

Kettering-Talloires Launch Collaborative Research and Writing Project (2013-2014)

The Talloires Network is pleased to announce that it will continue and expand its partnership with the Kettering Foundation. To build on an initial workshop last summer, which included 16 participants from 12 different countries, we are now launching the Kettering-Talloires Collaborative Research and Writing Project.

This project will support an ongoing critical exchange on the topic of how universities around the world understand and act on their civic engagement missions. Specifically, we aim to learn more about the most innovative civic engagement efforts in different regions around the world and how they have contributed, or can contribute, to pushing the traditional boundaries of service-learning -- to accomplish more public or political forms of community-university engagement. We will explore practices where universities go beyond “partnership with community” to “becoming part of” the community.

Some of the questions we will work together to answer include: How do universities around the world understand their civic mission? What problems of democracy and civic life are they attempting to address through efforts to better engage students in communities? What capacities do students need to have to participate in their societies as active and responsible citizens? What capacities do community partners need to have to effectively interact with students? What practices are universities around the world using to better engage students in communities beyond service learning? What differences have these made in the civic capacities of students and communities? What are the challenges? How do universities define civic learning outcomes? How do they assess them?

We ultimately intend to produce a series of case studies that can serve as regional exemplars for engaged universities around the world. The project is designed to incorporate a diverse array of voices and perspectives to the conversation by inviting a mix of people to the table: university administrators, faculty, staff, students as well as civic leaders and other community members. In addition to the 2013 and 2014 summer workshops in the U.S. where participants will have the opportunity to meet face-to-face, the group will meet virtually and regularly to share and shape their ideas over time. Together, we will co-produce and publish a book –an edited volume of original and scholarly chapters. Each chapter of the will be co-authored by a university civic engagement program leader (e.g., university administrator, professor, researcher, etc.) and a university student or a community partner. We intend to make the manuscript available in several different languages. The regional participants are listed below. Please contact Dr. Lorlene Hoyt, Director of Programs and Research, at Lorlene.Hoyt@Tufts.edu if you have any questions.

NORTH AMERICA

Mark Wilson, Director of Civic Learning Initiatives
Marie Cirillo, Community Developer
Living Democracy at Auburn University

ASIA/PACIFIC

Dr. Koh Kwee Choy (James), Senior Lecturer & Infectious Diseases Consultant
Wan Amni Zulkiflar, Graduate Student
Kampung Angkat Project at the International Medical University in Malaysia

EUROPE

Lynette Jordan, Lecturer
Margaret Layden, North Glasgow Housing Association
Activate Program at the University of Glasgow

ARAB STATES

Nelly Corbel, University-Based Civic Engagement Manager
Ms. Rana Gaber, Director of Programs, Egyptian Youth Federation
Lazord Academy at the American University of Cairo

AUSTRALIA

Loshini Naidoo, Senior Lecturer in Social Justice Education
Eric Brace, Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation
Refugee Action Support project at the University of Western Sydney

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Joseph Francis, Director of the Institute for Rural Development
Hlekani Kabiti, Graduate Student
Amplifying Grassroots Community Voices at the University of Venda

Thabo Putu, Program Manager
Community Works Camps, University of Witwatersrand

LATIN AMERICA

Ernesto Benavides Ornelas, Director de Formación Social del Sistema
María Fernanda Pacheco Bravo, Graduate Student
Brigadas Comunitarias at Tecnológico de Monterrey, Querétaro