

Fall 2015

Biography of Bruce Sievers

Bruce Sievers

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Bruce R. Sievers

Bruce Sievers is a Visiting Scholar and Lecturer in Political Science at Stanford University and adjunct professor at the Institute for Nonprofit Organization Management at the University of San Francisco. He is also a Senior Fellow Emeritus with Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors. Sievers received a Ph.D. in political science from Stanford University and studied at the Freie Universität Berlin as a Fulbright Scholar. He was the founding executive director of both the Montana Committee for the Humanities (now Humanities Montana) in 1972 and the California Council for the Humanities in 1974. From 1983 until 2002 he served as CEO of the Walter and Elise Haas Fund, a private foundation in San Francisco. In 2002, Sievers received the “Outstanding Foundation Executive” award at the National Philanthropy Day celebration in northern California. In 2013, he was appointed by President Obama to the National Council on the Humanities. His book, *Civil Society, Philanthropy and the Fate of the Commons* was published in 2010. Other recent publications include: “If Pigs Had Wings: the Appeals and Limits of Venture Philanthropy” (Georgetown University Lecture Series), “Philanthropy’s Blindspots” (in *Just Money: A Critique of Contemporary American Philanthropy*), “Ethics and Philanthropy” (in *Moral Leadership: The Theory and Practice of Power, Judgment, and Policy*), “What Civil society Needs” (in *Stanford Social Innovation Review*), and “Philanthropy's Role in Liberal Democracy” (in *Journal of Speculative Philosophy*).