Evidence-Based Human Rights Movements

The concept of applying scientific research methods and findings to human rights documentation is not new. However, much less attention has been given to ways in which scientific research can inform building and strengthening human rights movements. Examples include insights from evidence-based human rights investigations, use of new technologies to assess the effectiveness of human rights interventions, and new research on activist burnout.

After the opening plenary session, two workshops will be held, one aimed at building capacity for engaging volunteers and the other in communicating about Coalition resources to your members, colleagues and peers. The meeting also will include facilitated sessions for Coalition members to share their experiences and, working together, to strengthen and advance the Coalition's goals.

Since the launch of the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition in January 2009, Coalition meetings have convened scientists, engineers, and health professionals with human rights leaders and policy makers to discuss emerging issues at the nexus of science and human rights. The Coalition serves as a catalyst for the increased involvement of scientific, engineering, and health associations and their members in human rights-related activities.
Monday, April 4

8:30 a.m.  Registration and Breakfast

9:00 a.m.  Welcoming Remarks (Auditorium)

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

Speaker:  Rush D. Holt, AAAS and Science Family of Journals

9:15 a.m.  Plenary Panel: Evidence-Based Human Rights Movements (Auditorium)

Speakers:  Ann Marie Clark, Purdue University
          Paul Gorski, George Mason University
          Margaret Satterthwaite, New York University School of Law

Moderator:  Louisa Greve, National Endowment for Democracy

10:30 a.m.  Break

11:00 a.m.  Workshops:

Using Coalition Resources to Connect Your Association’s Members to Human Rights (Revelle)
Presented by the Service to the STEM Community Working Group

Facilitators:  Clinton Anderson, American Psychological Association
             Jessica Wyndham, AAAS

Motivating, Mobilizing, and Retaining Volunteers (Abelson-Haskins)

Facilitator:  Theresa Harris, AAAS

12:30 p.m.  Lunch

1:30 p.m.  AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition Facilitated Discussion (Abelson-Haskins)

Facilitator:  Meredith Persily Lamel, MPL Partners, LLC
Participants:  Coalition member representatives, individual affiliates, and invited guests

Objectives:
- Recomit to the Coalition’s goals and associated activities
- Define success metrics and ensure alignment
- Engage participants to identify how they can contribute to the Coalition’s efforts
- Commit to activities, ownership, and timeline of priority activities
- Ensure the structure and processes support the goals and activities

Process:
- Meredith Persily Lamel will facilitate a series of breakout sessions and full group discussion
- We will use post-it notes to provide feedback to groups
- When necessary, will use “Fist of 5” to reach consensus
- Success of the meeting will depend on full participation by all attendees
Outcomes:
- Set of agreed upon metrics of success for the Coalition’s four primary activities
- A list of activities (with people assigned or requested) and timelines that will enable achievement of the success metrics
- Proposed next steps to ensure the Coalition’s structure and processes support its goals

Coalition Evaluation

Agenda Review and Ground Rules.

Success Metrics: What does success look like? How will we measure our success?

3:00 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. Success Metrics, continued

Individual Contributions to the Goals

Categorize Activities and Plan

Close-Out Day One

5:30 p.m. Reception (2nd Floor)

6:30 p.m. Meeting Adjourns for the Day

Tuesday, April 5

8:00 a.m. Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Facilitated Discussion Day Two (Abelson-Haskins)

Goal Presentations, Discussion of Priority Activities

10:45 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. What structures would best support these goals and activities?
What structures would best support engagement of individuals and organizations?

12:45 p.m. Lunch

1:30 p.m. Accountability/Follow-through

Review Next Steps and Closing Exercise

3:00 p.m. Break

3:30 p.m. Council Meeting (Abelson-Haskins)

5:30 p.m. Meeting Adjourns

*Please note the times for the facilitated discussion are approximate and will be adjusted to best support the flow of the day. If you need to schedule a conference call, please do so during the lunch period. This time will be fixed.