**Coalition Calendar**

Oct. 2: Webinar on Using Most Significant Change in Program Evaluations

Save the date for the final webinar in the Innovations in Human Rights Program Evaluation series. At 10:00 A.M. ET, Sarah Lince of Verité, a nonprofit dedicated to fair labor practices, and moderator Giovanni Dazzo will discuss a participatory impact evaluation method called the “Most Significant Change” (MSC) technique. MSC involves the collection and analysis of first-person narratives to help determine programmatic impact on participants’ lives, behaviors and views. This webinar series is organized by a AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition project team dedicated to providing human rights organizations information on scientific methods and tools for designing and executing systematic evaluations of their programs and projects (Team Leader: Oliver Moles).

Nov. 10: World Science Day for Peace and Development

UNESCO’s theme for the 2018 commemoration is “Science, a Human Right.” The theme was chosen in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Art. 27) and to draw attention to the UNESCO Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers.

**Coalition Accomplishments and Activities**

Psychologists Continue Ban on Working at Military Detention Facilities

The American Psychological Association’s (APA) Council of Representatives voted 105-57 (11 abstentions) against a proposed resolution to lift the organization’s ban on allowing member psychologists to work at certain military detention centers, such as Guantánamo Bay prison. The vote earned praise from Physicians for Human Rights. Prior to the vote, nine human rights and civil liberties organizations sent a letter to the APA’s Board of Directors and Council of Representatives, urging the organization not to roll back its policy. Additionally, the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI), a division of the APA, had announced its opposition to the proposed resolution, stating that its representatives would vote against the change. The APA banned military psychologists from such facilities in 2015 after revelations that the association had secretly assisted the U.S. government with prisoner interrogation and torture techniques.

Members Caution Against Citizenship Question on 2020 Census

The American Statistical Association and the Consortium of Social Science Associations, which includes several Coalition members (the American Anthropological Association, American Association of Geographers, American Educational Research Association, American Political Science Association, American Psychological Association, American Sociological Association, American Statistical Association and Society for Research in Child Development), have submitted comments in response to the open call for comments request from the U.S. Census Bureau regarding the 2020 census. The organizations strongly cautioned against the addition of the citizenship status question and urged the Census Bureau to remove it due to a lack of scientific justification and the potential of undermining the quality of the survey. The American Statistical Association previously issued a public statement in March 2018 voicing concern over the citizenship question as did the American Political Science Association and the American Sociological Association.

APA Voices Continued Concern over Separation of Migrant Children and Parents

The American Psychological Association’s (APA) President, Jessica Henderson Daniel, published a statement in July to express the organization’s deep concern about the continued separation of migrant children from their parents during immigration or deportation proceedings, and the potential long-term negative effects they may experience. The statement references decades of psychological research that have shown they types of
irreparable harm lengthy separation can have on a child’s cognitive development, such as severe psychological distress or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The APA issued its first statement against separating immigrant families in May with a follow-up statement in June.

Symposium on Human Rights and Higher Education
Videos of each speaker from the July symposium are now available on the Coalition’s website. In addition, an article about the keynote speaker, Shirley Malcom, and the AAAS program SEA Change was published on the AAAS News website. The SEA Change program, standing for STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) Equity Achievement, was launched earlier this year by the AAAS to help transform the culture of the scientific enterprise beginning with institutions of higher education.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Aug. 23: Call for Submissions – Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency
The Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) is requesting paper submissions for the 2019 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAT*), an interdisciplinary conference to connect social, technical and policy domains around broad questions of fairness, accountability and transparency of computing systems. ACM is also calling for hands-on tutorial proposals (deadline: September 13) to address technical and/or policy/law aspects of ACM FAT* issues. The hands-on tutorials should offer a broad audience the chance to experiment with new software packages designed to support ACM FAT* efforts.

Aug. 24: Call for Submissions – Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference
Texas State University and the University of Texas at Austin are hosting the 2018 Race, Ethnicity, and Place IX Conference October 23-26, 2018. The theme of the conference is “Engaged Scholarship: Fostering Civil and Human Rights.” Organizers are calling for original papers, paper sessions and panel submissions that further scholarship relating to race, ethnicity and place. Geographic scholarship relating to civil and human rights issues that intersect with race, ethnicity, diversity and/or social/environmental justice is strongly encouraged. Submissions are due by August 24.

Sept. 15: Call for Papers – Ethical Issues in Social Media Research
The Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics (JERHRE) invites contributions to a special issue on Ethical Issues in Social Media Research to be published in August 2019. The journal encourages international scholars working in the field of social media research, anthropology, public health, humanities, ethics, sociology and any other related discipline to submit. Abstracts are due September 15, and full manuscripts must be submitted by January 15.

Job: Director of the Center for Education and Workforce Programs (AAAS)
The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) is looking to hire a dynamic, strategic, and mission-driven Director of the Center for Education and Workforce Programs (CEWP). The Director leads CEWP in supporting the AAAS mission, with an emphasis on advocating for and contributing to higher quality, comprehensive science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education to achieve a scientifically literate public and a diverse and inclusive STEM workforce. The Director is responsible for: strategic planning and intellectual direction of all programs; the policies under which they operate; the advancement of programming through AAAS membership and other partners; annual budgeting and grant oversight; solicitation of funding; and hiring, staff development, and supervision.

Job: Global Advocacy Adviser (Center for Reproductive Rights)
The Center for Reproductive Rights’ Global Legal Program is seeking a Global Advocacy Adviser to support the work of the Global Advocacy team. The adviser, based in Geneva, Switzerland, will conceptualize and
implement robust advocacy strategies to advance reproductive rights through UN bodies and human rights mechanisms in Geneva.

**Job: Director of Research and Investigations (Physicians for Human Rights)**
Physicians for Human Rights, a non-profit organization committed to using medicine and science to document and call attention to mass atrocities and severe human rights violations, is searching for a Director for the Research and Investigations program. The position primarily involves management, oversight, and development in existing research and investigations program areas and new program development within the organization’s framework of investigating, documenting, and advocating to prevent human rights violations.

**Job: Research Program Manager (Access to Medicine Foundation)**
The Antimicrobial Resistance Benchmark team at the Access to Medicine Foundation, a non-profit organization guiding pharmaceutical companies on access to medicines in low- and middle-income countries, is looking for an experienced Research Program Manager to join the team in charge of developing the Antimicrobial Resistance Benchmark, a new tracking tool for evaluating how pharmaceutical companies are taking action to limit antimicrobial resistance.

**Science and Human Rights in the USA**
**Forensic Scientists Use New Method to Detect Human Remains**
Geospatial researchers with the Department of Energy’s Oak Ridge National Laboratory and forensic scientists at University of Tennessee used laser scanning and 3D modeling techniques, known as Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR), to detect signs of recently buried human remains. The team’s method could complement existing technologies and procedures currently used in forensic casework, including pedestrian surveys that rely solely on the naked eye and ground-penetrated radar (GPR). The researchers’ study, published in Forensic Science International, quantifies the differences in elevation and demonstrates the future potential benefit of incorporating terrestrial LIDAR into existing data-collection approaches to locate unmarked graves. The researchers say the study helps forensic human rights investigators better understand the geophysical signature of graves and reduces the amount of time a team must be on the ground in active conflict situations.

**International News**
**UN Votes in New High Commissioner for Human Rights**
Former Chilean President Michelle Bachelet will be the next UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Her nomination was approved on August 10 by the UN General Assembly, following her August 8 recommendation by UN Secretary-General António Guterres. Bachelet, a trained pediatrician, was a victim of torture under the Augusto Pinochet dictatorship in 1975. She became Chile’s first female leader, serving from 2006 to 2010 and again from 2014 to 2018. Between her presidencies, she led the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) as its first Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director. Bachelet will serve a four-year term beginning in September 2018.

**Database Logs Every Atrocity in Syrian Civil War**
A database belonging to the Syrian human rights group Violations Documentation Center (VDC), and located in Copenhagen, holds the story of the human rights abuses during the Syrian civil war. The system, started by Syrian lawyer and human rights activist, Razan Zaitouneh (who disappeared in 2013), stores 600,000 gigabytes of data collected over the past eight years, including photographs, witness accounts, causes of deaths, military ranks and weapons, and more. VDC operates with 35 paid staff and a large network of volunteers in Syria, and 15 legally trained verification officers in Europe. The organization has signed on with
28 other Syrian NGOs to share information with the United Nations’ International Impartial Independent Mechanism (IIIM) for prosecuting those responsible for the most serious crimes.

Google Faces Criticism Over Plans to Return to China
The Chinese government is reported to be in negotiations with Google over a potential re-entrance by the company into China. The project, with the code-name, “Dragonfly,” is said to be a version of Google’s search engine that complies with the county’s strict censorship laws, blocking websites and search terms dealing with human rights, democracy, religion and peaceful protest. Google has faced criticism over the project from human rights groups such as Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, as well as from U.S. government officials. Critics express their concern over Google’s potential complicity with the Chinese government’s human rights violations and oppressive surveillance.

Amnesty International Staff Targeted with Malicious Spyware
An Amnesty International employee was targeted by a sophisticated surveillance campaign in early June 2018, said the nonprofit in a press release. The spyware was sent to the staff member through the messaging app WhatsApp with a message in Arabic about an alleged protest outside the Saudi embassy in Washington, DC and a hyperlink. Amnesty’s technology team identified the hacking tool as “Pegasus,” which was developed by the Israel-based company NSO Group. Amnesty International is concerned that this type of software could be used to bait and spy on human rights activists in other countries, including Democratic Republic of Congo, Hungary and Kenya.

Tech Leaders Call for Autonomous Weapons Ban
The use of lethal autonomous weapons has been on the rise since 2014 with a recent example being on August 4 with an apparent assassination attempt of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro as he addressed a crowd of military personnel in Caracas. Experts warn that malicious drone activity poses an increasingly serious threat well beyond explosives, including drug smuggling, illegal surveillance, and spyware uploads. Just two weeks prior to the event in Venezuela, 2,400 technology professionals and 150 companies from 90 different nations expressed concern over lethal autonomous weapons. At the 2018 International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Stockholm, Sweden, companies and tech leaders called for a global ban on the technology and pledged to play no role in the construction, trade or use of autonomous weapons.

NEW REPORTS AND RESOURCES
Geospatial Evidence in International Human Rights Litigation
AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program published a new report, provides the first comprehensive assessment of how geospatial technologies have been used in international human rights litigation, including an exhaustive review of international human rights court cases in which satellite imagery and remote sensing have been presented as evidence.

The Social Risks and Benefits of Artificial Intelligence
The Australian Human Rights Commission has begun a project to study the social risks and benefits of artificial intelligence (AI). In a report launched on July 24 at the International Human Rights and Technology conference in Sydney, the Commission outlines the scope of the project, which will address the impact of AI technology on the right to life, privacy, security, safety and equality.

The Chut Pyin Massacre: Forensic Evidence of Violence Against the Rohingya in Myanmar
Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) released a detailed report on the 2017 massacre of Chut Pyin village in the northern Rakhine state of Myanmar. The attack, which resulted in the death of 400 – 99 of whom where children – was carried out by Myanmar security forces and Rakhine Buddhist civilians. Through forensic evidence and detailed testimony, PHR concludes that Chut Pyin is a typical example of a widespread and
systemic campaign waged by Myanmar authorities against the Rohingya and calls for an investigation of crimes against humanity.

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