

International Human Rights Funders Group
January 9-10, 2006 Semi-Annual Meeting
Human Rights and the Media: Threats and Opportunities

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

Monday, January 9

<i>Time</i>	<i>Whitcomb Ballroom</i>	<i>Union Square</i>	<i>Ghirardelli</i>
8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast		
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome		
9:30 – 12:00	Education panel: Human Rights and the Media		
12:00 – 1:15	Lunch – Discussion Groups		
1:15 – 2:45	Sexual Rights: Self-expression, Bodily Integrity and Civil Liberties	Becoming a (or Becoming a Better) Human Rights Grantmaker	Evaluating Human Rights Grantmaking
2:45 – 4:15		Human Rights and the Environment	Hearing from Frontline Activists
4:15 – 4:45	Reports Back		
7:00	Dinner and WITNESS		

Tuesday, January 10

<i>Time</i>	<i>Whitcomb Ballroom</i>	<i>Union Square</i>	<i>Ghirardelli</i>	<i>Whitcomb Ballroom Mezzanine</i>
8:30 – 9:00	Breakfast			
9:00 – 10:30	Business Meeting			
10:30 – 10:45	Break			
10:45 – 12:45	Networking Panel: Human Rights and the Media			
12:45 – 2:15	Lunch – Funders’ Soapbox			
2:15 – 2:30	Treasury Guidelines			
2:30 – 4:45	Re-Connecting Civil Rights with Human Rights	Corporate Social Responsibility	International Human Rights Funding	
4:45 – 5:00	Reports Back			
5:00		Reception		

Semi-Annual Meeting – January 9-10, 2006

Ramada Plaza Downtown
1231 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

“Human Rights and the Media: Threats and Opportunities”

Independent and strong media are essential to the protection of human rights and democracy. In numerous countries, however, the media continue to be muzzled, either overtly by intimidation, arrest or even killing of journalists and reporters, or more subtly, through self-censorship, corporate monopolies that own media outlets, or political interests that promote a particular bias. In response, NGOs, funders, and media professionals in many parts of the world have developed innovative and vibrant initiatives to get human rights messages out “to the people,” encouraging civil society to participate in the protection of rights. Meeting participants will look at the challenges facing independent media worldwide, the role of the media in promoting or impeding human rights, and how we can support efforts to effectively use the media to promote and protect human rights.

AGENDA

Monday, January 9

8:30-9:00am *Breakfast* – sponsored by the Global Fund for Women

9:00-9:30am *Welcome*
John Kowal, Open Society Institute
Shalini Nataraj, Reebok Human Rights Foundation

9:30-12:00pm Education panel: Human Rights and the Media

Facilitator:

Ann Cooper

Executive Director, Committee to Protect Journalists
New York, NY

Mallika Dutt

Executive Director, Breakthrough
Queens, New York

Maria (Masha) Lipman

Op-ed columnist, The Washington Post, Editor-in-chief, Pro et Contra Journal
Moscow, RUSSIA

Josh Silver

Executive Director, Free Press
Northampton, MA

12:00-1:15pm ***Lunch and Discussion Groups***
Sponsored by the Global Fund for Women

Interested members can form discussion groups around issues, ideas, geographic interests, or continued exploration of morning discussions.

Breakouts (meet concurrently)

1:15-4:15pm **Sexual Rights:** Whitcomb
Self-expression, Bodily Integrity and Civil Liberties
Sexual Rights Working Group
Co-sponsored by Funders for Lesbian and Gay Issues and Funders Network on Population, Reproductive Health and Rights

Rapporteur: Heidi Dorow, Wellspring Advisors

United Nations' bodies such as the World Health Organization and the Human Rights Commission have recently begun to address the issue of sexuality and rights. While there is no international treaty on sexual rights, rights such as freedom from violence, the right to bodily integrity, the right to choose your sexual partner, and the right to pursue sexual pleasure are already recognized in national laws, international human rights documents and other consensus statements. This session will include small group discussions and interactive participation.

Facilitator: Barbara Klugman, Ford Foundation

William Smith, *Vice President for Public Policy*, Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS)
Washington, DC

Zonibel Woods, *Senior Advisor*, International Policy, International Women's Health Coalition
New York, NY

1:15-2:45pm **Becoming a (or Becoming a Better) Human Rights** Union Square
Grantmaker
Leveraging Project Committee

Rapporteur: Michael Hirschhorn, Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation

Join an engaging conversation with four grantmakers who have led recent efforts to launch, intensify, redefine or integrate human rights funding into their institutions' grantmaking priorities. The session will explore the strategies, motivations, "how to's" and hoped-for outcomes underlying their institutions' recent decisions as well as the approach to "leading the change" taken by these four grantmakers.

Stephen A. Foster, *Executive Director*, The Overbrook Foundation
New York, NY

Susan Freundlich, *Vice President*, Strategic Partnerships and Communications, Women's Foundation of California
San Francisco, CA

Michael Hirschhorn, *President*, Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation
Baltimore, MD

Katrin Wilde, *Executive Director*, Channel Foundation
Seattle, WA

**Evaluating Human Rights Grantmaking:
Are We Making a Difference?**

Ghirardelli

Fund for Global Human Rights Working Group

Facilitator and Rapporteur: Regan Ralph, Fund for Global Human Rights

Progress in human rights work is notoriously difficult to measure. Strong human rights advocates working in highly repressive environments may run strategic campaigns only to see human rights conditions deteriorate. Campaigns to improve respect for the rights of indigenous peoples, women, or workers may take years to build sufficient pressure to change policies and practices. This session will grapple with the challenges of evaluating the work of human rights organizations: what models exist for evaluating human rights work? How do human rights activists and those that fund them know when their tactics and strategies are effective? How can human rights funders evaluate grantees' work given the many variables outside grantee control that influence the results of their efforts? Bring your experience and your questions.

2:45-4:15pm

Human Rights and the Environment Working Group

Union Square

Rapporteur: Valentine Doyle, Lawson Valentine Foundation

Join this brainstorming session to discuss how human rights and environmental grantmakers can work together to strengthen both movements.

Hearing from Frontline Activists Committee

Ghirardelli

Rapporteur: Shalini Nataraj, Reebok Human Rights Foundation

The Hearing from the Frontline Activists Committee aims to bring the voices and concerns of frontline human rights activists directly to members of the IHRFG in a variety of ways. We invite you to participate in thinking through strategies for this committee to derive the greatest benefit to both the funding community and frontline activists.

4:15-4:45pm

Breakout sessions: reports back

7:00pm

Dinner and multi-media presentation

Whitcomb

Sponsored by The Overbrook Foundation

Introduction by Stephen A. Foster, Executive Director of The Overbrook Foundation

The potential of tactical media for human rights

Gillian Caldwell, Executive Director, WITNESS

Tuesday, January 10

8:30-9:00am

Breakfast – sponsored by the Global Fund for Women

9:00-10:30am

Business Meeting

10:30-10:45am

Break

10:45-12:45pm Networking Panel: Human Rights and the Media

Facilitator: Larry Cox, Ford Foundation

Helen Brunner

Director, Media Democracy Fund (Proteus Fund)
Washington, DC

Stewart Chisholm

Senior Program Manager, Network Media Program, Open Society Foundation
London, UNITED KINGDOM

Harlan M. Mandel

Deputy Managing Director, Media Development Loan Fund
New York, NY

12:45- 2:15pm Lunch ... and *The Funders' Soapbox!*

Sponsored by the General Service Foundation

Facilitator: Valentine Doyle, Lawson Valentine Foundation

An opportunity for participants to speak extemporaneously on their philanthropic passions (people, projects or programs), promote a favorite organization, appeal for advice, etc.!

2:15- 2:30pm *Update on Treasury Guidelines*

Conrad Martin, Stewart R. Mott Charitable Trust

2:30- 4:45 *Breakouts* (meet concurrently)

Corporate Social Responsibility

Union Square

Co-sponsored by Funders Network on Trade and Globalization

Facilitator and Rapporteur: Ann Strimov, Wellspring Advisors

Aron Cramer, *President and Chief Executive Officer,* Business for Social Responsibility
San Francisco, CA

Mele Lau Smith, *Board Member,* CorpWatch
Oakland, CA

Anne K. Richardson, *Partner,* Hadsell & Stormer, Inc.
Pasadena, CA

This session will explore the convergence of human rights and corporate social responsibility (CSR). Panelists will discuss methodologies that the human rights and business communities are developing and employing to ensure that corporations respect human rights and successfully balance competing economic, environmental, and social priorities. As international rights mechanisms increasingly acknowledge corporate complicity in gross human rights violations, CSR may offer new ways to promote and protect human rights.

International Human Rights Funding

Ghirardelli

Rapporteur: Regan Ralph, Fund for Global Human Rights

Attendees will candidly discuss funding grassroots human rights organizations in Africa, the Middle East and Asia with a focus on media issues, infrastructure needs and capacity building. The session will address practical issues such as local offices and staff and determining how to make funding decisions in this context.

Re-Connecting Civil Rights with Human Rights

Whitcomb

US Human Rights Working Group

Rapporteur: John Kowal, Open Society Institute

This session will explore the history behind the fractured relationship between human and civil rights movements in the United States and the how funders can support advocacy and organizing that re-integrates these movements. Participants will discuss how to engage in bilateral funding and strategies for cross issue advocacy with regards to human and civil rights. As a precursor to Close to Home: Bringing Human Rights to California, which takes place on January 11, presenters will also discuss utilizing a human rights framing within domestic social justice advocacy in order to advance civil rights within the United States. Participants will discuss how to engage in bilateral funding and strategies for cross issue advocacy with regards to human and civil rights.

Facilitator: Idelisse Malavé, Tides Foundation

Carol Anderson, author of *Eyes off the Prize: The United Nations and the African-American Struggle for Human Rights*
Columbia, MO

Wade Henderson, *Executive Director*, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights
Washington, DC

4:45-5:00pm **Breakout sessions:** reports back

5:00pm **Closing Cocktail Reception**
Sponsored by Horizons Foundation

Remarks by Roger Doughty, Executive Director