

## **Guidelines for ACLS Public Statements**

As a preeminent voice for the humanities and interpretive social sciences in the United States, the American Council of Learned Societies has an important role to play in public discourse on matters related to higher education in general and these fields in particular. The president and other members of ACLS staff contribute to public understanding through our regular community newsletter, essays, op-eds, lectures, and panel presentations.

When the president perceives good reason to publish a statement on behalf of ACLS, which may involve requesting endorsements from member societies or other organizations, the president will send a draft to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may approve the statement, reject the statement, or request changes; responses are requested from all members as soon as possible and no later than two days after sending. The Executive Committee will share the statement via email with the entire Board at least two days before publication. Board members who have concerns may submit them via email to the Executive Committee and the president before publication. The Executive Committee and the president will agree on any action to be taken in response to expressed concerns.

The Board and ACLS agree that ACLS should concentrate its energy and prestige on matters related to the advancement of humanistic scholarship, students, and scholars, including academic infrastructure and professional practice.

The president is authorized to issue statements on behalf of the organization without review by the Executive Committee on time-sensitive matters such as the passing of notable figures or the naming of a new cohort of fellows and grantees.

### *Note on social media*

The Board and ACLS also agree that due to the limitations of the mode, comments made on social media about academic or professional matters by ACLS staff and Board members are most effective when they are constructive and celebratory of the achievements of ACLS and members of the ACLS community. ACLS staff and Board members may wish and indeed are encouraged to share information about ACLS and its programs, including on social media.

Statements may appear on the ACLS website and/or be circulated to our email list and via social media.