CALL FOR PAPERS

Advancing the Field(s) of Nonprofit Management:
New Structures, New Solutions

April 16-18, 2015
Indiana University’s Bloomington Campus

As the US and the rest of the world emerge from the Great Recession, nonprofit organizations will face new structures and challenges. Governments at all levels and in almost all societies are looking to cut costs. So is the business sector – moving unprofitable operations to low wage regions of the world, while seeking to exploit new opportunities and enhance their reputations. Nonprofit organizations interface with both sectors, but the challenges of doing so vary greatly among nonprofit fields.

This conference will advance the field(s) of nonprofit management by examining how cross-sector relations vary across fields of activity and/or social settings and how lessons from one field apply to others.

We invite senior scholars and promising junior faculty to join SPEA faculty at a conference on April 16-18, 2015 on Indiana University’s Bloomington Campus. We seek papers that address the following broad themes within or across nonprofit fields:

- **Cross-sector relationships**: what roles do nonprofits play vis-à-vis the state and the market in the particular field? For example, under what conditions do nonprofits in a given field support, enhance, stabilize and extend or critique, undermine, supplant and challenge the state? Alternatively, under what conditions do nonprofits in the field support, enhance, stabilize and extend or critique, undermine, supplant and challenge the market? How are these relationships changing? We hope these presentations will allow us to develop a macro-level map of the dynamics of sector relations across nonprofit fields and thereby identify key theoretical constructs and drivers.

- **Critical data needs**: to adequately address the types of questions raised in the examination of nonprofit fields above, what kind of data would be needed and how might such data be assembled? We hope these presentations will serve as a starting point for structured discussions about ways to develop collaborative nonprofit datasets.

- **Nonprofit fields**: We are particularly interested in papers that explore cross-sector relations in the following fields: arts and culture, education, environment, health, human services, international development, advocacy and civic engagement, philanthropy, and membership...
associations. However, papers exploring other fields, such as religion, or sub-fields, such as youth development or housing, would be welcome as well.

We are exploring options for publishing a selection of conference papers as an edited volume or a special issue of a relevant journal.

**Proposals:** The deadline for submitting proposals is December 1, 2014. Proposals should include title, abstract, a brief summary of the paper (1-2 pages), author(s), and author bio(s). Please also indicate your willingness to serve as a discussant. Authors will be notified about the acceptance of proposals no later than January 15, 2015. Space is limited, so please submit your proposal early. Questions and proposals should be directed to Kirsten Grønbjerg at kgronbj@indiana.edu.

**Registration:** There is no fee to register for the conference, but we do ask for registrations to be completed by March 15, 2015.

**Location and Schedule:** The conference will take place in the School of Public & Environmental Affairs, 1315 E 10th Street, Bloomington, IN 47405. The conference will begin Thursday afternoon on April 16, 2015 and end after lunch on Saturday April 18, 2015.

**Hotel Accommodations:** Information about hotel accommodations will be available on the conference website: [http://www.indiana.edu/~spea/research/conferences/nonprofit_management/index.shtml](http://www.indiana.edu/~spea/research/conferences/nonprofit_management/index.shtml)

**About the IU Bloomington School of Public and Environmental Affairs:** SPEA was founded in 1972 and is a world leader in public and environmental affairs and is the largest school of public administration and public policy in the United States. In the 2013 "Best Graduate Schools" by U.S. News & World Report, SPEA ranks second and is the nation's highest-ranked professional graduate program in public affairs at a public institution. Four of its specialty programs are ranked in the top-five listings. SPEA's doctoral programs in public affairs and public policy are also highly ranked by the National Research Council.

SPEA Bloomington is home to the top ranked nonprofit management program in the country and almost a quarter (23 percent) of its 94 full-time faculty has expertise in nonprofit management and philanthropy; civil society, civic engagement and volunteering; and/or cultural policy and arts administration. The work of these faculty spans a number of nonprofit fields, with other SPEA colleagues bringing additional in-depth policy perspectives.

SPEA’s extraordinary breadth of expertise therefore presents a unique opportunity to advance the field of nonprofit management by moving beyond the narrow field focus of much nonprofit scholarship (e.g., youth development, homeless services, cultural institutions, charter schools). While such work allows for detailed examination of key issues, it often neglects broader perspectives on how cross-sector relations vary across fields of activity or social settings and how lessons from one field may apply to others.