

To: Board of Visitors
Executive Committee
Center Advisory Boards

From: Patrick M. Rooney, Interim Executive Director

Date: September 29, 2008

Subject: Center on Philanthropy Activities

The study of philanthropy continues to gain global interest. At the Center on Philanthropy our international relationships are broadening and deepening, positioning us for more cross-cultural collaborations and illuminating the importance of philanthropy around the world. Here is an update of our most recent activities.

Bill Plater, Philanthropic Studies professor Wolfgang Bielefeld, Dwight Burlingame, and Robert F. Hartsook Chair in Fundraising Adrian Sargeant traveled to China in July to meet with leaders at Peking University in Beijing and to explore potential partnership programs with the Center on Philanthropy and Indiana University. During their stay they met with the Center for Civil Society Studies at Peking University and counterpart programs at Tsinghua University and Renmin University, all in Beijing. Bill also traveled to Guangzhou in southern China to meet with representatives of the Institute for Civil Society at Sun Yat-Sen University. Because of the success of their trip and ongoing discussions with colleagues in China we have one new Chinese student in our Masters of Philanthropic Studies program and two visiting faculty members from Peking University who are here this month. During their time at the Center they have met with Center faculty to discuss a broad range of potential partnerships, including developing professional training for one of China's most important NGOs, the Society for Entrepreneurs and Ecology.

The Center has also been involved in the Middle East. Barbara Ibrahim, Director of the Gerhart Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society at the American University in Cairo, is a visiting faculty member at the Center for the fall term. Barbara addressed faculty and students on September 3rd on the topic of youth activism in Egypt. She shared inspiring examples of youth engaging in philanthropic activity in their communities despite cultural and social mores. A growing spirit of faith-based activism has led to the formation of large and increasingly reputable community service and civic engagement organizations. Dr. Ibrahim will continue her lecture series throughout the semester at the Indianapolis campus.

Barbara's husband, Saad Ibrahim, is an internationally known activist on behalf of democracy in Egypt. He has an appointment at SPEA, Law, and the College of Arts and Sciences at Indiana University in Bloomington, where he will offer a course and programs related to the democratization movements in the Middle East and the emergence of civil society. Tim Seiler, Director of Public Service at the Center, offered a

week-long fundraising workshop in Egypt in August as one part of our emerging relationship with American University in Cairo. In a separate visit, Avishag Rudich of the Hebrew University's Center for the Study of Philanthropy in Israel, will spend a week at the Center meeting with our faculty and attending the seminar Faith and Fundraising.

During this busy month of international activity, the Center also hosted Nattha Vinyaiyapak, Assistant Professor of Public Affairs at the National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA) in Thailand. She is here to learn from Indiana University and the Center about how to establish a fundraising office, alumni affairs and community relations operations. NIDA's President Sombat Thamrongthanyawong and a small faculty delegation visit IUPUI and IU Bloomington this month as well to continue discussions of the development of a collaboration. NIDA houses the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society, led by Dr. Juree Vichit-Vadakan, who received an honorary degree from Indiana University during the Center's 20th anniversary celebration last year.

In addition to our international efforts, this fall we are honored to be partnering with the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) on the first class of ISNA Fellows. ISNA initiated the fellowship program because it recognized there was a need for educating and training the more than 3,000 Islamic nonprofit organizations in North America. The fellowship is designed to provide training to Muslim leaders in management, governance and fundraising that will inspire greater charitable giving among indigenous American Muslims, while giving their nonprofit staff members the tools they need to fulfill their organizations' missions.

The Center and its Women's Philanthropy Institute are hosting the annual symposium *Moving Women's Philanthropy Forward: Influences, Intent, Impact*, November 13-14, 2008 in Indianapolis. The symposium will be a dynamic gathering of donors, volunteers, and nonprofit professionals interested in exploring the research and understanding the growth of women's philanthropy. The two days are filled with sessions presented by professionals from across the world. Thursday's plenary address is entitled "The She Spot: Why Women are the Market for Changing the World and How to Reach Them" by Lisa Witter, Chief Operating Officer of Fenton Communications. At Friday's plenary session Kimberly Davis, Vice President of Global Philanthropy at JPMorgan Chase and President of the JPMorgan Chase Foundation, will discuss the future of the women's philanthropy research agenda. To see the full list of offerings and to register, visit: <http://www.philanthropy.iupui.edu/PhilanthropicServices/WPI/>

With the help of a Center faculty member, the United Kingdom has adopted national fundraising standards. Commissioned by the UK Workforce Hub, Hartsook Chair in Fundraising Adrian Sargeant and an advisory group of senior UK fundraising professionals developed the Fundraising National Occupational Standards that were recently approved by the UK Commission for Employment and Skills. They specify the standards of performance fundraising professionals should demonstrate and describe the knowledge and skills fundraisers at all levels should possess.

The Center continues to receive inquiries related to the release of *Giving USA 2008*, and I regret we made a slight error in last month's letter. As noted, the data shows that almost every subsector saw gains in donations in 2007. The estimates indicate that giving rose from 2006 by 3.9 percent (1.0 percent adjusted for inflation). Overall, it indicates that a strong start to the economy in 2007 helped lift giving despite worries at year's end. The increase in 2007 is attributable largely to stock market performance in the first half of the year, overall growth in the economy as measured by gross domestic product, and increases in corporate and personal income as reported at the end of the year. Charitable giving was 2.2 percent of gross domestic product for 2007. We incorrectly stated last month that giving as a percentage of GDP had increased one percent over last year—in fact, the percentage has stayed constant at 2.2 percent.

As part of our continued 20th Anniversary Celebration, the Center hosted a reception this month at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. We were pleased that 73 donors, research partners, alumni and friends attended this gathering, which highlighted the importance of philanthropy research and the Center on Philanthropy Panel Study (COPPS), and celebrated the 20 year history of the Center as a leader in the sector. I want to especially thank John Leslie for his local leadership and Bill McGinly, Art Taylor, and Gene Tempel for their participation in the program.

Thank you for your support as I step into my new role as the Interim Executive Director. I welcome your thoughts and suggestions for our work at the Center.

P.S. Attached is a copy of our ad which was placed in the August 7th issue of *The Chronicle of Philanthropy* in recognition of the Center's 20th Anniversary Professional Associates.