

The times have been rather tensed for many of us since the last issue of this newsletter: the world has been in turmoil particularly for those of us living in or having close links to the south-eastern part, also known as the Balkan region of Europe. Once again a war has started in this corner of the world, bringing with it once again confusion, contradiction, misunderstandings, repression, and manifestations of hatred. But our lives do go on in spite of anything, and maybe even more than before we ought to think that our common interests and our work in this field of civil society should keep us on the good track.

However, in terms of new decisions regarding our International Civil Society Consortium we've had a rather productive spring, and I welcome you to have a close look into the next pages where you'll find all the necessary details on the new stage of our common activities.

This issue is accompanied by:

- a report on the International Civil Society Exchange – Fort Lauderdale, Florida, February 1999, written by Julie Fisher and Hal Saunders;
- the annual report of The Joint Eastern Europe Center for Democratic Education and Governance – Budapest, Hungary;
- an article on The Media War by Eric B. Weaver;
- a copy of the Palestinian Civic Forum Newsletter;
- A Civil Society and the Economy, keynote address delivered by David Mathews in Bangkok, Thailand, March 1999;
- Real Power to the People, article by Pravit Rojanaphruk;
- Using Deliberative Democracy Concepts in a University Political Theory Course, paper written by Denis Makarov and Alla Stremovskaya, Russia;
- a questionnaire (see details inside newsletter!).

Special thanks to Bob Daley, KF associate, author of the KF Friday Letter, and to all of you who found the time and energy to send updated materials on your work, and research papers.

Outcomes of the International Alumni Conference

April 27-29, 1999

Dayton, OH

The International Alumni group met in Dayton at a conference hosted by the Kettering Foundation (KF). The participant list included 37 international participants, out of which 31 were former and actual KF international fellows, and 6 non-fellows. One of the main decisions was that the International Alumni determined to establish a formal network based on the existing International Civil Society Consortium (ICSC). Its mission is based on a statement that is contained in the ICSC brochure, and is seen by the Alumni to accurately convey its purpose for being. The adopted mission is as follows: “to enhance international cooperation in promoting responsible, democratic, and widely participatory deliberation over public issue around the world.”

The Network’s purposes are to:

1. Exchange/share information (including publications)
2. Act together (e.g.)
 - cooperate on common local and national issues
 - cooperate on common publications
 - cooperate on the development of common themes and issues
 - frame international issues
 - exchange staff
3. Evaluate/facilitate assessment
4. Develop and maintain the resource and research base.

The Network sees its mission and purpose being developed in five primary ways through:

1. Communication
 - international newsletter
 - web site at www.facilitate.com
 - ground mail
 - electronic group mail
2. Coordination/point of reference for
 - the start up of the Network;
 - the production of the newsletter;
 - the creation of the Website;
 - the ongoing growth of the Website;
 - facilitating/moderating communication;
 - organizing activities;
 - developing membership.
3. Cooperative development of joint projects
4. Brochure
5. Biennial meetings.

The Website will be the public “face” of the Network, and the newsletter and facilitate.com the internal mechanisms for communication between members.

Members are defined as those who have attended the International Civil Society Exchange (ICSE), International Civil Society Workshop (ICSW), International Deliberative Democracy Workshop (IDDW), or who have been KF international fellows. The International Alumni has appointed a short term steering committee to facilitate the development of the Network. The committee comprises Ferenc Hammer (Hungary), Telma Gimenez (Brazil), Denis Makarov (Russia), Ileana Marin (Romania), and Sue Driver (New Zealand). Decisions about moderators and how to manage facilitate.com have already been made, and close communication will be maintained with KF program officer Ellen Belcher.

The newsletter already exists as a source of communication between those who have attended KF workshops and exchanges. It is envisaged that the newsletter will be further developed, and the Network members actively encouraged to contribute. Ileana Marin is currently managing that function, and we understand her current contract continues for seven more months, with the possibility of an extension.

The Website is going to be developed by Ferenc Hammer and Ileana Marin with the Joint Eastern Europe Center for Democratic Education and Governance in Hungary. It is envisaged the Web site will be on-line by July 1999.

Facilitate.Com is a versatile Internet/Intranet collaboration tool that turns any Web browser into a virtual meeting room. Facilitate.Com creates an electronic conference center with multiple discussions and surveys occurring simultaneously. Everyone can meet at once or over a period of time, in the same room or with participants joining from around the world as schedules permit.

Facilitate.Com is designed in a way that allows you to adapt the technology to your meeting agenda and objectives. Use it for a quick brainstorm or a thorough exchange of detailed ideas and information. Use it to encourage participation and get difficult issue on the table, or to conduct surveys and rapidly turn the results into action plans. Promote collaboration where time, distance and cost prevent people from getting together in person, or help make face-to-face time more productive.

You will find a questionnaire in a separately attached document, and we would like to ask all of you who haven't answered to those questions yet to take their time and do it by mid-July 1999. Please send your answers back to Ileana Marin, and you are welcome to use any of the following addresses/means of communication:

Mailing address: c/o Joint Center, P.O. Box 701-316, Budapest 1399, Hungary;

Tel./fax: 36-1-349-2577;

E-mail: imarin@icscpd.org (preferred!)

Last Preparations For The Summer Workshops

It is again that time of the year when many of us part of this large network are thinking about the last things to do before the starting day of this summer workshops organized by and held through the Kettering Foundation in Oxford and Dayton, Ohio and, respectively, in Washington, D.C. — the latter in cooperation with the Academy of Educational Development. The workshops will take place during the same time — July 11-17, 1999.

The **International Deliberative Democracy Workshop (IDDW)** brings together participants from around the world to explore together the theory and practice of deliberative democracy — weighing the costs and consequences of public action against what most people value. Afterwards, participants return home able to apply these skills to bring people in their communities together to address local and national problems.

The workshop provides an introduction to the elements of the deliberative methodology and how it is being applied in different countries. Designed to give the participants a basic grounding in the ideas, principles, and practical experience needed to lead their fellow citizens in deliberating issues of public policy, the framework for the curriculum is “Citizens’ Political process.”

This framework is introduced in an opening session in which participants are encouraged — to examine from their own experiences the extent to which politics is more than what politicians do — to identify those problems that require public engagement — deliberative thought and action.

The International Civil Society Workshop (ICSW) will bring together the majority of the people who participated last year at IDDW. ICSW is seen as IDDW’s advanced stage. Therefore, the participants at this workshop will see how their work in their home countries and communities has reflected until now what they learned last year, on one hand, and how they can advance with the practical approaches of the deliberative methodology, on the other hand. At the same time, they will have the chance to see how several U.S. communities have been applying this methodology to their everyday lives.

European Partners

The Pew Charitable Trusts has granted the **The Joint Eastern Europe Center for Democratic Education and Governance, Hungary**, an extension through 1999 for its deliberative democracy program with NGOs in Hungary.

The plans for the second part of the summer are to join with the Political Science Department of Belgrade University and the Center for the Study of Democracy at Westminster University to organize the agenda for a Summer School for Democracy. This is expected to be held in Sozopol, Bulgaria, between August 23rd and September 12th.

European Partners (continued)

This year's institute will be organized in order to meet the needs of promising young university level faculty and graduate students from Albania, possibly Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, and Serbia who have a professional interest in strengthening education for civic competence. Joe Julian of the Joint Center considers that "we are persuaded that they represent a generation of scholars who have the potential to make a substantial contribution to the political reconstruction of the Balkans in general, and to Yugoslavia in particular."

The faculty for this Institute will be drawn from Westminster University, Belgrade University, and Syracuse University. It is also expected that Joe Julian, Ferenc Hammer, Ileana Marin, Dragana Nikolajevic, and Eric Weaver, all of them with the Joint Center, will take active part in this event.

The Max-Schmidheiny Foundation based at the University of St. Gallen in **Switzerland** has awarded TI its prestigious Freedom Award, a prize to the value of SF200,000. The prize was shared between TI and the Economist magazine. By awarding TI the prize, the Max-Schmidheiny Foundation acknowledges the successful efforts of Transparency International to place the fight against corruption on the agendas of governments, international organizations and private enterprises throughout the world. TI Chairman Peter Eigen, received the prize on behalf of TI at a ceremony in St. Gallen on May 31st.

Russia

Lyudmila N. Posteluyeva reports on their project "Library as Community Center" that was presented at the Library Forum in Saint-Petersburg between May 19-22, 1999. There was also another workshop held at Majakovsky Library and conducted by Svetlana Gorokhova and Anastasia Kornienko with the Library for Foreign Literature in Moscow. All the coordinators of the project took part in the workshop, and they exchanged new ideas and information on their experience, and they also discussed the plans for further development of their project.

Central Asian Partners – Tajikistan

Shamsidin Karimov, KF international fellow from Tajikistan, has been recently assigned a new job as representative for the American Councils for International Education in Tajikistan. Shamsidin, the first non-American to be appointed for this position, will be responsible for educational programs and global training for development in his country, programs sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Middle-Eastern Partners

Yemen

Jamal Adimi, one of our partners from Yemen, trained five participants in issue naming, issue framing, and moderating for a deliberative democracy in a three-day workshop between April 11-13. Two of the participants were from the National Democratic Institute (NDI) for International Affairs, and three from the Forum for Civil Society (FCS), a non-governmental organization designed to promote democracy, strengthen civil society and assist in legal/judicial reform in Yemen. Jamal reported that he used the KF methodology and the materials that have been translated into Arabic. The NDI participants will, in turn, train four others who will conduct forums and town meetings.

The FCS participants, he said, will train others to work on an upcoming civic education program to be conducted after the presidential elections. “This is the first organized training workshop on Kettering methodology in deliberative democracy and we are excited to see the results,” he concluded.

In a separate note he mentions that they are currently working on:

- Judicial Protection of Human Rights, a book on findings of various jurists during series of seminars held by FCS
- Status of Justice, a report on the status of justice in Yemen during 1998.

Central and South American Partners

Argentina

Mariana Clucellas reported on a work trip she took to Paraná, a province in the north-eastern part of Argentina) where she moderated a forum on “Security.” Around 60 participants were at the forum, among them judges, police representatives, people who had been robbed, and social workers who deal with young criminals and their rehabilitation. The issue book used was designed by Dora Scacciati.

Brazil

Telma Gimenez wrote in a note that the president of the Londrina University nominated Oswaldo Calzavara, the coordinator of the relationship university/community to take part in the IDDW. Oswaldo has a background in Agronomy, and has been in charge of their program “Coordenadoria de Extensao a Comunidade” for the last 4 years.

Central and South American Partners (continued)

Brazil

Margaret Anderson and Rosangela Giembinsky with the Brazilian organization called CONSCIENTE checked in with some news on their recent activities and accomplishments. As part of the Inter American Network for Democracy, they are working now on two projects:

1. Forums for Deliberation – they've already wrote two issue books:
 - on Security: the issue book has been already used in schools, community centers and with the military police;
 - on Citizen Participation and Politics, issue book used mainly in schools with children of 16 and over, and who are already at voting age.
2. The Civic Education Program – pilot training for 28 teachers from schools in Sao Paulo and other 5 provinces in Brazil.

The plans for 1999 are to hold 15 more forums, and in that respect they'll be cooperating with other organizations as well and, therefore, will train 50 more moderators.

Colombia

Sandra Martinez, who works with Dora Rothlisberger, Gabriel Murillo and Lariza Pizano at the Political Science Department of the University of Los Andes, sent me these news on their activities developed over there.

The Political Science Department of the University of Los Andes, DECIPOL, has been organizing three different activities lately:

- conducting National Issue Forums on the Colombian higher education system;
- publishing a book based on the experiences of a Civic Journalism project; the organization and coordination of Issue Forums on Corruption at the national level.

Please find below more in-depth information on the above-mentioned types of activities.

I. The Political Science Department of the University of Los Andes, DECIPOL, submitted a proposal to the Colombian Institute for the promotion of Higher Education, ICFES, to organize National Issue Forums as part of a broader program called "Movilización por la Educación Superior" ('Citizens Mobilization for Superior Education'). In addition to the forums, this program includes the staging of sectoral workshops throughout the country, and will conclude with the elaboration of a document that integrates the different proposals emanated from civil society. During the months of March and April 1999, fifteen forums were held in several Colombian cities.

Central and South American Partners (continued)

Colombia (continued)

Some of them were held in Bogotá, the capital city, the four major cities of Colombia, and others were conducted in smaller provincial towns, such as Leticia and Florencia. The project thus covered the whole geographical and regional spectrum of the country. People from different sectors of society, like labor unions, civic leaders, housewives, students, and professors were invited to this activity. During these forums, they deliberated on the possible solutions to improve the quality of higher education in Colombia. Due to the magnitude and complexity of such project, DECIPOL conformed a team with some advanced political scientists who have already worked with this deliberative methodology, and some political science students who were very interested in learning and working with this approach. The final result of this activity was the framing of a Citizen's Agenda for Higher Education in Colombia, which includes people's opinions about reforming higher education legislation. It is important to note that this is the first time that a national governmental entity uses the results of an activity like the National Issue Forums, in the formulation of public policy toward a crucial area of social policy at national level.

II. In addition to these forums, DECIPOL has been working on a civic journalism project. On February 25th at Medellín's Municipal Council Hall the book *Voces Ciudadanas por la Seguridad y la Convivencia* was introduced to the public. It collects the experiences on civic journalism. This activity was held in Medellín, the second most important city in Colombia during 1998. The civic journalism forums were organized in coordination with the program of civic journalism of the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana de Medellín, UPB. This publication presents the results of surveys, telephone calls, and the Issue Forums. It also includes the stories that were developed by a civic journalism team created for this specific issue, and the handbook produced for the Forums by DECIPOL and UPB.

III. Currently, DECIPOL is working in coordination with the Contraloría General de la República and the Commerce Chamber in the framing of National Issue Forums about public corruption. The "Agenda Ciudadana sobre Corrupción" ('Citizen's Agenda about Corruption') is a project that will include public deliberation and inter-sectoral forums with representative persons of the society, such as union labors, interest associations, NGOs, citizens, public workers, and universities. This activity will be held in several Colombian cities. DECIPOL will be in charge of the elaboration of a handbook framing this specific issue, and the training of a team to work with the deliberative methodology technique.

Transparency International – Colombia is embarking on an ambitious programme introducing the TI-Integrity Pact into major projects in Colombia. Thanks to the Presidential Programme against Corruption, which had officially included the application of TI-IPs into its strategy, political commitment at the highest levels is very strong. Professional organizations, universities, TI Colombia and other NGOs are exploring ways of co-operating.

Central and South American Partners (continued)

Colombia (continued)

At a working meeting, the Ministry of Transportation and the Instituto Nacional de Vias agreed with TI Colombia to introduce the TI-IP concept in the bidding process for the concession of a major road work. This project, which will connect Bogotá with the Pacific port Buenaventura, is calculated to cost US\$ 1.0 bn and will be of crucial importance for Colombia's economy and relations with Venezuela. This project is a particularly good opportunity for the TI-IP to be applied as it starts from scratch, so that the entire process from the design of the bidding documents, pre-qualifications, adjudication, implementation and maintenance will be subject to the monitoring process.

Costa Rica

Daniel Ritchie and Karen Hussmann visited Costa Rica on 29 and 30 April in order to meet with the chapter in formation, Advisory Council Member Oscar Arias, a number of NGOs and CONAMAJ (Comisión Nacional para el Mejoramiento de la Justicia). The intention, similar to that in Honduras, was to see in what ways TI can support and assist the rather recent efforts of systematically working towards controlling corruption. Transparencia Costa Rica is presently co-operating with the Observatorio de Desarrollo in order to develop indicators which allow for the monitoring of corruption tendencies and for the development of strategies to prevent corruption on the basis of these findings. The Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, Inter-American Development Bank and Integridad Democrática are working on corruption within political parties and CONAMAJ is working on the development of anti-corruption workshops.

Dominican Republic

National Anti-Corruption Week – 7-12 March – in the Dominican Republic, organised by NGO Acción Contra la Corrupción in conjunction with TI and USAID Dominican Republic was a great success. Highlights included the International Forum Against Corruption on March 11-12 1999, which brought together a variety of high-profile representatives from all political parties as well as civil society. During the week, international experts helped raise awareness through numerous speeches at universities, giving interviews, participation in TV talk shows and radio programmes, amongst other things. The event was actively and logistically supported by a number of other key NGOs in the Dominican Republic who work together in a coalition of NGOs with Acción taking the lead. Acción is a broad-based group of well-reputed personalities formed as a result of the invitation of the Corruption Prevention Office to carry out independent monitoring of its "Promoting Transparency in Public Administration" programme.

Central and South American Partners (continued)

Honduras

Daniel Ritchie, TI Senior Advisor and Karen Hussmann visited Tegucigalpa, Honduras, from April 25-28 to meet Archbishop Oscar Rodriguez, presiding over Transparencia Honduras as well as meeting civil society groups, the private sector and governmental institutions in order to exchange ideas on how TI could best support ongoing initiatives to curb and control corruption. All acknowledged that corruption was a big issue. A number of umbrella organizations showed interest in co-operating with TI, as well as the Ombudsman's office and several groups of business people. One of these, "Oficina de Transparencia Municipal" of Tegucigalpa, is acting as an independent committee which oversees public sector performance, a concept which they want to introduce to other municipalities in the country. There was a general consensus that for a local anti-corruption initiative to be effective, different approaches should be better coordinated and resources pooled.

Trinidad & Tobago

The Trinidad & Tobago Transparency Institute has a new leadership. The new chairman of the chapter now is Mary King, with Diana Clyne serving as the secretary and Dianne Piper-Joseph acting as the treasurer. These changes in the leadership team also mean that the Trinidadian Chapter is the first TI chapter with an all-female executive!

Venezuela

Cira Romero Barboza wrote to me that she's running for the Venezuela Constituency Assembly. The election will be on July 25. In the same respect, she'd like to ask all of you to send her any information and suggestions about the process of creating a new Constitution for her country – her e-mail address is: contacto@ciraromero.com

African Partners

A capacity-building workshop for TI National Chapters, chapters in formation and contacts from Eastern and Southern Africa was held in Lilongwe, Malawi between April 26 and 28. Delegates exchanged experiences on problems and successes encountered in establishing and running a TI National Chapter. The workshop was ably facilitated by Richard Holloway of PACT- a Washington-based organization specializing in NGO training. He has produced a Handbook with guidelines on establishing and maintaining a competent and effective TI chapter, which is intended for distribution after adaptation to tailor its contents more specifically to the evolving needs of TI Chapters. This was an important step in efforts by TI to strengthen national chapters to enable them to take advantage of the present favorable international climate for anti-corruption initiatives. The organizational training is funded by the MacArthur Foundation.

African Partners

A second capacity-building workshop for chapters in North and West Africa with representatives from the Caribbean, will take place in Accra, Ghana, between June 14-16. The Centre for Democracy and Development will be hosting the meeting. TI Nigeria is working to promote the refining and strengthening of the capacity of the Federal and State Auditor-General's Offices, the Public Complaints Commission and the Code of Conduct Bureau. In the lead-up to the transition to democratic civilian government, TI Nigeria members have participated in a range of discussions at home and abroad on the prospects for a successful transition. On March 24, 1999 Haja Bilikisu Yusuf, member of the National Executive Council of TI Nigeria, was a guest speaker at a discussion forum in Berlin organised by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung on the subject of the transition to democracy. During her visit, she took the opportunity to meet with TI Chairman, Peter Eigen at the TI Secretariat, accompanied by other Nigerian civil society leaders including Ayo Obe, President of the Civil Liberties Organization. On a visit to the UK in April 1999, TI Chairman Ishola Williams met with TI Executive Director Jeremy Pope and TI Senior Adviser Neville Linton.

TI South Africa was instrumental in convening a National Anti-Corruption Summit in South Africa on April 14 and 15, 1999 with the aim of launching a comprehensive anti-corruption strategy. Participants adopted a resolution committing themselves to developing a culture of zero tolerance of corruption and to visibly supporting and subscribing to the national integrity strategy. Instead of a simple, centralised management structure to take the summit further it was agreed to respect South Africa's specific history and culture of involving "multi-sectoral participation and consultation." A national anti-corruption strategy should not only address the public sector; a holistic, cross-sectoral approach was chosen. TI South Africa is well placed to act as a post-summit facility for civil society in dealing with corruption.

Asian Partners

In South Asia, Parliamentarians and civil society groups have called for independent anti-corruption agencies and greater transparency of government procedures. Participants in the seminar, which took place in Dhaka, Bangladesh in March, came from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka. The focus of the seminar was on how to strengthen parliament and civil society in the political process. A code of conduct for members of parliament was also drafted. The seminar was jointly organized by Transparency International Bangladesh, the Parliamentary Centre of Canada and the World Bank Institute.

Kettering Foundation in Dayton

For the months of May and June professor Li Shenzi, chairman of the National Association of American Studies in China, is a Lombard Fellow at KF. The Lombard Fellowship program is named for a former foundation president and longtime member of KF's Board of Trustees, Richard Lombard. While at KF, professor Li is doing research on globalization, namely on two sub-topics — the dichotomy of globalization and the globalization and clash of civilizations. Meanwhile, he is planning to write several articles on the Chinese enlightening movement and provide his reflections on Sino-American relations.

Kettering Foundation Abroad

The Dartmouth Conference Regional Conflicts Task Force held its 33rd meeting since 1982 at a conference center outside Moscow between March 9 and 11. Right after that and in the same room the Inter-Tajik Dialogue, which was launched by the Regional Conflicts Task Force in 1993, held its 24th three-day meeting and celebrated its sixth anniversary.

The Regional Conflicts Task Force was formed in 1982 to probe Soviet-U.S. interactions in the regional conflicts where the two superpowers competed through proxies during the Cold War. The working assumption was that by probing those particular interactions we could learn more about the overall Soviet-U.S. relationship. Last October the Task Force began an experiment by bringing into a Task Force meeting representatives of the five new Central Asian states that had gained independence when the Soviet Union dissolved. The purpose was to learn from them firsthand the conditions that affect their relationships among themselves, with Russians, and with the international community including the U.S. The assumption was that, if the Russian-U.S. relationship will be affected by how these two countries interact in this newly opened and sensitive area, there would be no better way to study the dynamics and to understand the acceptable limits of their interaction than to work together on the problem with the people around and within whose countries that interaction would take place. "Perhaps the most interesting finding for a Kettering-like audience," mentioned Hal Saunders, KF's director of international affairs, "is that security in these countries must increasingly be defined by the readiness and ability of leaders and citizens to solve the problem of bringing citizens into the news political process of those countries." "That issue," Hal continued, "was also one of the top agenda items in the Inter-Tajik Dialogue. To complete a transition from civil war to peace defined in their peace agreement of June 1997, the Tajiks must now move toward a constitutional referendum and presidential, parliamentary and local elections. They, of course, talked about what government must do to create conditions for fair elections, but their more creative dialogue focused on what citizen organizations can do to help prepare the people of Tajikistan for this series of elections."

Kettering Foundation Abroad (continued)

The Board of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation approved its third grant since 1993 to support the work of the Inter-Tajik Dialogue within the Framework of the Dartmouth Conference, as the group calls itself. The three-year grant will extend the life of this project. The proposal for this grant focused on helping Dialogue members to develop and implement a strategy for building a Tajik civil society — that is, a Tajik version of civil society built on the foundations of social institutions that have been part of traditional Tajik culture.

“The task of the Dialogue now,” says Hal Saunders, “is to continue its role as what I call ‘a mind at work in the midst of a country making itself.’ It will be their task to help design and nourish the new Tajikistan civil society.”

A KF delegation was for a week in late March in Thailand where David Mathews delivered the keynote address on “A Civil Society and the Economy” at a symposium entitled “Civil Society: Thai Citizens at the Turning Century.” The two day meeting was held at Mahidol University, in Salaya, nearby Bangkok. It is cosponsored by the university, the Civicnet Institute, and the Local Development Institute, according to Anuchat Pongsumlee with the university’s Environment and Resource Studies faculty. The symposium was designed to be an open academic forum to discuss the development of civil society in Thailand; to increase public understanding of the roles and responsibilities of citizens to determine the future of society; and to build a network of civic leaders, academicians, NGOs and government agencies. The KF delegation to the symposium included Hal Saunders, program officer Randy Nielsen, research assistant Ellen Knutson, and Pat Coggins, KF associate and former KF conference coordinator.

Under the headline “Real Power to the People,” journalist Pravit Rojanaprhruk reported on the keynote speech by David Mathews. A copy of the story, from Lexis-Nexis, is attached together with the original address by David Mathews.

On the way to Bangkok to join the KF delegation there for the symposium on Civil Society, Hal and Carol Saunders visited KF partners in New Zealand, David Robinson, Sue Driver and Tu Williams. “Community and government leaders,” Hal reported, “are deeply concerned with how citizens talk with each other and about how citizens in and out of government communicate. Our colleagues believe the deliberative process and sustained dialogue have a lot to offer, and they are developing pilot projects in several settings. In all our meetings we found serious interest in these approaches.”

Kettering Foundation Abroad (continued)

Washington, D.C.-based KF associate Ramón Daubón filled a report on a Puerto Rican meeting that highlighted in what he called “real live cases” the main purpose of ‘civil economics.’ The workshop on Citizen Participation for Community Economic Development was sponsored by the Humaco campus of the University of Puerto Rico, and was an outgrowth of a broader seminar last year on Civic Participation at the main campus of the university where David Mathews delivered the keynote address. More than 70 participants from across the island discussed ways to involve community groups in setting their own development agenda or, as civil economics would put it, becoming economic citizens and seeing the community as its own most valuable resource. Many of the participants were registered in the newly formed institute for public deliberation at the University of the Sacred Heart in May. Ramón also said the program is the first public policy institute for public deliberation in Puerto Rico. Located at the University of San Juan, the institute is being marshaled by former KF international fellow Alfredo Carrasquillo. Its main focus will be on deliberation to address community issues, particularly economic development. The first session was scheduled for three consecutive Saturdays in May.

A new book by Hal Saunders, *A Public Peace Process: Sustained Dialogue to Transform Racial and Ethnic Conflicts*, has been published by St. Martin’s Press. The book “provides citizens outside government with their own instrument for transforming conflict,” the publisher said. In the book Hal Saunders outlines an approach for citizens to use in reducing racial, ethnic, and other deep-rooted tensions in their countries, communities and organizations.

Former U.S. president Jimmy Carter wrote: “Hal Saunders worked closely with me in the Arab-Israeli peace process and at Camp David. In this book he draws on his extensive experience to explain how ordinary citizens can help overcome deep-rooted obstacles to peace and make genuine contributions to a process that often cannot be concluded by governments alone.”