



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.

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## CONFERENCE REPORT

# 11th International Conference of ISTR

The International Society for Third Sector Research (ISTR) held its 11th International Conference in Muenster, Germany, July 22-25, 2014. This charming University city with its walking promenade and Schloss Castle created an atmosphere for open exchange and dialogue among all of the 550 delegates from 62 countries. Our



hosts at the University of Muenster provided a wonderful venue for a relaxed, warm and friendly four days.

### Plenary Sessions

After words of welcome by Wendy Earles on behalf of ISTR and Dr. Andreas Schlüter, chairman of the German Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft on behalf of the funders, Annette Zimmer introduced the keynote speaker, Claus Offe. Claus Offe is Professor of Political Sociology at the Hertie School of Governance and a famous social theorist for many decades. For many people in the public this was a great 'meet the author' opportunity.

The title of his talk was *State Capacity and Civil Society: Reflections on their Mutual Indispensability*. Without the support of powerpoint pictures, he sketches civil society in

the centre of a triangle made up by government/hierarchy, market/profit-making firms and identity-based communities/families & tribes. Civil society or the voluntary sector is on equal distance from these three corners and their specific behavior or modes of communication and dominant drives: reason for government, interest for the market and passion

for the community. Civil society is dependent on these corners – rights and tax money from government, cumulated assets and CSR from the market, solidarity from the community – but it must maintain distance as well, and position itself antithetically and as possible alternative or substitute. The usual terms 'non-governmental' and 'non-profit' for civil society organizations stress the difference for two of the three corners. Would it not be good to stress also the 'non-tribal' character of civil society, and would not it be better to speak about a 'fourth sector' instead of the 'third sector'?

Offe has dealt with the relationships between civil society and the three corners of his triangle in an article in 2000.<sup>1</sup> Now he focuses on recent developments in the relationships between civil society and market, given the huge

*Continued on page 4*

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear ISTR Colleagues

**O**ur Eleventh International Conference in Muenster attracted over 550 participants from 62 countries. The international conference is ISTR's premier mission-based event.

I will let participants themselves tell you how the conference contributed to ISTR's Vision.



Wendy Earles

**... building a growing global community of scholars and interested others dedicated to the creation, discussion, and advancement of ... knowledge ...**

*Fantastic conversations throughout the whole conference and it is the only way to effectively find out what everyone is doing around the world*

*... so fruitful discussions during and outside the sessions. I met so many new people with whom I have common research interests.*

*... the size, the atmosphere ... that researchers and practitioners meet. To meet researchers I didn't know in my field. I met some new, interesting people outside my field.*

**... commitment to excellence ...**

*I found the paper sessions were very high quality.*

*Generally good papers--well grouped into sessions.*

*There were some really excellent panels in my field.*

**... collaborative approach ...**

*In most sessions, the speakers had really good engagement with audiences due to common interests.*

*I liked the atmosphere among participants!*

*I liked the atmosphere that created the conditions for fruitful exchange of opinions.*

*The 1/2 hour breaks between sessions were vital and allowed networking. Please retain these!!*

**... values of diversity and pluralism ...**

*I liked the number of young researchers, relaxed and friendly atmosphere.*

*I liked the diverse people from different countries in really open and constructive dialogue.*

*... the ability to listen to participants from around the world and understand their conceptual and regulatory frameworks.*

*The benefit of this conference is the range of non-US perspec-*

*tives that are able to be aired without being sidelined or ignored; the networking opportunity is also much appreciated and the conference is always well run.*

*This is a great forum--truly international and very exciting and mind-expanding in this respect.*

All concerned with the organization of the academic program for the conference are to be commended: the Academic Committee for organizing sessions and plenaries, always a difficult task; Panel

Chairs for providing opportunities for participants to engage with presenters on a specific theme, always appreciated; Special Session Chairs for introducing new areas of research, a must if the field is to stay innovative; and our hard working Publishing Committee and supporting Editors for the well-received Getting Published session.

It would be fair to say that the global community of third sector scholars celebrated their shared interests, expanded their networks and enjoyed the hospitality. Professor Annette Zimmer, members of the Host Committee and all their volunteers and assistants did an amazing job. I believe this feedback from another participant captures this aspect of the experience of Muenster: *This was an extremely well organized conference ... this was the best in terms of organisation and attention to detail regarding catering, wifi assistance and ancillary details that make or break a conference - well done!*

The *Second ISTR PhD Seminar* organised by Matthias Freise was held prior to the conference. I was very fortunate to act as co-Faculty for one of the groups of students and am still feeling the positive energy generated. Participants commented that a *PhD process is lonely and isolating, so this was good in connecting us* and welcomed the approach which they found to be *human support/solace as not just researchers but as people*. Students commented that while they might have PhD seminar opportunities in their home institutions *this one gave more diversity and they loved that it was projects from all around the world*. Again the organisation of the seminar was exemplary with students valuing the pre-advice that it was not a presentation format and the hard work that went into forming the groups. What I found exciting about the PhD projects I was privileged to discuss, were that the unit of analysis was not the organisation or field in most studies rather TSOs were actors (amidst others) in the complex interplay around an issue within a particular site and setting; and that robust dialogue on theory-informed interpretation was alive and well in third sector studies.

In and around the conference there were plenty of

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working meetings to ensure the continuity of our global community. Three regional meetings –*Latin American and the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia-Pacific* - discussed 2015 conference planning and shared members' news. European scholars also held a regional meeting. Check the website for regional updates. When I popped into the *Gender Affinity Group* meeting in Muenster they were already planning for the 2016 international conference! The General Members' Meeting held on the Thursday was an opportunity to warmly recognise our award winners for *Best Paper in Voluntas 2012 and 2013, Dissertation Award 2014, and Best Poster Award 2014*; report to members on finances and publications; and meet our 2016 international conference hosts from Stockholm. The Nominating Committee met during the conference to prepare the election slate for board elections in October for the positions of President-elect and board members. Board members serve for four years and can serve for a second term if re-elected. I urge all members to vote when they receive the notice of the election.



This issue of *Inside ISTR* contains reports on the many different aspects of our recent conference and associated meetings and events. Thank you all contributors for enabling those who attended to have a record of these, and for enabling those members who were not able to attend to gain a window into the experience. ■

*Wendy Earles*

Wendy Earles  
 President  
 wendy.earles@jcu.edu.au



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economic problems and of today: the inability of market capitalism to generate enough work and income for everybody, the immense public and private debts, the environmental burden of economic growth and the failure of economic growth to add to happiness. The capitalist model is in a deep crisis and there is no systemic alternative for capitalism. However, civil society organizations and initiatives might help to limit and to compensate for negative consequences of the capitalist market economy and they might / should contribute to innovations to make this economic model more feasible and viable for society. Initiatives to develop schemes for a basic income are an example, other promising developments can be found in the sphere of consumption (consumer activism, collaborative consumption, prosumption, p-to-p lending). To the surprise of some Dutch listeners, Offe mentions that Amsterdam is the place where new developments flourish in particular.

The discussion touches diverse issues as the idea of tribes (with Offe refusing the Muslim Brotherhood a civil society approval because it is a tribal movement and refusing Maffesoli's concept of neo-tribes as overstressing the concept), the risks and benefits of smartphones (with the non-user Offe defending their positive potentials), time perversities (people in paid employments often lack time to get deeper involved in civil society and the unemployed may have time but are too occupied to find paid work to get more involved) and Max Weber, who was missed badly in Offe's theoretical considerations by a German scholar in the audience. Offe admits the deficiency and pays tribute to Weber by linking him to the exchange of home appliances as an interesting postcapitalist mode of reintegrating economic and private life.

<sup>1</sup> Claus Offe, Civil society and social order: demarcating and combining market, state and community, *European Journal of Sociology* 41(1) (2000): 71-94 (doi: 10.1017/S000397560000789X).

**I**n a thought-provoking speech, Theo Sowa, CEO of the African Women's Development Fund, discussed four myths on philanthropy in Africa that we should explore (or, with permission of the audience, explode!).

A first myth is that African's top philanthropists are all men. This may be the case if we define philanthropy in terms of high net worth individuals who give money to a



Left to right, Christina Rentzsch, Annette Zimmer, and Ruth Simsa

specific cause. However, this is a very narrow understanding of philanthropy, ignoring other forms of giving with a long tradition in Africa. Think for instance of a woman living in a rural village who supports the education of her neighbours' children. While the amount of money involved doesn't match the huge numbers circulating in big philanthropy, in relative terms she may give 10% of her income while a top philanthropist donates 1% of his income. People who are not wealthy give from the core and not from the surplus, and even if they give small amounts, this type of individual giving involves a vast majority in Africa and is a fundamental expression of solidarity.

The second myth is that philanthropy in Africa is rising. While this narrative may signal a positive trend, it suggests that nothing was happening before, which does injustice to a well-established tradition for many years. It would be more precise to state that certain types of philanthropy in certain contexts are rising. In addition, it is not just the 'what' or 'type' of philanthropy that matters, but also the 'how'. Here Sowa critically remarks that philanthropy is not by definition a good thing. At its worst, it can abuse the power that money gives. By asking the 'how'-question, we can make philanthropy work at its best: an expression of solidarity instead of charity, doing with instead of doing to people, and using a whole range of social, political and cultural assets rather than merely financial investment to change things. For example, philanthropy should not just aim at building a school, but also invest in social development and human rights activities that can actually lead to good education.

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Third, there is the myth that the private sector has all the answers. Rather than full answers, companies can bring certain strengths, but here collaboration with government and civil society is needed. An issue discussed related to the ignorance often encountered among private donors who may be very successful in their business yet have very little understanding of social development. It therefore is necessary to find better ways to give them information and advise them on the various ways in which they can be involved and reach valuable outcomes. Here the knowledge that exists in the third sector can guide private philanthropy, and again, we need to acknowledge context-dependency and the need for a spectrum of activities and understandings.

Finally, there is the popular idea that we need to invest in women and girls, because they are the key to change. This myth has been really functional at the level of rhetoric, but there is very little understanding of where the philanthropic money actually is invested. In practice, Theo Sowa observes, very little money goes to women's human rights or the women's movement, which for instance would be more effective to reach good education instead of simply giving scholarships to girls in secondary education. Theo Sowa critically reflects on the trending notion of 'turning every woman into an entrepreneur'. First of all, African women have always been very entrepreneurial, and second, not every African woman wants to be an entrepreneur. Here again, it should be emphasized that a certain idea can be great in a particular context, but harmful in another, so universal tools should be avoided.

Ms. Sowa ends with an explicit appeal to civil society scholars, who need to further explore (and preferably explode) some of these myths by asking the kind of questions that will make people look differently at philanthropy – that is, by changing the paradigms and put academic rigor in the debate. This is crucial since the prevailing myths are very powerful. They make ordinary people believe that what they are doing is not philanthropy because they are not rich and not part of a particular elite. Theo Sowa encourages the audience not to stay in their small disciplinary box asking ever more specialized questions, but to break them

open, to 'change the shape of the tables around which we need to sit.' An inspiring metaphor for future research on philanthropy.

The concluding plenary session was an Oxford Style debate on the question: *What Kind of Civil Society for What Kind of Europe? Towards a New Research Agenda*. The session, facilitated by Professor Edith Archambault (Université de Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne, Centre d'Economie de la Sorbonne CES) and Professor Rupert Graf Strachwitz (Maece-nata Institute in Berlin), and featured a group of speakers from various university institutions: Boris Strečanský, Center for Philanthropy in Bratislava, Slovakia; Priska Daphi, Goethe University Frankfurt/Main; Olga Kononykhina, Hertie School of Governance, Berlin and University of Heidelberg; and Sarah Förster, Hertie School of Governance, Berlin.

Prof. Archambault opened the debate and stated that despite the diversity of civil society traditions and state-society relations, mixes of actors, political and economic differences, all European societies face similar problems related with aging societies, immigration, work-family balance and more. The financial crisis of 2008, austerity measures and other policy changes, as well as waves of protest, rising xenophobia, reemergence of protectionism, all brought forth the need to reexamine the role of civil society agents. She concluded by saying: "CSOs can blow air in the short of breath democracies in Europe."

The ensuing debate looked at the nexus between civil society research and this broad question. Prof. Strachwitz encouraged the panelists to consider how research and researchers can assist CSOs to better engage with this great challenge. Priska Daphi encouraged scholars of civil society to seek field-specific theories and methodologies. Sarah Foster urged scholars of civil society to engage in the question of different organizational forms and the ways they are embedded in the field. According to her, examining how the realities match our theories and revisiting theory and its policy implications can provide much help to practice as well. Olga Kononykhina elaborated on the nexus between theory and practice. She expressed hope that





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research will be more applied. She demonstrated this through an example of the research of social capital, where she argued that better understanding of internal and external the social engagement of actors can affect the potential for empowerment of these actors. Boris Strečanský reminded the panel and audience that Europe is not uniform. Eastern and Central Europe, he noted, are still undergoing a long-term emancipation process, which can be assisted by research both in providing a conceptual framework for the actors, but also by providing civil society actors with policy work and advocacy training.

The discussion with the audience focused around the tensions between research and practice, and between scholars and practitioners, but also whether the EU is moving towards marketization or politicization, and therefore whether the focus on civil society shouldn't be replaced with a focus on social innovation and enterprise. Prof. Strachwitz summarized the discussion by pointing out two divides that need bridging. One between research and practice and the second between civil society studies and more general social research.

Sessions and Social Media

The program included 150 paper and panel sessions and 19 posters. Eight special sessions were also integrated into the program and contributed to the Society's mission to offer new ideas and focus on thematic areas that have traditionally been under researched. Reports of two of these sessions follow on page 7. The program and conference abstracts can be found on the ISTR website. Many papers presented in Muenster are currently being submitted for Volume IX of the *ISTR Conference Working Paper Series* and we also anticipate that some papers will be published in *Voluntas*. A mobile app was used for the first time to provide easy access to the program, info about



Book signing

city of Muenster, restaurants, as well as contacts for the participants. The overall evaluation was positive for those that used the mobile app with a number of excellent suggestions to improve the app for 2016.

Conference Support

The conference would not have been possible without the support from generous funders and our hosts, the University of Muenster and Institut für Politikwissenschaft. Supporters include: Bertelsmann Stiftung, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Fritz Thyssen Stiftung für Wissenschaftsförderung, German DFG, Körber-Stiftung Forum für Impulse, Robert Bosch Stiftung, Stifterverband für die Deutsche

Wissenschaft, Stiftung Mercator, Vodafone Stiftung Deutschland, ZEIT-Stiftung, Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius, and Springer.

We also want to thank those organizations that supported the conference by placing advertisements on the mobile app and in the program: IUPUI, Lilly Family School of Philanthropy; European Research



left to right, Mark Sidel, Oonagh Breen, and Valerie Lynch

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Network on Philanthropy (ERNOP); *Alliance*, University of Southern California, Sol Price School of Public Policy; Kumarian Press, Schulich School of Business, York University; *The China Nonprofit Review*, Brill; School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University; ARNOVA; UNO School of Public Administration, University of Nebraska Omaha; University of Kent; Gower Applied Research;

Rockefeller Archive Center; Springer; and *Journal of Co-operative Organization and Management*, Elsevier.

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

## REPORT ON SPECIAL SESSIONS

### The State of Research into Chinese Civil Society

By Tom Bannister. Associate Director of China Development Brief (English), Beijing, China

Chinese civil society has always presented a complex puzzle to research but, fortunately for those involved in the cycle of publishing, its growth was relatively sedate. Recently however it has appeared increasingly dynamic, with some areas expanding rapidly, and significant new partnerships being established. At the same time its development in certain areas has also encountered some substantial hurdles, causing many who labeled the recent expansion a 'springtime' to question their choice of seasonal metaphor. These new developments present a puzzle to researchers and it was therefore important to give the subject the attention that it deserves at the Muenster Conference.

The Special Session took place on Thursday morning and was sponsored and coordinated by China Development Brief, a Chinese NGO with a long history of supporting grassroots NGOs in China and a strong relationship with the ISTR (see the previous newsletter). The Session aimed to explore the state of research into this vibrant sector by analyzing research settings and active projects, investigating the challenges faced by researchers, and taking a look at future research agendas.

I began the session by outlining recent developments in the sector. NGOs in China have for many years been a weak and marginalised group but recently this situation has appeared to change. Government attitudes, broadly speak-

ing, are becoming more welcoming and society is certainly becoming more aware. As China develops, its civil society is becoming increasingly multifaceted, networked, mainstreamed, and international. This introduction hopefully set the scene for the focus of the Session: five Chinese researchers



*You Fei (China) and Alex Murdock (U.K.)*

talking about their research experiences.

First up was Jie Chen of the University of Western Australia who spoke about his path-breaking research into transnational Chinese civil society, an area that is significantly understudied. Professor Chen also recounted his experience doing fieldwork, drawing attention to the many obstacles that still exist for researchers investigating sensitive areas. The next researcher to speak was Dr You Fei of



## REPORT ON SPECIAL SESSIONS

the Beijing Municipal Social Development Office, whose research focused on the Chinese governments perspective on civil society growth, talking about where it fits into their 'harmonious' vision of state-society relations. Third was Yang Li of Beijing Normal University's China Academy of Social Management. Professor Yang focused on outlining the institutional environment of her research, drawing attention to the increasing interest and opportunities to research the sector, and the diversification of research topics. Then came Lili Wang of Arizona State University who gave a fascinating account of her significant experiences researching philanthropy and governance in China, focusing on her most recent work on the government contracting-out of services to domestic NGOs. This very recent development is an example of one of the many new avenues for research that have recently opened up. Last but not least came PhD student Ruoyun Hua of Tsinghua University's School of Public Policy and Management. Ruoyun gave an in-depth account of her research into measuring the transparency of Chinese foundations. Transparency and trust issues are important topics in Chinese civil society, and Ruoyun's research – done alongside renowned expert Professor Deng Guosheng – exposed the unsatisfactory reliability and validity of existing measures of transparency.

These five accounts opened a small but vivid window into the diverse research currently being done into this dynamic and complex sector. They showed that emerging trends and new developments are beginning to be studied such as the ability of Chinese NGOs to influence government policy-making, the growing numbers of Chinese NGOs interested in operating abroad, and the government purchasing of services from NGOs. They also demonstrated that both China and foreign-based researchers are beginning to move beyond the boundaries and limitations that previously restrained their research scope and focus.

## Community Foundations

*By Eleanor W. Sacks, visiting scholar at the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy*

**I**n the 100th anniversary year of the Cleveland Foundation (Ohio), the first community foundation in the United States, Nick Deychakiwsky of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, which has been a long-term supporter of community philanthropy around the world, put together a panel on community foundations. After the regular process for

paper proposals was completed, only one paper about community foundations was received and accepted – a paper by Professor Jenny Harrow of the Cass School of Business in London, England and Professor Tobias Jung of the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Their paper reported on their research on community foundations in the United Kingdom. In addition to Professors Harrow and Jung, Nick Deychakiwsky recruited other panelists to discuss community foundations established in other contexts. Eleanor W. Sacks discussed the history of community foundations in the United States. Marie-Luise Stoll-Stefan, a founder of the Community Foundation in Wiesbaden and deputy chair of the German community foundation group, a section of the German Association of Foundations, was asked to discuss the community foundation movement in Germany. Marwa el Daly of Egypt talked about the formation and activities of the community foundation she established in the Maadi neighborhood of Cairo, Egypt, the Waqfayet al Maadi Community Foundation.

**T**he session had a very natural flow to the presentations. Eleanor Sacks started out with a snapshot showing the large number and enormous wealth of community foundations in the US today. She then went back to examine how and why community foundations formed in the US 100 years ago, in a period that also saw the formation of the first large private foundations based on industrial wealth, by the likes of Andrew Carnegie, Olivia Sage and John D. Rockefeller. She discussed the unique nature of US community foundations as 501(c)3 public charities, and the requirement that they must fund raise from the general public in order to maintain their privileged status. She explored the environment of Cleveland in 1914 and how the social and economic environment, as well as the charitable infrastructure in Cleveland and US traditions of philanthropy, shaped the choices its founder made in structuring and positioning the first community foundation. She looked at the roles community foundations can play and which ones took priority in the early years of US community foundations. She closed with some questions about the direction of community foundations in the 21st century, and whether, given the large number of community foundations and vast differences in asset size, they are still a single movement. The Council on Foundations has recently stopped doing member services which may encourage the further fragmentation of the movement.



## REPORT ON SPECIAL SESSIONS

Professors Harrow and Jung talked about the state of community foundations in the UK, which were first formed in the 1970s. The charitable infrastructure in the UK is incredibly dense and there are many actors competing for charitable dollars, many with overlapping missions. The United Way has recently decided to open shop in the UK, which will further complicate the picture, as its mission is very close to what community foundations do. They examined the 40 out of 47 community foundations in the UK that have been certified by the national support organization. Community foundations in the UK are not differentiated from other types of charities or other types of foundations. There is only one designation in the UK – charitable status. Community foundations appear to be less coherent as a movement than they may have been earlier. The number of community foundations has declined recently. In some cases this has been due to mergers, but a few have closed. A number have changed their names to sound more generic, which means it is no longer certain what they are or what they want to be. Some of the larger ones appear to be acting more like private foundations than community foundations. The future is not clear and certainly complicated.

Germany is the country with the second largest number of community foundations – over 400 – and they are primarily city-based, although some are now merging to become statewide or regional. They were introduced in 1996 when the head of Bertelsmann founded the first community foundation in Germany in the corporation's hometown of Guetersloh. Most German community foundations operate differently than US or UK community foundations. They are operational, that is they design and run their own programs. They do not act as intermediary organizations that take money from donors and make grants to other charities to support their programs. This is a traditional way for German foundations to be structured and to operate. It works well in their context. Most community foundations are small and do not have large assets. Most are run completely by volunteers. They design programs that will have an impact in their community. Advertising the projects attracts donors to the community foundation to help fund the projects. Germany has a very coherent community foundation movement, and a strong support organization. The number, size and impact of German community foundations will continue to grow.



Marwa el Daly began her research into philanthropy in Egypt as a student and researcher at the American University in Cairo. She had the idea that the traditional Islamic form of endowed giving, the waqf, could be reinvigorated and be the basis for a community foundation in Egypt. Waqfs had been a common and popular way for donors to support non-profit institutions such as schools and hospitals in the Islamic world. They were so widespread in Egypt that the Egyptian government in the 20th century decided they were an independent power base. It took them over and consolidated them under a state Ministry of Waqfs. This government takeover effectively killed their appeal as a form of giving for individuals in Egypt. Dr. el Daly was able to receive government approval for establishing an independent waqf and the Waqfayet al Maadi was born in 2007. They have programs that focus on children and the arts, on education and on issues of social justice. They recently held a street fair, which was purposefully held on a Friday, the traditional day of protests in Egypt, to demonstrate their activities and showcase the work they are doing. There were no protests in her neighborhood that day and the Prime Minister of Egypt came to the street fair and stayed for two hours. His attention to what the community foundation is accomplishing was covered on TV and raised their profile substantially in Egypt. Dr. el Daly is involved with other community foundations around the world on projects such as issues of social justice, and has started a YouthBank to encourage philanthropy by young people. This is a program championed by the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland. She has been consulting with other community foundations around the world to learn from them and to help them understand what a community foundation is and what it can do.

About 35 people attended the session and were highly engaged in the discussion. Questions came from individuals from South Africa, Canada, Japan and from other countries. They wanted to know more about how community foundations operated in specific contexts and whether and how they could be translated to their countries. This session was very coherent and well designed, perhaps because it was conceived as a special session on a particular topic of interest to researchers from around the world. More sessions of this type would be welcome. ■

## PHD SEMINAR REPORT

## PhD Seminar Report

By Matthias Freise, Muenster University, Germany

In the run-up to the 11th International Conference, the second ISTR's PhD seminar brought together 46 students from 22 countries at the political science department in Muenster from Sunday July 20th to 22nd. Established two years ago in Siena, the seminar aims to provide doctoral students from the broad variety of third sector research with the opportunity to receive extensive intellectual and methodological advice on their doctoral research, to introduce them to main theories and developments in the field, to reflect upon publication and career strategies, and to provide a unique opportunity to network with junior and senior scholars within the international ISTR research community. For this purpose, ISTR successfully recruited a faculty team

of twelve experienced researchers from different disciplines all involved in PhD education programs at their home institutions: Anna Domaradzka (Poland), Kari Steen-Johnsen (Norway), Ronelle Burger (South Africa), Ruth Phillips (Australia), Maria Radyati (Indonesia), Gabriel Berger (Argentina), Greg Witkowski (USA), Johan Hvenmark (Sweden), Naoto Yamauchi (Japan) and Matthias Freise (Germany) who also served as the local organizer of the PhD seminar. The faculty

was completed by ISTR president, Wendy Earles (Australia). The seminar was sponsored by ISTR which covered the accommodation of the participants and the faculty. Furthermore, the Society was able to dedicate US \$10,000 for travel grants and covered two evening events.

The seminar started with a welcome event on Sunday, July 20th which was followed by a dinner in a restaurant at the lakeside in Muenster. The main program started the next morning. The students were divided into six thematically related working groups of six or seven partic-

ipants. Each group was supervised by two members of the faculty. The three working group sessions on Monday and Tuesday morning formed the heart of the PhD Seminar. Every student had the possibility to present his PhD project and discuss key questions and theoretical and methodological issues on a peer basis with the other group members and with the faculty.

In addition to the working groups, the PhD seminar contained a keynote speech given by ISTR's president elect, Annette Zimmer, on the topic "Money Makes the World go Round! Economization and its Impact on NPOs." In her presentation, Annette Zimmer started with a closer look at the phenomenon of economization and marketization of third sector organizations which can be observed in many countries at the moment and which has even gained move-



From left to right Gwawr McGirr (Northern Ireland), John Mathias (USA), Elizabeth Jane Dale (USA), Christiane Rehn (Germany), Rosa Mendoza (Peru), faculty, Anna Domaradzka (Poland), Jobana Kunin (Argentina), Itamar Shachar (Belgium), Carlos Arturo Martinez Carmona (Mexico) and faculty, Wendy Earles (Australia).

ment in recent years as a consequence of the financial crises. Subsequently, she turned the attention to the civil society aspects of NPOs and focused on the nexus between nonprofits and civil society. Against this background, she referred to the so-called business talk that has entered into the NPO sector and discussed the transference of business related legitimization patterns in the light of "hybridization." Finally, she opened up the discussion whether economization is something dangerous for nonprofits and the sector, or – on the contrary – whether it is just a new way of signaling legitimacy. In conclusion, she predicted that third sec-



## PHD SEMINAR REPORT

tor research will be confronted in future with two entirely separate worlds – a world of business talk oriented NPO elites who in their habits, their lifestyle as well as their aspirations are increasingly distancing themselves from the NPO-workforce, the social workers and the activists and the NPO grassroots. Annette Zimmer's speech was followed by a lively debate about the experiences of the PhD students in their home countries.

The seminar program on Monday was completed by three semi-plenary sessions the students selected according to their personal interests. In the first session, Bernard Enjolras, the editor-in-chief of *Voluntas* gave tips and tricks on how to publish in peer reviewed journals. Ruth Philips and Gabriel Berger discussed the tension between fundamental and applied research which is a very common question of third sector research. The third semi-plenary session was offered by Anna Domaradzka and Johan Hvenmark who discussed the challenge of combining scientific career and family. Since non-profit research is a rather female discipline (more than two thirds of the seminar's participants were female) it was a very important topic for many participants. The day ended with a tour through the historic city of Muenster guided by Christina Rentzsch, a PhD student from the local University, who participated in the seminar herself and competently informed the group about the historic sites like the cathedral square, the Principal market and the historical town hall where the Peace of Westphalia has been negotiated in 1648. The tour ended in a jazz club at the harbour district where the seminar had dinner and listened to a jam session. Although the local organizers failed to encourage the students to dance (as it was intended by the program) it became a long evening.

After another session of the working groups on Tuesday morning the seminar ended with a wrap up session at noon. Following, the participants went to the ISTR international conference that started immediately after the end of the PhD seminar. The results of the anonymized evaluation and the discussion in the plenum were very pleasant for the organizers. The participants liked that projects from all around the world have been included in the seminar. Furthermore, they praised the possibility of discussing their PhD projects with colleagues and experienced faculty members. Since third sector research is just a marginal aspect in many disciplines and departments many participants appreciated the opportunity of discussion and networking

given in the seminar and were very much interested in a continuation of the ISTR's services for doctoral students.

The next PhD seminar will take place in the forefront of the 12th International Conference in Stockholm in June 2016.

### PhD Impressions

*By Iwanig Le Vaillant, PhD student in Economy, LEMNA, Nantes, France*

Through this newsletter, I would like to express my appreciation to all members of the ISTR and all Münster's conference participants in July 2014.

I have excellent memories of this conference and the doctoral seminar that stood before it.

About the PhD seminar, I still recall fructuous exchanges around our work, the opportunity to compare our point of views and improve our reflections. Also I remember meeting very nice people and young dynamic researchers who were very motivated.

About the conference, I will not forget its rich scientific production. An organization like the ISTR has the advantages of its diversity. It attempts to bring together a great number of researchers from multiple disciplines. The diversity of the disciplines represented, the different cultures of the countries where the research is produced, and the theoretical frameworks used, sometimes make the understanding quite complex.

What I will retain from this experience, is the advantage represented by this great diversity; an advantage that allowed me, during the conference, to enrich my thinking through suggestions from other disciplines, other approaches. And this power, I think, is a major strength of our organization.

In conclusion, I would like to thank again the members of the jury that awarded me the prize for the best poster. I am really honored by this award.

I hope to have the opportunity to meet you again; hopefully for a new appointment in 2016 in Stockholm. Until then, good luck to all of you and "Merci encore".

## PHD SEMINAR REPORT

*By Jobana Kunin, Phd student in Social Anthropology, IDAES/UNSAM-CONICET, Buenos Aires, Argentina*

I really enjoyed my experience at the PhD Seminar and it will remain in my memories forever. I will never forget my colleagues of the amazing Group 1-Gwawr, John, Elizabeth, Christiane, Rosa, Itamar and Carlos. Many of us bonded not only as young scholars but also as human beings. We believed our topics “spoke” smoothly to each other. Actually many joked that we were the kind of ‘marginal or “freak” topics’ group within ISTR, but one of our faculty said we were the emerging topics’ people. I then felt kind of proud. I think most of us are not only intellectually but also ethically or politically committed to the subjects (not objects!) we are researching with or researching about: indigenous peoples, Indian activist groups, minority languages, activist artists’ organisations, sexual so-called minorities, just to mention some of them. I really found that having 45 minutes to share and discuss my own project with colleagues and faculty was a unique and refreshing opportunity. Doing something like that with people from other countries and realities gives you new perspectives that were very enriching for me.

Last but not least, I would love to highlight the intellectual brightness of our two faculty: Anna Domaradzka and Wendy Earles. I will never forget an informal and private conversation I had with Anna about my project and a phrase Wendy told me about my project: “follow your guts!” (when I was commenting that I was hesitant about a new perspective I am currently “feeling” while conducting field research). That’s why I really feel that they were great “maestras,” those kind of advisors that understand you not only as a young scholar but also as a struggling human being that is actually conducting research. That is awesome and not very common. Academia can really be a harsh place to be sometimes.

Finally I would like to acknowledge ISTR for the grant they gave me in order to assist to the conference. I could have never had done it without it.

Long live the PhD seminar!



### Impressions from the PhD Seminar

*By Ane Grubb, PhD student, Aalborg University, Copenhagen, Denmark*

United by a common interest in third sector and civil society research, 46 doctoral students from 22 different countries, at all stages of their PhD programme, had made their way to the peaceful city of Münster to exchange ideas, results and questions related to their respective research projects.

Thanks to the persistent effort of the ISTR secretariat, a hardworking group of staff and volunteers from the University of Münster, and an international panel of highly committed senior scholars, the PhD participants could en-



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joy an intense and well organized programme that included several academic and social highlights.

Setting the scene for two days of international and interdisciplinary exchange, the seminar was launched with a round of presentations, where one of the key organizers, Matthias Freise from the University of Münster, invited all attendees – from PhD students to senior scholars, ISTR secretariat and the president of ISTR, Wendy Earles - to present themselves in their mother tongue and then in English. Not only did this creative icebreaker reflect the truly international composition of the participants, it also indicated a wide range of research interests and approaches. Indeed, just as there seemed to be about 50 ways of getting to Münster depending on whether you came from Buenos Aires, Munich, a small village in India or Copenhagen, there seemed to be at least 50 different approaches to studying the third sector.

And yet, as it became clear during the seminar, these differences in national, disciplinary methodological and theoretical background, provided fertile grounds for challenging and constructive discussions. Whether in- or outside the seminar rooms at the University, the beautiful and calm city of Münster provided the perfect setting for elaborate conversations between doctoral students and senior faculty about everything from methodological concerns to such everyday issues as how to reconcile family life and an academic career. To several participants, these more or less formal gatherings represented a key attraction of the ISTR PhD seminar.

One key setting for the more academic discussions was the group sessions, where about nine doctoral students, grouped by research focus, took turns at presenting their work and main concerns to their peers and two moderators; a couple of senior scholars with expertise in the specific field. Each presentation was followed by constructive discussions, that were steered and stimulated by relevant feedback from the moderators. To use the words of one of the moderators in my group, these discussions generally resembled that of “critical friends,” peers who make an effort to ask clarifying, curious and constructive questions – while avoiding bold bashing or useless flatter.

Certainly, 45 minutes is rarely enough to present and discuss all aspects of a PhD project, but the very possibility of presenting and discussing your work with a group of peers and senior faculty who are equally interested in third sector topics, brought on a feeling of “meeting your tribe” – which in itself was a very rewarding experience.

Besides the group sessions another academic peak was without a doubt the inspiring and refreshingly critical keynote address given on the second day of the conference by ISTR president-elect, and Professor at the University of Münster, Annette Zimmer. Professor Zimmer suggested that the distinctiveness of civil society and nonprofit organizations might be under siege as the steering mechanisms and linguistic concepts hitherto inherent to the market increasingly seem to infiltrate other sectors. Professor Zimmer encouraged all scholars of the third sector to pay particularly attention to these tendencies towards marketization and “business talk,” as they may have serious consequences; not only in terms of new management strategies in the NPO’s, but with regards to the continue distinctiveness of the third sector.

Coming back to the social highlights, at least two should be mentioned here. First of all, the joint walk to the fascinating harbor district of Münster. Under the skilled guidance of a PhD student from the University of Münster, the entire group of doctoral students was taken on an informative tour through the parks and streets of the new and old parts of the city, finishing with dinner and - , to quote the official programme: “freaky dancing at Hot Jazz Club.”

Another social highlight worth mentioning was the PhD party, that took place during the conference. Besides a lot more of more or less freaky dancing and talking, rumour has it that the whole party ended with a barbecue in the early hours of the next day.

It has already been a couple of months since the last goodbyes were said in Münster, but the conversations and exchange of references, pictures and useful advice on how to survive as a doctoral student have lived on in a virtual forum on Facebook. And fortunately we will see each other again – in real life – in less than two years at the ISTR conference in Stockholm.

Till then! ■

ISTR AWARDS

**ISTR Emerging Scholar Dissertation Award Winners 2014**

In 2014, the Selection Committee received 23 submissions from 11 countries, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Finland, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Portugal, South Africa, United Kingdom, and the United States. The dissertations provided an overview of our growing scholarly expertise but also accentuated the fact that Nonprofit /Third Sector research is now at the frontier of science.

The ISTR Emerging Scholar Dissertation Award is presented biennially for a PhD dissertation completed or defended in the two years (July 1 2011 and June 30 2013) preceding the award. The award recognizes 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.

Selection Committee members, Edith Archambault (France), Benjamin Gidron, Chair (Israel), Leilah Landim (Brazil), Ola Segnestam Larsson (Sweden) and Stefan Toepler (USA) were most impressed with the level of the submissions received and commented that reviewing the dissertations was a rewarding experience.

The criteria of evaluation were that the dissertation had the potential to influence new thinking on the Third Sector and/or related fields, and the approach contributed to studying Third Sector issues.

For 2014, the Committee collectively reached a decision to convey the ISTR Emerging Scholar Dissertation Award to Anael Labigne, Berlin Graduate School for Transnational Studies (BTS), for an excellent study on “An Attitudinal Dimension of Civility”. This study was distinctive because, in the analysis of civil society it moved beyond the organizational level of analysis and explored measurement of the cultural aspects of the concept ‘civility’ within belief sys-

tems. In other words, does voluntary engagement also indicate civil attitudes? And if so, what attitudes, those pertaining to ideals or to politeness? The theoretical frame used is one in which the author contrasts a neo-Tocquevillian social cohesion framework with a Bourdieusian status competition framework. The approach used to study these issues was creative, whereby a cluster analysis was applied to a broad set of attitude indicators across three representative surveys in the US, Germany and France. The dissertation’s recommendation, namely that civil society should be researched not only as a residual category – a third sector consisting of associations, but also as a cultural project which has a measurable value related dimension, clearly demonstrates an important direction for future research in our field.

The Committee also decided to give awards of special



*Left to right: Jeff Brown, Hagai Katz and Christiana Atibil*

distinction to the following emerging scholars for their substantial scholarly achievements:

Laura J. Heideman, “Making Society ‘Civil’: Donors, NGOs, and Peacebuilding in Postwar Croatia,” The University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

This dissertation accentuated the different and sometimes conflicting perspectives and versions of civil society organizations engaged in peacebuilding in Croatia and the gaps between those organizations supported from foreign sources and grassroots organizations attempting to build a



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new reality in the conflict-ridden society. The author raises the question regarding the form of civil society that is best suited to peacebuilding and creating an inclusive multi-ethnic society following nationalist conflicts. In this dissertation the context of civil society comes in to the fore, a context which has an impact on the type of civil society that emerges.

The second award of special distinction was presented to Jochen Kleres, "AIDS Organizations as Civil Society Actors," The University of Gothenburg, Germany

The dissertation focuses on the ongoing construction of organizational realities through individual organizers. Based on a highly innovative methodology, this includes an analytical focus on the emotional bases of organizing and sense making that is the emotions that drive civic action and that inspire different ways of constructing organizational realities. This innovative perspective allows to address the distinction between social movement organizations and NGOs/nonprofit organizations or, rather, between activism and volunteerism, and the findings suggest that different emotions drive civic action.

All three authors engaged in studying new and unexplored aspects of civil society, used exciting theoretical frameworks to do so and used innovative methodological approaches in their respective studies. "The decision to grant the ISTR Award to one of the three was a tough one as the competition between them was close and the committee members were impressed by all finalists. Unfortunately we only had one award to grant," said the Committee's Chair,

A SHORT ESSAY ON

### Civil Society as a Cultural Project

by *Anael Labigne, Senior Associate, Civil Society Research, Stifterverbandes für die Deutsche Wissenschaft*

The output of my dissertation became a book titled "The Attitudinal Dimension of Civility. Voluntary Associations in France, Germany and the United States" (Nomos, 2014). As readers of this newsletter, you are well aware that France, Germany and the United States are among the better researched contexts when it comes to the notions of third sector as well as civil society. However, I think that my contribution, and particularly the reason for the ISTR emerging scholar dissertation award 2014, lies somewhere else. In the book, I emphasize the importance of conceptualizing "civility". Such a conceptual work is needed to address an essential

question of our research field. In its most simplified formulation: does voluntary engagement indicate civil attitudes? This question involves often implicitly treated sub-questions: what attitudes can reasonably be labeled as "civil" and how should social scientists interpret them?

These are questions that are well known to some readers of this newsletter. I therefore want to use this essay not only to briefly summarize some thoughts from the book, but also to thank ISTR. While writing a book is an individual exercise and can feel lonely, it is also very much an exercise in collective learning. ISTR is – for me – an essential facilitator of collective learning. Not only individuals but also groups can learn through such a network. In my case, it was Helmut K. Anheier who – influenced by ongoing debates within the research field – asked me to have a closer look at the work of Edward Shils. At that time I was a student assistant at the Max-Weber-Institute for Sociology at the University of Heidelberg in Germany. As Shils was one of the important English speaking Weber translators it all made sense to me and the endeavor of a writing a dissertation came into full swing.

Following the cultural sociologist Edward Shils and others, I started to study civility by focusing on its attitudinal dimension in very general terms, namely as "a belief in the possibility of a common good". I started to understand that the study of ideals – and not of politeness or good manners – matters if one is interested in civility as a sociological concept. Yet, as I quickly recognized in my first meeting with my two supervisors (my thanks to Professor Klaus Eder from Humboldt University who was of enormous help), the notion of civility was a contested one, not only in the broad literature, but also in the discussions between my supervisors. While optimistic accounts prevail, critical perspectives highlight that civility is attractive as well as restrictive: if civility is about ideals, is it also about taboos. Particularly in post-colonial studies, the notion of civility tends to be associated with the brutal regime of forcing people "to become civilized". Such problems have to be spelled out if one wants to work with a meaningful civility concept. For my research interest, Shils' writings were of great help in these clarifications.

After treating essential questions of conceptualization, I used two more specific theory frames that guided my investigation at the empirical level. I contrasted a neo-Tocquevillian social cohesion framework with a Bourdieusian status competition framework to test the activism-attitudes relationship while "controlling with Bourdieu for Putnam"

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in different associational fields. Empirically, I used a cluster analysis technique to apply it to a broad set of attitude indicators related to law and rights, tolerance, helping and respecting others, and questions on how decisions should be taken. The cluster analysis allows for a multidimensional operationalization and thereby links back to the theoretical emphasis of civility's multidimensionality. I used three revealing country contexts strategic for differentiating social structural regularities from single nations' particularities by analyzing the same indicators across three representative surveys. I described how people in France, Germany and the United States, generally, and joiners of voluntary associations, particularly, share civil attitudes to different degrees.

Generally speaking, the data analysis suggested that whether or not one belongs to the opinion cluster labeled as "civil center" tends to be independent of voluntary engagement in church and other religious associations, in sports and recreational associations as well as in consumer associations and labor unions. This does not mean that these associational sectors don't play a crucial role within the third sector in France, Germany and the United States. It does mean that, empirically, voluntary and organized engagement in these associational fields is not linked to a specific set of attitudes. The pattern, however, does not hold true for voluntary engagement in art, music and educational associations. This last statistically significant relationship is, however, not a causal one: while some findings are country specific, the analyses reveal that cultural capital is the most important control variable and a covariate throughout contexts. This study therefore suggests that civil society should be researched not only as a residual category – a third sector consisting of associations which are neither state nor market – but also as a cultural project.

### Best Article in *Voluntas* Awards 2014

By Kari Steen-Johnsen, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Social Research, Oslo, Norway

I STR's journal *Voluntas* is a highly productive journal, which has published an increasing number of articles in recent years, and which has also become indexed in the ISI Social Citation Index. *Voluntas* published 49 papers in 2012 and 53 in 2013. This included one special issue on civil society in Africa, and several thematic sections; on non profits and the provision of social services, on fundraising and on

charity accounting, reporting and regulation. Reflecting the character of this academic society, the articles published spanned a wide range of thematics, and a varied set of theoretical and methodological approaches.

A committee was established to read the journal articles for 2012 and 2013 and select the best article. The committee included Kari Steen-Johnsen, Norway (chair); Taco Brandsen, Netherlands; Itay Greenspan, Israel; Julie Fisher Melton, USA; Mario Roitter, Argentina; Ali Simsek, Turkey; and Naoto Yamauchi, Japan.

The task of assessing the best articles for 2012 and 2013 thus presented the committee with the joy of encountering a richness of perspectives and insights from all over the world, and at the same time, the challenge of establishing a shared set of criteria that could be applicable to a diverse set of papers and research topics. The base line was, of course, that the award winning papers needed to be theoretically and empirically sound, and that they must possess textual clarity and even better, elegance. The committee was conscious, however, not to focus on textual qualities only, and we emphasized the strength of the underlying research both theoretically and methodologically.

Beyond these basic academic criteria, two main issues were raised as yardsticks for assessment; the question of scope of relevance, and the question of contribution to the field. The question of the scope of relevance of an article may be explicated either geographically, thematically or theoretically. While many good articles published by *Voluntas* report the single, nationally or locally based study, some articles stand out with a scope of relevance that transcends the context in which the findings were generated, either by way of the theoretical, empirical or conceptual insights that they provide. Likewise, there are articles that study a particular topic, such as fundraising or board selection, but that produce insights about central processes within civil society that have a wider applicability. Some articles will take on this quality through the links that they establish to theory, either within or outside of the third sector/NPO literature. Other articles will provide and develop their own new concepts, that give them relevance beyond a specific thematic field.

The question of a given article's contribution to the field, is a complex one. Depending on how the field and its interfaces is defined, this will be assessed differently. The committee acknowledged that contributions to the field could be made both by the advancement of theory, by bringing new empirical insights and by exploring new methodological approaches. Such contributions could either



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be defined in relation to the field of third sector research, or move beyond this literature and speak to more general developments in social science. Finally, while the academic contribution remains the most crucial aspect of the best papers, we wanted to acknowledge the value of the broader policy implications that some papers impart.

Based on these criteria, the committee selected the following paper as the Best Paper for 2012: “Non-Governmental and Not-for-Profit Organizational Effectiveness: A Modern Synthesis,” by Jessy D. Lecy, Hans Peter Schmitz, and Haley Swedlund. (*Voluntas* 23/2 published in June 2012).

The article presents a comprehensive and interdisciplinary overview of the literature on NGO and NPO effectiveness using citation analysis. The authors used a structured sampling approach that included snowball sampling within citation networks, starting from the most cited articles. The aim was to uncover commonalities across disciplines concerned with similar questions about effectiveness. Starting from a citation network of 4,879 articles, Lecy et al. identified a corpus of the 64 most cited articles, and then conducted a content analysis of these, asking such questions as whether the article was empirical in nature, how effectiveness was defined and what was the level of analysis. Based on this analysis, the authors identified three main trends in NGO/NPO effectiveness research 1) that there is a broad scholarly consensus that unidimensional measures of effectiveness are not useful – even though such measures are commonly used by NGO/NPO rating agencies; 2) that the scholarship on NGO/NPO effectiveness is dominated by conceptual works, while empirical studies remain rare; 3) that a consensus about how to operationalize effectiveness remains elusive.

The committee finds that Lecy et al. have provided an impressive overview of literature, that convinces the reader both through its thorough and systematic methodology and through the ideas and conclusions that the authors draw from their results. The article is well written and explicates well the content and the rationale for the different steps in the analysis. The authors demonstrate a creative and clever way of pulling together large amounts of information, and combine meticulous work with good interpretations and interesting conclusions.

The committee also values the fact that the article is fundamentally international and interdisciplinary in its outlook. The corpus of articles is drawn from a variety of disciplines that all deal with NGO/NPO effectiveness from their angle and within their own disciplinary containers. The

article thus bridges different parts of a fragmented research field, and enables substantial evaluations and discussions across texts. Even though NGO/NPO effectiveness is in itself a limited topic, the authors are able to raise interesting questions about organizations’ ways of functioning, and how to study these, which gives their text relevance beyond its immediate topic.

In the committee’s view the article makes a set of strong contributions to the field of third sector research. First of all, it points out interesting directions for future research, that are based on a systematic overview of the literature that already exists. Most importantly, the article is a powerful call for more empirically based studies within NGO/NPO effectiveness studies. Second, the article is methodologically innovative and contributes through a pedagogic and thoughtful demonstration of how such a method could be employed. Finally, Lecy et al. make use of their findings in order to create a framework for donors, that could be used to better guide performance assessments than what is currently the case. Four domains are pointed out; the domains of managerial, program and network effectiveness, and the domain of legitimacy. In framing these domains, Lecy et al. make explicit use of the findings from their literature review, in particular the acknowledgement that effectiveness is a complex and multi-level concept. This is an excellent example of how academic findings could be used to enable broader policy implications, either for organizations, individuals or governments.

For 2013, the committee selected the following paper as Best Paper: “Shining Light on Charities or Looking in the Wrong Place? Regulation-by-Transparency in Canada” by Susan D. Phillips. (*Voluntas* 24/3 published in September 2013).

The topic of Susan Phillips’ winning article is the nature of charity reporting and transparency in changing contexts. Phillips takes as her starting point the premise that regulatory regimes are becoming more polycentric with the expansion of third party watchdogs and emergence of new self-regulatory bodies. As part of these regimes more open access to data has made transparency become an independent, strong force. Phillips first develops a conceptual model in order to capture variations in polycentric regulatory regimes, and to shed light on the role that transparency plays in these. She takes an institutional approach, focusing on three sets of factors: regulatory goals, institutional factors and context. These factors are then used to give a comparative overview of differences in regulatory charity regimes in

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the five countries that form the “Anglo-Saxon cluster.” In the latter part of the text, Phillips provides a critical, in-depth analysis of regulation-by-transparency in the Canadian context. Based on this case study, the article concludes that neither states nor charities control the use and access to information in the new polycentric context. Moreover, the article forcefully demonstrates that regulation-by-transparency is not necessarily a neutral instrument, and that it can become politicized.

The committee finds that Phillips’ article is an exceptionally well-written text. It provides a clever and clear analysis of a complicated issue, which is relevant beyond the specific case that it focuses on and beyond a single discipline. Phillips skillfully grasps the complexities of the civil society/government interaction and shows how politics interferes with effective regulation. A major strength of the article is that it combines the development of a conceptual framework with systematic empirical analysis. We also find the combination of comparative overview and an in-depth case study highly useful and well thought through.

The contributions of Phillips’ article to the field of third sector research are several. The conceptual framework that is outlined in the paper has broad relevance, both across national contexts and across thematic fields. Even though the paper treats charity regulation specifically, the overall conceptual framework is general enough to be applied in other regulatory contexts as well. Phillips’ successfully integrates insights and perspectives both from the more general literature on regulation and governance, and specific literature on the regulation of charities. The way she moves between insights gathered through the comparative study and the in-depth study may also serve as a model for producing an argument that has depth, but which does at the same time applies broadly. Although much of the article was about Canada, Phillips convincingly buttresses her conclusions with citations from other countries.

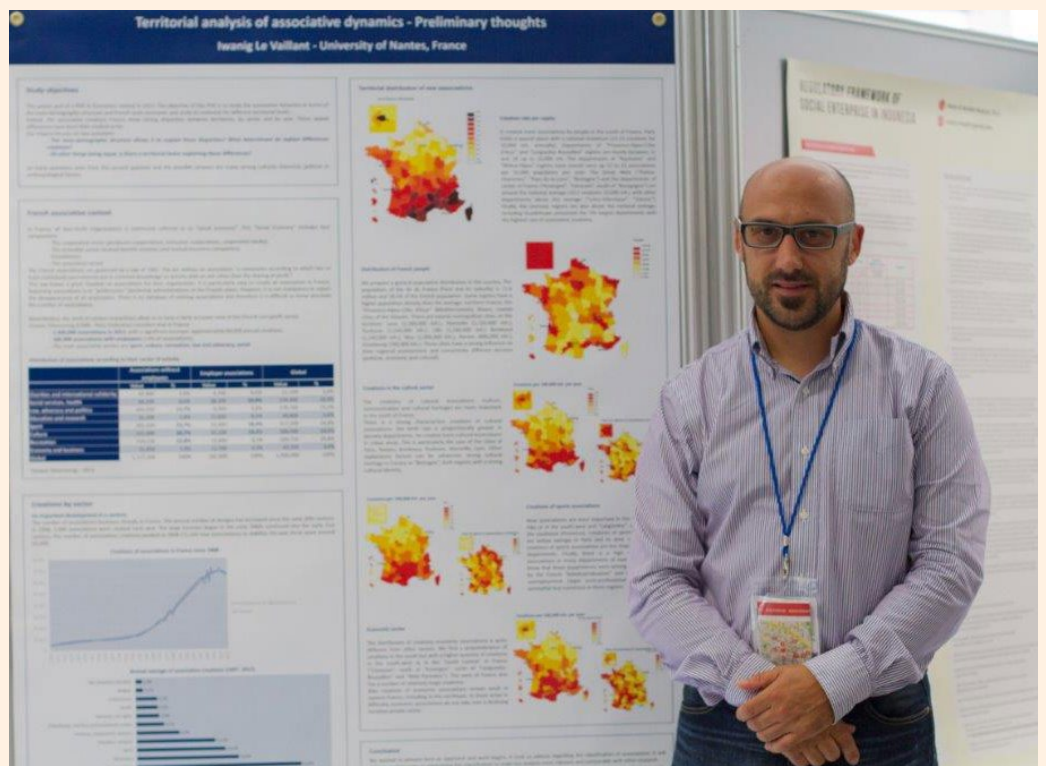
Finally, the committee would like to emphasize the critical qualities of this article. Based on her analysis, Phillips is able to show that new regulatory regimes and new contexts for regulation may entail unwanted or unforeseen consequences. In particular, the conclusion that polycentric regulative contexts entail a displacement of control, opens up stimulating new research questions, as well as new policy discussions.

Based on our assessment of the 102 articles in *Voluntas* in the past two years, the committee would like to emphasize the richness and variety of studies published. The two awarded articles for 2012 and for 2013 demonstrate in an excellent manner how strong research can be made into engaging texts, that have an impact, both in terms of new concepts and new empirical insight.

### Poster Award Presented

By Paul Dekker, Chair, ISTR Publications Committee

The best poster award is smaller than the best dissertation and the best *Voluntas* paper award, and the poster jury needed to reach a decision in only a fraction of the time needed by the colleagues of the other two awards, but the poster award is actually the most important one. For let us be





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realistic: many people do not read dissertations, they hardly read articles. They might quote them if they are available on the internet, but that is it. We are going to shorter and shorter texts and infographics and other visualization tools are becoming more important to get attention. So posters are by far the best way to communicate research and research findings: you have to present everything in an attractive way on less than a square meter for consumption and consideration in less time than a TED talk.

The committee – Jacqueline Butcher (Mexico), Annette Zimmer (Germany) and Paul Dekker (Netherlands) – was impressed by the high quality of the seventeen posters at this conference. In different relations they all scored high on our criteria: scientific relevance, practical significance, visual attractiveness and a strong focus on the main issues, be it the results of finished research or the choices and questions for ongoing research.

The best combination of these we found in the poster, “Territorial Analysis of Associative Dynamics—Preliminary Thoughts,” by Iwanig Le Vaillant of Université de Nantes, France. It tells us about a recently started PhD research which focuses on the regional distribution of associations and the creation of associations in France.

The poster has nice maps of the distributions and it asks multidisciplinary and



*Dennis Jim Frederiksen (left) and Lars Skov Henriksen (right) meet at the Poster Session*

theory-founded questions about the reasons for regional differences. It is the result of hard empirical work (coming information from various resources) and the results in the coming years can be highly relevant for our understanding of the backgrounds of associational behaviour. What we like in particular is the focus on regions. Our field has a lot of single and small scale comparative case studies and more and more cross-national comparative research, but to



*Book signing*

our knowledge hardly any broad comparative research of units in countries. This regional research can tell us a lot about the combined impact of social, cultural and economic factors on the third sector and we are looking forward to the dissertation of Iwanig Le Vaillant. But so far congratulations on your superb poster! ■

## AFFINITY GROUP

## Affinity Group on Gender (AGG) Report

In Muenster, the Affinity Group on Gender (AGG) held three events: two panels and the AGG meeting.

The AGG was very pleased that three of our proposed panels had been accepted, however, only two were presented. One of the panels was entitled “Religion: Barring or Enabling Women’s Emancipation”. It was coordinated by Christina Schwabenland (UK) and was composed of four highly interesting presentations on 1) the status of women in Muslim personal law by BC Manjula (India),

2) gender-based violence in the Solomon Islands by Patrick Kilby and Joyce Wu (Australia), 3) migrant women in India by Rekha Gaonkar (India) and 4) iconography of subversion by Christina Schwabenland (UK). A lively discussion evolved about this difficult issue.

The second panel was entitled “The Role of CSOs in Women’s Emancipation: Challenging or Maintaining the Status Quo?” In this panel, the volume on *Gender and Third Sector* was introduced, which the editorial team consisting of Christina Schwabenland (UK), Chris Lange (Lebanon/Germany), Sachiko Nakagawa (Japan) and Jenny Onyx (Australia) have worked on since the ISTR-conference in Siena two years ago. Also three of the 15 contributions of the volume were presented: a global study on the influence of feminism in women’s NGOs by Ruth Phillips (Australia), feminist protest in Russia with a specific focus on Pussy Riot by Eva Maria Hinterhuber (Germany), and the role of women’s NGO of Nepal by Masako Tanaka (Japan). A fruitful discussion with useful comments followed the presentations. The editors have a contract with Policy Press and hope that the volume will be published by ISTR 2016 international conference in Stockholm.



left to right, BC Manjula, Chris Lange, and Rebka Gaonkar.

In the AGG meeting, we discussed three issues: topics and contributors of possible panels as well as suggestions for a female keynote speaker at the next ISTR international conference. More than 20 people attended the meeting, suggesting various proposals for panels like “Gender and the Rising State,” “Women Entrepreneurs from a Third Sector Perspective” and “Civil Society Gender in Security, Conflict, Post Conflict, and Peace Situation.” The meeting concluded with a presentation by Professor Gabriele Wilde (Germany), one of the founders of ZEUGS (Centre for European Gender Studies). Following the meeting, ZEUGS hosted a reception.

Although 150 sessions were held at this conference, only about ten were specifically on gender or women. In order to achieve our key objective, “Making women visible within ISTR,” we need to not only continue to hold panels on gender and third sector but also to encourage ISTR to work on this issue, e.g. by regularly ensure one female and one male keynote speaker at the ISTR conferences.

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



## REGIONAL NETWORKS

## Asia-Pacific Network Meeting

The regional meeting focused on conference planning, ongoing support for the network and news from members. The meeting was convened by ISTR Board members – Naoto Yamauchi and Wendy Earles – and was attended by 27 members.

## Regional Conference Planning 2015

Regional members sent a further vote of thanks to 2013 conference Academic Co-Chairs Sami Hasan and Junki Kim and their Academic Committee; and Professor Tae-Kyu Park from Yonsei University's NPO Research Center and Professor Chang-Soon Hwang from Soonchunhyang University and President of the Korean Association for Nonprofit Organization Research (KANPOR) and their host committee. The 2013 regional conference was considered a great success. These regional conferences ensure the continuation of face-to-face networking for regional scholars between the biennial international conferences and are an important component of ISTR's conference program.

The main item discussed was planning for the Ninth ISTR Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in 2015. Members were reminded that the call for expressions of interest for hosting the 2015 regional conference was circulated in January 2013. There were preliminary expressions of interest from two countries - Nepal and Bangladesh -however both of these did not progress. The meeting expressed thanks to those members who had explored the possibility of hosting a regional conference. A further expression of interest was received. It was presented by Professor Naoto Yamauchi and accepted by the meeting for 2015. The 2015 regional conference will be hosted by Nihon University Tokyo, Suidobashi Campus and the local host committee will begin work in partnership with Japan NPO Research Association, JANPO-RA. Tentative dates are late August or early September 2015. Members considered these and some members noted that this might clash with teaching semesters in certain countries, mainly Australia. Academic Co-chairs are still to be appointed and an academic committee formed to work on a Call for Papers.

## Publications

There was no publication update available at the meeting.

(Advice was received after the meeting that the special issue of *Voluntas* from previous Asia-Pacific conferences is progressing.)

## Membership

Naoto Yamauchi provided information on a new regional network website, which includes announcements and calls and archives conference photos and country data: <http://www.osipp.osaka-u.ac.jp/npocenter/ISTR/index.htm>. The regional network is being supported by the NPO Center in disseminating information on ISTR in the region. Members were encouraged to provide country data and information.

Wendy Earles, encouraged members to help PhD students to apply for the next ISTR PhD Seminar in 2016. Members who participated in the seminar as faculty and students provided positive feedback on the 2014 event. Ruth Phillips, Maria Radyati, Naoto Yamauchi and Wendy Earles were members of the faculty for 2014.

The meeting was opened to general feedback from regional members and members shared announcements of conferences, new courses and other member news and were encouraged to forward information to Wendy or the ISTR Secretariat for inclusion on the ISTR website. The Asia-Pacific Network will reconvene at the 2015 ISTR Asia-Pacific Regional Conference in Tokyo to continue to share regional developments and member news.

## European Regional Network Meeting

During the ISTR conference in Muenster, approximately 30 researchers from around Europe convened for the European Regional Network Meeting. Chaired by Lars Svedberg, Ersta Sköndal University College in Sweden, the participants discussed the need for more sharing of experiences and lessons learned related to European comparative research projects and the developments of credit-based education programs and courses in Europe related to civil society and the third sector. Additional items addressed during the meeting included a European PhD network meeting, a professional network, meetings for directors of research and master programs, and European tracks in ISTR 2016.

Towards the end of the meeting, it was agreed that the possibilities for organizing i) a meeting in 2015 on European comparative research projects, ii) a conference in 2015 among research and education center directors, iii) a PhD network meeting in 2015, and iv) more conference sessions related to legal dimensions of civil society should be explored. As an outcome of the meeting, a mailing list for researchers interested in sharing and discussing matters related to European civil society research and education has been organized.

## REGIONAL NETWORKS

Please contact Margery Daniels of ISTR (istr@jhu.edu) to be included in the mailing list.

### Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Network

Some 30 participants joined the LAC network meeting in Muenster. Much of the meeting was spent reviewing the successful meeting in Santiago, Chile in 2013.

Looking forward to 2015, the meeting will be held in Puerto Rico, 5 to 7 August 2015 and will be hosted by 3 Universities in Puerto Rico (Catholic University, University of Puerto Rico and Sagrado Corazon University). There will be two locations, San Juan and Ponce, but very well organized and Ponce and San Juan are only one hour distance from each other. Transportation will be provided. Discussion focused on plans for Puerto Rico, including topics and reviewers. The Call for Papers will be forthcoming.

### Africa Regional Meeting

The regional meeting of about 15 participants gathered to discuss the need for a secretariat host in Africa for the network. There was agreement that having a host institution is essential for keeping the network vibrant and engaged. Bhekinkosi Moyo offered to explore hosting the network at Southern Africa Trust and Ronelle Burger and Dineo Seabe from Stellenbosch University offered to continue to publish the regional newsletter.

The group endorsed holding the 2015 regional meeting in Accra at the Institute of African Studies at the University of Ghana. Efforts will be made to finalize the meeting and raise funds for travel grants. There was also suggestion to add a training workshop to the meeting.

The group also discussed the need to create fellowships, post-docs, and other research opportunities within the region. ■

## MEMBER NEWS

#### Gift creates Eugene R. Tempel Endowed Deanship

The dean's position at the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy is being endowed in honor of the school's founding dean, **Gene Tempel**. The Eugene R. Tempel Deanship is Indiana University's first named, endowed deanship. Tempel is an internationally recognized leader in philanthropy and the nonprofit sector for decades, and played an integral role in envisioning and developing the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy and its precursor, the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University.

#### Indira Mahendravada receives Fellowship

**Indira Mahendravada** was awarded a fellowship under ICSSR-NWO India - Netherlands Social Sciences Scholar Exchange Programme 2013-14 to work on "A Study of the Nature of Corporate Social Responsibility and Engagement with NGOs in the Netherlands."

Mahendravada of the University of Mysore in India, is working with Prof. Peter Knorringa at International Institute of Social Studies, The Hague. This fellowship will allow her to understand the engagement of NGOs with the corporate sector in CSR initiatives in the Netherlands. With the recent amendments to Indian Companies Act 2013 where CSR is made mandatory, the issue is very im-

portant. Mahendravada is meeting heads of some of the International NGOs and private companies besides collecting information from published sources. She is also meeting researchers working on third sector issues and visiting Partnerships Resource Centres, Erasmus University, Centre for International Development Issues, Rodbound University Campus etc. She writes, "Our ISTR network is very useful in reaching our fraternity. I have collected contact details of some of the members from the website. I consider this as a great opportunity and there is a possibility for proposing a larger project in future based on the present work."

**Jacob Mati** (ISTR Board member) has accepted a position of a Sociology Lecturer at the University of South Pacific in Fiji. Jacob still retains a formal association with the Society, Work and Development Institute of the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, where he continues to serve as a Research Associate. This will see Jacob continue doing his research in Africa and continue to be actively engaged with ISTR Africa network. To Jacob, this is a great opportunity to broaden his experiences to other parts of the world while remaining intellectually connected to a great African academic institution and his alma mater, as well as to ISTR and other networks. ■

## CALL FOR PAPERS

NINTH ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THIRD SECTOR RESEARCH (ISTR)

## Exploring Frontiers of Civil Society, Social Capital and Social Enterprises

27-28 August 2015,  
Nihon University (tentative)  
Tokyo, Japan

**Proposal Submission Deadline: 31 January 2015**

### 1. OVERVIEW

Public and private awareness on global and local issues such as global sustainability, eradication of poverty, the robust practice of social and human security, social inclusion, and redistribution policies are generally high, and multiple actors in international and regional communities have reinforced their capacities for addressing these issues, as well as made high-profile commitment to the issues. While confronting recent global political insecurity, economic crisis and unexpected disaster, civil society is rechallenged and at multiple crossroads in coping with this complex turmoil.

Civil society in the Asia Pacific region is thriving and vibrant in its structure and organization with its geographic and historical linkages, as well as each country's unique institutional, economic, social, and cultural characteristics. At the same time, its large and dynamic nature leads us to reconsider the value and significance of civic engagement, emergence of new forms of social business or entrepreneurship, and the potential power of social capital. It is a good time to explore frontiers of these powerful but still uncertain values and impacts, in constructive and collaborative ways, for the future development of civil society in this region.

ISTR's ninth Asia-Pacific regional conference will be held in Tokyo, Japan, the national capital. The conference offers an excellent opportunity for encouraging in-depth discussion on these key issues and advancing authentic and creative research works from multidimensional approaches. Tokyo is a city of gearing up for and coordinating political, economic and sociocultural engagement both at the national and local level. It is also a city of exuberance and soaring ambition in convening roundtables and dialogues on arrangement of policy and business domains in the civil society sector. Organization of civic engagement has become more diversified, strategic, and even goal-driven. At the same time, we are challenged how to develop normative instruments for understanding and assessing activities in such

a vigorous environment. The city's energetic and borderless atmosphere with a fusion of modern culture and tradition of civil society will attract conference participants and presenters to research settings and conversation both in the international and regional context. In the conference, plenary sessions will be delivered to share questions and motivations that drives our third sector research, as well as to encourage us to deal with policy-and-business implication towards the sector's evolvement. Also, paper, panel and poster proposals both from theoretical and practical perspectives are invited with a wide range of themes for providing the conference participants fresh stimulus and driving our regional community towards enhancement of research and business performance.

### 2. CONFERENCE THEMES

The conference provides a variety of themes relevant to the third sector

- Government, laws, and the third sector
- Tax regime and the third sector activities
- Third sector and policy making: Impact and evaluation
- Wellbeing/welfare systems and the role of the third sector
- Social capital and civil society
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Fundraising
- Governance
- Collaborative governance and its implications to the third sector
- Profit and non-profit sector partnerships and policy implications
- Innovations in the third sector governance
- Environment, sustainability, and the third sector
- Social enterprise

The Conference Program is likely to include working group meetings on

- The challenges of forming and maintaining third sector networks
- The skills and issues in undertaking comparative third sector research.

There will also be sessions showcasing the ISTR and its activities, and other national and regional research associations, their activities and accomplishments.



## REGIONAL NETWORKS

Display of posters of, visits of the delegates to, and talks about local third sector organizations will be in the agenda.

### 3. SUBMISSION AND SELECTION OF PROPOSAL

Proposals for papers and panels (pre-arranged) of 3-4 papers are solicited.

#### Format of proposals:

All proposals should;

- indicate the problems or issues the research addresses relating it to the literature.
- briefly outline the methodology used in the research.
- provide indication of main findings to date.
- Include bibliographies.

–Abstracts should be between 300 and 600 words in length (excluding bibliography).

–All proposals should be prepared and written in English using the PAPER/PANEL SUBMISSION FORM. You can download the forms from the conference website <<http://www.osipp.osaka-u.ac.jp/npocenter/ISTR/paper.htm>>.

–Authors' details should be included with the proposal. See the attached forms for submission templates.

–Only submission to the designated email address is accepted. Please sent the submission form to the ISTR Asia Pacific Regional Network Office at <[istr-ap@ml.osipp.osaka-u.ac.jp](mailto:istr-ap@ml.osipp.osaka-u.ac.jp)>.

- Papers and panels will be presented in parallel sessions.
- Submissions by practitioners, young scholars, and doctoral students engaged in research are very welcome.
- Authors for paper presentation accepted and invited to participate will have to submit their final complete version of paper by the end of July 2015.
- All authors and presenters must formally register for the conference.

To download the submission forms and submit a proposal, go to ISTR Asia Pacific Regional Network Office website: <http://www.osipp.osaka-u.ac.jp/npocenter/ISTR/index.htm>, and click on the tab for "CALL FOR PAPERS". Questions can then be directed to the ISTR Asia Pacific Regional Network Office to <[istr-ap@ml.osipp.osaka-u.ac.jp](mailto:istr-ap@ml.osipp.osaka-u.ac.jp)>.



All submissions meeting the requirements (paper, panel, or poster) will be subject to a blind review. Only proposals of sufficient research quality and that are relevant to the aforementioned conference themes will be accepted.

### 4. IMPORTANT DATES

31 January 2015	Deadline for proposal submission
Early April 2015	Notification of acceptance/rejection to authors
End of June 2015	Deadline for conference registration
End of July 2015	Deadline for final papers' submission
26 August 2015	Conference starts

### 5. REGISTRATION FEE

Registration fee will be \$US200 (ISTR members); US\$325 and US\$250 (including one-year ISTR membership fee for middle/high income and low income country institution/affiliation, respectively). The fee will include conference materials, lunch, and dinner for two days.

More information including accommodation and scholarships will be available on the conference website later.

### 6. QUESTIONS

Any questions on abstract submissions for papers, panels, and posters, and any other information of the ISTR Ninth Asia-Pacific Regional Conference should be directed to ISTR Asia Pacific Regional Network Office:

ISTR Asia Pacific Regional Network Office  
Center for Nonprofit Research and Information  
Japan Institute of Policy Studies (JIPS)  
E-mail: [istr-ap@ml.osipp.osaka-u.ac.jp](mailto:istr-ap@ml.osipp.osaka-u.ac.jp) ■

## BOOK NOTES

tary citizen action. Recent global unrest has shown the importance of social movements and street protests in world politics. However, as this lucid book shows, the power that people have to shape their societies is usually channeled through day-to-day participation in voluntary associations and communities: expressions of “normal” civic life beyond the headlines. This is the underlying story of civil society. This new edition explores issues that have developed rapidly in recent years, including the overlaps between civil society and the market in the form of social enterprises and “venture philanthropy,” and the increasing role of social media and information and communication technologies in civic interaction. Different varieties of civil society in the Middle East, Africa and elsewhere are investigated in more detail, and case studies, data, and references have been updated throughout. Colleges, foundations and NGOs, policy-makers, journalists and commissions of inquiry - all have used Edwards’s book to understand and strengthen the vital role that civil society can play in deepening democracy, re-building community, and addressing inequality and injustice.

*Religion and Volunteering.* Edited by Lesley Hustinx, Johan von Essen, Jacques Haers, and Sara Mels. New York, NY: Springer 2015. 352 pages. Cost: Hardcover US\$129; E-Book: US \$99. To order: [www.springer.com](http://www.springer.com)

Religion is considered a key predictor of volunteering: the more religious people are, the more likely they are to volunteer. This positive association enjoys significant support in current research; in fact, it could be considered the ‘default perspective’ on the relationship between both phenomena. In this book, the authors claim that, although the dominant approach is legitimate and essential, it nonetheless falls short in grasping the full complexity of the interaction between religion and volunteering. It needs to be recognized that there are tensions between religion and volunteering, and that these tensions are intensifying as a result of the changing meaning and role of religion in society. Therefore, the central aim and contribution of this book is to demonstrate that the relationship between religion and volunteering is not univocal but differentiated, ambiguous and sometimes provocative. By in-

*Modernizing Democracy: Associations and Associating in the 21st Century.* Edited by Matthias Freise and Thorsten Hallmann. New York, NY: Springer, 2014. 357 pages. Cost: Hardcover US \$129.00; E-Book US \$99. To order: [www.springer.com](http://www.springer.com)

*Modernizing Democracy* brings together scholars focusing the role of associations and associating in contemporary societies. Organizations and associations have been identified as the “meso level of society” and as the “basic elements of democracy”. They are important providers of welfare services and play an important role between the individual and political spheres.

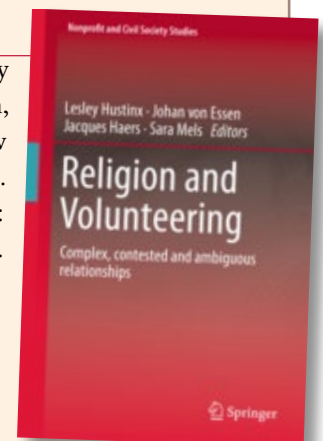
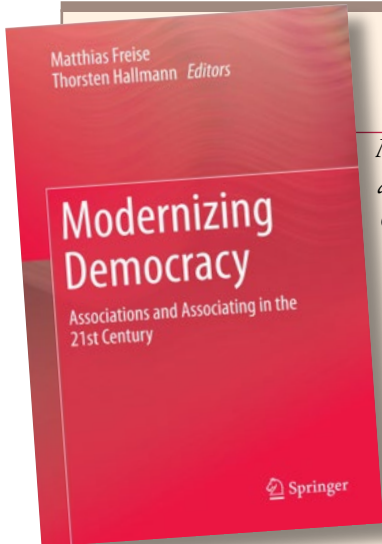
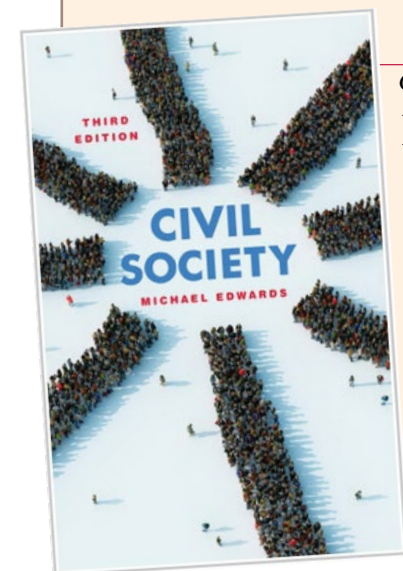
In recent years the environment of associations and associating has changed dramatically. Individualization, commercialization and globalization are challenging both democracy and the capability of associations to fulfill the functions attributed to them by social sciences. This change provides the central question of the volume: Is being part of an organization or association becoming an outdated model? And do associations still have the capacity of modernizing societies or are they just outdated remnants of post-democracy?

The contributions to *Modernizing Democracy* are organized into Studying Associations and Associating in the 21st Century: Theoretical and methodological considerations, Associating in times of flux and Associations and the Challenge of Capitalist Development.

The book honors the work of third sector researcher and ISTR president, Annette Zimmer.

*Civil Society.* By Michael Edwards. Third Edition. Oxford, UK: Polity Press, 2014. 192 pages. Cost: Hardcover US \$64.95; Paperback US \$22.95; E-Book US \$18.99. To order: [www.wiley.com](http://www.wiley.com)

*Civil Society* has become a standard work of reference for those who seek to understand the role of volun-



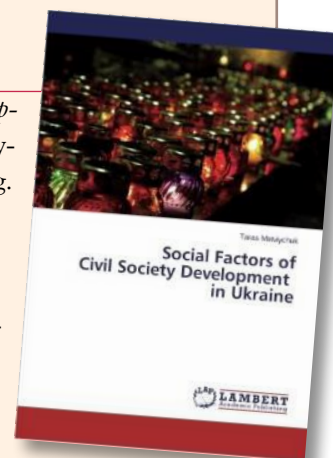
BOOK NOTES

roducing the reader to a much wider landscape of perspectives, this volume offers a richer, more complex and variable understanding. Apart from the established positive causality, the authors examine tensions between religion and volunteering from the perspective of religious obligation, religious change, processes of secularization and notions of post-secularity. They further explore how actions that are considered altruistic, politically neutral and motivated by religious beliefs can be used for political reasons. This volume opens up the field to new perspectives on religious actors and on how religion and volunteering are enacted outside Western liberal and Christian societies. It emphasizes interdisciplinary perspectives, including theology, philosophy, sociology, political science, anthropology and architecture.

challenges. From the inside it seems that the center of OD moves: real professional organizations see organizational development not as an activity or process for itself but talk from community development.

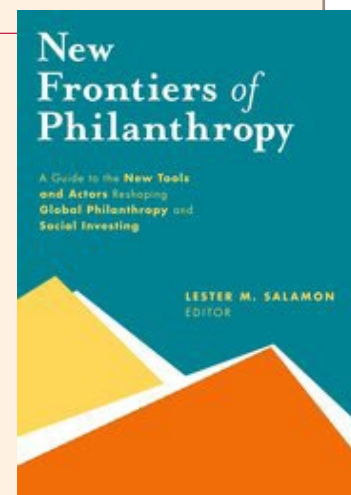
The outputs of this research were presented at the latest ISTR conferences.

*Social Factors of Civil Society Development in Ukraine.* By Taras Matviychuk. Lambert Academic Publishing. 172 pages. Cost: CDN \$96.06; £52; €64.90. To order: [www.amazon.ca](http://www.amazon.ca)



With the development of social interaction and with the human historical progress on the path of social, economic, moral, spiritual and philosophical perspectives, there is an opportunity to consider the phenomenon of civil society in a brand new range, the range of social factors of its formation and development. In this field of civil citizenship study and research, sociological concept of civil society is the most relevant. Using the theoretical and research tools of social science, we can highlight new aspects of civil citizenship and of social conditions impact on the formation of civil society. The book includes a section on certain social factors involved in the process of civil society formation in Ukraine.

*New Frontiers of Philanthropy: A Guide to the New Tools and New Actors that Are Reshaping Global Philanthropy and Social Investing.* Edited by Lester M. Salamon. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2014. 768 pages. Cost: Hardcover US \$55 (US \$38.50 with 30% discount using promo code 32824) UK/Europe: £35.99 (£25.19 with 30% discount using promo code AA-FLY6)



The resources of both governments and traditional philanthropy are either barely growing or in decline, yet the problems of poverty, ill-health, and environmental degradation

Farkas Ferenc— Dobrai Katalin

Szervezetejlesztés és  
professzionizáció.

Hol tartanak a nonprofit szervezetek?

Non-business szektor • Nonprofit szervezetek •  
Professzionizáció • Tudás • Szervezet-  
fejlesztés • Nonprofit menedzsment •  
Alapítványok • Egyesületek • Önkéntesek •  
Szervezeti kultúra • Szervezeti képességek •  
Modernizáció • Szervezeti tanulás • Fejlesztés •  
Non-business szektor • Nonprofit szervezetek •  
Professzionizáció • Tudás • Szervezet-  
fejlesztés • Nonprofit menedzsment •  
Alapítványok • Egyesületek • Önkéntesek •  
Szervezeti kultúra • Fejlesztés

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NONPROFIT KUTATÁSOK

*Organizational Development and Professionalization. What Have the Nonprofit Organizations Accomplished?* By Ferenc Farkas and Katalin Dobrai. Budapest, Hungary Nonprofit Társadalomkutató Egyesület, 2014. (in Hungarian, with a Summary in English) 220 pages. To order: [nptegy@ gmail.com](mailto:nptegy@ gmail.com)

The authors provide detailed analysis of topics that are related to professionalization of the traditional non-profit organizations, starting from a general introduction and trends of the nonbusiness sector (Chapter 1). Chapter 2 gives an overview about the emergence of the knowledge-intensive business services and leads to a detailed description and study of knowledge management features of the nonprofit sector organizations (Chapters 3 and 4), and also their professionalization (Chapter 5). The chapters 6 and 7 examine special issues of the professionalization process, precisely, the role of volunteers in professionalization and the increasing quality requirements (such as accountability) and organizational development, which is a central issue in the empirical research that is presented in Chapters 8 and 9.

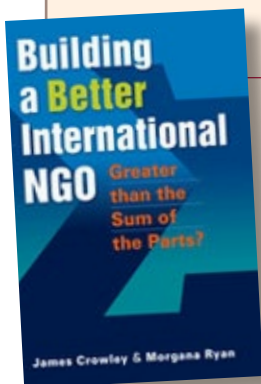
The empirical research has drawn a good diagnostic map of the traditional organizations and organizational leaders in Hungary. The 841 responses to the survey and the 70 interviews that were made during the research prove the generally increasing level of professionalism. They also prove that individuals hold themselves for better regarding professionalism than their organizations. The newest picture of the nonprofit sector opens new demands and brings new



## BOOK NOTES

balloon daily. It is therefore increasingly clear that we urgently need new models for financing and promoting social and environmental objectives. Fortunately, a significant revolution appears to be underway on the frontiers of philanthropy and social investing, tapping not only philanthropy, but also private investment capital, and providing at least a partial response to this dilemma. This book examines the new actors and new tools that form the heart of this revolution, and shows how they are reshaping the way we go about supporting solutions to social and environmental problems throughout the world.

With contributions from leading experts in the field, *New Frontiers of Philanthropy* provides a comprehensive analysis of the many new institutions that have surfaced on this new frontier of philanthropy and social investment; the new tools and instruments these institutions are bringing to bear; the challenges that these actors and tools still encounter; and the steps that are needed to maximize their impact. The result is a powerful and accessible guide to developments that are already bringing significant new resources into efforts to solve the world's problems of poverty, ill-health, and environmental degradation; unleashing new energies and new sources of ingenuity for social and environmental problem-solving; and generating new hope in an otherwise dismal scenario of lagging resources and resolve.



*Building a Better International NGO: Greater than the Sum of the Parts?* By James Crowley and Morgana Ryan. Boulder, Colorado: Kumarian Press, 2013. 208 pages. Cost: Hardback US \$ 58.50; Paperback and E-Book US \$23.50. To order: [www.riener.com](http://www.riener.com)

In the wake of tremendous growth in the size and scope of their activities, as well as the increased complexity of their programs, how can large international NGOs work effectively—so that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts? James Crowley and Morgana Ryan address this question, drawing on their extensive hands-on experience to offer a practical and even provocative guide.

The authors cover a range of essential topics, among them: What are INGOs good at? What should they be good at? Where does new technology fit in? What about accountability? What's the best way to tackle strategic planning? In the process, they challenge those in leadership positions to

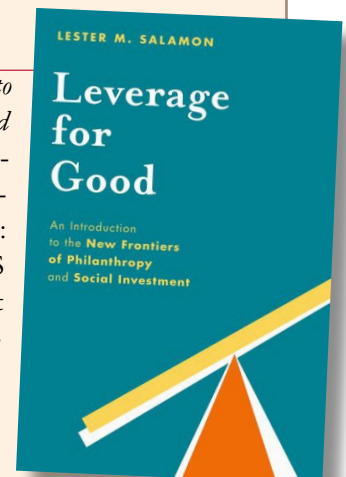
recognize and implement the changes that are needed so that their organizations can perform better—and stay relevant—in the decades to come.

*Finding a Way in International Development: Options for Ethical and Effective Work.* By Sarah Parkinson. Boulder, Colorado: Kumarian Press, 2013. 300 pages. Cost: Hardcover US \$69.95; Paperback and E-book US \$27.50. [www.riener.com](http://www.riener.com)



Despite the labyrinthine bureaucracies, frustrating inefficiencies, and disorienting complexities of the “development business,” many individuals and groups find their way through and contribute to positive change. How do they do it? What ethical and practical dilemmas do they face, and what strategies do they find most effective for overcoming them? Sarah Parkinson draws on the experiences of more than 150 practitioners to provide insights on how the international development system functions—and seasoned, down-to-earth advice about how to successfully confront its challenges.

*Leverage for Good: An Introduction to the New Frontiers of Philanthropy and Social Investment.* By Lester M. Salamon. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2014. 184 pages. Cost: Hardcover US \$74, Paperback US \$19.95 (\$13.75 with 30% discount using promo code 32824); UK/Europe: £12.99 (£9.09 with 30% discount using promo code AAFLY6)



With the resources of both governments and traditional philanthropy barely growing or in decline, yet the problems of poverty, ill-health, and environmental degradation ballooning daily, new models for financing social and environmental objectives are urgently needed. Fortunately, a revolution is underway in the instruments and institutions available to meet this need. Loans, loan guarantees, private equity, barter arrangements, social stock exchanges, bonds, social secondary markets, and investment funds are just some of the actors and tools occupy-

## BOOK NOTES

ing the new frontiers of philanthropy and social investment. Together they hold the promise of leveraging for social and environmental purposes not just the billions of dollars of charitable grants but the hundreds of billions, indeed trillions, of dollars of private investment capital.

While the changes under way are inspiring, they remain largely uncharted. This concise introduction to the

topic, and its companion volume, provide the first comprehensive and accessible roadmap to these important advances. In the process, these works will better equip investors, philanthropists, social entrepreneurs, nonprofit leaders, business executives, government officials, and students the world over to capture the opportunities that these developments hold out to them and to our world. ■

## Online Publications

### What Future for Voluntary Services? – 1st NCIA Inquiry reports released

**N**CIA has begun the release of 16 major reports as part of its Inquiry into the Future of Voluntary Services. Using the contributions of senior academics, voluntary sector managers, practitioners and consultants, this series of reports presents alarming evidence of the extent to which voluntary groups have allowed themselves to become subservient contractors, in the process muzzling their ability to speak up for their users and communities, and adopting ‘managerialist’ workplace practices in a ‘race to the bottom’. The reports also give examples of people resisting these pressures and their stand with local people affected by cuts, privatisation and austerity.

**The first four reports in the series are now available as downloads:**

- *The Ideological Context* by Professor Dexter Whitfield examines the changes brought about by the commitment of successive governments to the principles and practice of neo-liberalism, explains what neo-liberalism is, how this has reshaped the environment in which the UK voluntary and community sector now operates and its impact on voluntary agencies.
- *Ordinary Glory: Big Surprise not Big Society* by Dr Mike Aiken looks at the impact of this changed environment on small volunteer-based community groups, shows how the influence of contracting and marketisation has damaged all levels of voluntary action but describes how, with a little encouragement, these groups and their activities might discover the seeds of a positive future.
- *Outsourcing and the Voluntary Sector* by Laird Ryan documents the Coalition Government’s drive to privatise public services and evidences the damage being wrought by

competition and marketisation, shows where the money is going, and uncovers the growing trend of Voluntary Services as sub-contractors to profit-hungry corporations like Serco and G4S

- *The Devil that has Come Amongst Us* by Andy Benson looks in detail at the procurement and commissioning regimes through which this progressive enslavement on voluntary groups has been achieved, and the ways this has diminished interest and capacity to take their mandate from users and communities and speak out against injustice.

Further reports will be released over the next few weeks. These will deal with the rise of social enterprise and investment, changes in the ecology of the voluntary services sector, stories from the frontline, the failure of ‘leadership’ at local and national levels, and the impact on volunteering and employment practices. There will also be specific studies on services for black and minority ethnic elders and refugees and migrant workers and reports on Scotland and Northern Ireland. These reports will be available via the NCIA website - <http://www.independentaction.net/category/inquiry-voluntary-services/updates-reports/>.

Further information available from Andy Benson: [andy@independentaction.net](mailto:andy@independentaction.net).

### Three Reports from Inquiry of Voluntary Service

**T**he *Rise and Influence of Social Enterprise, Social Investment and Public Service Mutuals* from Les Huckfield of Glasgow Caledonian University. This elegant review documents how New Labour and Coalition governments, within a framework of neo-liberal thinking, have introduced business concepts and quasi markets as a way of re-engineering voluntary services. The report shows how, using ‘capacity

## Online Publications

building' and with the support of sector leadership bodies, the voluntary services industry has been reined in as 'governable terrain' and led to adopt private sector assumptions and ways of working.

The second two linked reports come from Ursula Murray and Linda Milbourne of Birkbeck College, London. These major reports include new research findings and examine the changing ecology of the voluntary sector, paying particular attention to the emerging differences - and fortunes - of small and large voluntary services groups. *Does Size Matter* Paper 1 looks at the trends in income distribution across the sector and the evidence from area-based studies on the extent to which size is a factor in influencing experiences and approaches. *Does Size Matter* Paper 2, drawing on in-depth interviews with 17 voluntary groups, explores the specific experiences of competition between larger and smaller providers in specific service areas. The paper concludes by setting out the practical and ethical dilemmas for groups caught up in this turbulent environment.



### CIVICUS Launches State of Civil Society Report 2014

*The State of Civil Society Report 2014: Reimagining Global Governance* draws on contributions from more than 30 of the world's leading experts on civil society as well as on inputs from our members, partners, supporters and others in the global CIVICUS alliance. The varied contributions highlight changing global political dynamics, an emerging disillusionment with global frameworks of governance and a fundamental lack of accountability within international decision-making.

The report also contains the findings of a pilot project, based on research conducted with more than 450 Civil Society Organisations, which assesses how well intergovernmental organisations engage civil society. <http://civicus.org/index.php/en/socs2014> ■

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Dean Appointed at IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy

Indiana University has appointed Amir Pasic as the dean of the IU Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. Pasic is currently vice president for international operations with the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Prior to joining CASE, Pasic served as associate dean for development and strategic planning for the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University, where he also served as executive director of the Foreign Policy Institute.

As the second dean of the school, Pasic will assume leadership of the world's first school devoted to the study and teaching of philanthropy. He brings a experience and expertise in philanthropy and higher education leadership, including serving as university development leader, a foundation officer at the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and a faculty member at Brown University.

### Skystone Partners Prize for Research on Fundraising and Philanthropy

The Association of Fundraising Professionals Research Council is pleased to invite you to submit applications for the 2015 AFP/Skystone Partners Prize for Research on Fundraising and Philanthropy – a US\$ 3,000 annual prize for a book or monograph on fundraising or philanthropy. Deadline for submission: November 1, 2014

[www.afpnet.org](http://www.afpnet.org)

### 2014 International Civil Society Week, 19-25 November 2014

To celebrate South Africa's historic 20th anniversary of freedom and democracy, CIVICUS and its partners will gather 500 change leaders from around the world in Johannesburg for International Civil Society Week 2014.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The week will feature more than 20 events organized by leading civil society organisations, addressing the theme “Citizen Action, People Power.” International Civil Society Week 2014 will culminate in the CIVICUS World Assembly and Nelson Mandela Graca Machel Innovations Awards ceremony. The event will be held at the University of Witwatersrand, Braamfontein Campus, Johannesburg. For details: [www.civicus.org](http://www.civicus.org)

### Charles Stewart Mott Foundation Chair on Community Foundations Appointed at IU

**E**mmett D. Carson, PhD, CEO and president of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation (SVCF) has been selected as the first person to serve in the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation Chair on Community Foundations at the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. Carson will be appointed visiting holder for the new chair

which is dedicated to understanding and strengthening community foundations. As the visiting chair holder, Carson will serve as a public scholar. He will visit Indianapolis several times in the upcoming academic year, during which he will give public lectures, guest lecture in the school’s academic classes, develop a syllabus on community foundations and philanthropy, mentor students, conduct research to increase knowledge about community foundations, and engage with local community foundation and nonprofit leaders.

As founding CEO of SVCF, Carson led an unprecedented merger of two of the world’s largest community foundations. SVCF now has over \$4.7 billion under management; it is both the largest grant maker to Bay Area nonprofits and the largest international grant maker among U.S. community foundations. Carson previously was CEO of the Minneapolis Foundation and prior to that oversaw the Ford Foundation’s U.S. and global grant making program on philanthropy and the nonprofit sector. ■

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International Society for  
Third-Sector Research (ISTR)  
624 North Broadway  
Hampton House 356  
Baltimore, Maryland 21205 USA  
Telephone: 410.614.4678 FAX: 410.502.0397  
<http://www.istr.org>

Margery B. Daniels, Executive Director  
e-mail: [istr@jhu.edu](mailto:istr@jhu.edu)  
Robin Wehrlin, Program Coordinator  
e-mail: [rwehrin@jhu.edu](mailto:rwehrin@jhu.edu)