



AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition

26-27 July 2010
Washington, DC

Monday, July 26

5:00pm Registration

5:30 **Opening Plenary** *Auditorium*

Panel: **Enjoying the Benefits of Scientific Progress: Access, Innovation and Impediments**

Scientific advances have brought progress and prosperity to many societies. Yet, at the same time, access to essential medicines, potable water, basic sanitation and other benefits of science remain illusive for many vulnerable and marginalized populations. Enjoying the benefits of scientific progress is a human right, the practical realization of which will require a reconsideration of incentive mechanisms for innovation, a commitment to removing barriers to access, and pro-active approaches to bringing the benefits of science to remote and impoverished communities.

This panel will canvass a number of innovative strategies that have been proposed, and in some cases implemented, to give marginalized persons access to the benefits of scientific progress.

Panelists: **Gregg Alton**, Gilead
Audrey Chapman, University of Connecticut
Ethan Guillen, Universities Allied for Essential Medicines
James Love, Knowledge Ecology International

Facilitator: **Jessica M. Wyndham**, AAAS Science and Human Rights Program

7:00 - **Reception** *2nd Floor Reception*
8:00

The AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition thanks the
Federation of Associations in Brain & Behavioral Sciences
and
Kean University, College of Natural, Applied and Health Sciences
for their sponsorship of the reception

Tuesday, July 27

8:45 am Plenary *Auditorium*

Welcome

Jessica M. Wyndham, AAAS Science and Human Rights Program

Coalition Council Report

John Gillespie, American Physical Society

Presenting the Joint Initiative Plan of Action

Jessica M. Wyndham, AAAS Science and Human Rights Program

9:15 Workshops (concurrent)

“Engaging Your Organization in the Coalition: Opportunities and Obstacles”

Revelle

Through the efforts of scientific organizations’ members and staff, membership in the Coalition has more than doubled since January 2009, and organizations’ human rights activities continue to expand. Based on the lessons learnt in the past year-and-a-half of the Coalition’s existence, this workshop will prepare participants for the questions asked, concerns raised, and options available for getting their association involved in the Coalition and human rights activities. Each participant will receive a “Starter Kit” to assist in following-up from the workshop.

Facilitator: **Clinton Anderson**, American Psychological Association

Presenters: **Jerry Baker**, Sigma Xi

Sam McFarland, International Society of Political Psychology

Doug Richardson, Association of American Geographers

Edward Walsh, Acoustical Society of America

“Human Rights and Professional Ethics: Developments and Dilemmas”

Haskins

Scientists and academics have a history of supporting many of the core principles of human rights as intrinsic values to the scientific endeavor. However, a review of scientific associations’ codes of ethics reveals that only eight explicitly mention human rights. This session will highlight the relevance of human rights to questions of science ethics, address recent developments in the incorporation of human rights into professional ethics codes, and identify persisting challenges in linking human rights with standards of professional conduct.

Facilitator: **Debra Mathews**, Johns Hopkins, Berman Institute of Bioethics

Presenters: **Rob Albro**, American Anthropological Association

Stephen H. Behnke, American Psychological Association

Allen Keller, New York University

10:30 Break

11:00 **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 and, together with new and potential members, will continue work toward their objectives for 2010.

Welfare of Scientists *Room 207*

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-chairs: **John Gillespie**, American Physical Society
Brad Miller, American Chemical 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.

Co-chairs: **Rob Albro**, American Anthropological Association

Service to the Scientific Community *Haskins*

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: **Brian Gran**, American Sociological Association
Susan Hinkins, American Statistical Association
Amanda Sozer, Affiliated Scientist

Education and Information Resources *Room 700*

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
Jeffrey Toney, Sigma Xi

12:30 Lunch

1:15 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.

Facilitator: **Jessica M. Wyndham**, AAAS Science and Human Rights Program

1:45 Planning Meeting for January 2011 Meeting *Auditorium*

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

Facilitator: **Clinton Anderson**, American Psychological Association

2:15 Sessions (concurrent)

“Climate Change: Rights and Responsibilities” *Revelle*

The links between climate change and human rights are evident. From threats to livelihoods to rising sea levels, mass migration to reduced food supplies, climate change threatens the enjoyment of human rights by individuals and communities globally. What is more, the human rights framework will be helpful in approaching and managing climate change. This panel will explore several of the key human rights implications of climate change and outline the value of a human rights-based approach to addressing the causes and impact of climate change.

Facilitator: **Lee Herring**, American Sociological Association

Presenters: **Roberta Cohen**, Brookings Institution
John Knox, Wake Forest University
Peter Rosenblum, Columbia University
David Waskow, Oxfam America

“The Millennium Development Goals and Human Rights: Progress and Problems” *Haskins*

Set for 2015, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are a series of targets aimed at promoting poverty reduction, education, maternal health, gender equality, and combating child mortality, AIDS and other diseases. Though not specifically referenced in the MDGs, human rights provide a valuable framework for implementing and monitoring progress toward achieving them. This workshop will address progress made and challenges in achieving the MDGs from a human rights perspective, with a particular focus on science and technology, health, food, and water.

Facilitator: **Brian Gran**, Case Western Reserve University

Presenters: **Sarah Farnsworth**, United Nations Development Program
Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, New School
Marianne Mollmann, Human Rights Watch

3:45 Break

4:15 **Workshops (concurrent)**

“Defining the Right to Benefit from Scientific Progress: Scientists’ Perspective” *Revelle*

On April 16, 2010 the AAAS Board of Directors called on the scientific community to add their “voice, interests and concerns” to the process of defining the right to benefit from scientific progress. This workshop will provide participants with the knowledge and tools necessary to engage their colleagues, associations, and departments in the process of defining the right and identifying how best to implement it in practice. Participants with prior training in the right to benefit from scientific progress are encouraged to attend.

Facilitator: **Jessica M. Wyndham**, AAAS Science and Human Rights Program

“The Next Generation: Incorporating Human Rights into Science Curricula”
Haskins

Across campuses in the United States and beyond, there is an increase in the number of professors seeking to incorporate human rights into their science curricula, whether in the life, physical, social or behavioral sciences. Based on decades of experience in promoting understanding and application of human rights principles, this workshop will provide participants with the basic tools necessary to develop an effective and comprehensive human rights module for inclusion in science curricula.

Facilitator: **Allen Keller**, New York University

5:45 **Meeting Adjourns**