



**John A. Fry**  
*President*

Talloires Network Secretariat  
23 Bellevue Street  
Medford, MA 02155

February 26, 2016

Dear MacJannet Prize Selection Committee:

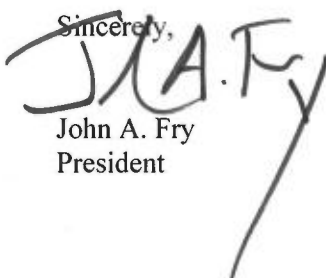
On behalf of Drexel University, I am pleased to write in support of Drexel University's unique Side-by-Side community-based course format for the prestigious MacJannet prize presented by the Talloires Network.

Drexel University is committed to being a civically engaged institution. We define and support civic engagement along three dimensions: public service by students and faculty, business practices that support local and regional economic development, and research and academic programs that directly benefit communities. Through collaborations with local residents, non-profit organizations, city agencies, and corporations, Drexel supports a portfolio of community initiatives, tied to the University's academic mission and designed to improve the quality of life for all local residents. Our commitment to civic engagement is reinforced throughout our academic enterprise as evidenced the Side-by-Side course model which embodies the alignment of an academic program to benefit community.

Inclusive by design, Side-by-Side courses are comprised of half Drexel students and half community students. These courses celebrate a learning environment that is inclusive and collaborative, and one that strives to equalize both Drexel student and community student voice and contribution within the class. Over the last several years, Drexel has offered more than 20 courses, spanning disciplines including business, communications, criminology, culinary arts, English, and entrepreneurship. Approximately 150 Drexel students and 150 community students have participated in Side-by-Side courses since the inception of the program.

I believe that the Side-by-Side community-based learning course format has had a substantial impact on both our Drexel students and community students. Side-by-Side is a notable program gaining national recognition and is worthy of consideration for the MacJannet prize. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



John A. Fry  
President