



# Tributes to Tony Monaco



The Talloires Network of Engaged Universities celebrates Tufts University President Tony Monaco's 8-year tenure as Steering Committee Chair. Members of the Talloires Network community and a host of educational and civic leaders around the world have shared personal reflections and memories of his leadership of the Network.

**Nieves Segovia**

**President**

**Universidad Camilo José Cela (Spain)**

Dear Tony,

Thank you for your service as Chair to the Talloires Network Steering Committee. You are an exceptional and visionary leader whose contributions to higher education will endure.

It has been an honor to serve by your side as Vice-Chair of the Talloires Network Steering Committee. I will treasure fond memories of working with you and our colleagues at the Tisch College of Civic Life during extremely challenging times. At the height of the global Covid-19 pandemic, the Network provided support for community-university collaboration and student leadership in regions around the world. COV-AID (Communities Of Virtual Alliance & Inter-Dependence) allowed Universidad Camilo José Cela (UCJC) and other Network member institutions to share best practices for pandemic management and foster lasting partnerships. Additionally, the Next Generation Leaders Program offered essential support to university students who were struggling to adjust to new realities. I remain inspired by young leaders like UCJC's Khan Alkozee –a student of Law and Criminology– who met regularly with peers around the globe to chart the strategic direction for the Network. The voices and perspectives of Next Generation Leaders were the highlight of the 2021 Talloires Network Leaders Conference, co-hosted by Tufts University and Harvard University.

Societies are changing a great deal. Within this period of rapid and profound transformation, the Network's role in the higher education sector is more vital than ever before. Congruent with the values and principles of the 2005 Talloires Declaration, I too believe universities "should use the processes of education and research to respond to, serve and strengthen its communities for local and global citizenship." The main agents at universities are the students, and we are wise to listen to them.

Too many of us to name are appreciative for your steadfast commitment to the Network as you have contributed intellectually and financially to the strength of the Network. From negotiating the addition of two student seats on the Steering Committee in 2014, to overseeing three global conferences, to forging new partnerships that allow less well-endowed universities to participate in this crucial work – your creative and bold leadership is an example to us all.

I am humbled by the opportunity to serve as the next Chair of the Steering Committee and look forward to building on the strong foundation set by the prior Chairs, including Larry Bacow, Mark Gearan, and yourself.

Wishing you the very best.

**Alan Solomont**  
**Dean Emeritus of Tisch College**  
**Tufts University (United States)**

As Dean Emeritus of Tufts University's Tisch College of Civic Life, I congratulate President Tony Monaco for his service as the Talloires Network's (TN) Steering Committee Chair, and I extend my gratitude for his extraordinary leadership.

President Monaco helped guide the TN during a critical period of growth, change, and achievement. During his tenure, the Network has grown to include 426 member institutions across 85 countries. The Secretariat returned to its home at Tisch College, and it transitioned smoothly from its founding Executive Director, Professor Rob Hollister, to its current leader, Dr. Lorlene Hoyt. The Network has welcomed Engaged Members, and a rebranding exercise resulted in a distinctive new logo and a clarifying name change.

During this time, the TN gathered at three international conferences, in Cape Town, Veracruz and virtually in Boston, and it adopted a set of shared values and vision for higher education. Additionally, the portfolio of action research expanded significantly, and several new initiatives highlighted the civic engagement of students and faculty across the Network.

Growth, change and success have marked President Monaco's service to the TN, and I salute him for his stewardship during this exciting and productive time.

**Andrew Petter**  
**President and Professor Emeritus**  
**Simon Fraser University (Canada)**

I was privileged to serve on the Talloires Network Steering Committee with Tony from 2015 to 2020 as President of Simon Fraser University (SFU). Thanks to Tony's deep dedication and skillful guidance, the Network during my tenure and beyond was able to broaden its global membership, refresh its brand, overcome financial hurdles, and adapt to the challenges of a global pandemic, all the while strengthening its commitments to advocate and support a larger role for universities as community builders and contributors to societal betterment. Under his leadership, the Network played an important part in encouraging and validating SFU's ambition to become Canada's most community-engaged research university.





Tufts University President Anthony P. Monaco, Universidad Camilo José Cela President Nieves Segovia, and Talloires Network Executive Director Lorlene Hoyt at Barnum Hall, Tufts University on January 30, 2023.

**Denise Pires de Carvalho**  
Rector  
**Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)**

I was honored to be invited to run and be elected to the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities Steering Committee during President Tony Monaco's term. Unfortunately, the face-to-face meetings did not take place after my election, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, however, our Chairman Tony has led the committee in an exemplary manner during these dystopian times. It was an honor and great satisfaction to be led by Tony Monaco.

Congratulations, Tony.

**Dayna Cunningham**

**Pierre and Pamela Omidyar Dean, Tisch College of Civic Life  
Tufts University (United States)**

Tony Monaco's extraordinary tenure as Chair of the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities can be characterized in many ways: by the tremendous growth, reach and diversity of the Network; the expansion of community-based research; the deep connections built among campuses; the partnerships with leading foundations; and the elevation of student voices across the Network. But perhaps the word that best characterizes his leadership is engagement. Tony recognizes that to make change, universities have a responsibility – and an opportunity – to truly engage with each other and with communities.

This commitment was most powerfully on display during the COVID-19 pandemic. While keeping a clear focus on the health and safety of students, faculty and staff, his belief in engagement never wavered. When more than 1,400 global participants gathered virtually for the 2021 conference, Tony challenged us to ask how universities could not only survive the pandemic but help to address it – together. Tony asked us to emerge even stronger, and his leadership made certain that we did.

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–Dayna Cunningham**

**Lawrence S. Bacow**  
**President**  
**Harvard University (United States)**

The Talloires Network was still in its infancy when Tony Monaco assumed leadership of the Steering Committee. Today, we see his legacy in action through the work of more than 400 member institutions that are devoted to serving and strengthening society—and to improving the world for all of us.

Engaged universities have a critical role to play in shaping the future—not just through their research and teaching efforts but also through the communities they create and the behaviors they model. Tony has advanced efforts on each of these fronts. He has nurtured creativity, inspired change, and modeled excellence to ensure the continued relevance and vibrancy of our shared efforts. All of higher education is in his debt.

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**-Lawrence Bacow**

**Mapendo Mindje**  
**Assistant Lecturer**  
**University of Rwanda (Rwanda)**

It was 2017 when I first met President Tony Monaco during the Talloires Network Leaders conference in Mexico. It was a wonderful experience and an inspiration meeting President Monaco... He made it so simple and enjoyable through his sense of humility. I was lucky as one of the student representatives to the Steering Committee under his leadership. He has been an inspiration, not only for his humility, but also his hard work. I feel so grateful to say that he is an exemplary leader.

**Cheryl de la Rey**  
**Vice-Chancellor**  
**University of Canterbury (New Zealand)**

As Vice-Chancellor of the University of Pretoria, South Africa at the time, I served as Vice-Chair to President Tony Monaco as Chair of the Steering Committee for the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities. During the three years that I worked with President Tony Monaco, the Talloires Network grew its membership, reach and impact. Besides our regular Steering Committee meetings, Tony was a strong presence in the many international events hosted by the Talloires Network. As I look back, I recall the conversations with the Times Higher Education (THE) and the THE roundtable when we advocated for changes to the rankings methodology to give visibility to civic engagement.

Rankings methodologies are changing and there is growing awareness of universities' societal impact. President Tony Monaco's unwavering commitment to the Talloires Declaration has ensured a legacy for the future.

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**-Cheryl de la Rey**

**Chau Au**  
**Student**  
**University of Technology Sydney (Australia)**

Tony has been progressive in aligning Talloires Network's vision in strengthening higher education's civic roles and social responsibilities. It was a pleasure meeting him at the General Assembly in New York City in 2019, chairing meetings and events in collaboration with university leaders to support the continued development and projects of the Network. He inspires leaders to venture into wicked problems to tackle social challenges and inequities. I learnt how to be an informed and active citizen with the courage and resilience to be a progressive leader.



**Cliona Maher**  
**International Officer**  
**Universidad Veracruzana (Mexico)**

Thank you to President Monaco for his inspiring leadership as Chair on behalf of all the team at Universidad Veracruzana (UV) in Mexico. His ability to spearhead amazing initiatives during the recent global pandemic, including the COV-AID initiative and a virtual Talloires Network Leaders Conference (TNLC), was moving and motivating at a time when we all needed to connect with each other to inspire and co-create to build back better.

We are grateful for the wonderful opportunities created under your leadership, where UV could share our community engagement work, during the pandemic together with colleagues in the Network through the University Award for Innovative Civic Engagement; Youth Economic Participation Initiative (YEPI); and TNLC, physically in Veracruz in 2017 and online in 2021. The opportunity for UV to be represented on the Next Generation Leaders Program and receive a COV-AID Student Engagement Award has strengthened and inspired deeper community engagement in Mexico.



Tufts University President Anthony P. Monaco and Dayna Cunningham, Dean of Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University on April 13, 2022.



**Duaa E Zahra Shah**

**Student**

**National University of Sciences and Technology (Pakistan)**

After speaking at the Talloires Network Conference 2021 Opening Ceremony, I turned the agenda to President Monaco, who surprised me by appreciating what I had to say before continuing to speak about the significance of student voices. This indicated what I then thought was a bittersweet close to the Next Generation Leaders Program. I loved getting to know brilliant people from around the world and learning from the profound and diverse insights they offered, brainstorming and discussing perspectives and solutions to issues I cared about, and thriving under a framework that provided so many resources and support for us to contribute to the world. So I was delightfully surprised when I realized the close of the conference was only a fresh beginning of yet more projects, from helping structure future TNLC iterations to organizing deliberative democracy sessions with the Kettering Foundation. I am so grateful to President Monaco for his leadership and how it beautifully shaped my Talloires Network experience.



Next Generation Leaders gathering on the Kettering Foundation Campus in Dayton, Ohio for the *Deliberative Democracy Exchange* on July 14, 2022.

**"Thank you, President Monaco, for your commitment to giving us, young leaders from different walks of life, an excellent platform to share ideas about the world we want."**

**–Funwako Bakhile Dlamini**

**Funwako Bakhile Dlamini**

**Student**

**University of Cape Town (South Africa)**

Being part of the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities through the Next Generation Leaders Program has granted me an excellent platform to critically share my ideas with a global community of young leaders. One of my highlights was the TNLC2021 which reinforced the importance of having spaces of critical thinking that promote a fair dialogue.

I will forever be grateful for the lifelong friendships and partnerships I have made through my engagement with the Network. Thank you, President Monaco, for your commitment to giving us, young leaders from different walks of life, an excellent platform to share ideas about the world we want. Your transformational leadership continues to inspire young leaders across the world, and I am grateful to be counted among them.

**Harunah Damba**

**Student**

**Makerere University (Uganda)**

I am so delighted to extend my tribute to Anthony P. Monaco as he winds up his tenure as Steering Committee Chair of the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities. I had the distinct privilege to participate as one of the students in the Next Generation Leaders program – coined by Anthony and colleagues for young leaders who prefer hope and dialogue as tools for addressing injustices. Anthony has wholeheartedly supported us intellectually, morally, and emotionally in our journey as young leaders, and one such example is the privilege to speak at the Talloires Network Leaders Conference in 2021. I am so proud to be part of the powerful legacy of the young, visionary leaders that Anthony has built and nurtured. I hope I will have the chance to meet Anthony in person one day.





Talloires Network Steering Committee Chair Anthony P. Monaco and Vice-Chair Cheryl de la Rey leading a Steering Committee meeting in New York City on August 24, 2016.

## **Claudia Frittelli**

**Program Director for High Education and Research in Africa  
Carnegie Corporation of New York (United States)**

Dear President Monaco,

Many thanks for your dynamic leadership in increasing African university participation in the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities at all levels. Carnegie Corporation of New York was a founding supporter of TN in 2005, and TN's expansion to 426 member institutions across 85 countries, including 64 African member universities that have publicly committed to strengthening the civic roles and social responsibilities of their institutions, is impressive. Thank you also for leading TN during the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to technological innovation and regional strengthening of the Network. We have greatly valued your leadership and wish you all the best.

**Haifa Jamal Al-Lail**  
**President**  
**Effat University (Saudi Arabia)**

As a geneticist, it is perhaps not surprising that Tony Monaco has changed the DNA of the Talloires Network during his tenure. He has pushed civic engagement to the forefront of academic consciousness, ensuring that it has become one of the major pillars in university missions across the globe. By expanding the outreach of the Network, he has helped break barriers, strengthen community relationships, and enhanced awareness that civic outreach is a two-way street, a collective endeavor, with collective benefits. He may be leaving TN, but his impact will remain. Thank you, Tony!

**"As a geneticist, it is perhaps not surprising that Tony Monaco has changed the DNA of the Talloires Network during his tenure."**

**-Haifa Jamal Al-Lail**

**Akmaljon Akhmedjonov**  
**Student**  
**Central European University (Austria)**

Dear President Monaco,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude for your leadership and dedication to the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities. Your commitment to higher education is highly appreciated by us, Next Generation Leaders, as you have implemented a comprehensive strategic plan together with university-wide initiatives designed to broaden access to cross-university knowledge-sharing practices.

Your dedication as a Chair of the Talloires Network Steering Committee is admirable and your efforts have made a tremendous impact. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the Network and your guidance and leadership as president.



**Lorraine McIlrath**

**Director of Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Interculturalism  
Mary Immaculate College (Ireland)**

It was a professional highlight for me to serve for two terms with the Steering Committee for the Talloires Network under the leadership of Tony Monaco. Tony brought the Talloires Network to a new and pioneering level with his careful strategic vision, and attention to precision and detail in terms of developing an inclusive and diverse network. Tony will be a huge loss to the Talloires Network, and I wish him a wonderful next adventure. It was my pleasure to work alongside him and advance the public purpose of higher education internationally.

**Matias Ramos**

**Associate Director, Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations  
Harvard University (United States)**

As Communications Coordinator for the Talloires Network between 2014-2017, I had the honor of assisting with Tony Monaco's monthly message to member institutions. Tony's writing was like his interpersonal approach: focused, caring, and willing to celebrate excellent work – no matter its origin. I knew Tony to be a dedicated educator and scientist, but the biggest impression he made on me was in how he treated people. His direct engagement with young social entrepreneurs from around the world or student advocates on campus demonstrated his belief in the role of education as an agent of social change. Tufts' exemplary response to the COVID-19 crisis provided a clear example of how universities could help weather a global crisis. I am grateful to have served under his leadership and wish him the best!

**"His direct engagement with young social entrepreneurs from around the world and student advocates on campus demonstrated his belief in the role of education as an agent of social change."**

**– Matias Ramos**



Tufts University President Anthony P. Monaco welcomes participants at 18 universities in 14 countries to the 2021 Talloires Network Leaders Conference; Kalinga Institute for Industrial Technology (India) above.

### **Nico Koopman**

**Professor of Ethics and Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Social Impact  
Stellenbosch University (South Africa)**

President Tony Monaco showed what presidents are called to do. They preside in enabling and inspiring their institutions to be vehicles for societies where dignity and healing, justice and freedom, and equality through equity prevail. President Monaco fulfils this calling through his personal interest in and concern for people. He embodies passion for people. I always feel respected, appreciated, and valued in my interactions with him. Tony emphasizes that universities can be agents of dignity through our distinctive focus, namely excellent academic work, research, and innovation, learning and teaching. He employs both his academic and his management and leadership expertise and experience to steer universities toward being agents of transformative social impact in a world that needs its universities so much.

**Peter G. Kirira**  
**Deputy Vice-Chancellor**  
**Mount Kenya University (Kenya)**

I wish to thank Tony for his visionary and resilient leadership style that saw TN continue with community engagement initiatives especially during the pandemic. For instance, through the Innovative Civic Engagement Award generously awarded to my institution in 2020, my university was able to distribute water backpacks as safe water devices and handwash units to low resourced communities in Kenya, in partnership with Partners for Care, a local NGO, thereby supporting Kenyan government efforts in mitigating the spread of the pandemic. In addition, in light of the global travel restrictions, under the leadership of Tony, Talloires Network supported Mount Kenya University through the Grants for Engaged Universities to participate virtually in the TNLC2021 through the "hub and spoke" model. Consequently, students and members of the local community participated fully in the conference. I am therefore indebted to Tony for his leadership that has not only increased our civic engagement activities but has also transformed our students into passionate civic engagement warriors.

**Sara Ladrón de Guevara**  
**Former Rector**  
**Universidad Veracruzana (Mexico)**

It was a pleasure to serve on the Steering Committee with President Tony Monaco. His inspiring leadership during his term enabled very positive progress and growth of our network and community.

It was an honor to welcome Tony to Mexico as President during the 2017 Talloires Network Leaders Conference (TNLC) at Universidad Veracruzana, when we signed the Veracruz Declaration on Social Responsibility and Human Dignity in Higher Education Engagement, written in collaboration with global university leaders, students, and community leaders, in Xalapa, Veracruz, during the TNLC. I will always be grateful for his encouraging words congratulating the UV team on an outstanding TNLC.

I have fond memories of engaging conversations with Tony and his interest in the differences between our Institutions and cultures and his recognition for our shared common goals and visions. He has a great appreciation for diversity and the infinite possibilities for cooperation that bring us together.

**Philip Adebayo**  
Student  
University of Calgary (Canada)

Tony Monaco is exceptional because of his exemplary leadership abilities, steadfast dedication to academic success, diversity, access, and inclusion, and his viewpoint on the world. Being chosen as one of the 2021 Next Generation Leaders is a huge honor for me under Tony's leadership as the Chair of the Steering Committee for the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities.

**"This opportunity has changed my life because of [Tony's] participation and dedication to the Network."**

**-Philip Adebayo**

This opportunity has changed my life because of his participation and dedication to the Network. My eyes have been opened to many options for impact, and the Next Generation Leaders Program has introduced me to many talented young makers. All thanks to Tony's extraordinary dedication and the unwavering assistance of your encouraging members. Thank you, Tony Monaco, for everything you did for the Network and the lives you touched. Thanks for being a great inspiration. Best wishes in your future endeavors!

**Phil Mlanda**  
Co-Founder, paNhari  
University of Zimbabwe (Zimbabwe)

I interacted with Tony at the TNLC 2017 in Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico. We spoke about the Youth Economic Participation Initiative, and I was surprised at how much intricate knowledge and genuine interest he had in the community work that we were engaged in. As he questioned me about our civic engagement projects, I was struck by his humility and genuine interest and offer to assist. Apart from his curiosity, I also benefited from his thoughts that he shared with our team on being relentless in strategic innovation. He is a deeply caring individual and leader.



**Ruslan M. Rahimov**  
**Associate Professor, Anthropology Program**  
**American University of Central Asia (Kyrgyzstan)**

My experience of working with Tony as the Steering Committee Chair for Talloires Network of Engaged Universities in the context of my research project on Gender Equality in Public Arts has been incredibly valuable. His leadership has been instrumental in creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for members of all backgrounds, particularly for those from underrepresented groups. One specific moment that stands out to me was during a Network event where Tony actively sought out and engaged in conversation with members who may have felt marginalized. His efforts to uplift and amplify diverse voices truly made a positive impact on the community. Additionally, the programs offered by the Network under his leadership have been incredibly beneficial to my colleagues and me. They provided opportunities for professional development and community building that have been essential to our work in the field of Gender Equality in Arts. Overall, I am incredibly grateful for the guidance and support Tony has provided during my time in the Network.



Tufts University President Anthony P. Monaco in dialogue with participants of the 2017 Talloires Network Leaders Conference in Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico (2017).

**"President Monaco is the real force behind empowering university students to be influential change makers in their communities rather than just participants of the educational institutes."  
-Susan Azizi**

**Susan Azizi**  
**Student**  
**American University of Central Asia (Kyrgyzstan)**

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude and appreciation to President Monaco for his leadership as Chair of the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities. As a student representative on the Steering Committee, I was humbly honored to be part of the Committee to reflect students' perspectives. Indeed, President Monaco paid due importance to the students' voices to provide relevant collaboration for the universities so that students could benefit and bring positive changes to the communities that they are part of.

President Monaco is the real force behind empowering university students to be influential change makers in their communities rather than just participants of the educational institutes. I am greatly thankful for the vast knowledge that I acquired from the Network meetings as well as from the amazing opportunity to attend the upcoming Global Fellows Conference which is going to be held in Budapest, Hungary this summer. The Network not only helped me in reserving a seat at the Conference, but it also provided me with a letter to the Budapest Embassy to ease the visa process.

**Verity Firth**  
**Pro Vice-Chancellor, Social Justice and Inclusion**  
**University of Technology Sydney (Australia)**

I first met President Tony Monaco at the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities 2017 Conference in Veracruz, Mexico. The conference theme was 'Social Responsibility and Human Dignity in Higher Education Engagement', and as a new recruit to higher education I was enormously impressed by the range and quality of workshops and sessions. I sat opposite Tony Monaco at a gathering hosted by the Talloires Steering Committee where he spoke to me about the vision of the Network and quizzed me about how we could encourage more Australian universities to be involved in the collective project. I was instantly impressed by his commitment to enhancing the public benefit of higher education; and his capacity to draw together leaders of universities from around the world, from both the global north and south, to work together for a common purpose. He will be much missed as Steering Committee Chair and I wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

**Wenke B. Thoman**  
**Trustee**  
**MacJannet Foundation**

Dear President Monaco,

It has been a great privilege and pleasure for the MacJannet Foundation and me to work with you and the Talloires Network these past years and observe the evolution of the Talloires Network. The number of universities from all over the Globe, the diversity and the stature of these wonderful centers of learning is an accomplishment. Institutions emerging from Ivory Towers into their communities is a journey that the Talloires Network Universities is leading. And Tony Monaco was at the helm, steering the way through some difficult times including COVID and still managing to co-host the historic 2021 meeting in Boston to celebrate the 16 years of the Network's existence. The Network sits on a solid foundation and continues to grow, prosper, and evolve. This is due in great part to the last eight years of leadership and dedication provided by Tony Monaco, Tufts University, the staff of the Talloires Network, and the participation and hard work by the dedicated staffs of the member universities of the Network. My heartfelt thanks to Tony Monaco for his vision and leadership. The MacJannet Foundation could not be more proud to be a participant in this important effort in academic higher learning and that the MacJannet Prize for Global Citizenship has helped to highlight and recognize this amazing and unique accomplishment!!

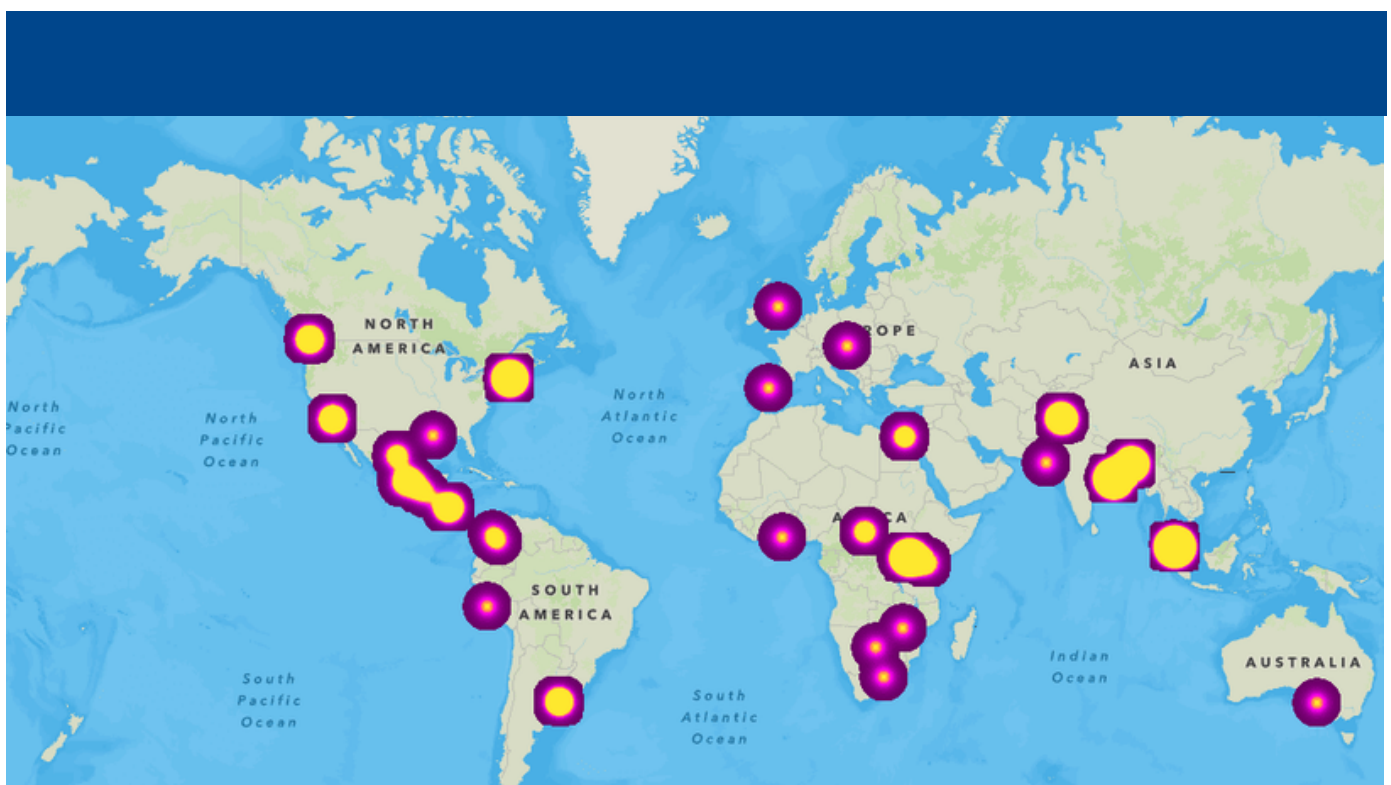
**Tyrone Pretorius**  
**Vice Chancellor**  
**University of the Western Cape (South Africa)**

I had the privilege to be part of the Talloires International Conference “Live Engagement, Transform Lives” at Spier Conference Centre, Stellenbosch, South Africa in December 2014 as the Rector designate. This was my first exposure to the Network and I resonated with the mission and vision of the Network “to commitment to the ideals of university community engagement, social service and responsibility, international collaboration, and local collective action to address pressing problems.” It aligned perfectly with the mission and vision of the University of Western Cape as an Engaged institution and I did not hesitate when approached by Lorlene Hoyt during a visit to UWC to join the Network.

I am proud that UWC is part of a growing network from 12 engaged members in 2017 to a global coalition of over 400 universities committed to work with communities worldwide in strengthening the civic roles and social responsibilities of their institutions.

I would like to salute Tony Monaco for his guidance and leadership in steering this Network in the creation of a platform for students, academics, their community partners and stakeholders to share and explore best practices, measure impact, demonstrate accountability, reward and support excellence and develop future leaders who will facilitate social justice and equity in our global society.

I wish him well with his future endeavors.



Map of TNLC2021 participants around the world.



**Lorlene Hoyt, Christina Kaltcheva, Melissa Cepeda**  
**Secretariat**  
**Talloires Network of Engaged Universities**

Thank you for your profound influence on the evolution of the Talloires Network – your active involvement has fundamentally altered the DNA of our living, growing, and dynamic global coalition.

Tony, I recall vividly the summer morning in July 2014 when we met in Ballou Hall to discuss the future of the Talloires Network and your possible role as the Steering Committee Chair. The Steering Committee had nominated you to run for the position. You were thoughtful and clear, as is your way. While you valued the Network's direct involvement of university presidents, vice-chancellors, and rectors, you suggested the Network shine a brighter light on university students, faculty, and community partners. You described your vision as a "blending front line people with heads of universities."

Several months later, you participated in the Talloires Network Leaders Conference in Cape Town, South Africa, where you led a strategic planning meeting with Network Steering Committee members. You advocated for the addition of student representatives to the Steering Committee, emphasizing the importance of placing student voices and perspectives at the forefront of the Network. Following a robust deliberation, the Committee decided to revise its rules of governance to include two seats for university student leaders at the decision-making table. This experiment has proven successful as evidenced by the testimonies of young people around the world who have flourished during your tenure.

Your impactful contributions are too many to name here. Highlights include: putting down a marker in 2015 to change the global university ranking systems to include more elements of civic engagement; creating an Engaged Membership system of shared ownership to sustain Network operations in 2016; participating in the 2017 Talloires Network Leaders Conference in Veracruz, Mexico; convening engaged universities in the United Kingdom in 2018 and 2019; and demonstrating by example how engaged universities can respond effectively to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. During this tumultuous period, the 2021 Talloires Network Leaders Conference –co-hosted by Tufts University and Harvard University– brought together more than 1,400 higher education leaders in 53 countries, and more than one-third of the conference sessions were organized and led by students around the world.

Tony, you are beloved by many around the world. We are tremendously grateful for your deep commitment to the well-being of others and for your personal investment in our collective mission. We want you to know that your legacy as Chair will live on through the relationships, ideas, and programs that you have generously and tirelessly supported. Though it cannot be seen or measured, we know the qualities of your multidimensional leadership –humility, intelligence, humor, kindness, courage– will be passed down through the Network for generations to come.