

# AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition Meeting

## Agenda

July 14-15, 2014

AAAS Headquarters

Washington, D.C.

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***Moving Forward*** - Since the launch of the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition in 2009, this growing network of science and engineering associations has collaborated to build bridges between science and technology organizations and the human rights community. The Coalition has created new human rights resources for science and engineering associations, tools for human rights organizations that seek to incorporate science and technology in their work, increased awareness of the opportunities for scientists and engineers to contribute to human rights, and advanced international discussions regarding the significance of the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications, as guaranteed in Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The Coalition's fifth anniversary provides an opportune moment to celebrate our progress and share the network's accomplishments. At this time of reflection, it is also fitting to look toward the next five years, identify emerging challenges, and map out the Coalition's next steps. Thus, to mark the anniversary, this meeting is organized around the connections between science and human rights that guide the Coalition's working groups.



ADVANCING SCIENCE. SERVING SOCIETY

## Monday, July 14

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8:00 a.m.      **Registration and Breakfast**

8:30 a.m.      **Welcoming Remarks** (*Auditorium*)

Speaker:        **Jessica Wyndham**, Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program, AAAS

8:45 a.m.      **Keynote Address** (*Auditorium*)

Speaker:        **Patricia Davis**, Office of Global Programs, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, U.S. Department of State

Moderator:     **Mark S. Frankel**, Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program, AAAS

9:30 a.m.      **Plenary Session: Innovations in Science and Technology for Human Rights** (*Auditorium*)

Scientists, engineers and human rights practitioners will give “lightning presentations” on innovative applications of science and technology to human rights.

Speakers:        **Eric Ashcroft**, Geospatial Technologies and Human Rights Project, Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program, AAAS  
**Ana S. Ayala**, O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, Georgetown University  
**Jennifer K. Wagner**, 2014-2015 AAAS Congressional Fellow; former Research Associate at the University of Pennsylvania’s Center for the Integration of Genetic Healthcare Technologies  
**Nahal Zamani**, Center for Constitutional Rights

Moderator:     **Sue Gunawardena-Vaughn**, Coalition Steering Committee Member, Human Rights Expert

10:30 a.m.     **Break**

11:00 a.m.     **Concurrent Sessions**

**Evaluating Effective Tactics for Protecting Colleagues at Risk** (*Revelle*)

How can science and engineering associations measure the effectiveness of their actions to protect the rights of colleagues around the world? In this session, human rights practitioners who have developed and implemented evaluation methods for their work to protect individuals at risk will lead a discussion alongside experienced Coalition members. The discussion will inform the ongoing work of the Welfare of Scientists Working Group.

Speakers:        **Lauren Crain**, Scholars at Risk  
**Giovanni Dazzo**, Freedom House  
**Jasmine Heiss**, Amnesty International USA  
**Courtney C. Radsch**, Committee to Protect Journalists

Moderator:     **Sophie Cook**, Committee of Concerned Scientists

**Teaching Human Rights in Science and Engineering Courses** (*Abelson-Haskins*)

STEM educators from different disciplines who have incorporated human rights in their undergraduate courses will share their experiences with and learn from human rights educators. The session will identify best practices, highlight available resources, and point out gaps in furtherance of the Education and Information Resources Working Group’s project to develop human rights modules for STEM educators.

Speakers: **Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach**, Association of American Geographers  
**Jiva Manske**, Amnesty International USA

Moderator: **Karen Kashmanian Oates**, National Center for Science and Civic Engagement

12:30 p.m. **Lunch**

1:00 p.m. *(concurrent with last half hour of lunch)*

**Information Session: Introduction to the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition** *(Abelson-Haskins)*

This session will provide an introduction to the goals and activities of the Science and Human Rights Coalition and the international human rights framework that guides its work, giving special attention to the connections of human rights to science and technology.

Speaker: **Jessica Wyndham**, Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program, AAAS

**Business Meeting: Planning the January 2015 Coalition Meeting** *(Revelle)*

On what projects will your working group, committee or organization be working in the next year? What tools and topics would you like to learn about and discuss at the next Coalition meeting that will help contribute to, facilitate or support those projects? Have your say on the agenda for the January 2015 Coalition meeting, which will focus on 'big data' and human rights.

Facilitator: **Theresa Harris**, Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program, AAAS

1:30 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

**Indicators for Human Rights** *(Revelle)*

Invited experts will share lessons learned from their use of empirical indicators to monitor and evaluate human rights, including some of the challenges in applying indicators and where they might be inappropriate in human rights work. This session will advance the Service to the Human Rights Community Working Group's project to develop indicators for assessing governments' efforts to implement the 'right to science' guaranteed in Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Speakers: **Nicholas Lusiani**, Center for Economic and Social Rights

Moderator: **Brian Gran**, Sociologists Without Borders

**Scientific Responsibility, Ethics and Human Rights** *(Abelson-Haskins)*

Participants are invited to explore and respond to the preliminary findings of the Ethics and Human Rights Working Group's questionnaire on scientific responsibility. The discussion will help identify potential next steps for the working group's research.

Speakers: **Robert Albro**, American Anthropological Association  
**Jessica Wyndham**, Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program, AAAS

Moderator: **Mark S. Frankel**, Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program, AAAS

Discussant: **Hugh Gusterson**, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, George Mason University

3:00 p.m. **Break**

3:30 p.m. **Closing Plenary: Funding Science, Technology and Human Rights** (*Auditorium*)

What has been the role of grantmakers in building bridges between the scientific and engineering communities and human rights? As organizations with an “aerial view,” what is the state of the field? What are the most significant areas of progress, and what are areas with potential for future advances? Program officers from science and engineering funders and from influential human rights foundations will share their experiences and views on the future of funding in this area.

Speakers: **Liza Dawson**, National Institutes of Health  
**Michael Kleinman**, Humanity United  
**Jeffrey W. Mantz**, National Science Foundation  
**Liz Steininger**, Open Technology Fund

Moderator: **Romesh Silva**, Johns Hopkins University

5:00 p.m. **Reception** (*2<sup>nd</sup> Floor*)

Recognition of student essay competition winners:

**Wasiu Adedapo Lawal**, University of Texas at Arlington, USA  
**Surabhi Chaturvedi**, National Law Institute University, Bhopal. India

6:00 p.m. **Meeting Adjourns for the Day**

## Tuesday, July 15

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In keeping with the Coalition's commitment to action and measurable outcomes, Coalition members and affiliates contribute to one of five working groups and a committee. Building on the previous day's discussions, the committee and working groups will take stock of progress made and, together with new and potential members, will continue work toward their objectives for 2014. *\*Unless otherwise noted, all are welcome to attend these working meetings, which will be conducted according to the Chatham House Rule regarding attribution.*

8:30 a.m. **Executive Directors' Circle** (*invitation only*)

**Outreach and Communication Committee** (*Revelle*)

Want to see a greater diversity of associations represented in the Coalition? Have innovative ideas for how to communicate with members about our on-going activities and achievements? Share your ideas for expanding Coalition membership and building a strong relationship with our existing members.

Co-Chairs: **Ali Arab**, American Statistical Association  
**Jeffrey H. Toney**, Sigma Xi

9:45 a.m. **Working Group Meetings** (*concurrent*)

**Welfare of Scientists** (*Room 207*)

This working group is devoted to the protection and defense of scientists and engineers under threat and will work to increase the effectiveness of professional societies in defending the human rights of our colleagues.

Co-Chairs: **Kimberly Clark**, Affiliated Individual  
**Alec Greer**, Affiliated Individual  
**Melvyn Nathanson**, American Mathematical Society

### **Ethics and Human Rights** *(Revelle)*

This working group is devoted to fostering appreciation among scientists, engineers and professional associations for the relevance of human rights to ethical standards, the conduct of science, the applications of science and technology, and human research protections.

Co-chairs:           **Robert Albro**, American Anthropological Association  
                          **Douglas Richardson**, Association of American Geographers

### **Service to the STEM Community** *(Room 700)*

This working group is devoted to building the commitment and capacity of professional associations to contribute meaningfully to human rights issues and activities, including through the application of their discipline's tools and techniques.

Co-chairs:           **Margaret Vitullo**, American Sociological Association  
                          **Clifford Duke**, Affiliated Individual

### **Service to the Human Rights Community** *(Abelson-Haskins)*

This working group is devoted to bridging the scientific, engineering and human rights communities, with the aim of encouraging and facilitating the greater engagement of scientists and engineers in efforts to advance human rights.

Co-chairs:           **Brian Gran**, Sociologists Without Borders  
                          **Susan Hinkins**, American Statistical Association  
                          **Oliver Moles**, Capital Area Social Psychological Association

### **Education and Information Resources** *(Room 600)*

This working group is devoted to producing a variety of accessible information materials for the promotion and support of collaboration between scientists, engineers and human rights practitioners.

Co-chairs:           **Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach**, Association of American Geographers  
                          **Sam McFarland**, Affiliated Individual

11:15 a.m.       **Break**

11:30 a.m.       **Contributing to Discussions on Article 15 at the United Nations** *(Abelson-Haskins)*

Taking stock of the current deliberations at the United Nations on the 'right to science' and drawing from examples of successful strategies for influencing UN human rights structures, Coalition members interested in ensuring the perspectives of the scientific and engineering communities are brought to the UN discussions will explore effective advocacy strategies.

Speakers:           **Risa E. Kaufman**, Human Rights Institute, Columbia Law School  
                          **Margaret Weigers Vitullo**, American Sociological Association  
                          **Jessica Wyndham**, Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program, AAAS

1:00 p.m.       **Council Lunch** *(Council Members and Student Delegates only)* *(Revelle)*

1:30 p.m.       **Council Meeting** *(Council Members only)* *(Abelson-Haskins)*

5:00 p.m.       **Meeting Adjourns**

The AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition  
thanks the

**American Educational Research Association  
Capital Area Social Psychological Association**

for their support of this meeting and the

**American Society of Mechanical Engineers-East Tennessee  
Kean University**

for their support of the student essay competition.