Wisely, Chairman and Founder, The Jaffe Welfare and Education Projects Fund, and Co-Chairman, The Center for the Study of Philanthropy, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, School of Social Work.

The Giving Wisely website was created in 2000 by Prof. Eliezer Jaffe in order to bring transparency, accountability, and equal access to organizations in Israel’s nonprofit sector. Most of all, it was born as an effort to encourage Israeli Government Ministries (Finance, Interior and Justice) to take responsibility for providing the public in Israel and abroad with reliable website information on all registered Israeli nonprofit organizations. We are extremely pleased that this finally took place in 2010.

Toward this goal Prof. Jaffe wrote *Giving Wisely: The Israel Guide to Nonprofit and Volunteer Organizations* which was first published in 1982 and updated in 2000. That same year Prof. Jaffe created the Giving Wisely website and the book was posted on the site. He then wrote *Sources of Funding: The Israel Foundation Directory*, published in 2001, and this book was also posted on the Giving Wisely website.

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Through a partnership between the Rothschild Foundation (Yad Avi HaYishuv), the J.D.C. (Joint Distribution Committee-Israel) and the Israel Ministry of Justice (which operates the Registrar of Nonprofit Associations) a new Israeli website, GuideStar- Israel, began operating in 2010. The Ministry of Justice signed an agreement to provide the new site annual information and financial reports for all registered Israeli nonprofit organizations. In addition to annual government data, information (self-reports) from all nonprofit organizations is actively solicited, which together constitute the nonprofit profiles posted on GuideStar- Israel. This is a major historical achievement, and well beyond the scope of Giving Wisely, which had a limited budget and access to only several hundred self-reports. The developers are committed to also posting profiles in English and Arabic for all (30,000) registered Israeli nonprofit organizations. Profiles in English are extremely crucial for foreign donors and other users and was a major feature of the Giving Wisely site.

We have therefore closed the Giving Wisely website, and refer you to the GuideStar- Israel site at <http://guidestar.org.il>. For more detailed information about the new GuideStar- Israel site see: <http://ejewishphilanthropy.com/guidestar-israel>

Now that our mission to bring government responsibility for website transparency and information on nonprofit organizations in Israel has been accomplished, there is no need for duplication, and we are pleased to close the Giving Wisely site. After 11 years of working alone and building a free, nonprofit public service model, we paved the way for the GuideStar website. This experience shows that individuals and

citizen organizations can make a difference and promote important changes in the Israeli nonprofit and philanthropic sector.

Call for Evidence - Voluntary and community groups and their use of scholarly research

The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), in partnership with the Office for Public Management (OPM), have been commissioned by JISC (Joint Information Systems Committee) to carry out research into the use and benefits of scholarly research, in particular open access scholarly research, to voluntary and community organisations.

As part of this study we are trying to gather any literature, published or unpublished, that refers to the following:

- Evidence and examples of how the voluntary sector uses scholarly research, in particular open access scholarly research
- Benefits of scholarly research, in particular open access scholarly research, to the voluntary sector
- Factors that enable the voluntary sector to use scholarly research, in particular open access scholarly research
- Barriers to using scholarly research, in particular open access scholarly research, for the voluntary sector

We are interested in all types of literature, including research studies, think pieces and journal or magazine articles.

If you are able to help please get in touch with Ellie Brodie at NCVO at Ellie.Brodie@ncvo-vol.org.uk. ■

CALENDAR

2011

October 31 – November 2

Independent Sector Annual Conference, Fairmont Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, USA. Contact: www.independentsector.org

November 4-6

CARN Conference 2001 (Collaborative Action Research Network), "Bringing A Different World Into Existence - Action Research as a Trigger for Innovations," University of Klagenfurt, Institute of Instructional and School Development, Vienna, Austria. Contact: <http://ius.uni-klu.ac.at/carn>

November 7

Israeli Center for Third Sector Research International Conference on Endowment & Asset Management, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva, Israel. Contact: www.bgu.ac.il/ictr

November 17-19

Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) Annual Conference, Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, Toronto, Canada. Contact: www.arnova.org

November 23-25

International Conference on The Value(s) of Europe, Tilburg University, The Netherlands. Contact: conference@europeanvaluesstudy.eu; www.europeanvaluesstudy.eu

November 24-26

Seventh ISTR Asia Pacific Regional Conference, "Business Social Responsibility and the Third Sector." Hard Rock Hotel, Kuta, Bali, Indonesia. Contact: <http://istrbali2011.com>

November 28

First Annual Conference of the Israeli Social Enterprise Center (ISERC), Beit Berl College, Israel. Contact: <http://www.beitberl.ac.il/english/centers/ISERC/Pages/default.aspx>

December 7-9

International Workshop, "Volunteering, Religion and Social Capital," UCSIA, University of Antwerp, Belgium. Contact: sara.mels@ua.ac.be

2012

April 11-13

16th Annual Conference of the International Research Society for Public Management (IRSPM), Contradictions in Public Management: Managing in Volatile Times, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Italy. Contact: tobias.jung.1@city.ac.uk

April 25-28

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Sustainable Development, Hotel Cathy, Nakuru, Kenya. Contact: Philip Ndeti, email: philipndeti@yahoo.com; Anil Jaggi, email: jaggianil@gmail.com ■



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