

The Talloires Network: Voices for a New Model of Higher Education

By Emma Lochery, ICP Service Scholar



The 2005 Talloires Declaration, signed by heads of universities from 23 countries, states: “Our institutions recognize that we do not exist in isolation from society, nor from the communities in which we are located. **Instead, we carry a unique obligation to listen, understand, and contribute to social transformation and development.**”

In partnership with Tufts, ICP serves as the Secretariat for the Talloires Network born from the 2005 declaration. Though it began its work with university presidents, the Talloires Network now works to connect diverse members of the higher education community, including students, faculty members, staff and administrators, as well as community organizations and government agencies. However, the diversity of this group also presents a serious challenge. How can so many people with different roles and goals collaborate on a project to alter prevailing models of higher education?

As a global network set up to embrace diversity, the Talloires Network must rise to the challenge in several ways. It must build a platform for a conversation, nurture the movements for civic engagement arising from that conversation, and empower people to take action in their own communities and societies. The Network’s initial projects are aimed at accomplishing exactly that. The Network recently developed a website and a blog, both of which contain information about the Network as a whole and the individual member institutions. By employing these tools and connecting to other websites, blogs, and networks, the Talloires Network aims to create a platform for all the diverse voices in the movement – from a student entrepreneur setting up a translation service in partnership with immigrant populations to a professor of mathematics working to improve instruction in local schools. With the ability to post pictures, videos, and sound recordings, people are free to share with the world how they are working to redefine the relationship between the academy and its communities – both local and global.

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UNICEF Meeting Examines National Youth Policies

By Katherine Hutter, ICP Projects Coordinator

At the invitation of Golda El-Khoury, the UNICEF Regional Youth Advisor for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Katherine Hutter attended two UNICEF-sponsored meetings in Istanbul, Turkey from May 7 through 10. The first meeting focused on national youth policies (NYP); the second on adolescents in emergency and transition contexts. In addition to UNICEF staff from country offices, the MENA regional office and headquarters, Katherine was joined by representatives from the Council of Europe, the World Bank, and the League of Arab States, among others.

The goals of the meeting on national youth policies were to examine country experiences from the MENA region in national youth policy formulation and implementation; to discuss best practices, challenges and lessons learned; and to design a regional review of country experiences, including key models from outside the region. Lessons learned from the meeting include:

- NYP should be a comprehensive framework for youth, accompanied by sectoral action plans.
- The duty bearer for the NYP should be at the highest level of government, supported by an inter-ministerial commission coordinated by the Youth Ministry (if applicable).

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Update on youth policies in MENA region

Palestine: NYP has been proposed, but not yet passed due to political situation.
Somalia: NYP still in preparation stage.
Yemen: A National Strategy for Children and Youth, which is comprised of 12 themes relating to each target age group, has been adopted and is being integrated into the National Development Plan for Yemen. The Strategy was developed in conjunction with UNICEF and the World Bank.

Lebanon: NYP drafted and a consensus-building process with youth, government and other sectors is ongoing.

Jordan: A National Youth Strategy (2005-2009) has been developed and adopted by Jordan’s Higher Youth Council. Various ministries are implementing the Strategy through small-scale projects.

Bahrain: NYP was developed, endorsed and is currently being implemented.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE

(IANYS)

News and Updates

Under ICP's new leadership of IANYS, a Global Council is being formed that will include dedicated individuals from around the world to provide general oversight and direction for the association. Former IANYS Steering Committee members, including Reuven Gal, Michael Sherraden, Susan Stroud, Jim Kielsmeier and Nieves Tapia, will remain on the Global Council. Elisabeth Hoodless has been elected Chair of the Global Council, while Don Eberly will stay on as Honorary President.

New Council members to date include Licio Palazzini, Marie Trelle-Kane, Busani Ngcaweni, Ali Khan, Christopher Witt and Dr. Yuanzhu Ding. Licio Palazzini is the Director of Arci Servizio Civile, the leading organization in Italy promoting national civil service. Marie Trelle-Kane is founder and director of Cikanam Conseil, a consulting organization specializing in youth development in France, as well as one of the co-founders and current President of the Board of Unis-Cité, a national youth service program in France. Busani Ngcaweni is head of the Youth Desk and Senior Policy Analyst in the South African Presidency. He is responsible for supporting the implementation, oversight and review of the country's national youth policy. Ashoka Fellow Ali Khan is the founder and CEO of Youth Engagement Services (YES) Network Pakistan and the Pakistan National Youth Service, which offers the first youth service and sexual reproductive health and tutoring programs for under-served and at-risk youth throughout Pakistan. Christopher Witt is the founder of the Kalori Group, which supports promising businesses and delivers educational programs to develop stronger entrepreneurial skills, and is an Adjunct Professor at the Australian Graduate School of Management in Sydney. Dr. Yuanzhu Ding is the Director of the Research Center of Volunteering and Welfare at Peking University in China. ICP is pleased to welcome the new Global Council members and is in the process of recruiting several more leaders in the field to round out this impressive group.

In this new section of ICP's newsletter, we will provide up-to-date information on IANYS member activities as well as more general news about the Association. Please submit content for this section to Rose McGovern at rmcgovern@icicp.org

Talloires Network

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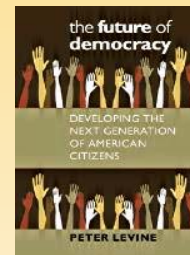
Signs of progress are already evident. Talloires members from countries including Pakistan, Australia, the UK, and the Philippines have used the Talloires website to describe their work for the Network's Global Project on Literacy. The Department of Community Health Science at the Aga Khan University in Pakistan ran a community-based school lunch program in 4000 primary girls' schools, leading to a 40% increase in the schools' enrolment. A professor at Southern Oregon University runs a project that creates software allowing teachers to create lessons in Native American languages that might otherwise continue to slip out of collective memory. Other universities, including the University of Western Sydney, are reaching out to refugee communities, helping them gain the skills necessary to move into the formal education system or workforce and participate fully in their adoptive society.

As a professor participating in a Talloires Network conference in Israel remarked, building a community of practice "lets us know that we are not alone." Indeed, it is a sign that the engaged university is not a castle in the sky – students, faculty, staff, and community partners are already building a reality of education for active citizenship. Rob Hollister, Dean of Tisch College at Tufts University, explained: "The most exciting fact about this future is that it is realistic and attainable. We know it is a practical vision, *because it is already happening.*" By sharing experiences and ideas, higher education practitioners make a crucial contribution to the struggle for social justice, globally and at home – an important first step for the Talloires Network.

To find out more about the Talloires Network or to let your voice be heard, check out our website at www.tufts.edu/talloiresnetwork.com or contact us at lochery@icicp.org.

New Publication Highlights Importance of Civic Engagement

Peter Levine, director of The Center for Information and Research on Civic and Learning Engagement at the University of Maryland, recently published a book focusing on the importance of youth civic engagement. *The Future of Democracy: Developing the Next Generation of American Citizens* discusses the decreasing rate of youth engagement in the US and identifies strategies for reversing this trend. For more information, please visit <http://www.upne.com/1-58465-648-4.html>.



Project Scotland 2006: A Productive Year

Project Scotland is a volunteering organization that encourages Scottish youth between the ages of 16 and 25 to engage in full-time volunteering projects within their communities. The organization is modeled on the United States' AmeriCorps service program, and links volunteers with service opportunities in the non-profit, private, and government sectors.

Launched in May, 2005, the program has already proven successful, placing over 1,400 young people in positions with 130 non-profit organizations across Scotland. Such success suggests that Project Scotland will continue to advance its underlying mission: to deliver significant long term outcomes for Scotland through short term projects for young people.

To visit Projects Scotland's website, please follow the link http://www.projectsScotland.co.uk/doc/partners/aboutus_vision.php.

Upcoming Events

Canadian Dialogue on Community Service-Learning: June 20-22, 2007; Brescia University College, London, Ontario. For more information, please visit

<http://www.communityservicelearning.ca/en/canadiandialogue.cfm>.

7th Melaka International Youth Dialogue: June 25-June 27, 2007; Melaka, Malaysia. For more information, please visit <http://www.icyo.in/>.

The Fourth World Environmental Education Congress: July 2-6, 2007; Durban, South Africa. For more information, please visit http://www.comminit.com/africa/events_calendar/2007-events/events-4611.html.

National Conference on Volunteering and Service: July 16-18, 2007; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. For more information, please visit <http://www.volunteeringandservice.org/>.

Community Works Institute on Service-Learning: July 24-28, 2007; Shelburne Farms, Vermont. For more information, please visit <http://www.vermontcommunityworks.org/>.

Fourth Annual Urban Service-Learning Institute: August 2-3, 2007; Detroit, Michigan. For more information, please visit http://www.nylc.org/happening_event.cfm?oid=3D5584.

TUNZA International Youth Conference: August 26-30, 2007; Liverkusen, Germany. For more information please visit <http://www.unep.org/tunza/youthconference/About/index.asp>.

ICP News and Happenings

ICP welcomed three new summer interns this month: Lily S. Axelrod, Sejal Jhaveri and Adeola Ogunju.

Lily is a rising junior at Brown University, where she studies Public Policy and Latin American Studies. When Lily is not organizing activities for Brown Students Against Sweatshops and the Student Union of Brown University, she volunteers in the Providence community, sings in the chorus, and serves as Community Service Chair of her co-ed literary fraternity. Lily plans on studying grassroots development and social change in Oaxaca, Mexico in the spring of 2008, and eventually hopes to work serving refugees and immigrants from Latin America.

Sejal is also a rising junior at Brown University, where she is studying International Relations with a focus in political economy and development. Sejal is interested in social service, justice and international law, and hopes to attend law school for international law and human rights.

Adeola Olagunju is a rising junior at the University of Southern California majoring in Political Science and French with a pre-law emphasis. Born in Nigeria, Adeola immigrated with her family to Newark, Delaware at the age of two. In both her academics and extra-curricular activities, Adeola is passionate about international development/law and social justice, specifically in francophone West Africa.

Resources

New Multimedia CD from UNESCO and Education International

UNESCO and Education International have designed and produced a multimedia CD-ROM, 'Educating for Citizenship,' that provides students with the knowledge needed to understand and participate in civic society. In addition, the CD provides educators with guidelines, suggestions and resources for imparting a sense of civic responsibility to their students. To order this free resource, please visit http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=2324&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html.

Effective Practice Resources

The National Service Organization released new resources for effective practice in developing and maintaining volunteer programs. Two of note include guidelines for measuring program performance and tips for creating and maintaining a program budget. For more information, please visit <http://nationalservice.gov/resources/>.

New Report Published Analyzing ICT's Use in Teaching Citizenship

The Neil Selwyn School of Social Sciences at Cardiff University has published the third report in their Futurelab Series, "Literature Review in Technology, Citizenship and Learning." The report

aims to provide the educational sector with reliable information concerning teaching and learning citizenship with ICT. To read the report, please visit

http://www.futurelab.org.uk/download/pdfs/research/lit_reviews/Citizenship_Review.pdf.

New Publication Offers Advice on Incorporating Youth in Programs

The Commonwealth Youth Programme has released a new publication for youth centered organizations and institutions. The publication, "Putting Youth Engagement into Practice – A Toolkit for Action," offers assistance to organizations and institutions trying to find ways to meaningfully incorporate young people in their work and decision making processes. To access the report, please visit www.thecommonwealth.org.

Hands on Network Announces free Webinar Series

The Hands on Network is hosting "Summer Studies," a series of free 90 minute webinars for national service programs. The webinars range from topics on volunteer management and recruitment to successful implementation of new technologies, and will take place at 2:00 pm (EDT) on June 12, June 21, July 26, Aug 9, Aug 23 and Aug 30. To learn more and register, please visit <https://handsonnetwork.webex.com/mw03021/mywebex/default.do?siteurl=handsonnetwork>.

- Youth policies should be disaggregated by age, gender, and other factors.
- Youth participation must be a key element throughout the processes of formulating, implementing and monitoring the NYP, beginning with the situational analysis.
- Indicators for monitoring and evaluating the NYP and related sectoral action plans must be established.
- Integrating the NYP into national development plans can be an important step for ensuring funding and sustainability.
- ICP has a growing database of youth civic engagement policies and programs from around the world that can be used to inform youth policy formation. Moreover, ICP works with government and civil society to integrate national youth service policies and programs into national youth policy frameworks, given youth service's ability to meet cross-cutting national needs and improve the lives of youth at the same time.

Service News Headlines

New Bill Aims to Increase Global Volunteering

US Senator Russ Feingold introduced a new national service bill in Congress on May 24th, 2007. If passed, the bill, Global Service Fellowship Program S 1464, will provide US citizens with more international volunteering and educational exchange opportunities. Potential participants will be selected by the State Department after being nominated for consideration by members of congress. In a move to open volunteer opportunities to all US citizens, a number of fellowships will be offered for those without resources to pay for program costs and the service time commitment will be flexible. To read more about the bill, please follow the link

<http://www.icicp.org/index.php?tg=fileman&idx=get&inl=1&id=17&gr=Y&path=&file=Feingold+Press+Release1.pdf>.

Civic Service and Volunteering Expands in Southern Africa

Civic service and volunteering is widespread and expanding in five southern African countries and involves large numbers of poor people. These are key findings from a recent study on civic service and volunteering in Botswana, Malawi, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The aim of the study was to document the nature and scope of service in the South African Development Community (SADC), identify its unique features and examine implications for social development policy and practice. The research results are available in *Research Partnerships build the Service Field in Africa*, a special issue produced by two southern African academic journals: *The Social Work Practitioner-Researcher*, University of Johannesburg,

and the *Journal of Social Development in Africa*, School of Social Work, University of Zimbabwe. To read the study, please visit <http://www.icicp.org/index.php?tg=articles&idx=More&topics=407&article=812>.

Israeli Government Approves Non-profit's Plan to Encourage Arab Youth National Service

Israel's Welfare Minister announced his approval of the first Arab non-profit agency, the Organization for Social Equality and National Service, that will direct Arab volunteers to national service jobs. Minister Isaac Herzog approved the program for a two-year trial period during which time the organization will also work to recruit volunteers from ultra-Orthodox sectors. Director and founder Aataf Alkarinavi stated that the program is "another important step toward integrating all sectors of Israeli society." To read the full article, please visit:

<http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/865696.html>.

AmeriCorps Volunteers Reach 500,000 Mark During First Annual AmeriCorps Week

On May 14, 2007, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a resolution to recognize May 13-20 as National AmeriCorps week. The resolution comes at a time when the number of AmeriCorps volunteers reached the historic 500,000 mark, an achievement President Bush acknowledged on May 18th by inviting AmeriCorps members to the White House for a reception. To read more about AmeriCorps week and recent developments, please visit <http://www.americorps.gov/about/newsroom/releases.asp>.

Service News World-wide is produced by Innovations in Civic Participation. This monthly newsletter is intended to be a resource for current news and events related to service, country information, and relevant publications and internet resources, in addition to in-depth discussions of different types of service and the issues that accompany them.

Comments and/or suggestions are welcomed, and we strongly encourage contributions for future issues.

Please direct enquiries to info@icicp.org