

9/3 Study Guide Questions

Discussion questions:

- Characteristics of nonprofits?
- Why do they exist? What accounts for their (and the sector's) presence? Historically & currently.

Questions on the readings:

- Over the course of a nonprofit's lifecycle, what are some of the dynamics that affect mission change and constancy?
- Where might Daniel Askt's assertion about which is the more efficacious life/approach be on-the-mark? Where might it be off-the-mark? As a stakeholder in the nonprofit sector, how do you see yourself using the insights engendered by Askt's assertion?
- Why all the names: civil society, voluntary sector, social sector, third sector, charitable sector, independent sector, NPOs, NFPs, NGOs, SBOs, CBOs, charities, philanthropies, almsgiving, eleemosynary...?
- What does Frumkin say are the three essential characteristics of the sector?
- What is positive about the supply-side of the sector? What is negative about it?

Potential questions for Maura Grogan of the Nonprofit Loan Fund:

- What are most interesting, challenging, and fulfilling aspects of your work? The most frustrating?
- What skills are most critical and needed to be an effective nonprofit leader/manager?
- What do you wish you had known about the nonprofit sector while you were in school that would have better prepared you for the challenges you face?
- What advice do you have for us about how to become more effective and fulfilled nonprofit leaders and stakeholders?