

Alliance for Vulnerable Mission Bulletin
December 2009.

Applied Linguistics and Literacy in Africa & the Diaspora Research Network is an organisation that I came across following some 'web-surfing'. This could be of interest especially to those concerned for the language / linguistic situation in Africa.
<http://www.renafrica.org/>

Giving Wisely. For a review of the book entitled: *Giving Wisely: Killing with Kindness or Empowering Lasting Transformation?* by Jonathan Martin. See <http://www.forthemultitude.org/2009/08/06/book-review-giving-wisely/> . Jonathan is dealing with many of the issues that are important to us in AVM. In my view, if taken seriously, this book offers the means to a major improvement in the way a lot of mission work is done from the USA. Unfortunately (in my humble opinion) its falling short of vulnerable mission ideals can still give readers a false confidence in mission that is still very loaded towards American 'control'.

'International Development without Money? Some Theological Reflections' [pdf] by Jim Harries is to be a Chapter in the book: *The Goal of International Development: God's Will on Earth as it is in Heaven.* (In Press.)
Posted at <http://www.jim-mission.org.uk/articles/international-development-without-money.pdf>

The **Evangelical Missiological Society** holds missiological conferences in the USA on an annual basis. We hope that one day the theme will be 'vulnerable mission'! In the meantime, the theme for conferences to be held next March is 'Diversity in Evangelical Mission Today'. AVMers interested in contributing to these conferences, please go to:
<http://www.emsweb.org/home>

The latest on the 'sailing blog': (see <http://sailingfriends.wordpress.com/> for details.)
"We have argued that a paradigm of control over the process of advancing God's kingdom leads to ministry structures that are not sufficiently flexible to respond to unexpected leading from the Wind of God. This is true even when in our hearts we really would like to be responsive. ... If you lead a ministry with a formal organization, buildings, staff, and contracts with providers of goods and services, you have daily responsibilities and commitments that cannot be ignored while you wait for divine direction. How do we reconcile the basic demands of living and working in the world with the need to be flexible to God's leading? ..."

Global Self Reliance Network Glenn Schwartz, who heads up the WMA (World Mission Associates) that seeks to address dependency issues in mission, has written a report on the latest developments of the GSRN (Global Self Reliance Network):
<http://www.vulnerablemission.com/wma-glenn-schwartz-report/> There is a lot of overlap between Glenn's concerns and those of the AVM.

Jim Harries
Chairman, Alliance for Vulnerable Mission

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