



Inside ISTR

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THIRD-SECTOR RESEARCH

ISTR Africa Regional Conference in Accra, Ghana, June 20-23

The ISTR Africa Network Conference will convene at the University of Ghana Business School in Legon, Accra from Tuesday, June 20 to Thursday, June 22. This will be followed by a PhD Seminar for early career researchers on June 23rd aimed at equipping the next generation engaged in third sector research on Africa for success.

The conference begins with a keynote address by Adam Habib, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Witwatersrand. Professor Adam Habib is an academic, researcher, activist, administrator, and renowned political commentator and columnist. Professor Habib will share his thoughts on, "Civil Society and Philanthropy in Africa: Contexts, Contradictions, Possibilities," informed by his extensive experience as a member of the academic community and passion and skill engaging stakeholders to build and strengthen institutions.

The following two days will include paper and panel sessions as well as a number of roundtable discussions on topical issues such as Social Enterprise and Social Entrepreneurs and Philanthropy and the Sustainable Development Goals. We will also have a session on publishing by *Voluntas* editor, Ruth Simsa, and some practical experiences shared from Civil Society Practitioners. The PhD Workshop after the conference will include a session on Careers, Networking and Alliance Building as well as a Publishing Seminar focused on graduate students and upcoming researchers.

The West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) in Accra is partnering with ISTR to coordinate the Af-



Keynote speaker Adam Habib

rica Regional Network. This conference will focus on our joint efforts to attract emerging African scholarship on civil society and philanthropy. It will also serve as a springboard for strengthening the bridge between Academia and Civil Society with regards to third sector research, and for identifying potential for collaborations between civil society and academia.

The University of Ghana Business School (UGBS) is a premier business school in the sub-region focused on developing world-class human resources and capabilities to meet national development needs and global challenges, through quality teaching, learning, research and knowledge dissemination. The Department of Public Administration and Health Services Management (PAHSM) will be the conference host.

Call for Contributions: Amsterdam 2018

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam | Amsterdam,
The Netherlands

10 July – 13 July 2018

DEMOCRACY AND LEGITIMACY: THE ROLE OF THE THIRD
SECTOR IN A GLOBALIZING WORLD

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: 27 OCTOBER 2017

To read the full call, please click [here](#).

The focus of the 2018 conference:

Conference organizers are keenly interested in a wide range of submissions, especially on topics related to democracy and legitimacy. In addition, ISTR is also interested in research which advances our understanding of theory, policy, and practice of third sector organizations. Overall, the 2018 Amsterdam conference offers a unique, and particularly valuable, venue for engaging with its very diverse membership of scholars to deepen our knowledge of these important issues.

- Democracy and Civil Society Organizations
- Challenges and Opportunities of Advocacy by NGOs and Nonprofits
- Governance, Management, Adaptation and Sustainability of Third Sector Organizations
- Hybridity, Legitimacy and the Third Sector
- New Models of Philanthropy and Voluntarism
- Active Citizenship and Activism
- The Third Sector and Development
- Social Innovation and the Third Sector
- Research on Teaching Third Sector Studies
- Emerging Areas of Theory and Practice



Democracy and legitimacy are central issues in debates about the role of the third sector. Throughout the world, third sector organizations are directly involved in many contentious discussions on democracy and the authority and legitimacy of public and private organizations. Relevant debates include growing inequality, restrictions on academic freedom, the global refugee crisis, the rise of populist movements, the restructuring of the public services to include more citizen engagement and responsibility, the politics of climate change, fair-labor practices, and rebuilding distressed communities. Moreover, third sector organizations often find their own role in promoting legitimacy and democracy deeply contested: governments have sought to restrict their political roles and limit their ability to raise money; scholars are divided on the contribution of nonprofits and NGOs to political integration and polarization; and politicians on the left and the right often are reluctant to politically support nonprofits and their organizational autonomy. At the same time, third sector organizations are also facing calls for greater transparency and accountability from public and private funding agencies, creating opportunities and challenges for those interested in positive social change.



ISTR Mentoring Program: 2017- 2018 Survey Results

Last year ISTR piloted a new Mentoring Program to connect students and young professionals with more senior colleagues to provide them with career, publishing, and funding advice and professional and networking development. The Mentoring Program is part of a larger suite of programs designed to support the increasing numbers of students entering the field of third sector research and joining ISTR, including the PhD Seminars held in conference years which are now being expanded to regional network conferences.

Last year, 60 experienced scholars and professionals were matched with PhD students and junior faculty to provide occasional guidance as a supplement to their formal academic advisors. ISTR recently surveyed the participants in this pilot program to gauge their satisfaction with the program and to identify areas where the program could be strengthened in the next round.

Overall, the pilot program seems to have been largely beneficial to most participants. The majority of mentors and mentees said they “would definitely” or “would probably” participate in the program next year. Further, 50% of mentors and 35% of mentees reported no negative aspects of their experience in the program at all.

Respondents reported that mentors most commonly offered career advice, contacts with other people, suggestions for obtaining funding, and suggestions for publication strategies. Others reported receiving advice on framing research concepts, navigating challenges with the mentee’s academic institution, providing guidance in work-life balance, reviewing written work (beyond ISTR’s expectations), and even collaborating with the mentee in research in one case.

Though the majority of the program participants maintained communication with their matches over the course of the program -- about half interacted with their matches between 2-4 times and a quarter interacted 5 or more times over the course of a year -- lack of engagement was cited as the most common negative aspect of the program. Survey comments revealed that there was uncertainty about who was responsible for initiating contact and how much mentees should be expecting of the mentors.



Stanley Katz (mentor) and Elisa Ricciuti (mentee)

The survey results also highlighted the different needs of mentees at different stages in their careers. First and second year PhD students tend to need different kinds of support than students at the end of their PhD programs.

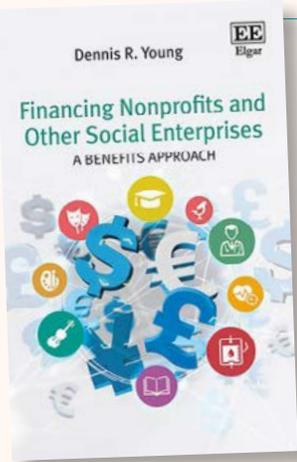
The survey was very useful to ISTR in employing new strategies for improving the Mentoring Program this next year. Though ISTR wants to maintain the current flexible structure and minimal obligations for the participants, survey respondents were clear that ISTR should provide more structure and guidance to ensure alignment of expectations, more communication from ISTR reminding mentors/mentees to be in touch, and should seek to improve the application process to ensure that the interests of mentees and mentors overlap.

Call for Mentor and Mentees – Deadline May 30, 2017

ISTR’s Mentoring Program draws naturally from the friendliness and collegiality of its members, and is designed to provide students with career, publishing, and funding advice and professional and networking development. Last year 59 experienced scholars and professionals provided occasional guidance to 59 PhD students and junior faculty as a supplement to their formal academic advisors.

Please join this year from June 2017 through May 2018. Details can be found at <http://www.istr.org/news/344401/Call-to-Participate-ISTR-2017--2018-Mentoring-Program-.htm>

Booknotes



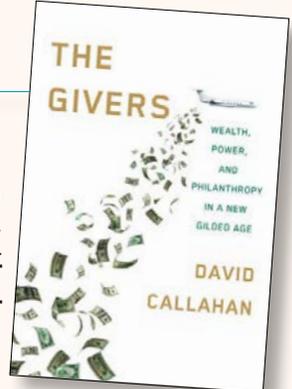
Financing Nonprofits and Other Social Enterprises -A Benefits Approach. By Dennis R. Young. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2017. 288 pages. Cost \$121.50. To order: www.e-elgar.com

Currently: 35% discount with the code VIP35.
<http://www.e-elgar.com/shop/financing-nonprofits-and-other-social-enterprises>

Benefits theory connects an organization’s mission, the public and private benefits it produces, and the societal groups that it benefits, to an appropriate income mix. This book applies benefits theory to the financing of nonprofit and other social purpose organizations to guide managers and leaders towards finding the best mix of income sources for their organizations, to help educate future managers about resource development and to stimulate additional research on the financing of nonprofits and other forms of social enterprise.

Individual chapters are devoted to organizations primarily reliant on earned income, gifts, government support and investment income, respectively, as well as to organizations that are well diversified in their sources of operating support. Each type of income, as well as mixed income portfolios are analyzed in depth. Detailed case studies of contemporary social purpose organizations are discussed throughout the book, and templates are provided to help leaders apply benefits theory to analyze the income opportunities and portfolios of their own organizations.

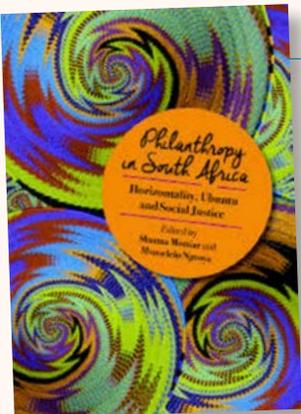
Dominant narratives of philanthropy often portray Africans as mere recipients of aid, usually from well-endowed, Western almoners - the West distributing charity to impecunious Africans. The contributors to this volume turn this argument on its head and ask: what about the beneficent spirit of multitudes of Africans whose acts of generosity sustain millions of their compatriots? This volume is unique in that it illuminates research on philanthropy in Africa by using case studies and ethnographic material to examine a number of themes: cycles of reciprocity among black professionals, social justice philanthropy, community foundations, ubuntu and giving in township and rural settings. Leading thinkers on normative aspects of philanthropy in Africa also critically explore the theories, perspectives and research on philanthropy. This well-researched book will be an invaluable resource to foundations, civil society organizations, researchers, policymakers and students of patterns of giving in South Africa.



The Givers: Wealth, Power, and Philanthropy in a New Gilded Age. By David Callahan. New York, NY: Knopf Publishers, 2017. 352 pages. Cost: \$28.95 Hardcover. To order: <http://knopfdoubleday.com/>

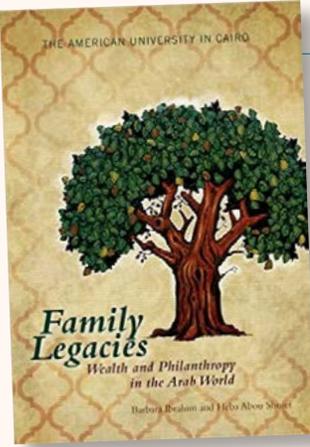
An inside look at the secretive world of elite philanthropists—and how they’re quietly wielding ever more power to shape American life in ways both good and bad.

While media attention focuses on famous philanthropists such as Bill Gates and Charles Koch, thousands of donors are at work below the radar promoting a wide range of causes. David Callahan charts the rise of these new power players and the ways they are converting the fortunes of a second Gilded Age into influence. He shows how this elite works behind the scenes on education, the environment, science, LGBT rights, and many other issues—with deep impact on government policy. Above all, he shows that the influence of *The Givers* is only just beginning, as new waves of billionaires like Mark Zuckerberg turn to philanthropy. Based on extensive research and interviews with countless donors and policy experts, this



Philanthropy in South Africa - Horizontality, Ubuntu and Social Justice. Edited by Shauna Mottiar and Mvuselelo Ngcoya. Pretoria, South Africa: HSRC Press, 2016. 224 pages. Cost: R231/ \$16.80. To order: <http://www.loot.co.za/product/shauna-mottiar-philanthropy-in-south-africa-wxmb-4530-g510>

is not a brief for or against *The Givers*, but a fascinating investigation of a power shift in American society that has implications for us all.



Family Legacies: Wealth and Philanthropy in the Arab World.

By Barbara Ibrahim and Heba Abou Shnief. Cairo, Egypt: The American University in Cairo Press, 2017. 112 pages. Cost: US \$9.99 Paperback. To order: <https://www.amazon.com/Family-Legacies-Wealth-Philanthropy-World/dp/9774167716>

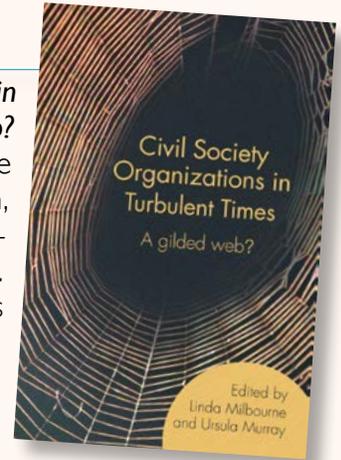
In recent decades, Arab societies have seen profound changes in patterns of family relationships, education, employment, social and political structures, and wealth creation. Individuals who have earned or inherited wealth seek the most beneficial and responsible ways of sharing their resources with their societies. They also want to pass along to their children and grandchildren the values that have guided them in earning, using, bequeathing, and donating their resources.

Family Legacies: Wealth and Philanthropy in the Arab World presents an overview of current approaches to family wealth and charitable giving in the Middle East. Barbara Ibrahim and Heba Abou Shnief interviewed more than twenty successful individuals from around the region, to learn about the principles that guide their philanthropy decisions, the reasons for their support of particular projects, and—perhaps most importantly—how they transmit to the younger generations not only financial resources, but the ideals and goals that guide them in the use of those resources to help others and improve society.

Inspired by the book *Wealth in Families* by Charles Collier, and guided by the particular outlook and traditions of Arab societies, *Family Legacies* is a guide to the use and transmission of wealth and an affirmation of the strong tradition of charitable giving in the Middle East.

Civil Society Organisations in Turbulent Times: A Gilded Web?

Edited by Linda Milbourne and Ursula Murray. London, UK: UCL Institute of Education Press, 2017. 224 pages. Cost: Until July the book is on 20% discount from the publishers' site with code GILDED17-- about £18.50. To order: <https://www.ucl-ioe-press.com/books/citizenship/civil-society-organizations-in-turbulent-times>



Fundamental changes to British social policy have seen civil society organizations assume a significant role in welfare provision, but chasing money and status have come at a high price. What has happened to integrity and morality, when many voluntary service organizations have become trapped in a gilded web of neo-liberal arrangements and a rapidly privatizing services industry? Why are they reinforcing the social, economic and political systems they were originally established to reform?

Drawing on contemporary research conducted in diverse service fields and from varied theoretical frameworks, the book offers vital analysis for people studying and working in civil society organizations, and for those concerned to reawaken the critical voices and independent spaces that could challenge the growing inequalities and failures of current social systems.

Philanthropy in South Africa Book Launch

University of Kwazulu-Natal Academics Dr Shauna Mottiar and Dr Mvuselelo Ngcoya launched their book: *Philanthropy in South Africa: Horizontality, Ubuntu and Social Justice*, at Ikes Books and Collectables.

By Melissa Mungroo

The book illuminates research on philanthropy in Africa by using case studies and ethnographic material to examine themes of cycles of reciprocity among black professionals, social justice philanthropy, community foundations, Ubuntu, and giving in township and rural settings.

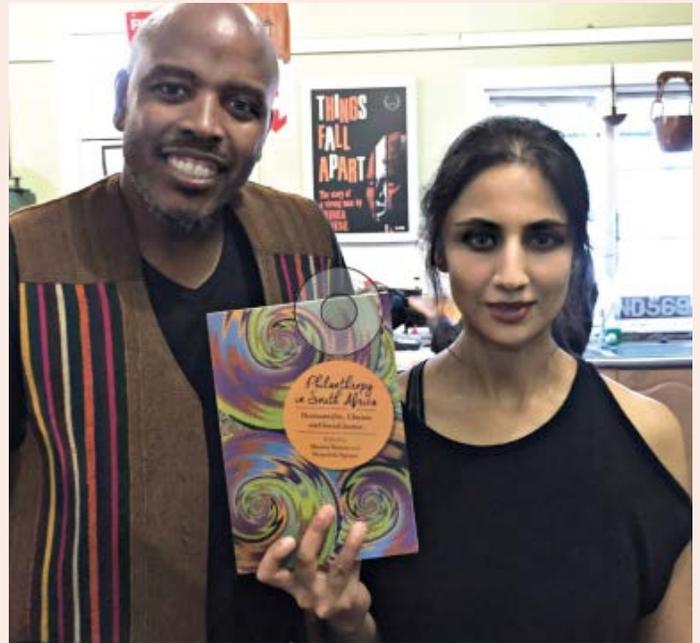
Leading thinkers on normative aspects of philanthropy in Africa, the authors also critically explore theories, perspectives and research on philanthropy.

Mottiar, who is the Director of the Centre for Civil Society (CCS) at UKZN, says the edited volume is a project that began a long time ago and emanated out of the Centre for Civil Society Philanthropy and Social Entrepreneurship Initiative funded by the CS Mott Foundation.

She said among the aims of the Initiative was to entrench philanthropy as an academic discipline by contributing to African and global scholarship through teaching, research and publishing.

While working on the volume, Ngcoya and Mottiar considered the idea of philanthropy and its impact on development trajectories and the rich forms of 'giving' and 'sharing' that form part of daily life in many African contexts.

'We wanted to interrogate the idea of "social justice philanthropy" distinguishing between "charity"



*Dr Mvuselelo Ngcoya and Dr Shauna Mottiar with their new book: *Philanthropy in South Africa: Horizontality, Ubuntu and Social Justice*.*

which risks disempowering and "philanthropy" which is better placed to consider the structural and systemic elements that contribute to disempowerment.

'Regarding the latter, we wanted to trace the contours and characteristics of philanthropy in South Africa from a perspective beyond that of normative/ Eurocentric assumptions about philanthropy. In this sense we wanted to begin the process of drawing out the nuances of giving practices such as "ukusisa" and "ilimo"', said Mottiar.

The book is an invaluable resource to foundations, civil society organisations, researchers, policymakers and students of patterns of giving in South Africa.

http://sobeds.ukzn.ac.za/news/17-05-05/Academics_Launch_Book_on_Philanthropy_in_SA.aspx

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