

March 2008



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Science and Human Rights Program Newsletter

Program News

New Support for Satellite-Based Human Rights Work

AAAS News
5 March 2008

With a substantial grant from the Oak Foundation, the AAAS Science and Human Rights Program is expanding its effort to use satellite imagery and other geospatial technologies to help identify human rights



violations. Lars Bromley, head of the geospatial technologies project at AAAS, said the Oak Foundation grant will permit a dedicated partnership with Amnesty International (AI) on efforts to counter mass violence, forced displacement, and secret detentions. AAAS will expand its geospatial research and development activities, Bromley said, and provide AI tools and training that can further its work for human rights around the globe. [Read full article](#). Please also visit our [Geospatial page](#) for the latest project updates.

Science and Human Rights Coalition

Planning Meeting on June 9, 2008

Working towards a public launch in late 2008/early 2009, the Coalition held its fourth planning meeting on March 3rd to review specific recommendations drafted for three of the five broad Areas of Activity previously identified for the Coalition: Welfare of Scientists, Science Ethics and Human Rights, and Service to the Human Rights Community. A report of the meeting will be available later this month. The next planning meeting will be held on Monday, June 9th from 9:00-12:00 pm at AAAS headquarters in downtown Washington, DC.

For more information about the Coalition and how you or your organization can become involved, please [visit our](#)

SHRP EVENTS

***May 28-30, 2008
Washington, DC
International Summit for
Community Wireless
Networks***

***June 9, 2008
Washington, DC
5th Science and Human
Rights Coalition Planning
Meeting***

PUBLICATIONS

***Truth and
Reconciliation in South
Africa: Did the TRC
Deliver?***
Audrey Chapman and
Hugo van der Merwe
(eds) ([link](#))

*Truth and Reconciliation
in South Africa* provides
a comprehensive
evaluation of the TRC
process and its impact
on South African society.
Based on a six-year
study, the volume draws
on an analysis of the
victim hearings, amnesty
hearings, institutional
hearings, public opinion
survey data, and
extensive interviews.

***Resource Guide:
Health and Human
Rights***
Open Society Institute
and Equitas ([link](#))

The Resource Guide
provides a practical tool
for working at the
intersection of health and
human rights. It includes
fact sheets, program
descriptions,



[website](#). To receive the latest information about the Coalition, please sign-up for our [Coalition Listserv](#).

Introducing our Members: American Chemical Society

With more than 160,000 members, 19,000 of whom come from outside the United States, the American Chemical Society (ACS) is the world's largest scientific society. The ACS has a goal to become a global leader in engaging the world's scientific professionals to address, through chemistry, the challenges facing our world. As part of its activities aimed at reaching this goal, the ACS Committee on International Activities Subcommittee on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights monitors the world for violations of the human rights of scientists. ACS joins with other societies in petitioning the governments of the countries where such violations take place. In recent years, the Subcommittee has worked on behalf of scientists in Bulgaria, Cuba, Ethiopia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Mexico, Myanmar, Russia, Sudan and Vietnam, among others. [Read more](#).

In the News

Advancing Human Rights Through Science and Scientific Societies

American Educational Research Association
Educational Researcher
Volume 37, Number 1
January/February 2008

On December 10, 2007, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) convened a group of scientific societies to consider the formation of a Science and Human Rights Coalition. In developing the framework for this coalition, AAAS organizers aim to facilitate communication and collaboration among scientific and professional societies and between these organizations and human rights practitioners. [Read full article](#).

Amendment to the American Psychological Association Position Against Torture

jurisprudence, case studies and glossary definitions in a number of areas: HIV/AIDS; harm reduction; palliative care; sexual health; and minority health. It also contains thirteen foundational human rights documents containing health-related provisions.

Public Health and Human Rights: Evidence-Based Approaches

Chris Beyrer (ed) ([link](#))

Public Health and Human Rights provides critical, evidence-based assessments and tools with which to investigate the role of rights abrogation in the health of populations from repressive laws to social discord, gender-based violence, human trafficking, and violations in conflict.



At the February meeting of the APA Council of Representatives, Council members overwhelmingly passed a motion that officially amends the Association's 2007 resolution on psychologists' involvement with torture. (Click [here](#) to read the 2007 Council resolution against torture and the 2008 amendment)

About the SHRP Newsletter

The Science & Human Rights Newsletter is issued monthly by the AAAS Science and Human Rights Program. Through the newsletter we strive to keep scientists and human rights practitioners informed with news items, program updates, new resources, and upcoming events at the intersection of science and human rights. Submissions to the newsletter are welcome and can be made via our [online submission form](#).

Please visit our website to learn more about our [programs](#) as well as our [past accomplishments](#).

Science and Human Rights Program

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