



Science and Human
Rights Coalition



AAAS **Science, Technology and** **Human Rights Conference**

October 23–25, 2019 | Washington, DC

Science, Technology and Human Rights

Agenda

October 23–25, 2019

AAAS Headquarters

Washington, D.C.

This three-day conference brings together human rights leaders from around the world, academic researchers across different disciplines, scientists and engineers who work in private industry, government officials, members of impacted and vulnerable communities, and students in science, engineering, human rights, health and law. Together we will take stock of progress made towards building effective partnerships between the scientific community and human rights communities, share lessons learned, and identify and develop collaborative, multidisciplinary approaches to the most urgent human rights challenges ahead of us.



Science and Human
Rights Coalition

Conference Supporters



Friends of the Coalition



AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION



Wednesday, October 23

8:00 a.m. **Breakfast** (*Second Floor Lobby*)

8:30 a.m. **Welcoming Remarks: The Science and Human Rights Coalition @ 10** (*Auditorium*)

Jessica Wyndham, Director, AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program

9:00 a.m. **Keynote Address** (*Auditorium*)

Introduction: **Dorothy J. Phillips**, Director-at-Large, American Chemical Society

Alfred Brownell, Distinguished Scholar in Residence, Northeastern University School of Law and Founder and Lead Campaigner, Green Advocates International, Liberia

9:45 a.m.

Balancing Power Through Data: How Haitian Farmers Demanded Justice for a Land Grab and Won (*Auditorium*)

The Kolektif Peyizan Viktim Tè Chabè (Kolektif) are a collective of farmers and their families (approximately 4,000 in all) who were displaced from their agricultural land in Northeast Haiti in 2011 to make way for an internationally financed industrial park. Over a multi-year period, The Kolektif engaged in a dialogue process with the Inter-American Development Bank and Government of Haiti to restore the farmers' livelihoods. That historic process resulted in an agreement between the parties in December 2018 that provides for remedial support, with a combination of land, employment opportunities, agricultural equipment and training, and support for micro-enterprise focused on women and the most vulnerable members of the community. Throughout the negotiations, evidence from community-led surveys, independent environmental assessments, and emerging communication and information sharing tools played a critical role in shaping the dialogue process and mitigating the power imbalance faced by the Kolektif. This panel will share lessons learned from the Kolektif's dialogue as a model for community campaigns for justice in Haiti and beyond, with a focus on how innovative research methods can reshape power dynamics by expanding the scope of access to information and translating local community knowledge into actionable data.



Samer Araabi, Research Director, Accountability Counsel

Milostene Castin, Coordinator of AREDE (Action pour la Reforestation et la Défense de l'Environnement)

Kirsten Nicholson, Professor of Environment, Geology and Natural Resources, Ball State University and AAAS On-call Scientists Volunteer

Megumi Tsutsui (Moderator), Communities Associate, Accountability Counsel

11:00 a.m. Showcase Flash Talk:
Scott Edwards, Amnesty International (*First Floor Lobby*)

11:00 a.m. Break (*Second Floor Lobby*)

11:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions

(1) The Scientific-Human Rights Nexus in Latin America: Cross-Discipline Action to Improve the Legacy of Mining and Oil & Gas Projects (*Auditorium*)

Latin America is now the most dangerous region in the world for environmental defenders. Technical assistance involving scientific and engineering analyses or health risk assessments can provide empirical evidence for legal advocacy organizations, communities, and governments seeking to prevent human rights violations. This panel will address critical and timely issues related to scientific inquiry and human rights concerns, with speakers who have been on the front lines of human rights issues in Latin American communities experiencing the effects of large-scale mining and oil & gas development projects. The panel will emphasize that many more scientists are needed to accomplish real change and protect human rights linked to environmental degradation.

Andrés Ángel, Science Fellow, Interamerican Association for Environmental Defense

María Guadalupe de Heredia, Journalist and Ecuador Coordinator, E-Tech International

Ann Maest (Moderator), Chief Scientist, E-Tech International

Marcella Ribeiro d'Avila Lins Torres, Human Rights and Environment Fellow, Interamerican Association for Environmental Defense



Case Studies:


The Role of Water Quality Information in the Defense of Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the Peruvian Amazon Affected by Oil Exploitation

The global demand for fossil fuels and metals has profound effects on the environment and communities, particularly on indigenous populations and their territories which have rich deposits of minerals, oil and gas. It is estimated that by 2020, between 50 and 80 percent of all mineral resources will be on lands claimed by indigenous peoples. These territories often lack pollution controls and enforcement of environmental laws. Access to environmental quality data is very limited for those living in remote areas such as the Amazon rainforest, affecting access to justice for indigenous peoples. This case study examines the influence of obtaining environmental quality data on the human right to clean water among indigenous groups in oil concession Block 192 in the Peruvian Amazon. It examines to what extent water quality data was useful in decision-making processes to improve the environmental conditions in Block 192, and the potential and limitations of environmental quality data in asserting the local people's human right to clean water. It aims to shed light on the potential and limitations of environmental quality data in environmental decision-making processes, and in the enforcement of the human right to clean water for indigenous communities affected by oil extraction.

Mercedes Lu, Staff Scientist, Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide

Reconciliation in the Antler-Thames Watershed: Indigenous-Settler Collaborations

This case study aims to share Oxford County's Roadmap to Reconciliation between Earth and Health that can be used by Water Protectors and Land Defenders in any watershed through the application and implementation of: i) the Great Law of Peace (Gaiianarekowa), ii) the 94 Calls to Action from the 2015 Truth & Reconciliation Report and the 231 Calls for Justice from the 2019 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Report, iii) high-quality environmental data for a particular "space" (time-place) from Geological Survey of Canada Open File 8528/Ontario Geological Survey Open File Report 6349, iv) local Indigenous teachings that promote numeracy in the format of co-created JUMP (Junior Undiscovered Math Prodigies) curriculum, v) a human rights law framework, and vi) selected STEM insights from Dan Fagin's 2014 Pulitzer Prize-



winning account of the childhood cancer cluster in New Jersey (“Toms River: A Story of Science and Salvation” (2013), Bantam) within a biosocial intervention strategy approved by Harvard’s Global Health Delivery certificate course in 2018.

Heather Dawn Gingerich, International Medical Geology Association, Office of Tsikonsase, Water School for Decision-Makers (WISDOM)

(2) Science and Human Rights Policy Advocacy Workshop *(Abelson-Haskins)*

This workshop is designed for STEM early career professionals and students who are interested in learning about the role of science in policy-making, to introduce them to the federal policy-making process, and to empower them with ways to become a voice for science and human rights throughout their careers. The workshop is designed for early career individuals and students with limited experience and knowledge of policy and advocacy who want to learn more about how human rights policy and science policy intersect.

Sean Gallagher, Senior Government Relations Officer, AAAS

Theresa Harris (Moderator), Project Director, AAAS

Chloe McPherson, Associate, Government Relations, AAAS

(3) Innovations in Human Rights Program Evaluation **Methods and Technology** *(Revelle)*

In this workshop, participants will learn about and contribute ideas for two Science and Human Rights Coalition projects that aim to help human rights organizations strengthen their internal impact evaluation capacities with scientific methods and tools. One project is from a team that has developed a webinar series sharing new knowledge on aspects of the evaluation process and how the success of human rights focused programs can be determined. The second project concerns a widespread and critical evaluation problem: how to handle missing values in data sets.

John Curtis, Independent Consultant, Washington, DC

William Mawby, Independent Consultant, Greenville, SC

Oliver Moles (Moderator), Webinar Project Team Leader, Capital Area Social Psychological Association

Mindy Reiser, Vice President, Global Peace Services USA



(4) Urban Metabolism and Minority Pulse (*Showcase*)

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to transform our world by promoting well-being, economic prosperity, and environmental protection. The attainment of the SDG agenda greatly depends on including all members of society, including minority groups. This workshop will discuss using the SDGs as a common language to educate the most vulnerable members of society. It will explore data collection strategies in cities, tailored methodology and strategy actions, and policy implementation tools for working with minority populations.

Gabriela Fernandez, Co-Founder, Metabolism of Cities

Carol Maione, Master of Science Candidate, University of Michigan

1:00 p.m. **Showcase Flash Talk:**

William Mawby, Independent Consultant, Greenville, SC
(*First Floor Lobby*)

1:00 p.m. **Lunch** (*Second Floor Lobby*)

2:00 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

(1) Towards Measuring Academic Freedom: Collaborative Review of a New Methodology (*Abelson-Haskins*)

Despite the impact of attacks on academic freedom on both the scientific community and society as a whole, our knowledge and understanding of such restrictions are very limited so far. In 2019, the Global Public Policy Institute (GPPI) launched a pilot project to explore ways to measure academic freedom worldwide. Improving information on levels of academic freedom across the world will facilitate much-needed research into the subject, serve as a concrete basis to reevaluate transnational partnerships in the academic field, and provide incentives for states and universities to improve or uphold academic freedom. The session will introduce a new, expert-based quantitative approach that GPPI developed in partnership with the V-Dem Institute and the Scholars-at-Risk Network. The workshop then seeks feedback on new case study research guidelines. The workshop organizers hope to engage a wide range of academics, including natural scientists and engineers, on this issue and on their experiences with academic freedom infringements. In addition, participants will have an opportunity to discuss alternative ways of how specific issues like academic self-censorship could be assessed in the future.



Omar Mohammed, Scholar of history and citizen journalism from Iraq

Robert Quinn, Executive Director, Scholars at Risk Network

Julie Schmid, Executive Director, American Association of University Professors

Janika Spannagel (Moderator), Research Fellow, Global Public Policy Institute

Radwan Ziadeh, Scholar of political science from Syria

(2) Advancing Science in a Global Context: Scientific Engagement at the United Nations (*Auditorium*)

This skill-building workshop will draw from the myriad ways that scientists can contribute their expertise and skills to the United Nations and civil society organizations through the world. The workshop will be led by knowledgeable individuals and scientists, including psychologists, who have successfully negotiated the complex organizations of civil society at the UN. Three interactive sessions will explore various levels and modes of engagement. Speakers will discuss the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues' involvement at the UN for more than 25 years; how individual scientists can get involved at the United Nations; and how graduate students can apply their training to act as advocates, researchers, and organizers in areas of sustainable development and integrate the goals of the United Nations into their careers.

Maya Godbole, Doctoral Student, City University of New York

David Livert, Associate Professor, Penn State University

Sarah Mancoll (Moderator), Policy Director, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues


Teresa Ober, Doctoral Candidate, City University of New York

Priyadharshany Sandanapitchai, Research Associate, Francois Xavier Bagnoud Center, Rutgers University

Peter Walker, Fellow, American Psychological Association

(3) Closing the Gap: How Can Scientists Better Support Communities Impacted by Mining? (*Revelle*)

Mining host communities experience severe environmental and physical human rights abuses, often without legal, technical or psychological support. Scientists play a crucial role in helping communities protect their environmental and



human rights before, during and after mining. Using real-life cases provided by communities in Sub-Saharan Africa, we will explore the challenges these communities face in connecting with scientists and generate creative solutions to close the gap. Workshop participants will spend the majority of their time in small groups, using design thinking methods to generate concrete solutions. The ideas, insights and solutions generated in this workshop will provide inspiration not only for communities impacted by mining, but for similar cases and scenarios resulting from industrial agriculture and large-scale infrastructure construction.

Onyekachi Okoro, Project Officer, Media Awareness and Justice Initiative

Stephen Steim (Moderator), Executive Director, New Media Advocacy Project


3:30 p.m. **Showcase Flash Talk:**
Tanya Harrison, Planet (*First Floor Lobby*)

3:30 p.m. **Break** (*Second Floor Lobby*)

4:00 p.m.

Preventing Harm to Migrant Children in Detention: A Case Study of Collaboration Between Health Whistleblowers, Professional Associations & Public Interest Organizations (*Auditorium*)

Drs. Scott Allen and Pamela McPherson serve as the medical and mental health subject-matter experts for the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. When the current Administration began expanding detention of migrant children as part of the implementation of its "zero-tolerance" immigration policy, Drs. Allen and McPherson approached Government Accountability Project, a public interest whistleblower protection and advocacy organization, about how they could speak out about the imminent and foreseeable harm to children posed by expanded and prolonged detention. This case study will describe how Government Accountability Project attorneys and advocates crafted a campaign to both protect Drs. Allen and McPherson as they exercised their rights as whistleblowers to communicate with Congress about serious concerns, but also to ensure their actions made a difference, in large part by working in collaboration with both medical professional associations and leading justice organizations. This case study will demonstrate not only the power of whistleblowers—be they medical doctors or in other areas of scientific



expertise—to protect the most vulnerable populations through the power of information, but also how the risk of reprisal is reduced and the effectiveness of their disclosures is exponentiated when they receive support for speaking up and validation of their concerns by professional societies and public interest organizations.

Dana Gold, Senior Counsel and Director of Education, Government Accountability Project

4:30 p.m.

Connecting Space to Human Rights (*Auditorium*)

Modern satellite imagery, available in all sizes and frequencies, provides another meaning to the long-standing phrase “A picture is worth a thousand words.” Satellites see no boundaries, don’t differentiate between any section of society, and offer a bird’s eye view of the world that may otherwise be inaccessible for geopolitical or security reasons. Satellite images have the potential to become an ally to frontline human rights defenders, helping prevent abuses, protect human rights defenders, and investigate violations. In this session, we invite scientists, users, and all other stakeholders to participate in an interactive discussion aimed at enhancing coordination and advancing knowledge of satellite image applications for human rights. This session will explore our current understanding, research tools, and conceptual framework, and discuss evidence-based case studies that focus on interdisciplinary assessments and science-based humanitarian and human rights response. It is intended to be of interest to practitioners and application-oriented users, particularly those working on or near areas where frequent visits may not be possible. Attendees will enhance their knowledge of the availability of types of satellite data, ways it can be used, challenges faced by the community, limitations, and potential trade-offs.

Jonathan Drake, Senior Program Associate, AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program

Umesh Haritashya, Associate Professor, University of Dayton

Shelley Inglis (Moderator), Executive Director, Human Rights Center

Nicole Widdersheim, Senior Human Rights Advisor, USAID



6:00 p.m. **Featured Speaker** (*Auditorium*)

Introduction: **Gabriel Twose**, Senior Legislative and Federal Affairs Officer, Government Relations Office, American Psychological Association

Sam Brinton, Head of Advocacy and Government Affairs, The Trevor Project

6:30 p.m. **Science and Human Rights Innovator: Medicapt, Physicians for Human Rights** (*Auditorium*)

As part of its 10th anniversary celebration, the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition has chosen to honor an outstanding example of the many human rights projects that have effectively incorporated science and technology as integral to the achievement of their goals. From the nominations received, the Selection Committee chose Medicapt, a project of Physicians for Human Rights, as the one that best exemplified the Coalition's values: collaboration, evidence-based advocacy, innovation, and positive impact on human rights.

Katy Johnson, Program Officer, Program on Sexual Violence in Conflict Zones, Physicians for Human Rights

Ranit Mishori, Professor of Family Medicine, Georgetown University School of Medicine

7:00 p.m. **Reception** (*Second Floor Lobby*)

Please join us to celebrate the Science and Human Rights Coalition's Tenth Anniversary

7:30 p.m. **Optional Common Table Dinner Groups**

Sign up at the registration table throughout the day to join a group of ten attendees for dinner together at a local restaurant.



Thursday, October 24

8:00 a.m. **Breakfast Roundtables** (*Second Floor Lobby, Abelson-Haskins, Revelle*)

9:30 a.m.

Using Scientific Tools to Counter Illegal Land Acquisition from Local and Indigenous Communities (*Auditorium*)

Many examples exist of companies promoting infrastructure developments and their allies in government violating human rights to a healthy environment by presenting false land use data in environmental impact assessments (EIAs). Developers, eager to push through regulatory processes, are often not held accountable to local laws or international best practices. At the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide (ELAW), an international NGO that operates pro bono, teams of scientists and attorneys support public interest lawyers working in their home countries to prevent illegal and environmentally destructive developments that threaten human rights. This panel will describe three instances—in Honduras, India, and Liberia—where maps, land use, and/or ownership data have been falsified by project proponents in an effort to corrupt the EIA process and undermine legitimate land claims by communities at proposed project sites. We will discuss the tactics used by the project proponents and strategies to restore rights and ownership. Following our presentation of these three case studies, we will lead a facilitated discussion with the audience to explore novel solutions from the scientific and human rights communities.

Alfred Brownell, Distinguished Scholar in Residence, Northeastern University School of Law and Founder and Lead Campaigner, Green Advocates International, Liberia

Gerene Grant, Bay Islands Development Organization (BIDO) and Inclusion and Preservation of the Afro English Speaking People (IPABESP)

Laura Palmese Hernandez, Environmental Lawyer, Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide

Heidi Weiskel (Moderator), Staff Scientist, Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide



10:45 a.m.

Supporting Science and Human Rights by Creating Effective Advising Networks for Displaced Scientists (Auditorium)

Increasingly, academic scientists have been forced into exile. Hundreds of universities around the world have served as temporary or longer-term hosts to displaced scientists, either through informal networks or structured programs such as the Institute of International Education Scholar Rescue Fund (IIE-SRF). In spite of these programs, there are a broad range of obstacles to displaced scientists resuming their scientific careers. In 2017, IIE-SRF launched the Partnerships for Scholar Advancement (PSA), a network of partner organizations and individuals committed to providing IIE-SRF fellows with opportunities for career advancement and professional development during and after their IIE-SRF fellowships. PSA connects participating scholars to opportunities through a network of institutions and individual partners across the academic, not-for-profit, and corporate sectors. Through the Partnerships for Scholar Advancement, IIE-SRF has assembled a network of individuals and organizations to provide opportunities and advising services beyond the assistance that host universities can provide. In this presentation, we will look at the results of these partnerships, and discuss opportunities for providing more effective advising networks for displaced scientists.

Florence Chaverneff, Volunteer Mentor, IIE-Scholar Rescue Fund

Olga Gregorian (Moderator), Senior Advisor, IIE-Scholar Rescue Fund

Sloka Iyengar, Volunteer Mentor, IIE-Scholar Rescue Fund

Michael J. Martin, Volunteer Mentor, IIE-Scholar Rescue Fund

11:00 a.m. **Showcase Flash Talk:**

Emilia Carrara, Asociación Interamericana para la Defensa del Ambiente (*First Floor Lobby*)

11:00 a.m. **Break** (*Second Floor Lobby*)



11:30 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

(1) Meeting of Scientific Association Human Rights Committees (*Revelle*)

Members of the human rights committees, sections, and affinity groups within science and technology associations are invited to this discussion. Among the topics to be discussed are the respective missions, mandates, and activities of the various groups and how the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition could support more effective collaboration between the groups.

Jessica Wyndham (Moderator), AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program

(2) Monitoring Human Rights in Conflict: The Use of Drones is Still a Chimera? (*Abelson-Haskins*)

Human rights have a potential new technological ally: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs).

Many people only perceive them through a military lens, believing that “any drone is a killer drone”. However, policymakers and researchers seek to increase awareness about the positive features of drone technologies, especially where direct access on foot is restricted due to armed conflicts. The purpose of this workshop is to kick off a discussion and lay the foundations for improving and increasing the monitoring and reporting of human rights and humanitarian law violations through drones. Using the drone operations of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission in Ukraine as a case study, presenters and participants will discuss technical and political ideas to step up the contribution of UAVs in the human rights sphere and the dilemmas current UAV technology raises, such as direct attacks, jamming and potential abuses of privacy. In addition, the workshop also aims at considering potential positive features, such as the use of Artificial Intelligence and the deployment of control and sensing architectures for cooperative drones.

Cono Giardullo (Moderator), Associate Fellow, Italian Institute of International Affairs (IAI)

Maryline Laurent, Professor, Télécom SudParis, Institut polytechnique de Paris

Anil M. Shende, Professor of Computer Science, Roanoke College

Francesco Betti Sorbelli, Researcher, University of Perugia



(3) Transformative Undergraduate Experiential Learning and Advocacy at the Intersection of Science and Human Rights (*Auditorium*)

What is the best way to engage undergraduate students in learning, advocacy and action at the intersection of science and human rights? This panel consists of students, faculty, and staff coming from a diverse disciplines, perspectives, and experiences from the University of Dayton. It seeks to demonstrate action-oriented and timely approaches to integrating science and human rights in experiential learning, based on evidence of successful programmatic outcomes which impact undergraduate students, the campus, and the community. It seeks to draw out from a diverse set of students, faculty, and staff perspectives what works and doesn't work in innovative collaborations across science and human rights at the undergraduate level. The session will include real life examples and offer participants insights into student learning, skills building and transdisciplinary models that could be considered for use in other University settings.

Kelly E. Bohrer, Director of Community Relations, School of Engineering, University of Dayton

Rachel Carr, Undergraduate Student, University of Dayton

Shelley Inglis (Moderator), Executive Director, Human Rights Center

Jared Marsh, Undergraduate Student, University of Dayton

Marigrace Moses, Undergraduate Student, University of Dayton

Carter Spires, Undergraduate Student, University of Dayton


1:00 p.m. **Showcase Flash Talk:**
Caroline Brodeur, Oxfam (*First Floor Lobby*)

1:00 p.m. **Lunch** (*Second Floor Lobby*)

2:00 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions**

(1) Supporting At-Risk and Refugee Scholars in Our Research Institutions and Communities (*Auditorium*)

The Global Young Academy (GYA)'s At-Risk Scholars Initiative provides support for at-risk academics around the world. This workshop will present the GYA At-



Risk Scholar Initiative model. Two scholars currently taking part in the mentoring program will be discussion leaders, speaking from the perspective of at-risk academics and their specific needs to re-establish their careers. The workshop aims to share the concept of the mentoring program as an example of addressing an acute human rights issue. Furthermore, it aims to elicit feedback on how to improve the program, to explore how different organizations can collaborate to support at-risk academics in our research institutions and communities, and to learn from others' experiences. Intended workshop attendees include at-risk scholars, university administrators, researchers, and practitioners who work with at-risk populations.

Uzeyir Ogurlu, Lecturer, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

Burcu Seyben, Refugee Theatre Scholar

Teresa Stoepler (Moderator), Co-lead, At-Risk Scholar Initiative, The Global Young Academy

(2) Evaluating and Expanding the American Psychological Association's Human Rights Engagement (*Revelle*)

This session will explore how the American Psychological Association (APA), a founding member of the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition, is evaluating and expanding its human rights work. While APA conducts a great deal of work relevant to human rights, this is the Association's first attempt to rigorously catalogue and understand the scope of the work in order to provide a roadmap moving forward, and potentially offers a model for other scientific associations to follow. APA formed a Task Force on Human Rights, comprising scientists and health professionals, to define human rights as it relates to psychology, review APA's recent and ongoing human rights activities, and recommend actions for ensuring APA's ongoing and visible commitment to human rights. This case study will discuss the work of the Task Force to illustrate the role of scientific organizations in human rights. Although the content is specific to psychology, processes and lessons learned will inform the aspirations of other scientific organizations who may wish to better understand their own human rights work in order to maximize impact and effectiveness.

Kirby Huminuik, Registered Clinical Counsellor, University of British Columbia

Gabriel Twose, Senior Legislative and Federal Affairs Officer, Government Relations Office, American Psychological Association



(3) Building Stronger Collaborations across Movements by Understanding the Differences (*Abelson-Haskins*)

Partnerships between human rights practitioners, local communities, scientists, engineers, and health professionals have shown potential to address deeply rooted, systemic human rights concerns. However, even when the individuals in these partnerships or the organizations they represent share common goals, they can inadvertently alienate one another if their motivations, analyses and solutions arise from different ethical, legal, and historical frameworks. In this interactive workshop, participants will explore some of these movements, including environmental justice, sustainability, inter-faith action and community-led research, and their potential for collaboration at the intersection of human rights and environmental sustainability. Participants will be invited to share perspectives, success stories, challenges and solutions from each of their personal vantages.

Theresa Harris, Project Director, AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program

Leanne Jablonski, Scholar for Faith and Environment, University of Dayton Hanley Sustainability Institute

Brian Shmaefsky, Professor of Biology & Environmental Science, Lone Star College — Kingwood, and AAAS On-call Scientists volunteer

3:30 p.m. **Showcase Flash Talk:**


Cathy Furlong, Statistics Without Borders (*First Floor Lobby*)

3:30 p.m. **Break** (*Second Floor Lobby*)

4:00 p.m.

Defending the Right to Seek Asylum: Practicing Attorney-Scholar Collaborations (*Auditorium*)

This session explores how collaboration between scholars and attorneys can mitigate the continuing threats to the right to seek asylum. High levels of violence in Latin America are driving asylum claims. There is a growing backlog in asylum cases of Latin American migrants—particularly women, children, and unaccompanied minors and LGBTQ persons. Rapidly changing policies seek to alter, defer, and deny the right to seek asylum. There is a pressing need for a joint effort between scientists and frontline attorneys to develop best practices



for ethically grounded and evidence-based approaches to expert witnessing. The collaboration showcased in this session addresses how the behavioral scientific community with country-specific expertise can manage the demands of established disciplinary training, methods, and narratives with the rules of evidence as required by courts. The session offers participants a case study in a long term effective collaboration between the human rights community and the scientific community that provides concrete proposals for the knowledge sharing needed for future collaborations in this area.

Maria Baldini-Potermin, Founder, Baldini-Potermin & Associates, P.C.

Kimberly Gauderman, Faculty Member, University of New Mexico

Elizabeth Hutchison, Director, Feminist Research Institute, University of New Mexico

M. Gabriela Torres, Cultural Anthropologist, American Anthropological Association's Members Programmatic, Advisory and Advocacy Committee

5:15 p.m.

A Multiperspective Look at Artificial Intelligence for Human Rights Causes (*Auditorium*)

How might artificial intelligence (AI) technology be best utilized for human rights causes? Are resource-constrained organizations able to tap this technology, and are there particular applications where this technology will create the most impact? Seeking to answer and explore these questions, this panel will convene categorically diverse speakers and organizations who have found multiple ways to harness AI for human rights causes. The panel will additionally explore how a coalition of collaborators can best work together to address human-rights-related challenges in specific sectors. Attendees will leave the panel knowing of the AI tools and resources available to advance human rights causes and methods to partner with other organizations in using AI technologies for greatest impact.

Chloe Autio, Policy Analyst — Artificial Intelligence & Privacy Policy, Intel

Nadya Bliss, Director of Global Security Initiative, Arizona State University

Jennifer Ding, Solutions Engineer, Numina

Samir Goswami (Moderator), COO, The Partnership on AI

Shabnam Mojtahedi, Senior Program Manager, Benetech



6:30 p.m. **Featured Speaker** (*Auditorium*)

Introduction: **Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach**, Professor, Department of Geography and the Environment at the University of Texas-Austin and Past President, American Association of Geographers

Francella Ochillo, Executive Director, Next Century Cities

7:00 p.m. **Reception** (*Second Floor Lobby*)

7:30 p.m. **Optional Common Table Dinner Groups**

Sign up at the registration table throughout the day to join a group of ten attendees for dinner together at a local restaurant.



Friday, October 25

8:00 a.m. **Executive Directors' Circle Breakfast** (*invitation only*)
(12th Floor Boardroom)
Sponsored by the American Chemical Society

If you are a member of the Executive Directors' Circle, please see the security desk upon your arrival to pick up a security badge. A badge is necessary to access the 12th floor.


8:30 a.m. **Breakfast** (*Second Floor Lobby*)

9:00 a.m. **Featured Speaker** (*Auditorium*)
Introduction: **Ali Arab**, Associate Professor of Statistics,
Georgetown University
Davina Durgana, Senior Research Analyst, Walk Free Foundation

9:45 a.m.

Predicting the Location of Hidden Graves in Mexico Using Machine Learning Models (*Auditorium*)

The Human Rights Data Analysis Group, in collaboration with partners Data Cívica and the Human Rights Center of the Iberoamericana University, has created a machine-learning model to predict which counties in Mexico have the highest probability of unreported hidden graves. The predictions help advocates to bring public attention and government resources to search for the disappeared in the places where they are most likely to be found. The model helps groups of families of the disappeared to shape their search strategies and provides a new kind of language — data and probabilities — that human rights groups can use in their advocacy demanding that state officials pursue justice. In addition to analyzing our model's strengths and weaknesses, this session will offer an analysis of machine learning models in general. Panelists will explore why so many applications of machine learning are socially harmful, and the questions to ask to determine if an application has the potential for a positive outcome. They will present a case study as a template for how these models could be applied in other political and informational contexts.



Patrick Ball (Moderator), Director of Research, Human Rights Data Analysis Group

Kristian Lum, Lead Statistician, Human Rights Data Analysis Group

Mónica Meltis, Executive Director, Data Cívica

Jorge Ruiz Reyes, Researcher, Human Rights Program, Universidad Iberoamericana

11:00 a.m. Break (*Second Floor Lobby*)

11:30 a.m.

Realizing the Right to Science: Progress and Next Steps (*Auditorium*)

Since the Science and Human Rights Coalition's launch in 2009, it has carried out research and activities to advance the international right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications. Speakers will provide an overview of the progress made in the last decade, share examples of scientists using the right to science to frame their research. Using an interactive online platform, participants will engage directly in identifying future priorities for collaborative action that have emerged from the conference.

Margaret Weigers Vitullo, Deputy Director, American Sociological Association

Jessica Wyndham, Director, AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program

1:00 p.m. Closing Remarks (*Auditorium*)

1:30 p.m. Coalition Council Lunch (*Council Members only*)

2:00 p.m. Council Meeting (*Council Members only*)

5:00 p.m. Council Meeting Adjourns

Speakers

Keynote



Alfred Brownell

Distinguished Scholar in Residence, Northeastern University School of Law

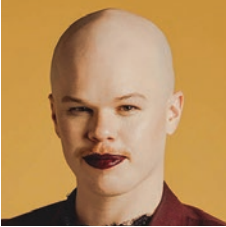
Founder and Lead Campaigner, Green Advocates International, Liberia

Alfred Brownell is a leading human rights and environmental lawyer in Africa. He is the Founder of Green Advocates, based in Liberia, and currently serves as Distinguished Scholar in Residence at the Northeastern University School of Law Program on Human Rights and the Global Economy.

His central objective for the last decade has been to seek recognition of the customary land and property rights of local communities and indigenous peoples throughout Liberia and West Africa. Through the Green Advocates Public Interest Law Program, Brownell has filed several international complaints against industrial agriculture companies on behalf of local communities and indigenous peoples. Among his most important victories is an independent forensic investigation into complaints alleging that oil palm companies were grabbing customary lands that were home to communities for generations.

This year, Brownell was awarded the prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize for his extraordinary work protecting land rights.

Featured Speakers



Sam Brinton

**Head of Advocacy and Government Affairs,
The Trevor Project**

Sam Brinton is the Head of Advocacy and Government Affairs at The Trevor Project, where their work is driven by the pressing need to provide a safer and more inclusive world for members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (LGBTQ) community. They have testified at federal and state legislative hearings and has spoken at several engagements to raise awareness of topics concerning LGBTQ youth, such as mental health and suicide prevention. Brinton has also written for many publications on these subjects.

A nuclear engineer by training, Brinton is the founder of Core Solutions Consulting, which seeks to provide a range of services to address the grand energy and nuclear waste challenges faced throughout the new political landscape.



Davina P. Durgana

Senior Research Analyst, Walk Free Foundation

Davina P. Durgana, Ph.D., is an award-winning international human rights statistician who has developed leading global models to assess risk and vulnerability to modern slavery. She is a report co-author and Senior Statistician on the Walk Free Foundation's Global Slavery Index. Durgana is also Assistant Professor of Sustainable Development at SIT Graduate Institute. Further, She was selected as a Google Fellow for Technology and Social Change for her work in Human Trafficking and Technology.

In addition, Durgana is an inaugural AAAS IF/Then Ambassador, working to encourage young girls and women to pursue S.T.E.M. fields.



Francella Ochillo

Executive Director, Next Century Cities

Francella Ochillo, J.D., is the Executive Director of Next Century Cities and works to ensure everyone to have access to fast, affordable, and reliable broadband.

Ochillo is a digital rights advocate who is committed to expanding internet access to underserved and unserved communities.

She has testified before Congress and held meetings with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regarding broadband access and affordability.



Speakers

Andrés Ángel, Science Fellow, Interamerican Association for Environmental Defense

Samer Araabi, Research Director, Accountability Counsel

Ali Arab, Associate Professor of Statistics, Georgetown University

Chloe Autio, Policy Analyst — Artificial Intelligence & Privacy Policy, Intel

Maria Baldini-Potermin, Founder, Baldini-Potermin & Associates, P.C.

Patrick Ball, Director of Research, Human Rights Data Analysis Group

Francesco Betti Sorbelli, Researcher, University of Perugia

Nadya Bliss, Director of Global Security Initiative, Arizona State University

Kelly E. Bohrer, Director of Community Relations, School of Engineering, University of Dayton

Caroline Brodeur, Oxfam

Rachel Carr, Undergraduate Student, University of Dayton

Emilia Carrara, Asociación Interamericana para la Defensa del Ambiente

Milostene Castin, Coordinator of AREDE (Action pour la Reforestation et la Défense de l'Environnement)

Florence Chaverneff, Volunteer Mentor, IIE-Scholar Rescue Fund

John Curtis, Independent Consultant, Washington, DC

Jennifer Ding, Solutions Engineer, Numina

Jonathan Drake, Senior Program Associate, AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program

Scott Edwards, Amnesty International

Gabriela Fernandez, Co-Founder, Metabolism of Cities

Cathy Furlong, Statistics Without Borders

Sean Gallagher, Senior Government Relations Officer, AAAS

Kimberly Gauderman, Faculty Member, University of New Mexico

Cono Giardullo, Associate Fellow, Italian Institute of International Affairs (IAI)

Heather Dawn Gingerich, International Medical Geology Association, Office of Tsikonsase, Water School for Decision-Makers (WISDOM)



Maya Godbole, Doctoral Student, City University of New York

Dana Gold, Senior Counsel and Director of Education, Government Accountability Project

Samir Goswami, COO, The Partnership on AI

Gerene Grant, Bay Islands Development Organization (BIDO) and Inclusion and Preservation of the Afro English Speaking People (IPABESP)

Olga Gregorian, Senior Advisor, IIE-Scholar Rescue Fund

María Guadalupe de Heredia, Journalist and Ecuador Coordinator, E-Tech International

Umesh Haritashya, Associate Professor, University of Dayton

Theresa Harris, Project Director, AAAS

Tanya Harrison, Planet

Kirby Huminuik, Registered Clinical Counsellor, University of British Columbia

Elizabeth Hutchison, Director, Feminist Research Institute, University of New Mexico

Shelley Inglis, Executive Director, Human Rights Center

Sloka Iyengar, Volunteer Mentor, IIE-Scholar Rescue Fund

Leanne Jablonski, Scholar for Faith and Environment, University of Dayton Hanley Sustainability Institute

Katy Johnson, Program Officer, Program on Sexual Violence in Conflict Zones, Physicians for Human Rights

Maryline Laurent, Professor, Télécom SudParis, Institut polytechnique de Paris

David Livert, Associate Professor, Penn State University

Mercedes Lu, Staff Scientist, Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide

Kristian Lum, Lead Statistician, Human Rights Data Analysis Group

Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach, Professor, Department of Geography and the Environment at the University of Texas-Austin and Past President, American Association of Geographers

Ann Maest, Chief Scientist, E-Tech International

Carol Maione, Master of Science Candidate, University of Michigan

Sarah Mancoll, Policy Director, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues

Jared Marsh, Undergraduate Student, University of Dayton



Michael J. Martin, Volunteer Mentor, IIE-Scholar Rescue Fund

William Mawby, Independent Consultant, Greenville, SC

Chloe McPherson, Associate, Government Relations, AAAS

Mónica Meltis, Executive Director, Data Cívica

Ranit Mishori, Professor of Family Medicine, Georgetown University School of Medicine

Omar Mohammed, Scholar of history and citizen journalism from Iraq

Shabnam Mojtahedi, Senior Program Manager, Benetech

Oliver Moles, Webinar Project Team Leader, Capital Area Social Psychological Association

Marigrace Moses, Undergraduate Student, University of Dayton

Kirsten Nicholson, Professor of Environment, Geology and Natural Resources, Ball State University and AAAS On-call Scientists Volunteer

Teresa Ober, Doctoral Candidate, City University of New York

Uzeyir Ogurlu, Lecturer, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

Onyekachi Okoro, Project Officer, Media Awareness and Justice Initiative

Laura Palmese Hernandez, Environmental Lawyer, Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide

Dorothy J. Phillips, Director-at-Large, American Chemical Society

Robert Quinn, Executive Director, Scholars at Risk Network

Mindy Reiser, Vice President, Global Peace Services USA

Marcella Ribeiro d'Avila Lins Torres, Human Rights and Environment Fellow, Interamerican Association for Environmental Defense

Jorge Ruiz Reyes, Researcher, Human Rights Program, Universidad Iberoamericana

Priyadharshany Sandanapitchai, Research Associate, Francois Xavier Bagnoud Center, Rutgers University

Julie Schmid, Executive Director, American Association of University Professors

Burcu Seyben, Refugee Theatre Scholar

Anil M. Shende, Professor of Computer Science, Roanoke College

Brian Shmaefsky, Professor of Biology & Environmental Science, Lone Star College — Kingwood, and AAAS On-call Scientists volunteer



- Janika Spannagel**, Research Fellow, Global Public Policy Institute
- Carter Spires**, Undergraduate Student, University of Dayton
- Stephen Steim**, Executive Director, New Media Advocacy Project
- Teresa Stoepler**, Co-lead, At-Risk Scholar Initiative, The Global Young Academy
- M. Gabriela Torres**, Cultural Anthropologist, American Anthropological Association's Members Programmatic, Advisory and Advocacy Committee
- Megumi Tsutsui**, Communities Associate, Accountability Counsel
- Gabriel Twose**, Senior Legislative and Federal Affairs Officer, Government Relations Office, American Psychological Association
- Peter Walker**, Fellow, American Psychological Association
- Margaret Weigers Vitullo**, Deputy Director, American Sociological Association
- Heidi Weiskel**, Staff Scientist, Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide
- Nicole Widdersheim**, Senior Human Rights Advisor, USAID
- Jessica Wyndham**, AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program
- Radwan Ziadeh**, Scholar of political science from Syria

Thank you!

The AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition is grateful to the Conference Host Committee members for their vision, leadership, and contributions to the success of this event.

Ali Arab

Aramati Casper

Michel DeGraff

Rebecca Everly

Youssef Farhat

Mike Frick

Sue Gunawardena-

Vaughn

Lesya Horyn

Clare Robinson

Natallia Sianko

The Coalition also thanks the members of the Science and Human Rights Innovators Selection Committee for bringing this exciting initiative to life.

Toni Carbo

Maria Isabel Cubides

Davina Durgana

Bill Lenart

Bill Mawby

Enrique Piracés

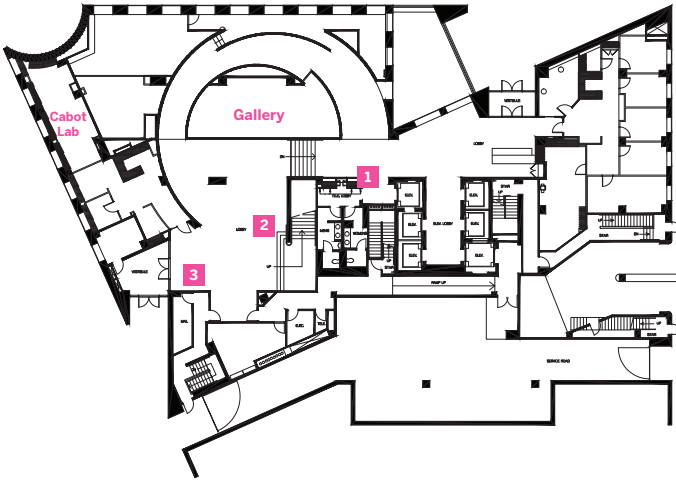
Meg Satterthwaite

Elaine Scheye

Dawnie Wolfe Steadman

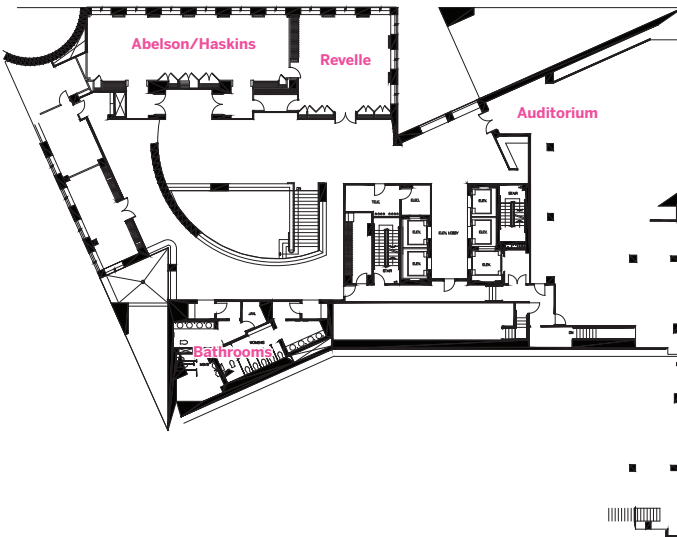
Judith Torney-Purta

Floorplans



AAAS LEVEL ONE

1. Inclusive Bathroom
2. Showcase Flash Presentations
3. Registration



AAAS LEVEL TWO



About the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition

The AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition is a network of scientific and engineering membership organizations that recognize a role for scientists and engineers in human rights. The use of scientific methods and the innovative application of technology have contributed substantively to the promotion and protection of human rights. The needs of the human rights community, however, are immense. Both in terms of expertise and influence, scientists, engineers and health professionals have much to contribute to efforts to promote and protect human rights. Indeed, some individuals and professional societies have already made important contributions. However, much more can be achieved when the science, engineering and health communities embrace human rights as an area suitable for and deserving of robust inquiry and become an influential voice in the defense of human rights. The Coalition was launched on January 14–16, 2009 to broaden the engagement of scientific and engineering communities in human rights and to achieve more far-reaching and sustainable contributions to human rights work.



Member Organizations

Acoustical Society of America
American Anthropological Association
American Association of Geographers
American Chemical Society
American Educational Research Association
American Mathematical Society
American Philosophical Association
American Physical Society
American Political Science Association
American Psychological Association
American Sociological Association
American Statistical Association
Association for Information Science Technology
Capital Area Social Psychological Association
Case Western Reserve University Science and Human Rights Coalition
Council on Undergraduate Research
Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice

Linguistic Society of America
National Center for Science and Civic Engagement
Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society
Society for Research in Child Development
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Society for the Study of Social Problems
Sociologists Without Borders

Affiliated Organizations

American Geosciences Institute
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences

Affiliated Individuals

The Coalition currently has 122 Affiliated Individuals.



Science and Human
Rights Coalition