



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.

April-June 2014

Volume 22/Number 2

Conference News

11th International Conference

Muenster, Germany • July 22-25, 2014

ISTR will launch a Mobile App for the attendees in Muenster. Attendees will be able to see more, do more, and get more value out of the conference –right from their mobile device.

Features of the app include:

- The full event schedule sorted by day, speaker, and track
- Connect and exchange contact details with other attendees
- Share your event experience on Facebook and Twitter
- Follow the event on Twitter at #ISTR2014
- Find restaurants in Muenster
- Rent bicycles
- Find maps of the campus
- Catch notifications of important updates
- Details will be forthcoming with instructions on downloading the app.

The app performs optimally whether or not there's an Internet connection. When connected, the app downloads updates (like a schedule or a room change). Once downloaded, all of the data is stored locally on the device so it's accessible even if there's no Wi-Fi.



New Members Reception

The Board of Directors of ISTR invites new members of the Society to a New Members Reception

Tuesday, July 22, 2014, 5:30 – 6:30 pm, H Building

Regional Network Meetings

Thursday, July 24, 5:30-6:30 pm, Vom Stein Haus

Africa Civil Society Research Network (Vom Stein Haus 05)

Asia Pacific Regional Network (Vom Stein Haus 116)

European Network Meeting (Vom Stein Haus 06)

Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Network (Vom Stein Haus 118)

ISTR General Membership Meeting

Thursday, July 24, 12:30 – 1:30 pm, H Building

The meeting will include presentations of Awards and announcement of the 2016 Conference location.

The ISTR *Voluntas* Best Paper Awards for 2012 and 2013 will be presented. The committee consists of Kari Steen-Johnson (Norway) as chair and Taco Brandsen (Netherlands), Itay Greenspan (Israel), Julie Fisher Melton (USA), Mario Roitter (Argentina), Ali Simsek (Turkey), and Naoto Yamauchi (Japan) ■

President's Column

Dear ISTR Colleagues

The 2014 International Conference program is live on the website and I am sure many of you reading this quarterly newsletter are on your way to Muenster; or packing! The international conference is our premier event for networking between members and *disseminating* current research findings.



Wendy Earles

The program highlights the many opportunities for *networking* including our New Members' Reception on the Tuesday; a great place to make the acquaintance of other new members and meet your board members prior to the Opening Plenary. The Opening Reception is another excellent networking opportunity and I am sure Professor Claus Offe's Opening Plenary address will give us much to reflect on while catching up with old friends and making new ones. The Center Directors' Meeting and the Affinity Group on Gender Meeting are other valuable networking spaces on the Wednesday. This longstanding Affinity Group has been active over many conferences developing panels for the gender theme and suggesting plenary speakers; and is now active in creating publishing options. The Special Session on Publishing at the end of the program on Wednesday creates an avenue to talk directly with journal editors, important networking indeed.

On Thursday the focus of networking shifts to more 'back-room' or 'business' aspects of our scholarly association, the General Members' Meeting and Regional Network Meetings. I urge all members to engage with these important events to become informed about your society and celebrate our many highlights, particularly the awarding of the Dissertation, Best *Voluntas* Papers and Best Conference Poster awards at the General Members' Meeting. The main items of business for Regional Network Meetings will be 2015 conference locations and planning; and round-the-region updates on national association news, regional publication opportunities and member news. Then, to add another layer this time of more informal networking opportunities, there is the Meet the Author session, Poster session, and finally the Gala Reception to end the conference.

Alongside this busy schedule of events, the important *disseminating* work of the society is represented in the paper and panel sessions that abound each day; no doubt creating

difficult choices. The refereed academic program is again rich and varied with 12-13 parallel sessions. Each paper or panel session is linked to a conference thematic track so you can follow a theme or be a bit eclectic and move between thematic tracks to explore your particular interests. Look out for Special Sessions also, these are clearly marked in the program and have been developed for members to highlight emerging areas of research, for example, there is a special session on China.

The academic committee and reviewers have indeed worked hard on threading together our disciplinary, geographical and topical diversity. It is the international and inter-disciplinary nature of our membership that is the strength of our society, the strength of the field of third sector research. It is at our biennial international conference that we experience this first-hand and are energized to continue our own research efforts, as Pablo Marsal so succinctly said in his member's profile in a previous edition of *Inside ISTR*, where we find our "global tribe."

Behind the scenes there will be plenty happening prior to and during the conference to ensure the ongoing viability and sustainability of our society. It is important members renew their memberships for 2014-5. Those of you who are not able to attend this conference can keep up-to-date with current research through the Working Papers Series which will be posted after the conference on the members' website and you can use the members' directory to contact paper presenters from the program to request copies of papers or to develop research links. There will be many opportunities in 2015 for networking at regional conferences and thematic events with discounted member rates.

The board will meet on 19-20 July to cover both operational and strategic matters including ensuring good networking opportunities outside of the international conference and to extend research dissemination options for members. The *Voluntas* Editorial Board meets during the conference; the 2014 Academic Committee will meet on the Thursday evening to evaluate the conference process and experience; and yes a group from the 2016 international conference host meets with the Executive Director and board members on conference planning. The cycle continues supported by many volunteers and our valued Secretariat.

President's Column

I will finish here by acknowledging the sense of nerves and excitement I imagine our successful PhD Seminar participants must be experiencing. They have a full program from Sunday evening before the conference right up to the start of the conference on Tuesday. It is a wonderful opportunity to share their PhDs with peers and with the faculty at whatever stage - whether exploring a tentative thesis topic or tussling with a near complete

thesis product. We are committed to supporting these PhD Seminars. ■

Best wishes,



Wendy Earles

President

wendy.earles@jcu.edu.au

Conference Report

Voluntas Conference Report

By: Ane Grubb, PhD student, Aalborg University, Denmark

From March 20 to 21 this year, the *Voluntas* conference entitled "Welfare Mix, Hybridity and Government–Non-profit Relationships in Post-Modern Welfare States" brought together a total of thirty scholars of all ages and stages of their academic career from thirteen different countries to the Danish capital, Copenhagen.

The conference was sponsored by the French "Fondation Crédit Coopératif" and "Cifri - The Danish Research Network on Civil Society and Volunteering" and arranged in cooperation with "*Voluntas* - International Journal of Voluntary and Nonprofit Organizations."

Just like the participants, the organizers of the conference represented a mix of international scholars including Professor Annette Zimmer from the University of Münster in Germany, Professor Steven Rathgeb Smith from the American Political Science Association, Washington DC, Professor Lars Skov Henriksen from Aalborg University, Denmark, and *Voluntas* editor, Bernard Enjolras, from the Institute for Social Research in Oslo, Norway. Professor Naoto Yamachi from the Department of Comparative Public Policy at the Osaka School of International Public Policy attended the conference as an observer and commentator with a view to the organization of future *Voluntas* conferences in Asia.

During two intensive conference days, the participants enjoyed a well-planned mixture of three inspirational keynote speeches and 6 plenary paper sessions where each presenter received thorough comments by an appointed discussant, followed by additional questions in plenum.

The conference was opened with a keynote address by Professor Jørgen Goul Andersen, Department of Political Science, Aalborg University, Denmark. Under the headline "Changes in the Mixed Economy Welfare – Comparative Perspectives" Goul Andersen gave a thought-provoking lecture on the implications of the ongoing reconfiguration of the welfare institutions and the increased diffusion of New Public Management (NPM) techniques within these institutions. In his view, the restructuring of the welfare state calls for new academic approaches to the comparative research on the welfare state including the evolving role of third sector organizations as providers of social programs and advocates for citizen interests.

As Goul Andersen suggested, the mixture of institutional logics within welfare institutions necessitates an approach that goes beyond the formal classification of institutions when studying changes within and across welfare regimes. Moreover, the increased influence of NPM, calls for research that explore the potential benefits as well as the downsides of NPM. Also, it is important to keep a critical eye on the tendency towards a short-sighted focus on quan-



Conference Report

tifiable performance measures. However, researchers should remain open to the “empowering” potentials of NPM - such as the possibility of increased empowerment inherent in the new service user and consumer roles.

The opening keynote was followed by six plenary sessions with presenters from countries as diverse as Sweden, Canada, Finland, Japan, Italy and Norway, making very lively and stimulating comparative discussions on institutional commonalities and differences across regime types. As the Japanese scholar, Yuko Suda, from the University of Toyo, remarked during a break between sessions: “I was surprised to see that we have so much in common, both in terms of interests and challenges across so many different countries. Coming from Japan, it was interesting to read a paper by a Danish scholar (Malene Thøgersen from the University of Southern Denmark) and find out, that we were trying to do the same research design, comparing municipalities.” Other participants from Canada, Denmark and Germany shared Yuko Suda’s observations, and expressed great satisfaction with the format of the conference – the small but intense plenary sessions. As Rabea Hass, a doctorate student from the Hertie School of Governance, Berlin, Germany explained: “Until now I have only been to these big conferences, where you have many panels at the same time, so I wanted to go for the smaller format, because I hoped that this would provide a bit more room for presenting your work and discuss it. And I think it really paid off. You could see that everyone had read the papers, so the discussion was not just superficial, but went into depth. And the comments you got, could really help you improve your research.”

The second keynote presentation on the first day was given by Professor Kirsten Grønberg, Indiana University, and Professor Steven Rathgeb Smith. Under the headline “The Changing Dynamics of the Government – Nonprofit Relationship,” Grønberg and Rathgeb Smith, employed a policy fields approach which offers an opportunity to examine the great variation across different policy fields and institutional settings. In particular, they noted that hybridity can lead to the blurring and blending of different policy fields, even within one organization. After this interesting keynote, the last plenary session of the day was conducted, concluding the academic part of the first conference day. The day concluded with a conference dinner at a restaurant close to the conference venue in downtown Copenhagen, providing an opportunity to meet the international colleagues in a more social setting.

On the second day of the conference, a total of six pa-

pers by scholars from Belgium, Sweden, Israel, Denmark and Austria, were presented during two plenary sessions. Between the two sessions, the third and last keynote speech was given by Professor Wolfgang Seibel from the University of Konstanz, Germany.

His lecture was entitled, “Studying Hybrids: Sectors and Mechanisms.” In his presentation, he offered highly useful theoretical and methodological reflections on the advantages of combining a mechanism- and a sector-centered perspective when studying hybridity and the possible organizational pathologies stemming from hybridity. He also argued, that latent or informal hybridity is just as important a subject of research inquiry as formal institutionalized hybridity.

The conference concluded with a “wrap up” session during which Professor Naoto Yamauchi presented his comments on the conference as a whole. He observed that several research topics on the welfare mix and hybridity deserve greater attention from scholars including the gender dimension of welfare state developments, the comparative perspective on hybridity, and the policy and social implications. Yamauchi also noted that the very concept of hybridity would benefit from further conceptual and methodological development.

Relatedly, one of the conference organizers, Annette Zimmer, observed, that a key cross-cutting theme of many of the conference papers was new conceptual thinking to understand and analyze current changes taking place across welfare states. Another conference organizer, Lars Skov Henriksen, elaborated on this point, arguing that we need to operationalize the concept of hybridity more rigorously in a way that will enable scholars to study the extent of hybridity and the potential increase or decrease in this phenomena. Likewise, Steven Rathgeb Smith, the third co-organizer, argued that this additional research on hybridity could provide insight on the somewhat unwieldy concept of hybridity and attendant organizational changes, benefiting the scholarly community, as well as the practitioners who have to manage the hybrid organizations.

Concluding the entire conference, *Voluntas* editor, Bernard Enjolras, suggested that while hybridity is widely embraced by scholars and practitioners alike as a new and growing phenomenon, it might not be the most fruitful concept to capture current changes and new organizational forms. He offered the insight that existing models of hybridity tend to emphasize the idea of hybridity as a combination of already known components; instead he argued that hybridity might be a conceptually new and original organizational phenomenon in its own right. ■

Conference Special Sessions

Special Sessions Announced

The Conference Committee is pleased to announce the inclusion of eight Special Sessions. They are briefly described below. These sessions have been organized to stimulate research interest and agendas in thematic areas that have traditionally been under researched or offer new ideas and thinking to support members' efforts to build infrastructure and processes for third sector research. The sessions are outside the standard peer review process and the conference committee believes that they each bring significant value to the conference program.

These sessions are integrated into the program with a symbol. 

Community Foundations

2014 marks the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the first community foundation in Cleveland, Ohio, USA. How and why did these institutions get started? What have been the roles they have played in the century of their existence in various societies around the world? How have they evolved? How have they supported civil society development thus far, and what is their potential to do so in the future? These and other questions about community foundations will be explored in a special session that will take a comparative look at community foundations in the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the Middle East.

Presenters: *Eleanor Sacks*, Visiting Scholar, Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy

Marwa El Daly, Waqfeyat al Maadi Community Foundation, Cairo, Egypt

Wolfgang Anders, Germany Association of Foundations

Tobias Jung & Jenny Harrow, Cass Business School, City University London

“CUTTING OFF THE DEAD PAST FROM THE LIVING PRESENT?
A CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS IN ENGLAND”

Chair: *Nick Deychakiusky*, Civil Society Program Officer, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

Global Data on Philanthropy: What Researchers Need to Know

Efforts to understand the global dimensions of philanthropic giving are hampered by significant data lacunae. Initiatives from within the philanthropy itself are beginning to address this problem as foundations strive to improve their efficacy by becoming more data-driven. This session will acquaint researchers with these field-building initiatives, report on the progress that is being made, and discuss issues of data quality, ownership, and access. Panelists will include representatives of the Hudson Institute, the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies, the Foundation Center, and the China Foundation Center, who will describe the challenges of compiling a picture of global giving using existing data sources, the work of the WINGS philanthropy data network to generate better data on philanthropy, and efforts to promote philanthropic transparency in China and elsewhere.

Presenters: *Lawrence McGill*, Foundation Center, USA
Tao Ze, China Foundation Center, China

Jesse Barnett, Center for Global Prosperity, Hudson Institute, USA

Lester Salamon, Center for Civil Studies, Johns Hopkins University

Chair: *Lawrence McGill*, Foundation Center

Foundations as Part of European Civil Society: Role and Developments

The session will focus on the role of German foundations in the development of a European civil society. In the last years, decisions made on the supranational level of the EU increasingly got important for political, economic and social life in Europe. But till today, civil societies of the member states operate predominantly on a local or national level. To accompany political processes, a responsive European civil society as counterpart of the EU is needed, but mostly lacks.

Foundations like to see themselves as innovators and could play an important role in enabling civil society actors to get linked in international networks, in organizing

Conference Special Sessions

dialog and self-organization across borders. In the session, researchers and representatives of German foundations discuss which role foundations actually play in developing a European civil society. And also, which role they could play in future.

Panelists: *Frank Heuberger*, representative for European affairs of the Bundesnetzwerk Bürgerschaftliches Engagement (BBE), Board of the European Network of Civil Society Associations (ENNA).

Volker Then, Centre for Social Investment at Heidelberg University

Luc Tayart de Borms, King Baudoin Foundation

Chair: *Andreas Schlüter*, Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft

Getting Published

In this session, Journal editors and book publishers will give some advice, based on their experience and practice, on how to get through the publishing process. What are editors and publishers policies and expectations? What are the main traps to avoid? What matters and helps? Participants will also get the opportunity to exchange their experiences and advice.

Presenters: *Paul Dekker*, Nonprofit and Civil Society Studies - a book series of Springer in cooperation with ISTR

Teresa Krauss, Senior Editor/Social Sciences, Springer

Steven Rathgeb Smith, Former Editor, *NVSQ*, Editorial Board *Voluntas*

Chair: *Bernard Enjolras*, Editor, *Voluntas*

The Role of Philanthropy in Civil Society under Siege: Historical Perspectives for Contemporary Practice

Given the pressures confronting civil society organizations around the world in 2014, the experience of one of the major American foundations with a history of supporting such organizations promises useful lessons of contemporary value. The Ford Foundation has been significantly

involved with civil society- and philanthropy-strengthening endeavors since the 1950s. This proposed panel will gather participants who have been engaged in the support of philanthropic and civil society organizations throughout Africa and Asia to share and reflect upon their experiences in light of the Foundation's historical commitment and current issues.

This panel gathers participants who have been engaged in the support of philanthropic and civil society organizations in Africa and Asia, some having worked under repressive regimes and in war zones. They have all witnessed changing relationships between the private sector, government, and civil society organizations, and will reflect upon the Foundation's historical experiences and current issues affecting civil society.

The panelists are: *Christiana Akpilima-Atibil*, doctoral candidate in philanthropic studies at Indiana University, will share her research findings on the relationship, sometimes a contested one, of donor-founded/funded African philanthropic organizations with local fund development and local resource mobilization, with a main focus on the Ford Foundation and its work in three African countries.

Bhekinkosi Moyo, executive director of the Southern Africa Trust and former deputy executive director TrustAfrica, will share his experiences with civil society organizations across the continent of Africa in the context of historical and contemporary trends in philanthropy in African countries and regional, with a special emphasis on Southern Africa.

Mark Sidel, Doyle-Bascom Professor of Law at the University of Wisconsin, former president of ISTR, and former Ford Foundation program officer will share his experiences in Asia on the relationship of civil society organizations and philanthropic institutions throughout Asia, as well as broader issues on this relationship that are prevalent today.

Anmol Vellani, founder-director of the India Foundation for the Arts and former Ford Foundation program officer, will reflect on his extensive experience and research on the field of arts and culture philanthropy and civil society organizations, as well as his role in establishing the India Foundation for the Arts and serving as its founding director.

This panel is being organized as part of the Rockefeller Archive Center's Ford Foundation History Project. The thrust of the project is to elucidate the Foundation's history to inform its current activities. The panel co-chairs are Patricia Rosenfield, Senior Fellow at the Rockefeller Ar-

Conference Special Sessions

chive Center and Rachel Wimpee, ACLS Public Fellow and Rockefeller Archive Center program officer. Rosenfield and Wimpee currently direct the Archive Center's Ford Foundation History Project.

The State of Research into Chinese Civil Society

NGOs in China have for many years been a weak and marginalised group. However, recently this situation has changed. Government attitudes are becoming more welcoming and society is becoming more aware. As China develops, its burgeoning civil society is becoming increasingly multifaceted, networked, mainstreamed, and international.

Research into this dynamic and complex sector has also become more diverse. Significantly, domestic researchers are beginning to move beyond the boundaries that previously restrained their research scope and focus. New trends 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 domestic NGOs. On top of these very recent trends, there are increasingly mature initiatives to better understand issues of accountability, co-operation, and capacity; three areas that significantly inhibit the sustainable growth of the sector.

This Special Session will explore the state of research into this vibrant sector by analyzing current research settings and active research projects. It will investigate the challenges faced by researchers, and suggest solutions to

overcome them. Finally it will look at current needs and future research agendas.

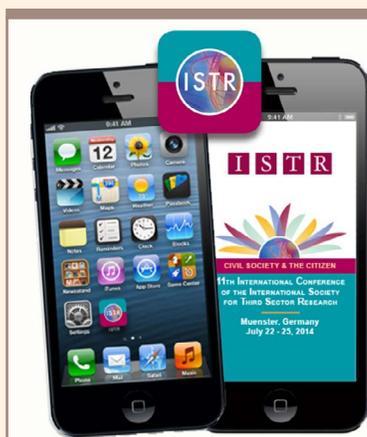
Panelists: *Jie Chen*, University of Western Australia
You Fei, Beijing Municipal Social Development Office
Yang Li, NGO Research Center of Tsinghua University
Leping Zheng, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences
Lili Wang, Arizona State University
Ruoyun Hua, Tsinghua University

Chair: *Tom Bannister*, China Development Brief

Modernizing Democracy? Associations and Associating in the 21st Century

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. The special session focusses on the central question whether voluntary associating is becoming an outdated model: Do associations still have the capacity of modernizing societies or are they just bedside rugs of post-democracy?

Chairs: *Matthias Freise*, Universitaet Muenster; *Thorsten Hallmann*, Universitaet Muenster; *Gabriele Wilde*, Westfaelische Wilhelms-Universitaet Muenster



Conference App Coming Soon!

ISTR is pleased to announce that we will launch a mobile app in July for the Muenster Conference.

Our goal is to provide participants with helpful, just-in-time information at your fingertips and enhance your conference experience.

Be ready for ISTR's message that the app is ready to be downloaded on your mobile device!!

Conference Special Sessions

The Impact of Volunteerism on Governance: Shaping the Post-2015 Development Framework

Public trust in governing institutions worldwide is at an all-time low—including those institutions tasked with serving as watchdogs. The result? A growing sense of disenfranchisement and powerlessness in the face of a series of global crises that directly affect all of us. Discussions on the post-2015 Development Framework repeatedly call for placing people in the centre of development. The 2nd State of the World's Volunteerism Report (SWVR) will explore how volunteerism as a form of civic engagement contributes to democratic governance. This session will present and discuss several research papers on volunteerism and governance. In addition, a Global Volunteer Research Agenda will be proposed. Participants will be invited to provide inputs and discuss implications for volunteerism research, practice, and policy-making in the future.

Moderator: *Mae Chao*, United Nations Volunteers, Bonn, Germany

Discussant: *Jeffrey L. Brudney*, University of North Carolina Wilmington, USA

Presenter: *Jody Aked*, Institute of Development Studies, United Kingdom

Paper: *How Youth Volunteer Networks Translate into Relationships for Change: Participatory Systemic Action Research to Explore Interpersonal Well-being Processes in the Governance of a Watershed in the Philippines*

Presenter: *Sherine N. El Taraboulsi*, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Paper: *Volunteerism, Gender, and Governance in the Arab Region*

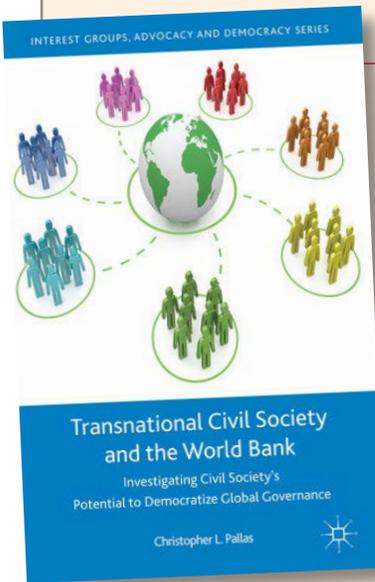
MEMBER NEWS



Lili Wang has been awarded tenure and promotion to Associate Professor by Arizona State University. Dr. Wang is faculty of the School of Community Resources and Development at College of Public Programs of Arizona State

University. Her areas of research include philanthropy and nonprofit studies, cross-sector governance, and building a healthy community. She has taught nonprofit leadership and management courses at Arizona State University and public policy courses at Brown University and the University of Southern California. ■

BOOK NOTES



Transnational Civil Society and the World Bank: Investigating Civil Society's Potential to Democratize Global Governance. By Christopher L. Pallas. New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013. 208 pages. Cost: Hardback US \$95.00. To order: www.palgrave-usa.com

Academics and practitioners alike recognize that global governance institutions suffer from a democratic deficit.

Many have looked to transnational civil society as a means of remediation. Yet a clear gap has begun to emerge between normative hopes and empirical reality. Using new data from civil society engagements with the World Bank, this book shows how transnational civil society organizations prioritize pre-existing mission over responsiveness to claimed stakeholders, undertake activism in line with financial incentives, achieve impacts using elite channels of influence, and undercut the authority of developing country governments. It explores the structural roots of these patterns and examines their impact on democratic representation. It also offers practical advice for how these negative patterns can be moderated through new practices at the Bank and new norms within civil society.



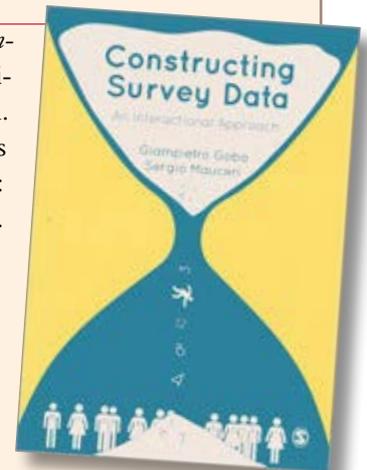
Third Sector, Partnerships and Social Outcome. The Cases of Italy and Ireland. Edited by Lucia Boccacin. Vita e Pensiero, 2014. Ebook. Cost: € 9.99. To order: www.vitaepensiero.it

The book collects contributions from A. Bassi, F. Powell, M. Geoghegan and L. Boccacin. They illustrate two national case-studies, concerning Italy

and Ireland in a comparative perspective, in order to evaluate the most recent social, cultural and institutional development of social partnerships between state, market

and third sector. For a sociological point of view, the term 'partnership' refers to a structural configuration characterized by the co-presence of different social subjects – state, market and third sector – and by reciprocal and collaborative social action that seeks to achieve project goals and is based on the implementation of mostly medium to long-term relations. The Italian and Irish cases are analyzed, in order to understand experiences of social partnerships, different ways of their realization, risks or critical points and opportunities.

Constructing Survey Data: An Interactional Approach. By Giampietro Gobo and Sergio Mauceri. London, UK: Sage Publications Ltd, 2014. 384 pages. Cost: Hardcover €75; Paper €24.99. To order: www.uk.sagepub.com

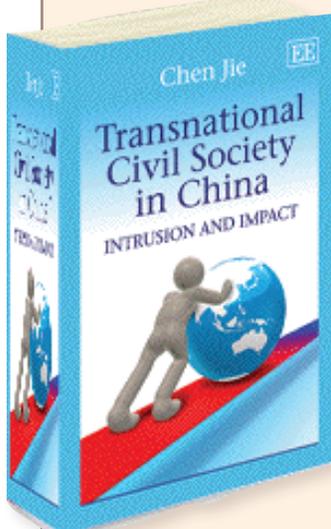


The book aims to revitalize survey research, recovering forgotten lessons of the past and focusing attention on research participants (and not the researcher), through an interviewee-centered and interactional approach. By proposing a post-positivist, interviewee-centered approach, it improved the quality and impact of survey data by emphasising the interaction between interviewer and interviewee. Extending the conventional methodology with contributions from linguistics, anthropology, cognitive studies and ethnomethodology, Gobo and Mauceri analyse the answering process in structured interviews build around questionnaires.

The following key areas are explored in detail:

- an historical overview of survey research the process of preparing the survey and designing data collection
- the methods of detecting bias and improving data quality
- the strategies for combining quantitative and qualitative approaches
- the survey within global and local contexts

BOOK NOTES



Transnational Civil Society in China: Intrusion and Impact. By Chen Jie. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2012. 224 pages. Cost: £ 65.00. To order: www.e-elgar.com

A salient trend in studies of China and transnational civil society – two newly influential global forces – is the converging of their paths. Thousands of international NGOs and foundations have come to operate in China in the ‘low politics’ of environment, development and epidemics, while democracy activists campaign on China from outside. This path-breaking book investigates transnational groups’ evolving relations with China and its NGO sector, and compares China with transnational stories of party states in Eastern Europe and Taiwan.

This book discusses the penetration, growth and operation of transnational civil society (TCS) in China. It explores TCS’ impacts on the incremental development of China’s political pluralism, mainly through exploring the influences of the leading TCS actors on the country’s bottom-up and self-governing activist NGOs that have sprung up spontaneously, in terms of capacities, strategies, leadership and political outlook, as a result of complex interactions between the two sectors.

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Nonprofits and Advocacy: Engaging Communities and Government in an Era of Retrenchment. Edited by Robert Pekkanen, Steven Rathgeb Smith, and Yutaka Tsujinaka. Baltimore, Maryland: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014. 320 pages. Cost: Paperback US \$44.94. To order: <https://jhupbooks.press.jhu.edu>

When the Susan G. Komen foundation pulled funding for Planned Parenthood’s breast

exam program, the public uproar brought new focus to the high political and economic stakes faced by nonprofit organizations. The missions of 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations, political action committees, and now Super PACs have become blurred as issues of advocacy and political influence have become increasingly entangled.

Questions abound: Should a nonprofit advocate for its mission and its constituents with a goal of affecting public policy? What are the limits of such advocacy work? Will such efforts fundamentally jeopardize nonprofit work? What can studies of nonprofit advocacy efforts reveal? Editors Robert J. Pekkanen, Steven Rathgeb Smith, and Yutaka Tsujinaka recognize the urgent need for relevant research and insight into these issues as direct and indirect government services are squeezed by federal cutbacks.

Nonprofits and Advocacy defines advocacy and clarifies the differences among advocacy, lobbying, political activity, and education, as well as advocacy measurements. Providing original empirical data and innovative theoretical arguments, this comparative study is organized into two parts. The first part focuses on local and national dimensions of nonprofit advocacy, and the second part looks at organizational politics and strategies. The conclusion considers basic questions about nonprofit advocacy and seeks to draw lessons from research efforts and practice. ■



Online Publications

Internet-mediated Volunteering in the EU

Author: Jayne Cravens; Editor: James Stewart



Its history, prevalence, and approaches, and how it relates to employability and social inclusion. This report assesses the current status of Internet-mediated volunteering in Europe and identifies key actors and stakeholders, drivers and barriers, uptake and usage, and potential challenges and risks for users, donors, policy makers and service operators. It also reviews the early history of

Internet - mediated volunteering and the possible linkages between Internet-mediated volunteering and greater employability and social inclusion for online volunteers, particularly young people. Finally, it identifies areas for policy development, review and refinement, and makes recommendations for future research.

<http://ftp.jrc.es/EURdoc/JRC85755.pdf>

The Economic Environment for Civil Society in Mexico (El Entorno Económico de las organizaciones de la Sociedad Civil en México).

By Humberto Muñoz Grandé and Alejandro Natal (In Spanish).

This book focuses on the financial environment of CSO during the first years of the political transition in Mexico, from 2000 to 2009.

<http://www.tercersector.org.mx/page2.php>

A Golden Age of Philanthropy Still Beckons: National Wealth Transfer and Potential for Philanthropy Technical Report

This report by John J. Havens and Paul G. Schervish at the Center on Wealth and Philanthropy at Boston College have issued the first update on their 1999 study on the intergenerational transfer of wealth and its impact on philanthropy.

http://www.bc.edu/content/dam/files/research_sites/cwp/pdf/A%20Golden%20Age%20of%20Philanthropy%20

[Still%20Bekons.pdf?utm_source=National+Wealth+Transfer+Rpt+and+Press+Release&utm_campaign=-May2014&utm_medium=email](http://www.bostoncollege.edu/content/dam/files/research_sites/cwp/pdf/Still%20Beckons.pdf?utm_source=National+Wealth+Transfer+Rpt+and+Press+Release&utm_campaign=-May2014&utm_medium=email)

Closing the Feedback Loop: Can Technology Bridge the Accountability Gap? Washington, DC: World Bank.

By Björn-Sören Gigler and Savita Bailur. 2014

Citizen engagement is core to enhancing accountability and improving public services. Innovations in technology are empowering citizens to make their voices heard and to better participate in decision-making processes in the governance of villages, cities, states and countries. The World Bank recognizes that citizen engagement is at the core of improving development outcomes, and aims to achieve 100% beneficiary feedback in projects with clearly identifiable beneficiaries, and to scale up results- focused and context- specific citizen engagement.

The new *Closing the Feedback Loop* report assesses the extent to which technology- enabled citizen engagement programs can enhance social accountability. Specifically, the report addresses the following three questions:

- How do ICTs empower citizens through participation, transparency, and accountability?
- Are technologies an accelerator to close the accountability gap—the space between government and citizens that requires bridging for open and collaborative governance?
- Under which conditions does this occur?

The book explores the theoretical linkages among empowerment, participation, transparency, and accountability. It showcases methods for community and crisis mapping across the globe, provides cases of citizen feedback mechanisms, and analyzes the World Bank's experiences in ICT-enabled citizen engagement. Introducing the Loch Ness model the report shows how technologies contribute to shrinking the gap, why the gap remains open in many cases, and what can be done to help close it.

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/18408>



ONLINE PUBLICATIONS

New Web Pages Provide Free Nonprofit Ethics and Management Resources for Students and Practitioners

First Nonprofit Foundation and White Hat Communications have joined forces to bring the nonprofit community two new, interactive, and free web sites of ethics and management resources.

The first site, the Nonprofit Ethics Education Pages, can be found at: <http://www.socialworker.com/nonprofit/ethics>. While it is principally geared to students studying ethics in nonprofit management, it will have value to practitioners who routinely face difficulty in making ethical decisions in their work. These pages contain the full text of "Ethics in Nonprofit Organizations--Theory and Practice," a textbook published last month by White Hat Communications. This textbook consists of chapters about general ethics, nonprofit

organization ethics, ten fictional full-length cases, and 120 fictional scenarios depicting situations in which someone in a nonprofit organization must make an ethical decision. Visitors to the site will have the capability to post comments and engage in a dialogue with others, increasing the educational value.

The second site, targeted to practitioners, includes the full text of several popular nonprofit management books published by White Hat Communications. Among them are "Improving Quality and Performance in Your Non-Profit Organization," "Fundraising Online," and the "Nonprofit Management Casebook." Also on the site is a selection of chapters from "The Nonprofit Handbook," now in its 6th edition-- that provides valuable advice on how to start up and run a nonprofit organization in the United States. This site can be found at:

<http://www.socialworker.com/nonprofit/management> ■

ANNOUNCEMENTS

20th Voluntary Sector and Volunteering Research Conference 2014

10-11 September 2014, Sheffield Hallam University, UK

The 20th annual Research Conference is jointly hosted by NCVO, VSSN and IVR and will bring together practitioners, academics and policy makers to discuss the research they have undertaken or are currently carrying out. The conference will showcase the latest findings on the voluntary sector and volunteering, stimulating debate and providing the opportunity to share knowledge and network in an open and friendly environment. Julia Unwin, Chief Executive of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust, will speak at the opening plenary session.

Read this year's conference programme on the NCVO website. Please note this is a draft version and is subject to change. For more information, email researchconference@ncvo-vol.org.uk Or call Ben Anstis on 44 020 7520 2484

Adil Najam has been appointed the Inaugural Dean of Boston University's newest School: The Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies. The Pardee School will formally open with the Fall Semester this year. Dean Najam notes, "I am ... excited about the potential to build a unique and transformative institution that responds to the great global and international challenges of our times with a deep ethos of interdisciplinary (social and natural sciences, humanities, and policy studies) and an explicit mission to direct our teaching, reach and policy outreach to "improving the human condition."

Najam has written and edited numerous books and more than 100 scholarly articles exploring sustainable development, Muslim and South Asian politics, environmental politics in developing countries, and philanthropy among immigrant communities in the United States. He was vice chancellor of Lahore University of Management Sciences in Lahore, Pakistan, from August 2011 through June 2013. ■