“Ethical Dilemmas in Science Practice”

Scientific research, whether conducted for military purposes, with potential military applications, or supported by military funding, raises important ethical questions. Three expert panelists will identify and assess the implications of these questions for the way scientific research is conducted. Following which, a prominent member of the human rights community will explore the human rights implications arising from the conduct of scientific research in a military context.

Presenters: Jonathan Moreno, Center for American Progress  
Dana Shea, Congressional Research Service  
Hugh Gusterson, George Mason University

Discussant: Len Rubenstein, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and former Executive Director, Physicians for Human Rights

Moderator: Mark S. Frankel, AAAS Scientific Freedom, Responsibility and Law Program

“In Their Own Voices: Hearing from Survivors of Human Rights Violations”

When we work for human rights, we work for people, people whose rights have been threatened or violated. What can they teach us about the work we are doing, and how to be more effective? This session will provide participants with the opportunity to hear directly from survivors of human rights violations, and to learn about the role science and scientists played in their story.

Presenters: Dennis Fritz, exoneree  
Laurie Ahern, Mental Disability Rights International  
Radwan Ziadeh, National Endowment for Democracy

Facilitator: Susan Hinkins, American Statistical Association

Training: “Article 15: The Right to the Benefits of Scientific Progress”
The focus of the Coalition’s Joint Initiative, the right to the benefits of scientific progress, is a much neglected human right requiring greater attention from both the scientific and human rights communities. This workshop will provide participants with a basic understanding of the meaning of this human right, provide examples of the application of this right in practice, and highlight questions still to be answered in its interpretation.

Trainer: Jessica Wyndham, AAAS Science and Human Rights Program

12:00 Lunch

12:45 Areas of Activity: Working Group Meetings (concurrent)

In keeping with the Coalition’s commitment to action and measurable outcomes, Coalition members and affiliates are required to contribute to one of five working groups. Through these meetings, working groups will take stock of progress made in 2009 and, together with new and potential members, will determine their objectives for 2010.

**Welfare of Scientists  Haskins**
This working group is devoted to the protection and defense of scientists under threat and will work to increase the effectiveness of scientific organizations in defending the human rights of scientists.

Co-chair: John Gillespie, American Physical Society

**Science Ethics and Human Rights  Abelson**
This working group is devoted to fostering appreciation among scientists and scientific associations of the relevance of human rights to ethical standards, the conduct of science, and human research protections.

Chair: Rob Albro, American Anthropological Association

**Service to the Scientific Community  Room 700**
This working group is devoted to building the commitment and capacity of scientific associations to contribute meaningfully to human rights issues and activities, including through the application of their discipline’s tools and techniques.

Co-chairs: Clinton Anderson, American Psychological Association
Lee Herring, American Sociological Association

**Service to the Human Rights Community  Revelle**
This working group is devoted to bridging the scientific and human rights communities with the aim of encouraging and facilitating the greater engagement of scientists in efforts to advance human rights.

Chair: Susan Hinkins, American Statistical Association
Education and Information Resources  Room 207
This working group is devoted to producing a variety of accessible information materials for the promotion and support of collaboration between scientists and human rights practitioners.

Co-chairs:  Judith Blau, Sociologists Without Borders
           Amy Crumpton, Affiliated Scientist

1:45  Areas of Activity: Working Group Reports-back  Auditorium

Areas of Activity working groups will report on the progress made and the decisions taken toward meeting their objectives. Working group co-chairs also will share their priorities for 2010.

Facilitator:  Jessica Wyndham, AAAS Science and Human Rights Program

2:15  Joint Initiative: Article 15 – Presenting the Plan of Action  Auditorium

Through its Joint Initiative the Coalition is committed to engaging scientific associations in efforts to elucidate, promote and realize the right to the benefits of scientific progress (Article 15, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights). The Plan of Action, completed in collaboration with the Coalition’s five working groups, sets out the objectives, benchmarks, and activities to be pursued by each of the working groups in 2010-2011.

Presenter:  Jessica Wyndham, AAAS Science and Human Rights Program

3:00  Break

3:30  Sessions (concurrent)

“Scientific Associations Serving Humanity: Volunteer Programs of Scientific Associations”  Revelle

This session will feature the volunteer programs of four scientific associations, each of which is aimed at directly involving scientists in human rights work or development activities. Speakers will discuss their programs’ goals, provide examples of projects undertaken as part of the program, and reflect on the challenges of setting up and sustaining volunteer programs.

Presenters:  Rhonda Jacobs, Geoscientists Without Borders, Society of Exploration Geophysicists
            Gary Shapiro, Statistics Without Borders, American Statistical Association
            Shaifali Puri, Scientists Without Borders, New York Academy of Sciences
            Jessica Wyndham, “On-Call” Scientists, AAAS Science and Human Rights Program

Facilitator:  Doug Richardson, Association of American Geographers

Haskins

Economic, social and cultural rights include the rights to food, water, health, shelter, and an adequate standard of living. Enjoyment of these rights is necessary in order for every person to be able to meet their basic needs. Participants will learn about the international human rights framework for protecting these rights; the specific obligations of governments with respect to these rights; and how scientists and the scientific community can contribute to efforts to ensure compliance with these obligations.

Trainer: Cathy Albisa, National Economic and Social Rights Initiative

5:00 Break

5:15 Planning Meeting for July 2010 Meeting Auditorium

The Steering Committee will present a recommendation for a program for the July meeting of the Coalition and will invite input and suggestions.

Facilitator: Clinton Anderson, American Psychological Association

5:45 Meeting Adjourns

6:00 - Reception 2nd Floor Reception

7:00