



I have been thinking about 'non sibi, sed suis' since I came to Tulane. When Paul Tulane gave the Medical College of Louisiana his name in 1884, his idea of "his own" was certainly more restricted than what the university implies today. He was a cotton magnate, the largest private contributor to the Confederacy, and viewed the benefit of this college as primarily for men (white, wealthy) like himself. Newcomb College's foundation in 1886 expanded that vision to women, but in order that they could be better equipped to run and support the family businesses headed by their husbands, fathers, and brothers. Eighty years later, the first African-American undergraduates earned their degrees at Tulane and Newcomb. Now, the university envisions itself as serving the local New Orleans community (especially through service-learning initiatives) as well as the global community (represented esp. during this pandemic by the work of the public health school).

Who do I think of as "my own"? My immediate family tops the list, along with several dear friends who have become chosen family. I feel kinship with other educators, with women, with the queer community, and especially with New Orleans and all its people. The last two groups may not recognize me as their own: as a bi woman in a hetero marriage, many queer people would exclude me from their community; as a non-native resident, who came years after Katrina, there are still people who would call my out for saying I'm *from* New Orleans. But I love the city like my own family and view its successes and failures as closely linked to my own. I feel other Americans to be "my own", but have difficulty saying this truly applies in all cases, because there are so many people whose experiences and decisions I struggle to understand.

Regarding how I differentiate between "my own" and others: I feel it in terms of love and affection; the time and advice and talent and treasure I am willing to

share or feel obligated to share; the effort I am willing to expend to serve or support or celebrate these people; the concern/worry/anxiety I feel when they are in danger or struggling; and how consistent and enduring those feelings and efforts are.

While Kallion aspires to be for everyone, we still operate with "our own" in mind: humanities educators and enthusiasts, leadership practitioners in professional fields, a vague general public, and university students. "Our own" tend to be well-educated (or on their way), American, from the eastern U.S., white-European -- although we have worked from the outset to include Black and immigrant voices, but have so much more to do on that front. Our humanities chops skew heavily toward the ancient (esp. Greek) Mediterranean, though we happily welcome all. At this stage, and perhaps forever, our aspirations for who is "our own" far exceed the reality. Part of this is because we are still a start-up, part of it is because we are seeking people with funds to support the organization, and part of it is because we do not have the capacity to serve everyone, so we need to have focus as we ramp up. But that means there's a lot of opportunity to be intentional about inclusivity as we build our foundations. I would like to see us make a concerted effort to recruit more partners in non-European humanities who share our belief in the power of the humanities to form better leaders. I myself will reach out to the authors in the *Dead Precedents* volume to work on building that network. Because if we want to make the case that the humanities writ large lead to better leadership, we cannot only rely on the ancient Mediterranean, not least because of its long history of being weaponized by white supremacists to legitimize their movements. We also need to make concerted efforts to bring more BIPOC individuals into leadership roles in the organization, and to feature and promote their work where it aligns with our mission. I could see partnering with HBCUs in DC and New Orleans, reaching out to tribes here, etc. to diversify the core team and expand the communities we can be in dialogue with, support, and amplify.

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