



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 2012

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## CONFERENCE REPORT

### 10th International Conference of ISTR

The International Society for Third Sector Research (ISTR) celebrated its 20th Anniversary at the 10th International Conference in Siena, Italy, July 10-13, 2012. The magnificent setting of this small European city made it a memorable occasion for the 665 delegates. Two evening outdoor receptions under the stars in grand piazzas provided exceptional opportunities for networking and socializing with colleagues from 66 countries around the globe.

ForTeS, Fondazione Scuola di alta Formazione per il Terzo Settore, 'Training School for the Third Sector Foundation' and Università Degli Studi di Siena served as our local hosts and provided an excellent venue inside the city walls. The first evening reception was held in the breathtaking Piazza Jacopo della Quercia adjacent to the main cathedral and the final evening was in the exceptional location of Fonti di Frontebranda. Both evenings highlighted the majesty of the medieval city with regional wine and local specialties.

#### Plenary Sessions

Highlights of the conference included the keynote speakers, John Keane, Professor of Politics at the University of Sydney and at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin (WZB) and a longstanding author about civil society, and Rhami Kouri, 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. Professor Keane's address focused on *After Capitalism*,

*Socialism and Democracy* and the need for new thinking during this time of confusion and crisis, pointing to the Arab uprisings, collapse of the banks, decline of the American Empire and rise of China. The focus of his presentation was on the continuing relevance of Joseph Schumpeter's seminal work, "Capitalism, Socialism and Democracy," published exactly 60 years ago. He focused on three of its main ideas, namely that (1) capitalism crashes periodically (2) socialism will be a failure, but will help to regulate capital-

ism and 3) the future of democracy is uncertain. However he also suggested that Schumpeter underestimated the impact of two significant trends that we have seen develop since the book

was published: first, the rebirth of civil society and the increasing importance of nongovernmental associations and second, the further development of democracy from electoral democracy into 'monitory democracy,' in which elections and parliamentary control are complemented with a rich variety of processes and organizations to keep power under watch and ward. Professor Keane ended his talk by suggesting that while Schumpeter's ideas continue to provide us with insights about the control of the destructive aspects of capitalism, we need to recognize the role that a vibrant civil society can play in this process.

Rami Khouri's address, *Citizen Revolts and Historic Transformations Across the Arab World: Why Civil Society Now Faces its Greatest Test*, focused on the single most

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## President's Column

Dear ISTR Colleagues:

Our recent conference in the beautiful city of Siena was a great success, attracting many more participants than we have ever had at an ISTR international conference. We were especially glad to welcome a large number of new members and particularly young scholars to the Society. The hot weather meant that a few of the presentation rooms became overheated at times—but did you ever present a paper under a ceiling like this one before?

We want to express, once again, our gratitude to the Fondazione ForTeS and especially to its director, Adriano Scarpelli, and his staff for their hospitality over the last two years and all the hard work they put into making the conference such a success last

July. We are also grateful to the Università Degli Studi Di Siena for hosting us in their facilities.

The content of the conference was excellent and highlights were the two plenary sessions by John Keane and Rami Khouri. Both spoke on topics that were closely tied to the emphasis our conference theme put on the third sector and democracy. You can read more about these speakers' remarks elsewhere in the newsletter. We must apologize to anyone who was following the plenary sessions on the internet—apparently there were problems with the university technology and some people were unable to catch the full sessions online. Significant parts of both sessions can be viewed on the ISTR website at <http://www.istr.org/?page=Siena>

The presentations of our many international participants were enhanced greatly by the Italian content in the program. As many of you will know, we always ask our local hosts to present a plenary session on the local third sector



and this time the theme was “Beyond the Crisis: The Role of the Third Sector in the Italian Scenario” chaired by Riccardo Mussari of the University of Siena. An even greater opportunity to learn about the Italian third sector was made available by a parallel series of Italian workshops presented throughout the conference by our Italian hosts, the Fondazione ForTeS. I attended several of these sessions and found the speakers and the topics fascinating. They provided an excellent opportunity to learn more about contemporary research on local issues and practices in the third sector and also demonstrated the deep historical tradition of community and social concern in Siena and its region.

The major new initiative at this conference was the PhD seminar which included 45 participants and 12 faculty.

Lesley Hustinx, our board member from Belgium, and Wolfgang Doerner, a member finishing his doctoral work in Siena, did a magnificent job of organizing the seminar. The board of ISTR is very grateful to both of them for their vision as well as all their hard work! We have received many emails and comments from students who attended about the value that this two-day experience provided—comments which not only focus on the help they received with their dissertation itself but reveal the benefit they received in terms of professional development and becoming a member of a scholarly field. Here's just a quick sample: “I left feeling re-energized about my dissertation and about my work in the field more broadly;” “our added value was the important lesson of peer reviewing and sharing research;” “I now have a cohort of international colleagues upon whom I can call for ideas, feedback, and fellowship;” “the seminar reminded me how for-

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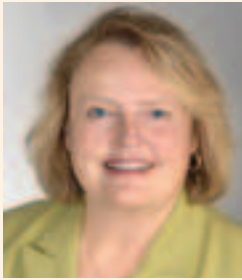
tunate I am to be in a field in which senior scholars enthusiastically support 'emerging scholars'...I feel tremendously lucky to be part of this community."

You can read more about this very worthwhile initiative elsewhere in this issue. Here I would like to invite graduate directors, supervisors and students to start thinking now about the next PhD seminar to be held in Muenster, Germany in July of 2014 before the next international conference. Please

encourage your students and colleagues to build this opportunity into their educational plans early. Applications will be due near the beginning of 2014 and all details will be available on the ISTR website before that.

Another important initiative at this conference was the inauguration of two new awards in addition to the doctoral dissertation award which has been funded by an anonymous donor for a number of years now. This year Springer, the publisher of our journal *Voluntas*, gave us funds for awards for the best article in *Voluntas* and for the best poster presentation at the conference. All three of these awards have a rigorous selection process by a team of international scholars, and not only are they an honour to win at the conference, but will contribute to the reputation and career progression of the scholars who achieve them. Please look at the awards articles elsewhere in this issue to read about the stellar work of the four scholars who were singled out for these distinctions this year. And thank you to the donors who make these awards possible!

I often find that when I speak with colleagues after a conference, it is the receptions that they mention as being a significant memory. And of course in Siena, with its magnificent architecture, beautiful climate and splendid food and wine, the outdoor receptions were lovely. But I believe that this aspect of our conferences stays in our minds not only because of the pleasure of the moment, but because it provides an important opportunity to meet new colleagues as well as



*Brenda Gainer*

connect with old. We make a strong effort at all of our conferences, regional and international, to build sufficient time into the program for these networking and informal conversational opportunities. In addition to the two major receptions, the scheduled "down time" included opportunities to examine the publishers tables and discover new books and journals, to speak with exhibitors and poster presenters, for new members to meet the board members and

senior scholars, for Centre Directors to meet with their peers, for members of related organizations to hold their meetings, for regional networks to discuss their plans and for affinity groups to talk with like-minded colleagues. All of this is an important part of fostering research activity and one that only a conference can provide.

But with the conference behind us now, it's time to turn to the future. We are already planning our regional conferences for 2013 in Korea, Chile and Kenya as well as the next international conference in Germany in 2014—and beginning the process of planning the 2016 conference beyond that. And in the immediate future, the ISTR elections are coming up beginning in October 2012. All of us want to extend our grateful thanks to the members of the Nominating Committee, under the leadership of David Brown, for preparing an admirable slate. I urge all members to vote. And I urge all of you to encourage your colleagues and students who are not currently members to take out a membership now so they can also take advantage of the opportunities that ISTR provides and have a voice in selecting our future leaders. ■

*Brenda Gainer*

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## 10th International Conference

*Continued from page 1*

portant event in the modern Arab era –the unprecedented outbreak and revolt of Arab men and women against their governments. He noted the severe limits that have been placed on civil society by the State in this region in the past and emphasized that with the total reconfiguration of the power structure and the birth of the Arab citizen, civil society needs to find a place within this new power structure. The particular roles he envisions for civil society include: 1) translating broad goals and grievances into practical policy that governments can address; 2) shaping the constitutions and putting constitutional guarantees in place; 3) establishing systems of accountability and 4) providing the means for citizen input and transition into nation building. Mr. Khouri noted this process will take years and that a coalition of players is needed to draft legislation and lobby for key issues and suggested that ISTR can play a role in this process through providing research.

The third plenary session, *Beyond the Crisis: The Role of the Third Sector in the Italian Scenario*, provided insight into the future role of non-profit organizations in the Italian socio-economic scenario. The session brought together Italian scholars who study non-profit organizations from different disciplinary perspectives and offered interesting observations about the field.

### Workshops

The Civil Society at the Crossroads team organized a workshop, *Civil Society at the Crossroads? Building Links with Emerging Citizen Initiatives*, that briefly presented cases of civil society at the crossroads in Chile, India, South Africa and the United Kingdom. About twenty participants then joined in the discussion of those cases and experiences from their own countries. Participants agreed that many of the themes emerging from the case studies had resonance with the experience of civil society changes and challenges in their own countries.

The purpose of the workshop, *Strategic Philanthropy: Learning by Giving*, was to inspire and prepare instructors to teach an experiential undergraduate class in strategic philanthropy, and to provide resources and a professional network to support their course development. The session was organized by Nora Silver, Director, Center for Nonprofit and Public Leadership at the Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley, and Kathy Kretman, Director, Center for Public and Nonprofit Leadership at the Public Policy Institute at Georgetown University.



*(from left to right): Wendy Earles, Cath Brown, and Qiusbi Liu at the New Members Welcome Reception.*

The workshop participants represented scholars and practitioners from across the globe -- Canada, China, Hong Kong, Israel, Kuwait, Puerto Rico, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States—all eager to discuss how philanthropy education might work in their own universities. Some of the most common questions included: What content knowledge do we want students to learn in a class on strategic philanthropy? What skills and attitudes

do we expect students to gain from being involved in this exercise of group giving? What is the short-term and long-term effect of involving students in leveraging philanthropy to solve their communities' as well as the world's problems? And what resources and networks are available to professors teaching philanthropy courses?

The workshop participants also had a chance to experience first-hand what the students go through during the group giving process—identifying the groups' shared values, establishing funding criteria, selecting the recipients of the funds, determining the funding level, and finally, deciding on how they will measure their funding impact. The discovery for the participants, as well as for the students, is that strategic philanthropy requires an examination of one's own assumptions, values and priorities to create lasting social change.

The Affinity Group on Gender also presented a workshop focused on women as leaders in Australia, Sweden and Uruguay. (see article on page 14)

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**Special Sessions**

A special session, *American Foundations in Europe: Archival Insights*, was organized and moderated by James Allen Smith, a historian and vice president of the Rockefeller Archive Center (RAC). This was an opportunity for RAC to invite three European scholars who have worked at the Archive Center to discuss their work on the role American foundations have played in Europe. The session brought together Arnd Bauerkämper, a professor of history at the Freie Universität Berlin; Diana Leat, an English sociologist who recently completed several months as scholar-in-residence at the RAC; and Ludovic Tournès, a professor of the history of international relations at Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense. Their work ranged chronologically from Tournès' studies of American support for European social science in the inter-war years to Leat's research into the Rockefeller Foundation's response to the rise of Fascism and the foundation's hasty retreat from Paris when war broke out to Bauerkämper's work on post-war U.S.-European relations.

The conversation began with the participants describing the work that had drawn them into the archives. They discussed the nature of foundation record-keeping, how their understanding of the roles of foundations had changed as they encountered primary source materials, and in what directions historiography was moving. They concluded with thoughts on the ways in which access to archives helps foundations to be more accountable.

The Civil Society Crossroads team also organized a Special Session, *Civil Society at the Crossroads: Citizen Energy and Social Change*, in which they presented Crossroads cases from South Africa, India, Chile and the Netherlands to about fifty participants. The session discussed patterns that emerge from comparative analysis across cases from both industrialized and developing countries, such as the importance of concentrations and abuses of power as catalysts for citizen activism and the emerging roles of civil society organizations as issue identifiers, coalition builders, creators of bridges across sectors and creators of more inclusive political institutions.

Other Special Sessions included, *The Role of Foundations and the Field of Philanthropy Studies and Research*, (see page 6) and *Getting Published*, with a practical view on how to get through the publishing process successfully.



*Conference Session "Managerialism: The Old and New Concepts" (from left to the right): Ferenc Farkas, University of Pécs; Katalin Dobrai, University of Pécs; Georg von Schnurbein, University of Basel; Florentine Maier, WU Vienna University of Economics and Business; and Ola Segnestam Larsson, Ersta Sköndal University college, Chair.*

**Sessions and Social Media**

The program included 172 paper and panel session and 13 posters. The program and conference abstracts can be found on the ISTR website. Many papers presented in Siena are currently under review for Volume VIII of the *ISTR Conference Working Paper Series* and we also anticipate that some papers will be published in *Voluntas*.

Siena was the venue for introducing tweets in real time "on screen" at the registration desk. Conference participants enjoyed reading the comments of their colleagues during the various sessions.

**Networking**

Authors of recently published books were invited to sign and sell their books on Thursday afternoon held jointly with a session highlighting the posters. This was a wonderful opportunity for delegates to showcase their publications and poster authors to discuss their research in progress. There was also opportunity for regional and affinity groups to meet and new ones to form. Details of these meetings are found under regional networks and affinity groups.

An ISTR Centre's Director meeting was held to provide the opportunity for the directors of academic centers to network with their colleagues from around the world as

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*Jackie Butcher (Mexico) and Rami Khouri (Lebanon)*

well as engage in facilitated discussions of centre activities, programs, formats and funding. The meeting of 34 directors from Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and the USA, was chaired by Rupert Strachwitz, Director, Maecenata Institute, Humboldt University, Berlin. The discussion focused on a range of topics including mainstreaming civil society research, academic teaching, interface between research centres charities, nonprofits and foundations; and global funding of academic centres.

### Conference Evaluation

The overwhelming sentiment expressed by delegates was positive particularly with regard to the outstanding two keynote speeches. The conference venue and the beauty of the city of Siena was also frequently mentioned in the evaluations. Other comments included, “the opportunity to meet people and hear papers from a range of countries,” “the diversity of the topics and the variety of the approaches was excellent,” “international cross-fertilization,” “networking plus the infusion of new perspectives from around the world,” and “the friendly and relaxed environment of ISTR.” Suggestions for improvement include a session or video on how to present your paper; limit the sessions to three papers, and an emphasis on defining themes or strands in the program.

### Conference Support

The Conference would not have been possible without the support from generous funders and our hosts, ForTeS and University of Siena. Supporters include: Regione Toscana, Provincia de Siena, Fondazione Monte dei Paschi di Siena,

Unioncamere, Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena, Cesvot Regionale Toscano, CCIAA di Siena, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Co.GE Toscana, Consulta Provinciale del Volontariato di Siena, Coop Centro Italia, Forum nazionale Terzo Settore, CSVnet, ConVol, Consulta del Volontariato press oil Terzo Settore, Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian, Novartis, and Springer. We also thank our many other Italian sponsors and patrons as well as our great onsite team from ForTeS.

We also thank those organizations who supported the conference through placing advertisements in the conference program: *Alliance* magazine; ARNOVA; EMES, European Research Network; ERNOP; *Journal of Co-operative Organization and Management*; NGO Research Center at Tsinghua University; The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University; Regis University; Schulich MBA; Seton Hall University; Springer and *Voluntary Sector Review*.

In the spirit of voluntarism the strong academic program was made possible by the scholarly contributions of many, many reviewers and the Academic Conference Committee and we thank them for their ongoing support!

## Promoting a Dialogue on the Potential Interfaces Between Research and Practice

*By Cathy Pharoah, Director for Centre for Giving and Philanthropy, Professor of Charity Funding, Cass Business School, UK*

One of the first ISTR conference Special Sessions\* was hosted in Siena 2012, and drew together a foundation panel to present practitioner perspectives on third sector research. This paper summarises the discussion and its conclusions. The Session aimed to promote dialogue on the many potential interfaces between research and practice. ISTR was fortunate in attracting three foundation funders, all supporting research in different ways, to give presentations. They were Charles Keidan, Pears Foundation (UK), Bhekinkosi Moyo, TrustAfrica (Senegal) and David Schwartz, International Development Research Centre (Canada). The session was chaired by Cathy Pharoah, Centre for Giving and Philanthropy, Cass Business School, London.

While many major foundations support academic research, this session directly addressed important but neglected opportunities to work together more. While there is wide recognition that mutual value is created when researchers and practitioners engage with each other, the real-

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ity is that the activities of academics and foundations largely run along separate tracks. Growing foundation interest in using research to evaluate their practice and impact is largely practitioner-led, often carried out by private consultancy and has little academic involvement. Panelists looked at why the foundation- research community interface is relatively underdeveloped.

All three presenters' emphasised the importance they attached to the strategic role of research in their work, a significance reflected, for example, in the 4% of Official Development Assistance (ODA) budget devoted to the IDRC. This role includes advising philanthropic and other donors about the direction of policy and strategy, and helping to develop more effective practice, both in funding itself and in organisational service-delivery. For the increasing number of donors aiming to maximise the effectiveness of grant funding through additional capacity-building measures ('grants plus'), research identification of needs can be pivotal to the success of programmes.

**Specific ways in which research can make a significant contribution to third sector development include:**

- evidence and the establishment of good indicators to help evaluate policy and practice;
- authoritative data on the value and contribution of voluntary and civil society activities;
- good international comparative research, particularly capitalising on lessons and methodologies from Western experience, to help build capacity in emerging and developing country third sectors and avert re-invention of the wheel;
- rigorous foundation case-studies, carried out on a partnership basis, which provide both insights for practice implementation and academic development;
- objective syntheses and analyses in the pluralistic and fragmented sector field where there are multiple stakeholder perspectives;
- capturing and documenting local knowledge and experience.

In addition to these more applied issues of policy and practice, foundations also identified a need for researchers to address the 'big questions' facing the sector. Issues include the impact of a fast-moving global corporate and economic

context on the sector's role and purpose, the risks of growth without social dividends, the contribution of diaspora philanthropy in an increasingly mobile labour market, the potential role for philanthropy in big issues of governance and social justice, as demonstrated in the initiatives of the Ibrahim Foundation.

With such a vast research agenda and a clear thirst for knowledge, what are the barriers inhibiting the potential development of practice and research collaboration? On the funder side, the panel presenters did not pull their punches, and expressed many frustrations with the way in which researchers work. One funder described an occasion when eagerly-anticipated research results turned out to be 'nine slides on methodology and one page of policy recommendations.' Other participants thought research agendas or outcomes were sometimes ambivalent, and their utility for policy and practice was not clear. A particular issue in the international context is that Western expertise fails to address the complexity of local environments, and generalised recommendations fall short of what is needed on the ground. The risk for funder investment is that however good the research is, if it does not have clear and accessible messages for policy, practice or advocacy, it tends to get shelved. Research outputs often consist solely of papers - and more papers!

Practitioners did not escape their share of the responsibility for problems. It was observed that the practitioner community is not reflective enough about practice, or is even 'anti-intellectual', failing to address critical questions which might help achieve better results. Sloppy thinking and the use of a 'pseudo-evaluation' discourse narrowly addressed to inner communities was also raised. Practitioners often ignore research results, applying blunt tools to situations where more nuanced approaches were needed. Most importantly the 'instrumentalisation' of research which could result from a practitioner-dominated agenda is a major risk to intellectual endeavour.

These reflections illustrate clear mismatches in research and practitioner expectations of research, and gaps in mutual understanding of purpose, expertise and professional need. If research and practice are to be more effectively integrated in the future, a better dialogue and understanding between academic and foundation communities needs to be promoted.

**Approaches which could further the process include:**

- identification of common ground
- clarification of mutual expectations of the research early in the formulation of projects

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- development of a common dissemination strategy
- funding and building accessible online research resources such as bibliographies, validated research questions and survey tools.

### For foundations specifically, important issues are:

- development of capacity and confidence in addressing research and confronting issues which create barriers
- consideration of policy, practice and research perspectives, and not only value for money.

### For academics, important issues are:

- establishment of bridges with relevant user communities
- embedding research in local/ cultural contexts and knowledge
- engagement with some of the big questions affecting the shape and development of the sector.

The huge mutual value to both practice and academe where funder-researcher collaboration is successful was emphasised by all stakeholders. Researchers can provide a space for foundations to reflect on their work away from the business of daily management. Foundations and other practitioners can open up rich material and avenues to research which will have a direct impact on social well-being.

\* 'Special Sessions' have been recently introduced into the ISTR conference programme to stimulate research in new thematic areas or build the third sector research infrastructure, and they lie outside the standard peer review process.

## ISTR Inaugural PhD Seminar

*By Lesley Hustinx, Ghent University, Belgium and Chair of the 2012 PhD Taskforce*

**I**STR held its Inaugural PhD Seminar immediately prior to the 2012 conference in Siena. The seminar is part of the Society's mission to build the field of third sector research and focused on providing extensive intellectual and methodological advice on the participants' doctoral research, introducing students to the main theories and recent developments in the field, guiding reflection upon publication and career strategies, and providing a unique opportunity to network with junior and senior scholars within the international research community.

A PhD Task Force with seven postdocs and junior Faculty from across all regions was installed to organize the Seminar, and a call for participation was launched in September 2011. The interest in the first Seminar was overwhelming: we received 81 applications from 29 countries, and had to decline a dozen more after the deadline. Based on a double peer review process, the 50 best-reviewed applicants were invited to the Seminar. A broad and inclusive group of 45 students from 21 countries eventually participated in the Seminar. Participants had to become members of ISTR and register to attend the general conference as well. Participants were covered by ISTR for two nights of accommodation as well as coffee breaks and meals during the Seminar.

The seminar consisted of both plenary sessions and parallel group sessions in which the participants had the opportunity to present and discuss their doctoral research with peers, junior and senior faculty. Participants were grouped thematically, but the groups' composition was heterogeneous in terms of concrete research topics, disciplinary background, research stage, method, and regional affiliation. The group sessions were structured in an egalitarian and informal style, assigning about 50 minutes to each student. Eleven faculty (from Australia, Belgium, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Israel, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Sweden, and the USA) were critical to providing guidance and focus for the discussions. Professor Steven Rathgeb Smith enhanced the program with his keynote address, "Government, Markets and the Third Sector." More practical workshops focused on publishing and writing, career strategies and the tension between fundamental and applied research.

Overall, the Seminar was a great success. After the Seminar, 40 students completed an evaluation form with the following results: on a scale from 1 (very poor) to 5 (excellent), the following criteria obtained an average score of:

- Composition of the working group: 4.49
- Quality of working group discussion: 4.43
- Facilitation of working group by Faculty: 4.49
- Feedback you received on your PhD: 4.03
- Opportunity to network with other students in your field: 4.46

The welcome event, keynote lecture, and practical workshops received an average rating between 3.50 and 4.39. In general, 38 out of 40 students indicated their expectations were met. Points for improvement mainly related to the communication and information received preceding the conference, the time allocated to each student (preferably 1 hour per student), the opportunity to get one-to-one feed-



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back from faculty, and the possibility of participating in more than one workshop.

A debriefing with the participating Faculty revealed that also for them, the Seminar has been a very rewarding experience. All faculty were interested in participating again, pointing out that the Seminar added great depth to the experience of the conference. To be engaged in the Seminar was considered a very meaningful engagement. Through participating, faculty gained a unique insight into what research questions are interesting to young scholars, and what the future of the ISTR and the scholarship in this field is going to be. It was also very rewarding to be able to help developing the field by making these students get along. To have two faculty in each working group was appreciated, because it allowed a dialogue and complementary of perspectives, to look from different angles and learn from it. In this way it also was a true learning experience for the faculty.

The ISTR PhD Seminar will be a recurring event that takes place bi-annually in conjunction with the international conference. It 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.

#### Quotes from the evaluation forms:

*It was wonderful to have so many opportunities to talk with other students. Often, conferences/workshops can be too packed--the scheduling of this workshop felt just right--starting and ending times, breaks, length. Wonderful idea to have it catered by a co-op and great location first night for our meeting and dinner. Overall, very friendly, inviting environment--it felt relaxed and interesting; not overwhelming, nor intimidating.*

*The quality and engagement of the faculty was outstanding.*

*The social outings helped build networks and friendships. The workshops were well facilitated. The organizers need to be recognized not just for leading the first workshop, but for keeping so many of us together and providing opportunities that built academic and professional development. All faculty who participated were also engaged with the whole experience. Thank you!*

*I think it was the best conference/seminar that I've attended so far concerning organization/structure and especially the general idea/structure of working in small groups discussing our projects and getting feedback from other students and professors!*

*I think in general it has been the great event. The transdisciplinary-*



*PhD seminar participants network during a break.*

*ity of all papers and possibilities to meet researchers with different background is an interesting opportunity to broaden the horizons. When you are affiliated mostly with one discipline it really helps to extend the perspectives on civil society. I really like how the groups are composed--all the papers and presentations were really interesting and I may say relevant to my own research too. I have learned a lot not only from the feedback I got for my project but also from the presentations of the others and a fruitful discussion we had.*

*The moderators were fantastic; they had a lot of knowledge and knew when to listen and speak.*

*I loved our group! I think it is very important to organize by topic because I rarely get to interact with people who have expertise on the same substantive issue. I also really liked the facilitators. They established a rapport of equality, shared their expertise but did not dominate like many faculty. This has been a really excellent experience.*

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*The grouping of PhD topics, in my case, NP Governance, was an excellently focused idea, creating a forum for understanding of various aspects of governance. The attitude of both faculty members was extremely accommodating and beneficial in my view. Overall, as my second PhD seminar experience, it met and exceeded my expectations.*

*I found the chance to discuss my research informally and with a group of people with new perspectives invaluable.*

### ISTR Inaugural PhD Seminar: Experiences and Impressions

*By Shani Horowitz – Rozen, PhD candidate in the School of Communication, Bar Ilan University, Israel*

On a warm Sunday evening, some 40 doctoral students from around the world gathered in Siena, Italy. Speaking many languages but sharing common research interests, these students study and research philanthropy and the third sector. As more and more welcoming faces assembled at the hotel's lobby, it was clear that the third sector is a growing international research field among young and promising scholars from all over the world. As the ice broke between participants, we found many common dilemmas and issues concerning our studies and research, such as methodological difficulties, acquiring writing techniques and planning our academic careers.

The PhD seminar was a unique opportunity to meet international fellow doctoral students and to learn from experienced scholars in the fields of philanthropy and the third sector. Our group discussions, moderated by Prof. Annette Zimmer and Prof. Mark Sidel, were stimulating and inspiring. The moderators gave insightful advice and thoughtfully navigated the discussion through the different research focal points and international perspectives. I believe our added value from the seminar, besides the critique over the research itself, was the experience to discuss our research topics and the important lesson of peer reviewing and sharing advice.

Meeting fellow students coming from different schools of thought and presenting various concepts to the research of philanthropy and the third sector was enlightening. Moreover, the assembling of students in various stages of research allowed us to consult and receive practical advice, encouragement and support, both from our moderators and fellow students.

The organization, social activities and orientation were excellent greatly due to the efforts made by ISTR staff and volunteers. We enjoyed very much our lovely afternoon activities and had many opportunities to become friends and not only fellow researchers.

I'm confident my thoughts represent the impressions of many of the ISTR participants, who see this seminar as leverage for improving our research and learning different approaches. We can only hope to keep in touch and create our long term network through ISTR moderation, such as PhD students' active mailing list.

Although we speak many languages, we share the aspiration and challenge to write a dissertation about philanthropy and the third sector!

### ISTR Awards 2012

#### ISTR Emerging Scholar Dissertation Award 2012

The award is presented biennially for an outstanding dissertation that contributes to the field of comparative study of civil society organizations, nonprofit organizations, philanthropy, voluntarism and related issues. The purpose of this award is to encourage young scholars to enter the field of nonprofit and philanthropic studies throughout the world and is funded by an anonymous donor.

The ISTR Emerging Scholar Dissertation Award committee (IESDAC), 2012 was comprised of Bronwen Dalton (Australia), David Lewis (UK), Filip Wijkström (Sweden), Gabriel Berger (Argentina) and Sami Hasan (UAE) who served as the Chairperson. Many reviewers helped in the review process and were greatly appreciated by the committee.

In 2012, the selection committee received 18 submissions from 11 countries, Australia (3), Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Israel, Portugal, Spain (2), Turkey, United Kingdom (2), and USA (4).

The Committee has selected Marie Peterson (Denmark) for her study "For Humanity or for the Umma? Ideologies of Aid in Four Transnational Muslim NGO's" for the award.

The dissertation is an analysis of four transnational Muslim NGOs and their ideologies of aid after 9/11. Through micro-sociological case studies, the thesis seeks to explore the ways in which meanings associated with 'aid' and 'Islam' are produced, expressed, contested and reworked by these organizations, to illuminate not only the multiple sig-

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nificances that these terms hold, but also the processes through which they gain significance and the consequences these processes of signification may have.

The Committee also presented two awards of merit to the following scholars: Benjamin Huybrechts (Belgium: “Explaining Organizational Diversity in Fair Trade Social Enterprises”). The dissertation examines Fair Trade Social Enterprises (FTSEs) organizational diversity in Belgium, France, UK and Italy. The factors or forces that lead FTSEs to adopt particular and diverse organizational forms are explored as well as their strategic roles.

Jennifer Brass (USA: “Surrogates for Government? NGOs and the State in Kenya.”) This dissertation examines the impact

on the Kenyan state of the explosive growth of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) providing social services in the country since the early 1990s. While NGOs have been present in Kenya since before independence, their numbers grew 15 –fold between 1991 and 2008, and most of their funding now derives from foreign sources. The dissertation examines how service provision in education, healthcare, agriculture and water by internationally-funded NGOs affects the social contract between the state and its citizens, the country’s governance, and its administrative capacity. In so doing, it addresses both the theoretical debate on the strength of developing states in a globalized, privatized world, and the practical debate on NGOs’ role in bolstering or undermining the state.

Poster Award Presented

The Award for Best Poster at the ISTR Conference was given to Rahel Mwitula Williams (USA). The poster was titled, “Grassroots Initiatives Women Social Entrepreneurs for Poverty Alleviation.” The award is made possible by Springer Publishers.

The committee reviewed the posters and sought post-



Best Poster at the ISTR Conference was given to Rahel Mwitula Williams (center).

ers that were well-organized, did not have too much text, raised interest, were understandable for a larger public (no impressive formulae). In addition, the committee preferred posters focusing on results more than on methodology and new research instead of published articles.

This poster was chosen as it was exceptional for at least four reasons:

- 1) it addressed a topic of key importance for the NPO-scientific community
- 2) it was clearly organized since it addressed the research question quite forwardly, provided an excellent overview of the research results, and outlined clearly the research methodology
- 3) it was of value for researchers and practitioners
- 4) it was more than a poster summarizing the results of a study, it was indeed a “piece of art” which takes you by the heart.

Congratulations Rahel!

## CONFERENCE REPORT

Best Article in *Voluntas* Award

By Adalbert Evers, Professor for Comparative Health and Social Policy, Justus-Liebig-University, Giessen, Germany

The Best Article in *Voluntas* Award is a newly created award generously funded by our publisher, Springer. The award is to be given biennially at the ISTR International Conference for the Best Article in *Voluntas* during the previous two year period. A committee was established to read the journal articles for 2010 and 2011 and select the best article. The committee included Adalbert Evers, Germany (chair); Eliza Lee, Hong Kong; Kari Steen-Johnsen, Norway; and Ebenezer Obadare, USA.

The committee first established the type of article that they were seeking and set out the following-- *Voluntas* attracts very diverse types of articles which represent work in different areas of science which include:

- Articles that are authentic mirrors of national debates and problems, however with limited value for cross-national debates
- Articles clearly targeted to a very special field or problem that is shared internationally; but they do not always “speak” to a wider community
- Articles that take up a broader theoretical challenge that is important for our field (e.g. how to understand reference to civil society)
- Articles that combine reasoning and finding from different levels – empirical and theoretical, local/national/regional and general

The committee determined that the contributions from the fourth stream, contributing to a process of “bridging” in various ways, were best suited to be considered for the award.

The article that best met these criteria and was the unanimous choice of the committee was *The Challenge of Activist Coalition Governance. Accommodating Diversity to Create Institutions – An Approach via the Inter-relationship Between Action, Project and Instrument*, by Carine Chemin and Corinne

Vercher. (*Voluntas* 22/4 published in December 2011).

Carine Chemin is Professor at Reims Management School, Reims, France and Corinne Vercher is Professor at the Department of Economic and Social Administration, University of Montpellier, Montpellier, France.

The contribution of Chemin and Vercher focuses on the phenomenon of intersectoral networks and coalitions of actors. What they have taken up as a significant case in point is an activist coalition called éthique sur l'étiquette, the French arm of the European anti sweat shop / clean clothes campaign. The French arm is not simply an NGO but a mosaic of community groups, activist groups and mainstream organisations with actors so different as e.g. a consumer association, a fair trade federation, a workers union and two organisations for development aid. What this coalition tried in France was to tie into the network retailers and companies, convincing them to subscribe for a commitment to sell increasingly clothes that obeyed to some social and environmental standards concerning their production process, working conditions etc.

You will all know similar processes and problems of forming coalitions and networks with an enormous inner diversity. The likewise practical and theoretical problem the authors have taken up is: What is allowing such plural coalitions to work and stabilize, to find forms of governance that allow common action while respecting the diversity of these groups and coalitions?

When tackling this issue, Chemin and Vercher rely on two sorts of theoretical background. One is the stream of institutionalist theories that study hybridisation, i.e. the capacities to amalgamate different institutional logics making

them compatible with each other (e.g. state and market logics but as well managerial and professional concepts). The theories claim that hybrids are possible but they testify as well that hybrid networks are likewise precarious. The other theoretical background that comes in at this point is the debate on governance. Chemin and Vercher relate here especially to the contributions of Kooiman on network-governance and



Conference delegates enjoying the city of Siena.

## CONFERENCE REPORT

his emphasis on finding a well working relationship between the development of three components: a shared “project,” related forms of action, and suitable “instruments.”

Using this analytical grid and on the basis of dozens of interviews the authors have dealt with the French antisweatshop coalition. Their case studied is however not a success story but one of progress and failure.

They show that building a joint network was a challenge for each of these organisations that had to give up and to learn something

concerning their projects, types of action and instruments. Chemin and Vercher then studied the attempts to accommodate this diversity. While the coalition came to an agreement, it showed that a central instrument they used, a report card on the behaviour of retailers, was very successful initially but causing severe problems in the further process. Initially these short reports were welcomed by the shops that joined the network because rather good ratings were helpful for their reputation. However once in subsequent reports it was published that further progress was small or missing, they saw this kind of reporting and publicity as basically negative for them.

The controversial debate in the coalition that followed this problem with the major instrument they used, was not able to overcome this difficulty. It showed how limited and precarious the “joining up” process was. In the coalition, some groups wanted to better capitalism, while others wanted first of all to denounce its antisocial traits or build up an alternative economy. Moreover it became clear, how difficult it was to network with salesmen for whom social components such as the ones from the anti sweatshop alliance were quite strange and unusual.

Struggling about the instrument of the report card, the coalition finally broke up. It did not find ways to oppose and propose, for openness and dialogue with the companies.

In their paper, Chemin and Vercher analyse the final failure for building a stable coalition network as resulting from the inability to balance the dynamic of interaction



*Colleagues join together outside the main entrance to the University.*

between projecting something, finding the right forms of action and developing appropriate instruments. At the same time, they use their study in order to show that these three factors, project, type of action and instruments are basic – not as separate items but by their dynamic interplay. The authors argue that it needs what they call a “whirlwind process of mutual adjustment” of practices, instruments and discourses.

The paper ends with some conclusions and propositions concerning the governance of coalitions and what they call the “pluralistic social dilemma.”

Several things are intriguing about this article and make up for its special, what we have called “bridging” quality: the ability of the authors to bring together elements of theory building (governance theory and institutional theory of hybridisation) and concept building in the field of Third Sector Research; the way they have combined careful empirical research and guidance with a clear set of analytical hypotheses.

Furthermore they have pushed the debate on hybridisation a bit further, asking for those factors that are critical for the success and failure of attempts to bring together in a coalition what is usually seen as being contradictory and apart.

By all this they have been enabled to study a very specific field and development in a way that makes it interesting for most of the third sector research community. These authors have with their article contributed to a better understanding of the challenge of building intersectoral networks, where change in the organisations is not merely a feature of isomorphism or of a mere modernisation of governmentality. They focus on the ability of Third Sector Organization led networks to contribute to a more civil society. And that is, we think, an orientation that holds ISTR researchers together beyond all the diversity of topic and methods we are busy with. It is after all this by which contributions like the one of Chemin and Vercher make a difference.

## CONFERENCE REPORT

## Affinity Group News

## Join ISTR's New Web 2.0 Affinity Group

Fascinated by social media? Curious about how the new media is affecting nonprofits? At the 2012 ISTR Conference a group of us came together to discuss our shared interest in this topic. As a result, we have formed the ISTR Web 2.0 Affinity Group. Our hope is that this group will become a hub for third sector research on issues relating to new media.

The Affinity Group will be a point of access for members to share resources, receive and provide critic-friendly feedback, and to collaborate on research projects. The main point of interaction will be an interactive page on ISTR's website. As needed, we may create social network based linkages such as a LinkedIn or Facebook group. During ISTR conferences, the Affinity Group will provide opportunities for face-to-face meetings in order to advance research in the field.

Members of ISTR who have a research interest in Web 2.0 are encouraged to participate. To join, please email the Secretariat with a request to join, at [ISTR\\_Secretariat@jhu.edu](mailto:ISTR_Secretariat@jhu.edu).

**For more information, please contact:**

Kari Steen-Johnsen, Institute for Social Research, Norway:  
[ksj@samfunnsforskning.no](mailto:ksj@samfunnsforskning.no)

Richard Hoefler, University of Texas, U.S.A.:  
[rhoefler@uta.edu](mailto:rhoefler@uta.edu)

Jennifer Amanda Jones, University of San Diego, U.S.A.:  
[jjones@sandiego.edu](mailto:jjones@sandiego.edu)

## AGG News from the Siena Conference

In Siena, the Affinity Group on Gender (AGG) held three events: a pre-conference workshop, a panel and the AGG-meeting. In the pre-conference workshop, "Gender and Leadership Models: Exploring Women's Contribution in the Challenging Times from Civil Society Perspective," we learned about three cases concerning women leaders and community development in small towns and villages in Australia, Sweden, and Uruguay. It provided an opportunity to exchange opinions about how women leaders initiate social and political movements, what kind of challenges they face

as leaders, and how they deal with them. In the course of the workshop, we learned about the new feminist movement in Italy and the situation in Japan.

Both of our proposed panels had been accepted. However, we could only hold one because all contributors of the other panel were not able to come to Siena due to lack of funding. The panel which took place was entitled: "NGOs and Gender Integration: The Focus on Gender in Development Work" and was coordinated by Christina Schwabenland (UK). After the presentations on the history of NGOs and gender in Australia by Patrick Kilby (Australia) and on the findings from specific case studies by Joanne Crawford (Australia), the discussions evolved around the challenges related to gender in international NGOs in the field of development.

In the AGG-meeting we discussed three issues: topics and contributors of possible panels as well as a proposal for a female keynote speaker at the next ISTR international conference in Germany 2014 and the question of potential partners of the AGG to develop gender research in Third-Sector especially concerning the financial aspect. As a result of the lively exchange among the participants from various countries such as Australia, Belgium, Chile, Italy, Lebanon, UK and Sweden, we came up with two potential panels: 1) "Religions: Enabling or Baring Women's Emancipation?" and 2) "Third-Sector Organizations as Gendered Spaces?" Some participants already expressed their intention to contribute to the panels. Concerning the female keynote speaker we decided to submit a proposal to the ISTR board. However, we postponed the question of who we will suggest as keynote speaker as well as the issue of potential partners to online discussion because the time for the meeting was very limited.

In an extra meeting, members of AGG discussed a new project, i.e. to publish a volume on civil society and gender at the Springer Publishing House. As AGG we had been asked if we were interested in doing such a project and we think it is a great opportunity. In order to realize fruitful discussion in Siena, Christina Schwabenland (UK), Chris Lange (Germany/Lebanon) and Sachiko Nakagawa (Japan) had prepared a draft for a proposal. There is still a lot to discuss and to work on in order to accomplish this project, but we started out well in Siena and will continue via email.

If you are interested in our group, no matter if you are female or male, please contact Sachiko Nakagawa ([bear751@sfc.keio.ac.jp](mailto:bear751@sfc.keio.ac.jp)). She will include your e-mail address in the AGG mailing list, our main communication tool. ■

## REGIONAL NEWS

## Report of the Asia-Pacific Regional Network Meeting at ISTR Siena 2012

The meeting was convened by ISTR Board members from the region - Samiul Hasan, Naoto Yamauchi, Qiushi Liu and Wendy Earles - and over 30 ISTR members attended.

The meeting sent a further vote of thanks to Maria Radyati as Chair of the host committee, Samiul Hasan and Jenny Onyx as Academic Co-chairs, and the team of organisers of the Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Bali, Indonesia in November 2011. The conference was considered a great success. The biennial regional conferences ensure the continuation of face-to-face networking for regional scholars between the biennial international conferences. Samiul Hasan confirmed that a special volume of *Voluntas* was being prepared with selected papers from the Bali conference.

Members were reminded of the call for expressions of interest for hosting the 2013 regional conference which went out in early 2012. The call generated interest from two countries but only one proceeded with a formal expression of interest. The expression of interest was presented to the meeting by Prof. Tae-Kyu Park. The joint expression of interest was from Professor Park from Yonsei University's NPO Research Center and from Professor Chang-Soon Hwang from Soonchunhyang University and President, KANPOR, Korea. The meeting was delighted that the conference would be co-hosted by the NPO Research Center of Yonsei University and KANPOR (Korean Association for Nonprofit Organization Research) and were grateful for the support of both institutions. The meeting warmly supported the expression of interest and asked that the recommendation go to the ISTR Board. Prof. Park and Prof. Hwang would be able to confirm dates (in late 2013) and venue soon, and Academic Co-Chairs would be appointed and an academic committee formed. Considerable funding has already been secured for the conference.

Further discussion was held on the offer of \$5,000 per annum seed funding from ISTR for the Asia-Pacific Regional Network. At the Asia-Pacific regional meeting held during the Bali conference members had suggested that supporting conference attendance was a priority for PhD students and early career scholars, as was creating a regional presence on the new ISTR website. Members reiterated these needs and delegated to board members to pursue them.

The meeting was opened to general feedback from regional members. There was positive support for the board in

continuing to create space for regional networking including the opportunity afforded by this regional network meeting here in Siena and the first meeting of those ISTR members studying the Chinese third sector and civil society which was to immediately follow this regional network meeting. Regional members were reminded of the board elections later in the year and encouraged to begin thinking about regional or comparative panel submissions for ISTR 2014 in Muenster, Germany.

## New Steps Forward in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Latin American and the Caribbean Network is a very active component of ISTR and there have been eight regional conferences since the first one that was held in Mexico City in 1996. The most recent regional conference took place in Buenos Aires in July 2011. On July 12, 2012, during the ISTR 10th International Conference in Siena, Italy, members of the LAC ISTR Network came together and were able to receive information and discuss outcomes from the Buenos Aires Conference: this 8th Regional Conference was attended by more than 100 researchers and practitioners from most countries of the regional and also from Spain, Israel and Japan. The participants could also discuss future plans and evaluate the activities that followed the Regional Buenos Aires Conference.

The Latin American researchers and practitioners that attended the meeting in Siena reaffirmed that ISTR was a unique space for the region as ISTR was the sole organization trying to build the importance and legitimacy of the field of civil society and third sector research. The representation of participants from the Latin American Region in Siena was somewhat low and the difficulty faced to cover the costs was underlined as one of the reasons. In that sense, the importance and value of ISTR regional conferences for bringing researchers together to share their work on issues of mutual interest and to build future research collaborations was stressed. The crucial role of ISTR in contributing to build a body of knowledge and thus linking research and practice was mentioned in line with the challenge faced by third sector organizations to work in partnership, both within the sector as with other actors such in order to generate more and substantive impact.

The Regional Network gave a warm welcome to the proposal received from three Chilean Universities to host the

## REGIONAL NEWS

next regional conference for Latin America and the Caribbean in Chile in 2013. The Universidad de Los Lagos, the Universidad Alberto Hurtado and the Universidad Diego Portales sent a joint letter stating their common interest and willingness to host the ISTR regional conference in Santiago de Chile the last week of August 2013. The conference will take place at the premises of Universidad de Los Lagos and activities will be held in the other universities as well, since all of them are located in the same neighborhood. The Steer-

ing Committee and Academic Committee of the Conference are being confirmed, and the call for papers to be announced in November 2012.

*El Camino de Santiago* (The Path of Santiago) has already started.

Africa Regional Network –The report on the Workshop and regional network plans will be included in the next issue of *Inside ISTR*. ■

## REGIONAL RESEARCH NEWS

### Community Foundations and Millennium Villages

By Pradeepta Kumar Nayak, Executive Director of Sampradaan Indian Centre for Philanthropy (SICP) in New Delhi, E-mail: sicp.pradeepta@gmail.com

One of the global challenges to the efforts of planned change is the continuity of inequality and unjust development. While recognizing the role of other actors, the local people themselves can make critical contributions to social development that should be sustainable, equitable, inclusive and integrative. There is a need for stronger civil society organizations (CSOs) by the local people, in the form of community foundations (CFs), to provide effective answers to the issues of development through their innovative and impactful work. This essay introduces the concept of CFs, and emphasizes on their role in global ideas and local action. It also guides on a research and planning process for selection of programmes for development of organizations, community and philanthropy.

#### What is a Community Foundation (CF)?

A community foundation is a community's foundation, a place-based people's organization that mobilizes and disburses resources within a local community. It is planned, developed, managed and owned by the local people, and thus promotes people's participation and grassroots philanthropy enabling them to work together in a particular geographical area. A CF plays a balancing role as a

grassroots grant-maker, fundraiser and community leader. Its local leadership draws on its dynamism as a planner, implementer, capacity builder and convener. A CF is well-placed to involve local institutions, donors and volunteers as the agents of social transformation. Its structural and functional advantages help promote transparency, accountability and credibility. The CF is a fast growing sector, with more than 1700 such organizations in six continents of the world. The future of effective civil society development depends to a great extent on the future of CFs.

Countries like India can effectively bridge the gaps in grassroots development by establishing CFs. Sampradaan Indian Centre for Philanthropy (SICP) has been doing action research on CFs in India. Through its research and planning, capacity building and donor linkage services, SICP has been helping the CSOs and communities in building their own CFs. At present, SICP is partnering with ten emergent CFs for their organizational development. These CFs have succeeded in establishing 31 local funds during a small span of their emergence. There are also 70 aspiring CFs ready to reposition themselves for a multi-sectoral community leadership. SICP strongly believes that other countries should also come forward creating enabling conditions for more CFs.

The development of the CFs depends on the aspirations and resources of the local people, and on how passionate and proficient they are for their organizational development (OD). Some of the first steps of the OD of the CFs include initial local interest and contribution, pre-foundation core committees, feasibility studies and formal incorporation.



## REGIONAL RESEARCH NEWS

**Programmes for CFs:**

The CF leaders need to take strategic steps for programme development to attract local participation. An important area of intervention could be the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDGs reflect a collective commitment to meet eight specific needs for empowerment and upliftment of the deprived masses globally. The development of Millennium Villages (MVs) can be a suitable programme for CFs. Both the concepts offer tools that are powerful and empowering.

**Planning for Millennium Village Programme:** The concept of MV is an effective model of village development. It is based on a single powerful idea: impoverished villages can transform themselves and meet the MDGs by empowering people with proven, powerful, practical knowledge, skills and technologies. By investing in health, food production, education, access to clean water, and essential infrastructure, the community-led MVs can enable themselves to escape extreme poverty, and achieve growth and development. [www.unmillenniumproject.org](http://www.unmillenniumproject.org).

The CFs can develop MVs by: conducting feasibility studies, developing action plans, implementing the plan on specific MDGs, facilitating development of MVs, and documentation and dissemination of the lessons and success stories.

**The Feasibility Study:** The study should result in a plan on how to implement the MV project and achieve the MDGs. It should be able to identify: 1) the village/s where the majority of the population is poor; 2) the needs of the villages and their potential interventions; 3) the poor inhabitants who may participate in the project; 4) the rich and generous people and institutions that could support;

and 5) the opportunities and challenges.

**Selection of the village/s and MDGs:** The CFs need to select the place and issues having better potential for success. Preference should go to poor areas where there is relatively greater possibility of development for economic activities, availability of some development services, market facilities, low degree of social hierarchy, cooperation from the local politicians, and potential for local philanthropy. Selecting all eight MDGs could be too ambitious. Some MDGs selected out of the pressing needs of the village can have a greater contribution to the community and the credibility of the CFs.

**Methodology for Developing the Plan:** The initial stage of the planning involves identification of some villages and their needs. This would help in developing a preliminary plan by incorporating the views of the community and other stakeholders. In the second stage, more reliable in-depth data will be needed on the selection of the potential village/s, their needs, interventions and targets. This would also involve different meetings and follow-ups. The CFs would need an entire process to finalize a comprehensive and participatory plan with specific activities, an accountable team with clear responsibilities, benchmarks and indicators of success, and a system of monitoring and evaluation.

If successful with MVs, the CFs can fulfill their other objective of building CSOs. The MVs do not only become the grassroots grantees of CFs, but also the village level structures of the CFs. This is a unique way to convert the community into the donors and owners of CFs. If the CF is an innovative and empowering answer, will the local people come forward to build their own foundations? Can you not come ahead to help the local people build their CFs? If the CF is a right cause, can your answer be 'No'? ■

## CALL FOR PAPERS

**XVII IRSPM Conference, Prague, Czech Republic, 10-12 April 2013**

**Panel Title:** Third Sector Special Interest Group. This panel focuses on both the added value of third sector organizations involved in partnerships with public sector agencies and problems/opportunities that arise from these partnerships. Questions that could be addressed by panelists

include:

- How have the purpose, design, implementation, and outcomes of such partnerships developed over time?
- How do these partnership influence innovation in both public management and third sector agencies?
- What governance and other conditions encourage or discourage successful partnerships and innovation throughout the sector?

## CALL FOR PAPERS

- Have recent developments affected the sustainability of collaborative activities involving government and third sector organizations?
- Can we identify distinctive local and national patterns concerning the development of partnerships and their impact on innovation?
- How are public-nonprofit partnerships branded and marketed? What is the public told about these partnerships and what explains different levels of public awareness concerning the nature of partnerships?
- How do public-private partnerships affect career movement across sectors? What are the human resource management implications of these partnerships?

We are interested in both theoretical and empirical papers that have implications for the management and governance of third sector organizations. Papers that are applicable across geographic boundaries are of particular interest.

Good papers will be considered for a future publication.

Panel paper abstracts should propose papers for the approved panels only. They should clearly identify the panel titles. They must address one or more aspects of the approved panel for which they are proposed. Abstracts should be submitted directly to the panel chairs via their email contact (follow the section "List of panels" on the conference website - [www.irspm2013.com](http://www.irspm2013.com)) and a copy ought to be sent (i.e. add cc) to the conference e-mail [irspm2013@econ.muni.cz](mailto:irspm2013@econ.muni.cz)).

We would like to ask authors of abstracts to follow the *Guidelines for abstracts of papers proposed for the conference* (available on the conference website).

The deadline for abstract submissions is October, 1st 2012.

Chairs: Ingo Bode (University of Kassel, Germany), Taco Brandsen (Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands), Neal Ryan (Southern Cross University, Australia), Mary Tschirhart (North Carolina State University, USA). E-mail contacts: [ibode@uni-kassel.de](mailto:ibode@uni-kassel.de), [t.brandsen@fm.ru.nl](mailto:t.brandsen@fm.ru.nl)

## 9th Workshop on Challenges of Managing the Third Sector, Lund, Sweden, June 13-14, 2013

The purpose of the workshop 'The challenges of managing the third sector' is to present and discuss in a stimulating academic environment high quality research papers exploring contemporary challenges in managing all kinds of non profit organisations (NPOs).

Topics of potential interest include, but are not limited to:

- Policy constraints on managing NPOs
- Financial constraints and fundraising in NPOs
- The role and managerial challenges of NPOs in transition countries
- Ethical issues versus commercialization of NPOs & commodification of their services
- The partnership between NPOs and business firms: sponsoring, strategic alliances and cause-related marketing
- The partnership between NPOs and public organisations: joined-up planning and delivery in the transformation of public welfare
- Social entrepreneurship and the emergence of social enterprises
- Reason and consequences of the introduction of private sector managerial techniques in NPOs
- Engaging, organizing and managing people in NPOs
- The role of accounting and financial measures in the Third Sector
- Vision, strategy making and strategizing in the Third Sector
- Marketing management in the Third Sector
- Inter-disciplinary approaches to interpret the challenges of the Third Sector

There are no particular paper requirements, but they should not be too long (preferably 8,000 words). Further information: [www.eiasm.org/frontoffice/event\\_announcement.asp?event\\_id=925](http://www.eiasm.org/frontoffice/event_announcement.asp?event_id=925)

Submission of full papers: 5 March 2013

Notification: as of 25 March 2013

Registration of authors: to be announced

Submission of final papers: to be announced

## CALL FOR PAPERS

## 2013 Africa Conference at the at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA), Nairobi, Kenya, June 25-29, 2013

### “Challenges of Development in Africa”

Stakeholders in Africa have unearthed many challenges to Africa's quest for development. Many of them have recommended multi-sector approach to tackling some of the obstacles to development, where all sectors need to be involved in planning and executing development goals. There is a realization that all actors are indispensable and there is no one actor who is more important than others. The Catholic University of Eastern Africa would like to take this opportunity to invite scholars, researchers, academics and students in Africa and elsewhere to submit abstracts or proposals on challenges to development in Africa and better ways of responding to them. Organized and hosted by the Department of Research and other faculties at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA), this 2nd Interdisciplinary International Conference will be held between June 25-29, 2013 at the CUEA Main Campus, Langata, Nairobi, Kenya.

**Submission of abstracts:** Send abstracts of between 250 and 500 words, including full contact details (title, name, address, email-address, and telephone) as well as institutional affiliation by 30th March, 2013 to Prof. Maurice Amutabi at Amutabi@cuea.edu or Amutabi@yahoo.com or research@cuea.edu. The deadline for submission of full papers is 30th May 2013. Some papers presented at the conference will be selected and published in edited volumes and journals affiliated to CUEA.

### The conference will consist of ten colloquia organized along themes.

Colloquium 1: Social, Economic and Political Development in Africa

Colloquium 2: Management of Resources in Africa

Colloquium 3: Education and Development in Africa

Colloquium 4: Law, Constitution, Human Rights and Development

Colloquium 5: Science, Technology and Development in Africa

Colloquium 6: The Church, NGOs and CBOs in Development

Colloquium 7: Peace, Conflict and Development in Africa

Colloquium 8: Library, Information and Communication Technology

Colloquium 9: Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary Research in Africa

Colloquium 10: Roundtables, independent panels and prominent scholars

### Registration Fees

Staff from the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA) and affiliate campuses and universities KShs.2,000.00

Staff from other universities in Kenya KShs.3,500.00

Staff from East African Universities and Organizations KShs.5,000.00

Rest of Africa US\$ 100.00

Rest of the World – Europe, America, Asia, etc US\$ 120.00

Registration fee payments to: The Catholic University of Eastern Africa (Attn: 2nd Annual International Conference)

Contact: Prof. Maurice N. Amutabi (PhD), E-mail: amutabi@cuea.edu or Amutabi@yahoo.com or research@cuea.edu

## 4th EMES International Research Conference on Social Enterprise, Liege, Belgium, July 1-4, 2013

The 4th EMES International Research Conference on Social Enterprise, "If Not For Profit, For What? And How?" will take place in Liege, Belgium on July 1-4, 2013. The call for papers is available on-line in English in its full version, and in Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Russian and Spanish in a short version.

Authors may choose to submit their abstract(s) or panel proposal(s) by November 30, 2012 (for authors seeking an early notification of acceptance/rejection - for funding, administrative or any other reason), or by February 15, 2013 (final deadline for abstract submission).

Abstracts and articles should be submitted in English although submissions of abstracts and papers in French and Spanish will also be accepted. However, the language for presenting at the conference will be English.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

For more information about the conference or to download the short version of the call in any of the eight available

languages, see the conference's page on the EMES website, [www.emes.net](http://www.emes.net) ■

## BOOKS NOTES



*Civil Society, Conflict and Violence.* By Wolfgang Dörner and Regina A. List. London, UK: Bloomsbury Academic, 2012. 176 pages. Hardcover £50.00. To order: [www.bloomsburyacademic.com](http://www.bloomsburyacademic.com)

This volume offers a detailed conceptual and empirical examination of the relationship between civil society and conflict. The editors argue that the conflict dimension of civil society is grossly downplayed or inadequately addressed in most of the prevalent conceptualizations of civil society and that the ability to deal with conflicts stands at the heart of organized civil society. In the political process, one of civil society's key functions is said to be not only the expression of genuine interests, but also mediation between them, thus contributing to political decision-making.

Following a conceptual opening chapter, subsequent chapters draw on comparative, empirical data from the CIVICUS Civil Society Index, examining the different ways violence has been manifested in civil societies, the meaning of violent protest and the impact of security legislation. The book offers a comparison between conflict and post-conflict countries and an analysis of the role of civil society in conflict.



*Metaphor and Dialectic in Managing Diversity.* By Christina Schwabenland. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012. 240 pages. Hardcover £65.00. To order: [www.palgrave.com](http://www.palgrave.com)

The diversity of the workforce and the implications for management continue to be the focus of a great deal of in-

terest. This is partly because of the importance and urgency of the issues that diversity entails and also because of a growing recognition that many of the dilemmas of diversity management are not proving amenable to easy solutions. Indeed, recent research demonstrates that Britain and the US are, in many ways, becoming more, rather than less unequal societies. This book suggests that metaphor and dialectic play a powerful role in shaping our understandings of ourselves and each other. It draws on original research in organizations and in management education to explore how we can become more aware of these processes within ourselves and challenge those assumptions and stereotypes that contribute to maintaining people in disadvantaged positions.

*Social Policy and Citizenship: The Changing Landscape.* Edited by Adalbert Evers and Anne-Marie Guillemard. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2012 (forthcoming). 416 pages. Hardcover US \$ 79.99. To order: [www.oup.com](http://www.oup.com)

In both Europe and America, the landscape of social policies has undergone fundamental changes in recent decades, especially in endeavors to develop new welfare arrangements. How does this affect citizenship-at-large as defined by the Marshallian triad of personal, democratic, and social rights?

Taking nine European countries as case studies, the contributions analyze the ways that citizenship has changed in key areas such as social security, labor market policies, and social services. Other chapters concentrate on the theoretical and conceptual challenges that result from the interrelation of changing social policies with different notions of citizenship. Trends in welfare reform have become harder to interpret. They are no longer about simple reductions in social services and entitlements, or a decline in social citizenship; the terms of debate have shifted. In a postindustrial world, individuals are afforded more mobility, autonomy,

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and responsibility. Security is being reexamined in light of the new risks stemming from a worldwide knowledge-based economy.

Behind the diversity of changes there is a unified agenda taking shape, characterized with concepts like activation, social investments, concerns with inclusion, and the strengthening of links between rights and responsibilities. The contributions in this volume represent an insightful look at the debate between the determination to curb social spending and a new model of an activist state ready to make social investments.

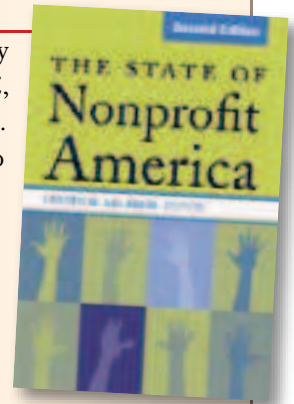


*Social Enterprises: An Organizational Perspective.* Edited by Benjamin Gidron and Yeheskel Hasenfeld. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012. 280 pages. Hardback £65.00. To order: [www.palgrave.com](http://www.palgrave.com)

Social enterprises have been a growing phenomenon around the world in the past decade. The authors of this volume argue that they represent a unique type of organization.

By combining social goals with a business orientation, both critical for their mission and survival, they represent a breed of organization with two kinds of logic that in the past were not perceived as belonging under the same organizational roof. The business logic, with its focus on competition and private ownership, did not seem a fitting context in which to deal with social issues or problems. These are traditionally dealt with by a service logic that emphasizes a charitable, empathetic orientation. Putting these two orientations together calls for creative organizational solutions, especially if these organizations are to be stable and sustainable. *Social Enterprises* presents a first attempt to do that. An organizational perspective of social enterprises allows us to analyze issues such as their governing structure, their modes of operation and their marketing strategies, and begins to formulate some theoretical constructs on how these entities can survive and thrive. This volume provides not only a theoretical and empirical basis to examine these issues, but an international perspective as well.

*The State of Nonprofit America.* Edited by Lester M. Salamon. Washington, DC, USA: Brookings Institution Press, 2012. 708 pages. Paper US \$36.95/£26.69. To order: [www.brookings.edu/press/](http://www.brookings.edu/press/)



Today, America's nonprofit organizations seem caught in a force field, buffeted by four impulses—voluntarism, professionalism, civic activism, and commercialism. Too little attention, however, has been paid to the significant tensions among these impulses. Understanding this force field and the factors shaping its dynamics thus becomes central to understanding the future of particular organizations and of the nonprofit sector as a whole.

In this second edition, Lester Salamon and his colleagues offer an overview of the current state of America's nonprofit sector, examining the forces that are shaping its future and identifying the changes that might be needed. *The State of Nonprofit America* has been completely revised and updated to reflect changing political realities and the punishing economic climate currently battering the nonprofit sector, which faces significant financial challenges during a time when its services are needed more than ever. The result is a comprehensive analysis of a set of institutions that Alexis de Tocqueville recognized to be “more deserving of our attention” than any other part of the American experiment.

*Age of Participation: Civil Society, Democracy and the New Frontiers of Civic Mobilization.* By Lorenzo Fioramonti. London, UK: Bloomsbury Academic, 2012. 176 pages. Hardcover £50.00 To order: [www.bloomsburyacademic.com](http://www.bloomsburyacademic.com)



The CIVICUS Civil Society Index provides innovative information on civic participation and civil society activism across 20 countries, combining quantitative and qualitative data. This second volume in the CIVICUS Global Study of Civil Society series examines how participation patterns within civil society have evolved over time and how they have affected democracy.

Lorenzo Fioramonti rethinks traditional conceptual-

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izations of civil society, defining it as an ‘arena’ offering a spatial configuration between the state, the market and the family. He argues that civil society is a fundamentally dynamic and continuously evolving phenomenon that cannot be encapsulated into pre-conceived categories.

The book pays attention to the different components of participation, including political mobilization, demonstrations and protests, public gatherings and membership of social movements, in the light of recent uprisings in the Middle East and North Africa but also the global economic crisis. Use of the CSI data allows a consistent and comparative analysis of participatory democracy at work across countries and regions.

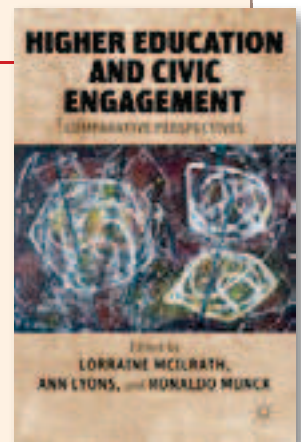
Through case studies of Partners In Health (Haiti), Women in Black (Serbia), and the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland highlight the range of ways these organizations are involved in post-conflict social reconstruction efforts and with whom and for what purposes they interact as they do so. The authors argue for analyses that take into account the rich mosaic that is the civil society sector rather than treating all of these entities with one broad brush. At once a celebration and a critique, this book provides guidance for those seeking to understand the complexities and potential of the civil society sector for facilitating social justice and transformation.



*Managing Nonprofit Organizations.* By Mary Tschirhart and Wolf Bielefeld. Hoboken, NJ, USA: Jossey-Bass, 2012. 512 pages. Hardcover US \$70.00. To order: [www.josseybass.com](http://www.josseybass.com)

This essential resource offers an overall understanding of nonprofits based on both the academic literature and practitioner experience. It shows how to lead, manage, govern, and structure effective and ethical nonprofit organizations. *Managing Nonprofit Organizations* reveals what it takes to be entrepreneurial and collaborative, formulate successful strategies, assess performance, manage change, acquire resources, be a responsible financial steward, and design and implement solid marketing and communication plans.

*Higher Education and Civic Engagement: Comparative Perspectives.* Edited by Lorraine McIlrath, Ann Lyons and Ronaldo Munck. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012. 288 pages. Cost: Hardcover £57.50. To order: [www.palgrave.com](http://www.palgrave.com)



*Higher Education and Civic Engagement* provides an original and challenging contribution to contemporary debates on the civic purpose of higher education, exploring its manifestations through the practices of teaching and research. The chapters offer critical perspectives on the role of higher education institutions in terms of realizing civic missions, especially in current global market conditions.



*Peacebuilding through Community-Based NGOs: Paradoxes and Possibilities.* By Max Stephenson and Laura Zanotti. Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press, 2012. 128 pages. Cost: Cloth US \$75, Paper US \$24.95; E-Book US \$19.99. Order: [www.kpbooks.com](http://www.kpbooks.com)

*Peacebuilding Through Community-Based NGOs* explores the contested but increasingly relevant role nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) play in processes aimed at bringing about international peace and security and in the invention of alternatives for resolving conflict.

*Third Sector Organisations and Organising: Maps and Short Stories.* By Wendy Earles and Robyn Lynn. Bremen, Germany: Europäischer Hochschulverlag, 2012. 208 pages. Cost: Paperback € 60.00. To order: <http://eh-verlag.de/singleBook.php?id=1317>



Over the past few decades there has been considerable transformation of the organisational arrangements for public service provision and advocacy across most Western democracies, not least in Australia. Waves of ideologically driven reforms have reshaped

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organisations, ways of organising and systems, particularly those in the third sector. Each wave has produced specific synergies and contradictions that contribute to the need for further reshaping. As artifacts, local organisations, ways of organising and systems hold historic meaning that can guide practitioners as they seek to understand past change, transverse existing landscapes, question the utility and soundness of current meaning, and seek to create new landscapes that respond to different value-sets. The studies presented here were undertaken by the authors over two decades in partnership with local practitioners to respond to their expressed need for new maps and compasses to understand and transverse the rapidly changing organisational landscapes in which they practice. The authors draw on practitioners' lived experiences of micro-change in particular sites to construct synthesised stories, develop organisational typologies, articulate principles and logics of organising, and construct paradigmatic maps. The book contains ten chapters, representing distinct yet connected maps and stories. They are presented in the sequence that empirical endeavours occurred and ideas emerged. They are also situated in specific places and in distinct policy fields, and are efforts at understanding the multiple natures of distinct parts of the third sector.

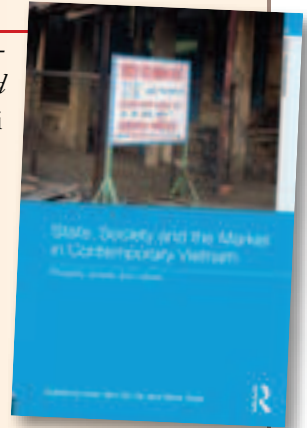
The book covers considerable terrain as the flow of thought/inquiry changes from a focus on form/behaviour through process/culture to being/consciousness, at all times holding a systemic lens/space. The focus also moves from the transactional to the transformative, and the action orientation manifests itself in appreciative and learning methodologies. There is a rupture at which point the maps and stories shift from potentially becoming enslaved in chronicling 'disaster' and wallowing in critique, to instead seeking a positive way forward. The chapters individually and collectively address

how organisations and organising have changed, and what those experiences of change might tell us about our positioning for future change – a priority for any research on sustainable social change and the third sector.

*State, Society and the Market in Contemporary Vietnam: Property, Power and Values.* Edited by Hue-Tam Ho Tai and Mark Sidel. London, UK: Routledge, 2012. 252 pages. Hardback, US \$ 145.00. To order: [www.routledge.com](http://www.routledge.com)

Lively debates around property, access to resources, legal rights, and the protection of livelihoods have unfolded in Vietnam since the economic reforms of 1986. Known as Doi Moi (changing to the new), these have gradually transformed the country from a socialist state to a society in which a communist party presides over a neoliberal economy.

By exploring the complex relationship between property, the state, society, and the market, this book demonstrates how both developmental issues and state-society relations in Vietnam can be explored through the prism of property relations and property rights. The essays in this collection demonstrate how negotiations over property are deeply enmeshed with dynamics of state formation, and covers debates over the role of the state and its relationship to various levels of society, the intrusion of global forces into the lives of marginalized communities and individuals, and how community norms and standards shape and reshape national policy and laws. ■



## MEMBER NEWS

**Henrietta Grönlund** successfully defended her doctoral dissertation on identity, values, and volunteering at the University of Helsinki, Finland in May. One of the articles of her article dissertation was published in *Voluntas*.

Results of the study show how volunteering can be used in reflecting and expressing the core values, identities and religiousness of individuals. The results also indicate different styles of religiousness and range of values that can be associated with volunteering. Despite this considerable range the results of this study show that volunteering has a commonly shared position and role in Finnish society.

The dissertation titled “Volunteerism as a mirror of individuals and society: reflections from young adults in Finland” can be read here: <https://helda.helsinki.fi/handle/10138/32919>

Dr. Grönlund continues her research on church and social studies as a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Helsinki.

**Karla Simon** is professor of law and director of faculty development at the Catholic University of America and has worked in China for over 16 years. Karla blogs about China and her most recent blog can be found at: <http://philanthropynews.alliancemagazine.org/charity-diversity-social-management-innovation-and-international-csos-some-recent-developments-in-china/>

Previous posts to the blog can be found at <http://www.iccsl.org/blog>. Karla also manages a listserv called China Civil Society. Instructions on how to sign up are on [www.iccsl.org](http://www.iccsl.org). Her most recent article, which is a chapter from her forthcoming book on civil society in China is called “2011-The Remarkable Year” and is available at [http://www.iccsl.org/pubs/12-05\\_IJCSL.pdf](http://www.iccsl.org/pubs/12-05_IJCSL.pdf).

**Liz Spencer**, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law at Bond University in Gold Coast, Australia, has been awarded a small grant to fund the initial stages of research into the evolving legal landscape of cross-border grant procurement. She writes, “As your membership will be aware, the selection of legal structures and contractual arrangements is critical to ensure access to secure financial resources and so the survival of third sector initiatives by local NGO organizations in developing countries. The challenge is that the selection process must be designed to meet the dynamic and complex conditions of funding and collaboration, while at the same time respecting and reinforcing the evolving mission and brand of the enterprise.

The objectives of the research are to survey legal structures and contractual arrangements of third sector initiatives in developing countries; assess the extent to which legal structures are shaped by exigencies of funding, in particular grant procurement, and evaluate the relationship of structures and legal arrangements to financial sustainability.

This exploratory qualitative research will select subjects from among third sector candidates for grant funding in countries currently recipients of significant Australian aid for participation in questionnaire and follow-up interview.

The anticipated outcomes will be to inform choice of legal structures and contracting arrangements for SME not for profit organizations, and to contribute to further development of effective aid processes.

I would be very interested in the comments and suggestions of other ISTR members regarding this project.” Please respond to Liz at e-mail: [liz.spencer@gmail.com](mailto:liz.spencer@gmail.com) ■



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Philanthropy Forum at USC**

The Center on Philanthropy and Public Policy will host its fifth National Leadership Forum – “Philanthropy: Imagination, Innovation, and Impact” – January 24 - 25, 2013 at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. This forum is an opportunity for 200-250 leading national thought leaders, researchers, and decision makers to come together along with philanthropic leaders from the region to explore philanthropy in its many dimensions – from the imagination of passionate individuals engaged in their philanthropy, to new innovations for making a difference, to strategies and practices that create greater impact. Contact: [www.usc.edu/philanthropy](http://www.usc.edu/philanthropy)

**The Crossroads Initiative News**

The Crossroads Initiative presented a workshop at the CIVICUS World Assembly in Montreal in early September that included case studies of the Chilean Student Movement, the Indian Anti-Corruption Movement, the Ugandan Traders Strike and UK “Under the Radar” Civil Society. About fifty participants joined in discussing similar initiatives in their own countries and the implications of these crossroads experiences for practitioners and policy-makers.

In November, the Initiative will present its findings at meetings in Amsterdam organized with PSO and with the Institute for Social Sciences at the Hague. By these meetings we expect to have initial products that will explore the findings from comparative analysis of more than twenty cases of civil societies at crossroads in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe. We have also agreed to produce a Special Issue for *Development in Practice* in 2013. That issue will provide short reports on cases of national sector evolution and citizen activism, regional viewpoints on civil society challenges, and an overview of findings from comparative analysis and the implications of those findings for practitioners and policy-makers. We are hoping to continue the investigations launched in the last year in cooperation with many others who have expressed interest in these initial explorations.

**School of Philanthropy Established at Indiana**

Indiana University will establish a School of Philanthropy on the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) campus. The Indiana Commission for Higher Education approved the university’s proposal to create the new School, building on the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University’s strengths in research, education and training.

The establishment of the first university school specifically dedicated to teaching, studying and improving philanthropy is an important milestone for philanthropy and the nonprofit sector. It demonstrates the maturation of the sector and the field of philanthropic and nonprofit studies and will increase their stature, bringing additional national and international attention to the scope and impact of philanthropy.

The new school will help meet the growing need for new generations of informed, well-educated professionals and scholars to understand and lead philanthropy and nonprofit organizations. Today’s students at all stages of life are seeking an education and a career that let them make a meaningful difference. The School of Philanthropy will help make that possible.

**New Global Partnership for Social Accountability**

The Global Partnership for Social Accountability (GPSA) is being implemented by the World Bank, after it received approval from the World Bank’s Board of Executive Directors in June 2012. The GPSA is a global multi-stakeholder coalition that aims to increase levels of accountability in developing countries. Its main objective is to improve development results by supporting capacity building for improved beneficiary feedback and participation. To achieve this goal, the GPSA will provide strategic and sustained support through funding and through a knowledge platform to beneficiary groups and CSOs that are working with their governments, to promote greater transparency and accountability. Grants from the GPSA multi-donor trust fund will be available for a duration of 3-5 years for capacity building, research and knowledge dissemination, networking and programmatic activities related to social accountability. A global platform will provide for knowledge exchange and research, especially in measur-

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

ing and documenting the impact of social accountability interventions.

The GPSA's Steering Committee will have a balanced representation of CSOs, donors and governments. It will decide on the awarding of grants after technical review by a Roster of Experts. A GPSA Secretariat has been set up

within the World Bank Institute, headed by Roby Senderowitsch as Program Manager of the GPSA. After the governance structure and operational guidelines have been established, the GPSA will issue its first call for proposals later this year in pilot countries. For more information, see [www.worldbank.org/gpsa](http://www.worldbank.org/gpsa) ■

### Call for Proposals to Host Future International Conferences of the International Society for Third Sector Research (ISTR)

The International Society for Third Sector Research seeks proposals from institutions and colleagues around the world to organize and host future ISTR International Conferences, beginning in 2016 and every two years thereafter.

ISTR International Conferences are held every two years and have recently been held in Bangkok (2006), Barcelona (2008), Istanbul (2010), and Siena (2012). The 2014 Conference will be held in Münster, Germany. Hosting an ISTR International Conference provides an opportunity for strategic engagement of academic institutions, civil society organizations, funders, government agencies and others in the host city, country and beyond.

Hosting an ISTR International Conference requires the identification of a committed host institution and/or individuals that can mobilize widespread support from academic, civil society and other institutions, access financial support from local private and public funders to generate funds needed to host the conference, and be able to provide logistical support for the society and related activities.

The Board of Directors has a particular interest in receiving proposals from regions of the world where the conference has not had a meeting in the last eight years. We seek proposals that provide information on potential conference sites; hosts and supporting organizations; financial resources already available or that can be raised; logistical arrangements; visa restrictions (if any); and any other information relevant to hosting a major international scholarly conference.

Please contact ISTR Executive Director, Margery Daniels, at [istr@jhu.edu](mailto:istr@jhu.edu) with proposals, expressions of interest, and with any questions about this process by November 30, 2012. ■

“Inside ISTR” is published by the International Society for Third-Sector Research (ISTR). Please submit materials/information for publication to the ISTR Secretariat:

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