Foundations can provide the research and seed-funding for innovative projects and untried ideas, while government has the ability to take successful projects to a large scale.

5. Advocate: Try to encourage a favourable legal and fiscal environment in your country. Take part in sector-wide initiatives aimed at achieving legal conditions that are conducive to foundations’ work.

6. Make your mark: Philanthropists are powerful role models. Actions you take to create a foundation may give your peers inspiration and motivation to do the same.

7. Behave ethically: Independent foundations represent private money devoted to public good. As such, they tend to be fiercely independent in their governance. Because of this, we need to live up to the highest standards of ethics, good governance, and good practice.

Download the full speech at: www.mott.org/upload/pdfs/other/camspch.pdf or order a printed copy through the publication section of the CS Mott Foundation website: www.mott.org

Philanthroships – Don’t miss the career boat!

By Allyson Reaves, Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Torino

Philanthroship - n. my personal term of endearment to describe fellowships and internships that enable extended research and work to be conducted in the field of philanthropy

In fostering creativity to strengthen our field, let’s also apply this idea to strengthen ourselves as practitioners. After professional development workshops and staff retreats, there is significant value in listing ‘philanthroships’ among the ways to build our careers in philanthropy. While fellowships are often affiliated with graduate and doctoral programmes, internships are typically regarded as programmes for those in university studies. Both, however, are exciting tools to help professionals from all ranks resourcefully to mould our careers.

Philanthroships also enable professionals in other sectors to contribute knowledge to our field. For example, Carolina Trevisan, a journalist and 2007 fellow at the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society, completed cross-sector work by researching transparent marketing practices of community foundations in Brazil. She says “this fellowship offered so many options in the non-profit sector that I otherwise would not have known about.” These options led her to the International Society for Third-Sector Research (ISTR), which has invited Trevisan to present her findings at its July 2008 conference in Barcelona.

On philanthroshipping

While there are many philanthroships worldwide from which to choose, the three below stand out for encouraging international participation from all levels of expertise:

Master dei Talenti Internship Programme – Fondazione CRT (Cassa di Risparmio di Torino)
This internship programme offers emerging professionals worldwide the opportunity to work in and learn about civil sector organisations. There are a limited number of internships in philanthropy, but there are many institutions in the non-profit sector that provide a year research, practice, and hands-on experience dealing with civic and social issues, trade and economic policy, and community development. Each year, the programme accepts 15-20 participants.
Visit: www.fondazionecrt.it

International Fellows Program
Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society, The Graduate Center at the City University of New York
This programme is unique as it offers fellowships for both junior-level and established professionals. ‘Emerging leader’ and ‘senior leader’ fellows are part of a global community working to strengthen philanthropy and civil society. Since the fellowships began in 1989, more than 100 fellows from over 40 countries have graduated from the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society.
Visit: www.philanthropy.org

Left to Right: Fondazione CRT Master dei Talenti programme staff
Chiara Ventura, Allyson Reaves (2008 participant), Luigi Somma, and Stefania Ceboll (Copyright 2008 Giovanni Fotran)
Marshall Memorial Fellowship
German Marshall Fund of the United States
The Marshall Memorial Fellowship offers emerging leaders aged 28-40 the opportunity to explore societies, institutions and people on the other side of the Atlantic. Drawn from 19 European countries and the USA, more than 1,500 fellows have participated in the programme since its inception in 1982. One of its 2008 candidates, S LaTjuan Dogan, PhD, speaks enthusiastically on what to expect from her experience in the coming year, “This fellowship will provide a unique opportunity for me to explore Europe while examining its political, economic and cultural landscapes. The fellowship will also enhance my career development in philanthropy and provide a remarkable leadership experience.”
Visit: www.gmfus.org

In addition to these, the following institutions also operate successful fellowship programmes:

European Foundation Centre
International Fellowship Programme for Learning and Exchange in Philanthropy
Visit: www.efc.be/ifp

Johns Hopkins Institute for Policy Studies, Center for Civil Society Studies
International Fellows in Philanthropy Programme
Visit: www.jhu.edu/phifellow

University of Heidelberg, Centre for Social Investment
Heidelberg Philanthropy Fellowship Programme
Visit: www.csi.uni-hd.de/fellow_e.htm

Pioneering a new strategy of giving

In November 2007, Michael Spencer, Group Chief Executive of ICAP plc, a leading voice and electronic interdealer broker, was awarded a Beacon Special Prize, in recognition of his successful pioneering approach to modern philanthropy. EFC’s Chief Executive, Gerry Salole, nominated Michael for the 2007 prize.

Michael was one of just 13 prize recipients last year, all chosen for their exceptional philanthropic contribution by giving their time, money and skills to benefit specific charitable causes. Michael won the prize in recognition of ICAP’s Charity Day which he introduced in 1993, which has now been running continuously for 14 years in ICAP offices worldwide. The firm’s staff (some 3,700 people), with their customers’ support, have collectively raised over €42m, and countless individuals have been touched by the firm’s philanthropic efforts. The 2007 Charity Day on 12 December brought in £9.2m.

ICAP’s Charity Day offers the financial world an opportunity to contribute positively to those in need through a unique and effective form of philanthropy. The idea is that customers support the Day by channelling their business via ICAP and ICAP staff contribute their earnings from that business is potentially a complex concept to communicate. Michael has made the Day enjoyable for staff and customers, by enlisting celebrity support and encouraging a relaxed atmosphere.

In nominating Michael for the Prize, Gerry Salole commented “Michael has pioneered a new strategy of giving that is a sustained form of corporate social responsibility and brings high net worth individuals in contact with giving; a model that other organisations in the sector have chosen to replicate.”

The Beacon Prize is an annual award scheme, set up to highlight and showcase exceptional contributions to charitable and social causes.
(Article provided by: The Beacon Fellowship Trust)

For information about ICAP, visit: www.icap.com. For more information about the Beacon Prize, visit: www.beaconfellowship.org.uk

Michael Spencer, Group Chief Executive of ICAP IncAP