

Meeting the Moment, Shaping the Future

2025 ACLS Annual Report



ACLS

American Council
of Learned Societies

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COVER: Daryle Williams, Dean of the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CHASS) at University of California, Riverside, participating at an ACLS Leadership Institute for a New Academy session in March 2025.

Our Mission

ACLS is dedicated to advancing the creation and circulation of knowledge about humanity and human endeavor, past and present. In a world full of challenges, we advocate for the right to pursue knowledge freely; we fund outstanding scholars and scholarship in the humanities and social sciences; we build and support communities that transcend boundaries and borders of all kinds; we promote conditions and policies that help all scholars thrive.

Our Vision

Our goal is to catalyze the re-centering of humanistic knowledge in academia and in society at large as a force for mutual understanding, the enrichment of individual lives, democratic participation, and better stewardship of our planet. We aim to gather and increase resources for humanistic knowledge in the forms of community-building, the sharing of strategies and best practices, and funding.

We seek a world where inquiry into human thought and endeavor is central to the missions of colleges and universities and valued as a public good. In this world, the community embraces a plurality of backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives, which is essential for excellence; study and debate proceed freely without fear or censorship; academic societies and institutions of higher education recognize and reward the full range of work that constitutes meaningful contributions to scholarship. Believing that knowledge is produced everywhere, across the arts and sciences, off campus as well as on campus, in all nations, we seek to dissolve the intellectual and professional walls and hierarchies that hinder free inquiry.

2025 By the Numbers

16,000

Social Media Followers

408,000

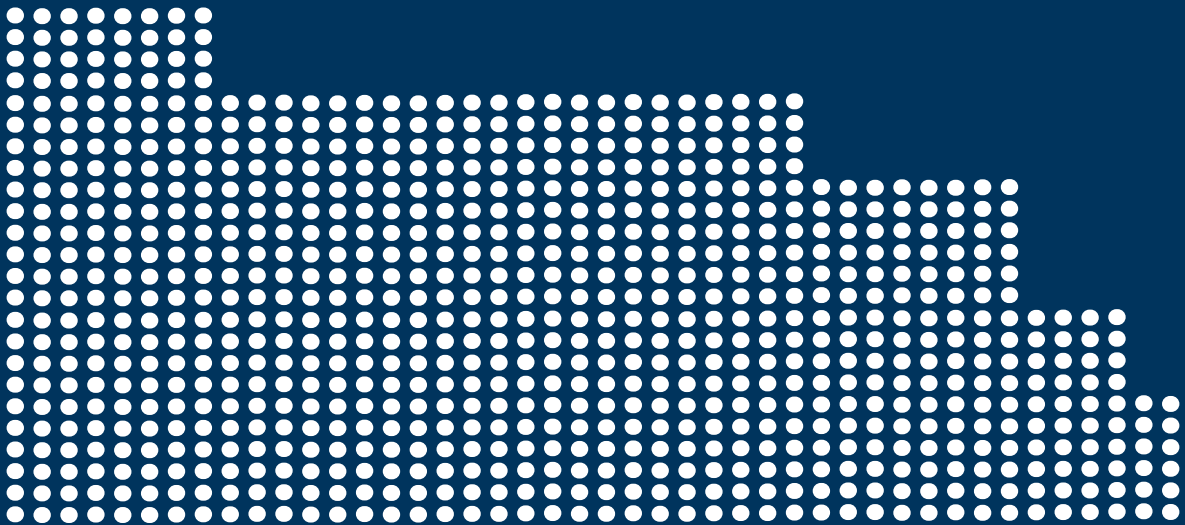
Unique website visitors

20,056

ACLS Community Newsletter
Subscribers

4,991

Media Mentions



ACLS supports the creation and circulation of knowledge that advances understanding of humanity and human endeavors in the past, present, and future, with a view toward improving human experience. As part of that purpose, we also retain this foundational guiding statement first defined in our 1919 Constitution: “The objects and purposes of ACLS are the advancement of humanistic studies in all fields of learning and the maintenance and strengthening of relations among the national societies devoted to such studies.”

812

In-person convening attendees



Message from the President

Greetings from ACLS!

2025 will be remembered as one of the most difficult years for the production and circulation of knowledge in United States history. We saw a storm of federal funding cuts and aggressive interventions by the presidential administration in our nation's higher education institutions, museums, and libraries. Executive orders issued in January led to the gutting of university and college offices supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion and mandated the abrupt withdrawal of federal funding for research on race, gender, and the environment on ideological grounds. The administration weaponized federal grantmaking to punish some of the most prestigious research universities in the world, delaying or ending projects and creating uncertainty in every field. Legislative censorship, firings, threats to academic freedom, and cuts to departments and programs in the humanities and social sciences intensified.

Together with my colleagues, the ACLS Board, and the support of our members and many allies, I sought to position ACLS as a leader of constructive, collaborative action toward securing a strong future for humanistic knowledge while we continued to provide direct support for scholars in the form of fellowships, grants, and other services.

For scholarly communities across the country, hardship and stress have become the norm. We aim to strike the right balance between acknowledging loss and suffering and sustaining hope. As noted in the [strategic framework](#) released last year, we aim to "Be Ready for Anything," including positive developments, but we are likely to wait at least a few years before we see meaningful change for the better in Washington. Hence the first of our priorities: "Speak Out." So far, I believe we are doing so with the right mix of boldness and prudence.

Among our most important efforts to "Speak Out" is the lawsuit we filed in May in partnership with the American Historical Association (AHA) and the Modern Language Association (MLA). Our suit aims to redress the illegal and irresponsible damage done to the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the flagship federal agency that funds research and teaching as well as the nation's 56 humanities councils, one for each state and territory, and the District of Columbia.

In April, the NEH became the latest high-profile agency to be gutted by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). Two-thirds of the NEH staff was fired, and nearly all the grants made to scholars and institutions under the Biden administration were canceled, together with much of the funding for the humanities councils. Those suffering losses include many of our member societies and their individual members, as well as our member institutions

and their faculties and graduate students. The Institute of Museum and Library Services, the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the Smithsonian, and other important institutions promoting research and teaching suffered similar losses. Two major NEH awards to ACLS were also canceled: a cooperative agreement with the NEH advancing the reform of graduate education in the humanities and a grant supporting programs for scholars in China studies. All of us continue to feel the ripple effects as the colleges and universities that took the brunt of federal cuts are reducing the funds allotted for membership dues and travel that keep our member societies alive and thriving.

We are glad that our collaborative effort in this litigation led to the first depositions on record that illuminate the ill-informed and illegal activities of the DOGE employees who implemented the cuts at the NEH and other agencies. I'm proud, moved, and grateful that the ACLS community stepped up so generously to support the cost of litigation.

The release of our new strategic framework for 2025–2030 was a different kind of milestone. Highlighting four priorities, the framework emphasizes the urgency of expanding the community of allies for humanistic knowledge and equipping allies inside and outside the academy with in-depth understanding of the condition of humanistic scholarship and study—both the amazing achievements of scholars and the challenges they face. This commitment underpins the planning of our new community-building initiative, DASSH, Defending the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities, which we planned throughout the year and launched under the leadership of Harvard historian Lizabeth Cohen early in 2026.

Our belief in the power of collective action motivates the support and services ACLS offers our “home” community of the Conference of Executive Officers. A well-organized meeting in Seattle capped a year of regular meetings and workshops and time-intensive planning for a new schedule of activities for delegates as well as support for society board members.

We sought to strengthen and extend our community by organizing convenings of influential and important leaders in higher education. In May, a group of philanthropic funders met for the third time at the Henry Luce Foundation in New York. This group originated in December 2023 when, with the support of the National Endowment for the Humanities under the leadership of then-Chair Shelly Lowe, ACLS convened funders to discuss the future of funding humanistic scholarship. Attendees in 2025 included representatives from a strong variety of foundations,

including Luce, Mellon, MacArthur, Lumina, Sloan, Open Society, Kresge, Getty, Schmidt Sciences, and Whiting, with guests from the leadership of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the New York Public Library, The New York Historical, the World Monuments Fund, and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum. We are especially grateful for the participation of philanthropic representatives from the sciences, in keeping with our belief that ties across fields are crucially important. The funders group will meet next at MacArthur Foundation in Chicago in spring 2026.

In December, together with new National Humanities Center President Blair Kelley and University of California, San Diego Vice Provost Joanna Brooks, I convened 22 present and past university presidents and thought leaders in the

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humanities at the Center in Durham. There we discussed how best to future-proof the humanities and social sciences on American campuses. **[learn more about this meeting on page 37]**

Funding for scholars is key for the future of humanistic knowledge. I'm grateful for the staunch support of Arcadia, the Mellon Foundation, the Henry Luce Foundation, and The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Global, and to several exceptionally generous leaders in giving for their support of our fellowships and grants programs. We celebrate the work of these scholars in the pages that follow.

Special thanks goes to the Mellon Foundation for its generous help when DOGE ended our cooperative agreement with the NEH to undertake a national effort to reform graduate education in the humanities. Mellon provided the seed money as well as the match for what is now called Doctoral Futures, a project operated in close

collaboration with three member societies: the American Historical Association, the Modern Language Association, and the Society of Biblical Literature.

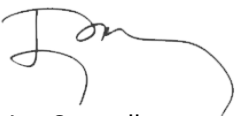
In this difficult year, it was a boost to establish several new relationships. The MacArthur Foundation made its largest gift to ACLS in more than 30 years. The National Science Foundation funded a convening co-organized with the National Humanities Alliance that brought together humanists and scientists. Thanks to the Templeton Religion Trust, we established a new program, Graduate Internships on the Spiritual Infrastructure of the Future. We assumed stewardship of the Mellon Mays Graduate Initiatives Program, integrating it successfully with the administration of the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, which has long been housed at ACLS.

2025 also saw the piloting of a new benefit for our Research University Consortium members that is suited to the times: interactive workshops for institutions facing major cuts in doctoral funding. Even as we continue to advocate for strength and growth in doctoral education, as in all aspects of humanistic learning and scholarship, we aim to help programs offer the best possible experiences to students who are facing the current reality of reduced cohorts and course offerings. We will continue this work in 2026.

Finally, the year witnessed the completion of two major multiyear projects. The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations Fellowships for Research on the Liberal Arts, begun in 2023, culminated with presentations by the Fellows at a July meeting in New York. The multiyear Commission on Fostering and Sustaining Diverse Digital Scholarship, funded by Mellon and the NEH, published a major report on its work in June 2025. I highly recommend reading the report: It summarizes much of what we've learned about digital publishing, the faculty reward system, and shortfalls in funding and infrastructure for the humanities and social sciences.

We remain inspired by the achievements of scholars and students, and we move forward, ready for anything, in the spirit of generosity, curiosity, and passionate belief in the irreplaceable value of humanistic knowledge in all its forms.

Thank you and best wishes,



Joy Connolly

“Center” (excerpt)
by Josephine Miles

Praise then

The arts of law and science as of life

The arts of sound and substance as of faith

Which claim us here

To take, as a building, as a fiction, takes us,

Into another frame of space

Where we can ponder, celebrate, and
reshape

Not only what we are, where we are from,

But what in the risk and moment of our
day

We may become.



Message from the Board Chair

“The objects and purposes of ACLS are the advancement of humanistic studies in all fields of learning and the maintenance and strengthening of relations among the national societies devoted to such studies.”

This statement from the 1919 constitution of the American Council of Learned Societies, set a bold, clear direction for the new coalition of 10 academic societies.

Today, more than a century later, I am proud to say that we have not wavered from these guiding principles and continue to be led by them as we meet the challenges facing us.

Our fields and our community—an incredible assembly of thousands of scholars, educators, administrators, and member institutions—are under enormous scrutiny and threat. To best meet the challenges they are facing today, it became clear that we needed to strengthen our own structure.

After over a year of close consultation with key stakeholders, in April 2025 ACLS introduced the first major revisions to our bylaws in more than 50 years, enabling us to operate more effectively. With this new governance structure, we are also redirecting the energy and efforts of one of our most vital constituencies: our member society delegates.

In fall 2025, we invited delegates—“voices on the ground” representing each of our 81 member societies—to join us in a series of forums to help ACLS shape collective efforts to build and strengthen resources supporting the work of societies, their members, and the broader scholarly community. From there, ACLS will introduce delegate working groups to help identify the best toolkits, templates, and shared practices for interdisciplinary exchange, community engaged scholarship, and professional pipeline and network building.

We have also built new strategic partnerships by joining and convening coalitions committed to supporting humanistic fields and, more broadly, academic freedom and autonomy. In addition to joining the American Council on Education (ACE) and continuing to convene groups of funders and leaders within the academy, we have doubled down on our commitment to meeting challenges through strong, collective action.

We are stronger as a community and can make positive changes by working together. In addition to our work with institutional members, ACLS thrives through the support of individuals who share values and our vision. As someone who has benefited directly from ACLS support, receiving an ACLS Fellowship in 2014, I have given annually as a show of my support to their mission and to help them continue their advocacy efforts and expand the resources to other scholars. I encourage every member of our community to do the same.

With the continued support of our community ACLS can decisively advance advocacy and support for and supporting excellence and impact in the humanities and social sciences.

Marwan M. Kraidy
Dean and CEO of Northwestern in Qatar
2014 ACLS Fellow



Your Support

2025 ACLS Digital Justice Development Grantee
keondra bills freemyn, Co-Executive Director of
the Black Lunch Table Digital Archive, leading an
oral history roundtable in Chicago.

Thanks to all who contributed to ACLS during a turbulent year for higher education and humanistic scholarship. Your generosity enables ACLS to strengthen our advocacy and expand the resources we can offer our networks.

Foundation and Government Support

ACLS is fortunate to have received support this year from the following:

Arcadia, a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin
Arthur Vining Davis Foundations
The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation
The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Global
The Henry Luce Foundation
The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
Mellon Foundation
The National Science Foundation
The National Endowment for the Humanities (canceled by DOGE in April 2025)
Templeton Religion Trust

ACLS gratefully acknowledges the following donors who made contributions from July 2024-June 2025.

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Reflects cash and stock gifts as well as planned gift intentions.

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*** Member of 1919 Society*

† Deceased

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1977 Grants-in-Aid for Recent
Recipients of the PhD

“A long time ago, when I was a young scholar, ACLS was the first organization to support my research. Since then, I have gone on to win best book prizes for three of my books. Two of them won two prizes each. I became a named chair at the University of Alberta. And I was appointed a fellow of the American Folklore Society, the highest possible award in my field. And it all started with ACLS.”



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Serena R. Zabin
David Zarefsky
Anonymous (24)
Anonymous in memory of John D'Arms
Anonymous in memory of
Pericles B. Georges
Anonymous in memory of
Harvey Sarles

Up to \$100

James M. Baker
Michelle L. Berenfeld
Constance Hoffman Berman
Michael H. Bernhard
Johanna Best
Bettine Birge
Michael J. Birkner
Tony Bozanich
Laura Brown
Matthew Brown
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Michael R. Clapper
Joseph Connors
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Michael David-Fox
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Dr. David Chu Professor of Asia
Pacific Studies, Emeritus
University of Toronto

1990 ACLS Grants-In-Aid
Recipient

2002 ACLS Fellow

“My ACLS Fellowship came at an important time in my career, allowing me to complete my first book, start a second project, and secure tenure. . . At this time, with higher education and scholarly work under severe duress, I applaud ACLS for its support of intellectual diversity and freedom of inquiry.”



Atina J. Grossmann

Distinguished Professor of
History, Faculty of Humanities and
Social Sciences
The Cooper Union

1984 ACLS Grants-In-Aid
Recipient

2001 and 1991 ACLS Fellow

“Many, many years ago, a small grant from the ACLS supported my summer research. It meant a lot. I hope that work supporting the humanities and social sciences continues.”



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Sara Hassani
Myron Walter Hedlin
Heather Hewett*
Sarah L. Hoiland
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Virginia Jansen
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Alexa Alice Joubin
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Amanda Perry
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Htwe Htwe Win
Steven Gene Yao
Daniel Yuhas
Hong Zhang
Anonymous (16)

1919 Society

Named for the year of our founding, the 1919 Society and its members celebrate the past achievements and future promise of ACLS as the foremost proponent for academic humanities in the United States. Through planned gift commitments made during estate planning, supporters of ACLS can ensure that they will be leaving a legacy. The 1919 Society recognizes the following generous donors who have included ACLS in their will or estate plans:

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A photograph of Nicole Stokes, a woman with glasses and her hair in a bun, smiling and clapping her hands. The image is overlaid with a blue tint. The text 'Who We Are' is positioned on the left side of the image.

Who We Are

Nicole Stokes, Professor of Sociology at The Pennsylvania State University at Abington, leads a focus group for the ACLS Leadership Institute for a New Academy.

ACLS is an extraordinarily diverse community of scholars, academic societies, administrators, thought leaders, funders, and supporters, all committed to advancing and strengthening the creation and sharing of humanistic knowledge.

At our 2025 Annual Meeting we introduced a new governance structure to better address operational matters. The new structure was discussed in detail and approved through a vote by the Council, composed of delegates representing each of the 81 member societies.

The new governance structure has surfaced the opportunity for increased engagement with ACLS delegates. **Carlos Contreras**, chair of the delegates and a member of the ACLS board, has been a vital partner in this work, collaborating with ACLS staff to expand delegate engagement into a year-round cadence. Delegates will now have multiple opportunities to convene as scholars and leaders, to connect across their societies, and to contribute directly to the ACLS mission and strategic priorities.

In 2025, two new members were added to our federation of professional academic societies. In April, ACLS welcomed the **Association for Asian American Studies**. The association advances the highest professional standards of research, teaching, and service in the field of Asian American Studies, and sponsors conferences, symposia, special projects, and publications.

In October, also by unanimous vote, the **Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD)** was named a member society. ASWAD represents international scholars seeking to further understanding of Africa and the African Diaspora. With more than 900 individual and institutional members, ASWAD is a multilingual and interdisciplinary organization dedicated to sharing research across disciplines, as well as with students and the wider public.

ACLS continued to extend its efforts in meeting the needs of these vital groups. In addition to weekly virtual meetups for resource sharing and peer exchange and a new and improved online information center, ACLS also hosted three in-person meetings focused on the specific challenges today's academic societies are facing. In April, member society executive directors gathered in Cambridge, Massachusetts, for conflict resolution training, as well as administrative workshops. Topics included risk-management for non-profit organizations, approaches to doctoral education, and workshops led by the **African Studies Association, American Folklore Society, Medieval Academy of America, and Rhetoric Society of America**.



2025 ACLS Annual Meeting.

In September, ACLS hosted a two-day seminar in Philadelphia on shared governance for executive directors and newly-elected society presidents. The event was led by consultant **Susan Decker**, a leading expert in nonprofit governance.

Society executive directors gathered again in October, this time in Seattle. At an event hosted by Visit Seattle, participants joined tours and sampled some of the best accommodations, meeting venues, dining, and attractions the city has to offer as they considered future locations for their annual meetings and other events. Meeting sessions focused on better defining the role and relevance of academic societies, meeting member needs, positioning for the future, and effective business models and opportunities for cross-society collaboration.

ACLS also hosted capacity-building workshops for member society staff, including sessions on Google Analytics with Ray van Hilst of Yoko Co. Consulting in February; membership marketing with Chris Vaughn, Association Growth and Strategy Advisor with Sequence Consulting in May; and an intensive overview of popular AI platforms and recommendations for use based on the distinct needs of academic societies, led by Edelman AI in October.

Member Societies

African Studies Association
American Academy of Arts and Sciences
American Academy of Religion
American Anthropological Association
American Antiquarian Society
American Association for Italian Studies
American Association for the History of Medicine
American Association of Geographers
American Comparative Literature Association
American Dialect Society
American Economic Association
American Folklore Society
American Historical Association
American Musicological Society
American Numismatic Society
American Philosophical Association
American Philosophical Society
American Political Science Association
American Society for Aesthetics
American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies
American Society for Environmental History
American Society for Legal History
American Society for Theatre Research
American Society of Church History
American Society of Comparative Law
American Society of International Law
American Society of Overseas Research
American Society for Premodern Asia
American Sociological Association
American Studies Association
Archaeological Institute of America
Association for Asian American Studies
Association for Asian Studies
Association for Jewish Studies
Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies
Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies
Association for the Study of African American Life and History
Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora
Association of American Law Schools
Austrian Studies Association
Bibliographical Society of America
College Art Association
Dance Studies Association
Dictionary Society of North America
Economic History Association
German Studies Association
Hispanic Society of America
History of Science Society
International Center of Medieval Art
Latin American Studies Association
Law and Society Association
Linguistic Society of America
Medieval Academy of America
Metaphysical Society of America
Middle East Studies Association
Modern Language Association
National Communication Association
National Council of Teachers of English
National Council on Public History
National Women's Studies Association
North American Conference on British Studies
North American Victorian Studies Association
Oral History Association
Organization of American Historians
Philosophy of Science Association
Renaissance Society of America
Rhetoric Society of America
Shakespeare Association of America
Sixteenth Century Society
Society for American Music



2025 attendees at the Fall CEO Meeting in March 2025.

- Society for Cinema and Media Studies
- Society for Classical Studies
- Society for Ethnomusicology
- Society for French Historical Studies
- Society for Military History
- Society for Music Theory
- Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)
- Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study
- Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing
- Society for the History of Technology
- Society of Architectural Historians
- Society of Biblical Literature
- World History Association

Conference of Executive Officers

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Ady Arguelles-Sabatier, American Anthropological Association

Benita Blessing, American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies

Beth English, Organization of American Historians

Jan Korsten, Society for the History of Technology

Alix Saba, African Studies Association

Jessica Turner, American Folklore Society

Executive Committee of the Delegates

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Alex Barker, American Anthropological Association

Lisa Berglund, Dictionary Society of North America

Sharon Herbert, American Society of Overseas Research

Paul Jaskot, College Art Association

Christophe A. Koné, German Studies Association

Eleanor Shevlin, Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing

Melvin Butler, Society for Ethnomusicology

2025 Annual Meeting

ACLS held its 2025 Annual Meeting in Cambridge, Massachusetts, April 24–25, 2025.

This event hosted nearly 200 member society delegates and leaders, Associate member deans, ACLS board members, awardees, and supporters from the greater Boston area for a two-day celebration of the power of humanistic scholarship and protecting scholars and fields in the current political climate.

In her Report to the Council, ACLS President Joy Connolly introduced the new ACLS Strategic Framework, which will guide the organization through 2030.

Other highlights included a fireside chat with Connolly and American Academy of Arts and Sciences President **Laurie Patton**; a panel on academic freedom with **Jonathan Friedman**, Sy Syms Managing Director of US Free Expression Programs at PEN America, and representatives from ACLS member societies; presentations by scholars teaching at community colleges; and a discussion of major trends and debates in humanistic inquiry.

The meeting concluded with **Judith Butler**, Distinguished Professor in the Graduate School at the University of California, Berkeley, delivering the 2025 Charles Homer Haskins Prize Lecture. They are also a 2008 ACLS Fellow and a 1987 ACLS Research Fellow for Recent Recipients of the PhD Degree.

[**Watch Session Highlights from the 2025 Annual Meeting**](#)







Addressing Challenges and Opportunities Facing Higher Education Today

In November, ACLS hosted the annual convening of our **Research University Consortium** in New York. Representatives of this group of 41 leading research universities participated in a series of intensive conversations to address some of the most urgent issues facing the humanities and social sciences in higher education today.



Participants discussed the current funding landscape with a panel featuring representatives from the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation, the Henry Luce Foundation, and the Mellon Foundation. They also heard from **D. Graham Burnett**, Professor of History at Princeton University, on AI, attention, and the future of the university; and **Cassim Shepard** of the Spitzer School of Architecture at City College (CUNY), on interdisciplinary bachelor's programs as a strategy for growth.



Jeffrey J. Cohen F'11, F'03, Dean of Humanities at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Arizona State University; **Deborah L. Nelson**, Dean of the Arts and Humanities Division at the University of Chicago; and **Agustín Rayo F'09**, Dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, each presented arguments on department restructuring, followed by a discussion with all participants.



In addition, the meeting featured a panel and discussion led by six university leaders who have explored new directions in doctoral education: **Jennifer Bair**, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the University of Virginia; **Bruno Bosteels**, Dean of Humanities at Columbia University; **Deborah Nelson**; **Zachary Sng**, Senior Associate Dean of the Faculty at Brown University; **Wendy Wall**, Director of the Kaplan Humanities Institute at Northwestern University; and **Fay A. Yarbrough**, Senior Associate Dean of Faculty and Graduate Programs at Rice University.

Member Institutions

Research University Consortium

Arizona State University
Brown University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Duke University
Emory University
Georgetown University
Harvard University
Indiana University Bloomington
Johns Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
New York University
Northwestern University
Princeton University
Rice University
Rutgers University–New Brunswick
Stanford University
The Ohio State University
Tulane University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Chicago
University of Illinois, Urbana-
Champaign
The University of Iowa
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill
University of Notre Dame
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Southern California
University of Texas at Austin
University of Utah

University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin–Madison
Vanderbilt University
Washington University in St. Louis
Yale University

ACLS Associate Members

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Barnard College
Bates College
Baylor University
Bentley University
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Brown University*
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
California Institute of Technology
California State University, Fullerton
California State University, Long Beach
California State University, Los Angeles
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Center for Advanced Study in the
Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art
City University of New York,
City College
City University of New York,
College of Staten Island
City University of New York,
Guttman Community College
City University of New York,
John Jay College
City University of New York,
LaGuardia Community College
City University of New York,
Lehman College
City University of New York,
The Graduate Center
Claremont Graduate University
Claremont McKenna College
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Colgate University
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DePauw University
Dickinson College
Duke University*
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and Collection
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Eckerd College
Emory University*
Fairfield University
Fisk University
Florida A&M University
Florida Atlantic University
Florida International University
Florida State University
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Macalester College
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Michigan State University
Middlebury College
Mills College at Northeastern
Montana State University
Montclair State University
Morehouse College
Morgan State University
Mount Holyoke College
National Humanities Center
New York University*
North Carolina A&T State University
North Carolina Central University

Northeastern University
Northern Illinois University
Northwestern University*
Oakwood University
Oberlin College
Ohio University
Pitzer College
Pomona College
Prairie View A&M University
Princeton University*
Purdue University
Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study,
Harvard University
Reed College
Rice University*
Rutgers University–New Brunswick*
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San Francisco State University
San José State University
Sarah Lawrence College
Scripps College
Seattle University
Smith College
Southern Methodist University
Spelman College
St. Mary's College of Maryland
St. Olaf College
Stanford University*
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Stony Brook
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Temple University
Tennessee State University
Texas A&M University
Texas State University
Texas Tech University
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The George Washington University
The New School
The Newberry
The Ohio State University*
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Tougaloo College
Trinity College
Trinity University
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Phi Beta Kappa

Strengthening Our Foundation, Expanding Our Reach

In April 2025 ACLS welcomed two new board members: **Edward E. Cohen**, economic historian, lawyer, Adjunct Professor of Classics and Ancient History at the University of Pennsylvania, and recipient of a 1965 ACLS Study Fellowship and a 1964 ACLS Grant-In-Aid; and **James Q. Whitman**, Ford Foundation Professor of Comparative and Foreign Law at Yale University and member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Académie Internationale de Droit Comparé.

In 2025, ACLS also welcomed three new Associate member institutions, the backbone of American higher education: **Bentley University**, **Claremont Graduate University**, and **Montana State University**, bringing the total number to 205. ACLS member institutions have been vital participants in the development of our programs and competitions, as well as our latest strategic framework, which will guide our work through 2030.

2025 also saw the introduction of a new series of regional gatherings to allow scholars and faculty in our community valuable opportunities to connect with ACLS and other community members in their area. These events have taken different forms. In July, a reception hosted at the Cape Cod home of **Lizabeth A. Cohen**, Howard Mumford Jones Professor of American Studies at Harvard University, former Dean of Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, and a 1993 ACLS Fellow, and **Herrick Chapman**, Professor Emeritus of History and French Studies at New York University and a 1985 ACLS Fellow in Studies of Modern Society and Values, drew a receptive audience of 50 supporters from within and outside academia. In December, Joy Connolly led an enticing conversation at Duke University's Nasher Museum of Art about the current challenges facing the academy. Additional events are scheduled through 2026.



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Building Toward the Future

As part of our continued efforts to advance the goals outlined in the strategic framework, ACLS welcomed new staff and introduced a refined structure to best serve the needs of the organization and our constituents.

In June, **Christopher Thornton** joined as ACLS Senior Director of US and International Programs, marking the official merging of the two units to foster more collaboration and efficiency in fellowship and grant competition administration. Other new additions to the team were **Claudia Kinkela**, Program Officer, US Programs, and **Mark Silver**, Program Officer, US and International Programs.

Stacy Hartman joined ACLS as Program Officer, Higher Education Initiatives in May, to lead the Doctoral Futures initiative, as well as continue work on Building Blocks for a New Academy. She was joined in July by **Treviene Harris**, Project Manager for Doctoral Futures, who previously worked as a research consultant and facilitator of the Luce/ACLS Design Workshop for a New Academy and the Intention Foundry.

Former Chief of Staff **Kelly Buttermore** is now the Director of Mellon Mays Operations. In this role, Buttermore leads the administration of the Mellon Mays Graduate Programs, partnering closely with the Mellon Foundation and **Saarah Jappie**, who joined in August as Senior Program Officer in the Intentional Design for an Equitable Academy unit.

In addition, ACLS welcomed **Christiana Ares-Christian**, Project Coordinator for the Intention Foundry in February, and **Maria Cordova**, as a Communications Associate in July.



ACLS Staff

As of December 31, 2025

Office of the President

Joy Connolly, President

Treviene Harris, Project Manager,
Doctoral Futures

Stacy Hartman, Program Officer,
Higher Education Initiatives

Mona Rad, Executive Assistant to the
President

Camilo Villalpando, Director, Member
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Program Officer, US Programs

Alison Chang, Senior Program Officer,
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Programs

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Programs

Tami Shaloum, Program Manager, US
Programs

Mark Silver, Program Officer, US and
International Programs

Jessica Taylor, Program Officer, US
Programs

Christopher Thornton, Senior Director
of US and International Programs

Daphne Weber, Program Officer,
Buddhist Studies

John Zepke, Program Associate, US
Programs

Intentional Design for an Equitable Academy (IDEA)

Christiana Ares-Christian, Project
Coordinator

Kelly Buttermore, Director of Mellon
Mays Operations

Saarah Jappie, Senior Program Officer

Keyanah Nurse, Senior Program
Officer

Kathryn Reis, Program Associate

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Mary Richter, Chief Development
Officer

Melissa Sakow, Project Manager,
Strategy and Development

Communications

Maria Cordova, Communications
Associate

Heather Mangrum, Chief
Communications Officer

Anna Polovick-Waggy,
Communications Manager

Finance and Administration

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Associate

Irvin Lozano Campos, Accounting
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Emily Carroll, Grants Officer

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LaToya Jackson, Events Manager

Tina Li, Human Resources Director

Servio Moreno, Office Manager

Risca Putri, Membership,
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Matthew Sapienza, Chief Financial
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Cesar Then, Accounts Payable
Accountant

Digital and Information Technology

Zachary Shuster, CRM Specialist

A woman with short, curly hair and glasses, wearing a pinstriped suit, is holding a tablet. The image is overlaid with a blue tint. The text "2025 President's Report to the Council" is centered over the image.

2025 President's
Report to the Council

2025 President's Report to the Council

2025 Annual Meeting, American Council of Learned Societies
Friday, April 25, 2025, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Joy Connolly, President, American Council of Learned Societies

I am so pleased to be here speaking with you this morning here on the border of Cambridge and Boston, home of some of the nation's leading universities.

Over the past 100 days, the federal government has quickly done enormous damage to universities like our neighbors here, with consequences reverberating around the world. It's frozen funding to research universities, banned books, detained students and faculty, and deterred scholars from crossing the US border. Starting on April 2, nearly all the grants made under the prior administration by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the NEH, were abruptly canceled.

We're in a moment when the impulse to pull our heads in and protect what we can is intense. But I believe—together with Alan Garber, the president of Harvard, Laurie Patton, the president of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences who spoke here last night, and over 400 college and university presidents and counting who signed a public letter to this effect—that it is time to fight. It's time to make the case for what we believe in: academic freedom and the value of humanistic inquiry; of teaching and research and scholarship in every single one of our fields. We need to make this case to communities beyond this room, beyond ourselves, and we need to do it in a coordinated way, and make it part of the story that we are acting together.

Boldly fighting alone makes for a nice hero myth, but it won't help us now. So I'm especially grateful that ACLS is a network of networks with over 80 member societies, a Research University Consortium of over 40 institutions, an Associates group of over 200 institutions, hundreds of reviewers who help us make awards totaling an average of nearly \$25 million per year, funding thousands of Fellows over the years. In the last few years, we've built or strengthened new networks: our CEO and Research University Consortium, our network of fellowship directors, including representatives from research libraries and advanced study centers, and a funders group, including the Luce Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, and half a dozen more.

With the confidence born of those networks, over the past two weeks, ACLS has been exploring legal action to redress the damage done to the NEH. We're working with members of the Executive Committee of the Board of the National Humanities Alliance, on which I serve: Paula Krebs, executive director of the Modern Language Association, and Jim Grossman and Sarah Weicksel, outgoing and incoming executive directors of the American Historical Association. I can't say more at this time, but I can advise you to stay tuned over the coming days, not months.

To fight in the longer term, ACLS has joined the Washington Higher Education Secretariat, organized by the American Council of Education, based in Washington, a longtime leading advocate for higher education. As I said last night, we're proud to stand with the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Association of Colleges and Universities in a recent public statement.

I think of all these networks as making up a "republic of scholars." Our collective strength is crucial as we embark on the fight in front of us to defend core academic values and our fields in the humanities and social sciences. It's equally crucial for the long haul: the work of growth and transformation that we need to make the humanities and social sciences the core of what we at ACLS call by the shorthand of a "new academy" that rewards ingenuity, quality, and brilliance in teaching and scholarship; that is equitable and accessible; that values meaningful dialogue and collaboration with people across campus and beyond

campus walls—in short, an academy grounded in humanistic inquiry and values.

Our collective gave us the confidence to develop, over the past year, the new strategic framework for the coming five years, titled *Bold Action for Strength and Growth*. Our strategic objectives are Speak Out, Promote, Transform, and—my favorite for its honesty and bluntness—Be Ready for Anything.

You’ve just heard me talk about our efforts to speak out. Let me highlight the vision that drives us in all four.

To quote from our published framework, “Our goal is to catalyze the re-centering of humanistic knowledge in academia and in society at large as a force for mutual understanding, the enrichment of individual lives, democratic participation, and better stewardship of our planet. We aim to gather and increase resources for humanistic knowledge in the forms of community-building, the sharing of strategies and best practices, and funding. We seek a world where inquiry into human thought and endeavor is central to the missions of colleges and universities and valued as a public good.”

This is ambitious. Rest assured, we’re very well aware of the challenges, and we’re charting our path forward with a healthy sense of proportion and humility. But my colleagues and I have the privilege of working with so many extraordinary people: You here in this room and others out in the world energize and embolden us.

Let me unpack the vision. “Our goal is to catalyze the re-centering of humanistic knowledge.” Note we say *catalyze*: not *proclaim* or *enact*, but *enable*, help bring into being, building on the achievements of those who have gone before us and those who are working now to bring humanistic knowledge to the center of academia and society at large.

Let me explain our choice to highlight the word *knowledge*, which we discussed over several months in our planning groups and meetings. We considered other words: learning, study, inquiry, research, scholarship. We chose *knowledge* because humanistic scholars are everywhere. They work inside and outside the college classroom. Museum curators, park rangers, high school teachers, tribal councils, community archivists: these people produce and circulate knowledge that sustains academic study.

Academia is our main lane, and faculty and graduate students are the recipients of nearly all our financial awards. But the broader republic of scholars is our community of care. This doesn’t dilute our commitment to scholars working in colleges and universities. Nor does it muddle our commitment to excellence in scholarship or to expertise and the professional norms that uphold expertise. Quite the contrary: The intentional expansion of our republic of scholars empowers us. This is the community we seek to promote—our second objective.

ACLS has always supported what we call “the whole scholar,” in the sense of the scholar as a human being. It’s in our DNA, you might say. I’m talking about the attention and care for scholars as people that my colleagues extend to fellowship applicants and to meeting attendees worried about safe spaces and crossing borders. Perhaps the most important form of care is the extraordinarily time-intensive effort my colleagues put into managing workshops, selection committees, and reviewer comments. This is what makes ACLS a special, scholarly, human-centered organization.

Our fellowships and grants promote the full range of work that people do to advance and deepen humanistic knowledge: all forms of research and scholarship, including publicly oriented writing, archival research, archaeological analysis, collaborative work, digital work, textual criticism, epigraphy, translation, numismatics, paleography. We have added workshops in public writing to our Luce Foundation China Studies program. Last year, we published a major report about our Mellon Public Fellows program, which helped change the culture of graduate programs by recognizing and legitimizing careers beyond the classroom, together with work done by several member societies.

I want to take a moment to commemorate one grant program that we managed from 2021 to 2023: a \$3.5 million grant from the NEH to support publicly engaged scholarship. The first in our history to focus exclusively on public humanities, the award funded established programs facing closure or significant cuts thanks to COVID-caused financial pressures. The 24 programs are organized and operated by people across

many sectors of society, including community centers, nonprofit arts and activist groups, prisons, and assisted living facilities, together with faculty and staff employed at research universities and community colleges. Effectively getting their research into public circulation is key. Most teams are trying to reach new audiences, particularly among people underserved by and underrepresented in the academy, many of whom see the college or university as unknown or intimidating territory. To these scholars, the process of gaining knowledge is as important as outcomes. Cultivating interaction across differences that can be sustained over time is as important a goal as achieving good research results.

In the coming five years, we will continue to promote the whole scholar and the societies to which our scholars belong, toward the goal of re-centering humanistic knowledge in academia and in society at large. We will redouble our efforts to support scholarship across all fields by sustaining and growing our grant and fellowship competitions. When we reopened our ACLS Fellowship to all career stages this year, we saw a doubling in numbers of applicants. We are committed to seeking funds to reward more scholars of brilliance, quality, and ingenuity.

We will also lean into supporting activity that promises to re-center humanistic knowledge in academia and in society at large by transforming our culture and policy with the goal of rebuilding trust in our expertise, across campus and outside campus. This transformation is our third objective.

Remember, the American Academy's Humanities Indicators tells us that majors across the humanities have declined precipitously over the past 15 years, up to 25% and 50% in some fields. The whole scholar we seek to support does the institutional and infrastructural labor of turning that trendline upwards by inventing or improving degree programs that attract undergraduates, managing departments successfully, administering schools, working to improve policy and culture, doing service to their societies. This is the work of long-term stewardship for the humanities and social sciences that we urgently need. Many of our member societies directly support these efforts, and ACLS has a role to play in connecting and amplifying their achievements.

Two quick examples of what we do in this arena: the Mellon Intention Foundry was the first major foundation-supported program directed explicitly to supporting the societies. By working with leaders and staff and emerging scholars, many of them scholars of color, the Intention Foundry, or IF, seeks to make humanistic fields more inclusive and to equip scholars with tools to advocate for the support they need: access to language training, fieldwork schools, fair pay, and more. The Commission on Fostering and Sustaining Diverse Digital Scholarship was supported by the NEH and the Mellon Foundation. Its 21 scholars, archivists, university librarians, publishers, digital humanities leaders, and administrators agreed on seven steps to sustaining the infrastructure without which our scholarship will vanish into the digital ether. Their report, which I encourage everyone to read, is called "Other Stories to Tell."

We have a host of good stories to tell. What we need to work on is reaching the right audience, and this is where our goals to speak out and to transform join together.

We scholars have become, many of us, strangers to the people we seek to serve. But we can turn our attention to translating our scholarship to a broader audience and to making ourselves key partners in the work of civic dialogue that this country so desperately needs. We have extraordinary talent in the fields represented here in this room that does exactly this work—political scientists, scholars of rhetoric and communication, experts in language and poetics, anthropologists and sociologists. ACLS is well positioned to help put this talent to work in building relationships outside our familiar communities.

I'm not talking about convincing the hard skeptics, the impossibles, the people who want to turn higher education into a series of targeted workforce training sessions. I am referring to scientists and engineers, journalists and architects, faculty in law schools and business schools, lawyers and bankers, in management and consulting, those people who majored in the humanities and social sciences but who are nervously telling their kids that they should probably major in business or computer science because they'll get a better job; the high school teachers and librarians and local clergy I mentioned earlier who have no obvious place on a college campus.

These people understand our value. Right now, academic standards don't do a good, consistent job of recognizing the hard work of connecting with them. I hear far too often from scholars about the "secret CV," the work on community outreach or born digital work or podcasts that scholars are afraid to share with colleagues lest they seem unserious or unscholarly. How can we nudge our system so that it rewards ventures into new forms of communication alongside long-form writing?

Our latest, and we hope not the final, NEH grant was a \$500,000 matching grant to support a \$1 million project in graduate education reform. Together with the Modern Language Association, the American Historical Association, and the Society for Biblical Literature, and thanks to the support of the Mellon Foundation, ACLS will continue this work. It's an effort to articulate an array of models and approaches to doctoral education in the humanities, and all four of us organizers share a desire to help graduate programs better serve both students and society.

We hope, all of us, to help train students to be ready for anything, and that, in fact, is our final strategic objective.

We have entered a "post-normal" situation, as the immunologist and science publisher Richard Gallagher told a gathering of scholarly publishers and librarians recently. But these and other initiatives led by member societies and member institutions show how we can take action to transform public interest in humanistic knowledge into broad and deep public investment.

My challenge to myself and to all of you and our colleagues in the republic of scholars: to turn ourselves together to the work of reaching beyond ourselves, to rebuilding back better from the losses we're experiencing now.

Let me close by returning to an author I mentioned last night: Cicero. His final treatise, *On Moral Duties*, or *De Officiis*, boldly states that the community to which we are all morally obliged is the entire human community, beyond difference, beyond borders. Cicero admits that it is enormously difficult to care for other people's concerns: We have so many distractions and competing worries and desires of our own. This is why, he says, we must remember the playwright Terence's line that "nothing human is foreign to me," which means, roughly, "I am a citizen of the human race." It's no accident that Cicero quotes a poet at this point in the text. I think he does so not only because the point of the quote suits his argument, but because he is remembering, and wants us to remember, the irreplaceable value of poetic language. As William Carlos Williams says,

*It is difficult
to get the news from poems
yet men die miserably every day
for lack
of what is found there.*

The work you all do is an act of love for humanity in the care you lavish on our human endeavors and capacities, the small or great marks we leave on the world. It is also an act of love in its insistence on drawing our attention precisely to the things that the news lacks, as Williams says. If we want to address authoritarianism and hate, we need these habits of attention and love. We need research and scholarship, the bedrock of knowledge. We need the infrastructure that supports knowledge. We need to speak out, to promote, to transform, and to be ready for anything. We at ACLS look forward to the work, and I look forward to your questions. Thank you.



2025 Strategic Framework Progress

Participant in the 2025 Mellon Mays Graduate
Student Summer Conference in St. Louis, MO.

Historically, 2025 will be remembered as one of the most challenging for higher education in the United States. In addition to colleges and universities being attacked and financially penalized by the US government, a wave of anti-intellectualism sparked state and federal legislation leading to attacks on fields of study and, in some cases, the elimination of majors and departments across the country.

ACLS has continued to meet the challenge, providing a safe space for discussion, debate, and collaborative problem solving while remaining resolute in our commitment to advancing and strengthening fields in the humanities and social sciences as central to quality liberal arts education.

In April 2025, ACLS introduced a new strategic framework

to address some of the most pressing issues facing our members and greater community. *Bold Action For Strength and Growth* presents a clear vision and approach for 2025–2030.

In developing the framework, ACLS conducted a series of surveys, focus groups, and individual interviews and analyzed the results in close consultation with the ACLS board, staff, and member societies, as well as leadership from member institutions, peer organizations, fellows, grantees, reviewers, and funders and supporters across the country and around the world.

[Read the ACLS Strategic Framework](#)

Speak Out | Become an ever-stronger voice for the humanities and social sciences

Write and engage in action on behalf of academic freedom, the integrity of scholarship and academic governance, and the proven value of a diverse professoriate

ACLS, AHA, and MLA v. National Endowment for the Humanities and United States DOGE Service

On May 1, 2025, ACLS, the **American Historical Association**, and the **Modern Language Association** filed a lawsuit in federal district court seeking to reverse actions to devastate the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), including the elimination of grant programs, staff, and entire divisions and programs. We are represented by the Jacobson Lawyers Group, and The Phi Beta Kappa Society is also contributing to this effort.

Our case argues that the NEH suspended entire divisions, initiated the mass firing of 65% of its staff, eliminated entire grant programs, deeply threatening the future of American research into history, literature, languages, philosophy, politics, society, and culture. Further, these actions and the administration's refusal to distribute funds appropriated by Congress violate the law by failing to provide reasoning for the actions, disregarding the constitutional separation of powers, and ignoring the Impoundment Control Act of 1974.

The case continued through the end of 2025, with an appeal to the court's ruling on some of our claims challenging the dismantling of NEH funding programs and reduction of NEH staff. We are also continuing to press our claim that DOGE acted without appropriate authority in terminating awards.

Advocacy Statements

In February 2025, ACLS introduced *Advocacy in Action*, a recurring feature of the ACLS Community Newsletter that provides updates and perspective on ACLS advocacy efforts and positions on legislation, executive orders, and other activity impacting higher education and humanities and social sciences scholars, teaching, and research.

ACLS also issued and signed on to several public statements reaffirming our mission and core values that knowledge is a public good:

- March – [Joint statement with The Phi Beta Kappa Society in dissent of the executive order to dismantle the Department of Education](#)
- March – [Joint statement with the American Association of Colleges and Universities \(AAC&U\) and The Phi Beta Kappa Society in support of free inquiry and expression at the Smithsonian Institution](#)
- April – [Joint statement with the Council of Graduate Schools and The Phi Beta Kappa Society on cuts to the National Endowment for the Humanities](#)
- April – [ACLS President Joy Connolly signs the AAC&U Statement Against Government Overreach](#)
- August – [ACLS statement in opposition to the White House forcing Smithsonian Institution museums to undergo government review of American history exhibits](#)
- September – [ACLS signs the Coalition for International Education letter on Elimination of Title VI and Fulbright Funding](#)
- October – [ACLS statement on the Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education](#)

Media Outreach

In fall 2025, Connolly was a featured guest on *The EdUp Experience Podcast*, where she spoke about the ACLS vision for a New Academy and the goals of the Mellon-funded Doctoral Futures initiative, a collaborative effort with AHA, MLA, and the Society of Biblical Literature. She was also featured on *The Middle Podcast with Jeremy Hobson*, where she shared her expert opinion on the proposed Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education.

Connolly also had opinion pieces published in *Inside Higher Ed* ("[Academics Should Forcefully Reject the Claim They Are 'Promoting Ideology'](#)") and *The Chronicle of Higher Education* ("[Colleges Must Stand Together to Resist Trump](#)"), and was quoted in higher education trends pieces for *WGBH News*, *Forbes*, *The New York Times*, and *Inside Higher Ed*.

Heighten awareness of the achievements of member societies and our community of scholars to academic leadership, policy makers, media, and other influential networks

In addition to regularly highlighting the research and achievements of ACLS member societies and fellows and grantees during and beyond their award period through website features, our monthly newsletter, and social media posts, ACLS programs empower awardees with professional development training that includes communicating effectively with media and policymakers. The ACLS Leading Edge Fellowship,

Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Innovation Fellowship, and Luce/ACLS Program in China Studies offer workshops to current and past awardees in media training, op-ed writing, and more.

Work with our own constituencies and other organizations to create or expand coalitions that advocate inside and outside academia on behalf of humanistic fields and the liberal arts more broadly

In December, ACLS signed on to an amicus brief filed by the American Historical Association (AHA) and Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW) in support of Harvard University's lawsuit against the federal government over the university's ability to host foreign scholars and students. The brief emphasizes the importance of international scholars and students to American higher education and the benefits and opportunities they bring to the US. In support of Harvard's case, the brief also argues that visa revocations are being used as a means of stifling political speech and a violation of the First Amendment.

Also in December, **Joy Connolly** joined **Joanna Brooks**, Associate Vice President of Faculty Advancement and Student Success at San Diego State University, and **Blair Kelley**, President of the National Humanities Center, in convening 22 current and former university presidents, chancellors, and leading voices in the humanities for a retreat at the National Humanities Center in Durham, North Carolina. Discussions focused on strategies for strengthening humanistic inquiry on American campuses today.

Promote

Reward ingenuity, quality, and brilliance in the production and circulation of knowledge

Carry out and refine peer-reviewed fellowship and grant programs grounded in our mission and values

In 2025, ACLS awarded more than \$21 million dollars in fellowships and grants to more than 400 scholars representing a broad range of fields and institutions around the world.

A Century of Support for Individual Scholars

In 1926, drawing on funds from one of the Rockefeller Philanthropies, ACLS awarded its first "Grants-In-Aid." The Committee on Aid to Research recognized 21 scholars "engaged in constructive projects of research... and unable to obtain it from other sources" with up to \$300 each (about \$5000 in today's dollars). This modest grantmaking effort began a century-long commitment by ACLS to support the work of individual scholars in the humanities and social sciences.

Among the longest running and most popular of these award programs is the **ACLS Fellowship**. Open to scholars representing the incredible breadth of humanistic research areas, the competition invites applications for projects at any stage of development on topics grounded in any time period, world region, or humanistic discipline. The ACLS Fellowship's broad remit undergirds our overall mission: to recognize and support rigorous scholarship with the potential to significantly advance humanistic knowledge.

"ACLS is one of the spaces where we find innovation in distribution of funding and open-mindedness in thinking about the urgency and usefulness of the humanities, even pre-modernity," said 2025 Fellow **Laura Salah Nasrallah**, Buckingham Professor of New Testament Criticism and Interpretation at Yale University.



“It’s a hub for the future of scholarship, for not only sustaining but also contributing to the thriving of new ways of thinking, writing, disseminating knowledge, and partnering with publicly engaged institutions both within and outside of higher education.”

In 2025, ACLS awarded 62 of these namesake fellowships. These projects represent an exciting mix of traditional and contemporary research reflecting the varied perspectives of our world, from a project tracing a literary history of migration in the early modern world to a book on the Mexican American influence on country music. While one project explores the creative ways that Native Americans used legal institutions to claim property and defend territory across North

“It’s a hub for the future of scholarship, for not only sustaining but also contributing to the thriving of new ways of thinking, writing, disseminating knowledge, and partnering with publicly engaged institutions both within and outside of higher education.”

America from 1763–1891, restoring the voices of Indigenous actors in the historical narrative, another presents South Africa’s Anti-Apartheid struggle as a global Black-led movement rather than a phenomenon of white solidarity.

In addition to supporting immediate research needs of scholars, ACLS Fellowships have meaningfully impacted their lives and careers. For many, this has meant the time to finish a manuscript or travel to research sites, join convenings with other scholars with similar research agendas, and participate in scholarly activities that may have otherwise remained out of reach given today’s climate of departmental budget cuts and restrictions.

“Time is crucial in the early stages of a new research project, and energy studies is highly diverse and interdisciplinary. This spring, I’m visiting University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign’s Humanities Research Institute. I just workshopped a draft chapter with their Environmental Humanities research cluster,” noted 2025 Fellow **Eric S. Godoy**, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Illinois State University. He is using his fellowship to advance a book project on energy democracy and ethics.

“I was also invited to give a public talk at Centre College, which was co-sponsored by University of Kentucky’s Tracer Farmer Institute for Sustainability and the Environment. It’s a multiday visit to both institutions. Coal is such an important part of Kentucky’s history

The Ethics of Fossil-Fuel & Renewable Energy



and culture. I'm really looking forward to talking with scholars and students there who are working on energy transition in the heart of Appalachia. It's such a wonderful opportunity that would have been difficult to make happen without the support of ACLS."

"As someone who labors beneath the burden of a community college teaching load, making room for writing is always challenging, and even more so for research," said 2025 Fellow **Jesse W. Schwartz**, Professor of English at LaGuardia Community College (CUNY). His fellowship will allow him to complete his monograph, *America's Russia: The Bolshevik Revolution, Racial Socialism, and US Print Culture, 1882-1929*, which traces American cultural responses to transnational socialism in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. "Thanks to the full year of uninterrupted time afforded me by the fellowship, I will now be able to finish the entire manuscript much sooner than anticipated and, what's more, the increased level of focus has substantially improved the quality of the project overall."

In 2025, the program also awarded **36 ACLS Project Development Grants**, the highest number in recent years, recognizing faculty in teaching-intensive roles as they work to advance their research.

"The grant offered much-needed funding to protect my time and devote it to writing drafts of two book chapters during the summer," said 2025 Grantee **José Miguel Palacios**, Assistant Professor, Cinematic Arts at California State University, Long Beach. He was awarded the grant to support his book *The Cinema to Come: The Archives, Writings, and Films of Raúl Ruiz*. "More broadly, the ACLS support has meant a strong institutional backing for my second academic book when it is still in its early stages of development, which is an incentive in itself for me as a scholar working in a teaching institution with a heavy instructional workload."

"The grant has allowed me to fund my residency at the Institute for Research in the Humanities at UW-Madison, where I have a fellowship for spring semester 2026," said 2025 Grantee **Louise Zamparutti**, Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Her book, *Monument in Motu: The Positionality of Place*, examines some of the rhetorical processes by which extreme political viewpoints can become acceptable and popular. "It will allow me to finish my book during my fellowship period and to benefit from the support of my fellow cohort at the IRH."

As part of our commitment to our mission to advance scholarship in the humanities and social sciences, ACLS is proud to continue offering our signature fellowship program, funded primarily by the ACLS endowment, with special awards sponsored by a generous group of benefactors who share our commitment to supporting excellence in humanistic knowledge production.

Opposite page (top to bottom): Laura Salah Nasrallah, students, and colleague Michael Penn of Stanford University hiking to the Grotto of Paul and Thekla in Ephesus, Turkey; and Eric S. Godoy. **This page** (top to bottom): Jesse Schwartz; Louise Zamparutti; and José Miguel Palacios.



Expand support for people producing knowledge in a wide variety of institutions, outside the academy, and in global networks

In January 2025, ACLS launched a free digital database for China Studies research. Part of the Luce/ACLS Program in China Studies, the **China Studies Digital Mapping Project** is a searchable directory of more than 77 repositories that offer free access to large primary source sets for China Studies research. The site represents a major advancement in the field of China Studies as geographic and political barriers present major challenges to scholarly research. The site connects the work of scholars, librarians, and digital archivists around the world. In addition to projects maintained by past program fellows, including The People's Map of Global China, Ming Qing Women's Writings, and the Xinjiang Documentation Project, the site features additional collection information and metadata that can be downloaded as a full data set, as well as a directory of leading university libraries that offer services to unaffiliated scholars.

In July, ACLS announced **Global Buddhism** a new book series in partnership with Yale University Press. As part of **The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Program in Buddhist Studies**, the series will exclusively feature titles by our international community of scholars. In addition to extending the program's support of Buddhism scholars from dissertation to manuscript, and now to their first book, the new series will directly contribute to the distribution of knowledge on Buddhist traditions around the world.

The 2025 **ACLS Open Access Book Prize for authors and Arcadia Open Access Publishing Award for publishers** expanded its prize categories to include Environmental Humanities and Literary Studies, along with History and Multimodal titles. The program aims to increase access to high-quality humanistic research and writing via open access, making exceptional, innovative, humanities scholarship available to diverse communities of students, educators, and librarians around the world. Through the annual prizes, the program raises awareness of existing open access titles while also supporting the publication of new ones.

Support field building that responds to public needs and interests

Addressing issues surrounding digital humanities has become especially urgent, as projects that will evolve humanistic scholarship must also speak to the country's wide range of communities and student populations. Ethics in and approaches to undertaking community-centered digital archiving; recognizing and rewarding campus and community constituencies involved in the creation of these new and needed resources; and what digital infrastructures are needed on campuses, in libraries, and with publishers to make these resources accessible and sustainable are just some of the issues facing scholars in this growing interdisciplinary field.

In June, ACLS released our first-ever publication on Manifold, an open access publishing platform that allows users to digitally annotate texts and create virtual reading and discussion groups around scholarly texts.

Other Stories To Tell: Recovery Scholarship and the Infrastructure for Digital Humanities is the culminating report of the **Digital Commission on Fostering and Sustaining Diverse Digital Scholarship**, a national assembly of leading scholars, librarians, archivists, publishers, and university administrators convened by ACLS and chaired by **Marisa Parham**, Professor of English and Digital Studies at the University of Maryland at College Park. The comprehensive report includes an in-depth analysis of the current challenges in providing sustainable access to digital resources and projects that can serve as important resources for twenty-first-century learners. It also provides seven actionable recommendations for ways to provide wide-reaching access to new knowledge in digital form.

Build, nurture, and connect networks of scholars within and across institutions, fields and borders of all kinds, including national borders

In 2025, ACLS was delighted to expand our relationship with the **Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF)** network, becoming the new home of the **Mellon Mays Graduate Programs**. These programs support Mellon Mays Fellows as they navigate doctoral education in humanistic fields and pursue careers in the academy and beyond, through professional development convenings, awards, and network building.

In June, ACLS hosted the program's Annual Graduate Student Summer Conference, focused on the early graduate school experience, at Washington University in St. Louis. The event brought together past and present Mellon Mays Fellows, from current graduate students to senior faculty members, and introduced ACLS to this important community as the new steward of the programs.

Transform

Catalyze change in academic practice and culture that strengthens the place and resonance of the humanities and social sciences

Convene communities around proven practices and approaches toward a “new academy” that rewards scholars and administrators seeking to grow our fields, and create a healthy environment for inquiry using the full range of methods of circulating knowledge

In December, ACLS published ***The Promise of the Humanities at Community Colleges: Reflections from the Mellon/ACLS Community College Faculty Fellowship Program***. This collection of essays highlights the experiences and recommendations of 12 recipients of the Mellon/ACLS Community College Faculty Fellowship program (2018–2024).

The essays document different approaches to how these faculty-scholars integrated their research into the classroom in the demanding environment of a two-year college while enriching a diverse community of students, local communities, and the broader academic landscape through their work.

The volume marks the first Manifold-native publication for ACLS, part of our commitment to maximizing access to promising practices by our community of scholars, as well as enabling a continuous conversation around the resource through the platform's annotation feature.

Advance doctoral education reform that better serves students, academia, and society

Doctoral Futures: Concrete Steps Toward Building a New Academy

The unprecedented attacks on higher education experienced by the sector in 2025 were especially devastating to coursework and departments representing the humanities and social sciences. Research funding cuts, censored curricula, department closures, and the elimination of graduate degree programs impacted whether and how humanistic knowledge is produced and circulated through the training of graduate students.

In response, ACLS introduced **Doctoral Futures**, a collaborative initiative with the **American Historical Association**, the **Modern Language Association**, and the **Society of Biblical Literature**. This bold three-year program aims to assess and reimagine humanities graduate education to better prepare the next generation of knowledge producers.

“The greatest danger right now is that we emerge from this most recent crisis as a diminished version

of what we have been, with weaker departments, smaller graduate cohorts, fewer programs, and very few interested undergraduates,” explained **Stacy Hartman**, ACLS Program Officer, overseeing the Doctoral Futures initiative. “Now is the time to build on the work that has been done to create many futures for doctoral education that we can all collectively believe in.”

Starting in September, the initiative convened committees composed of institutional leaders, academic societies, faculty, and current and recent doctoral students to address three core challenge areas: Preparation and Inclusion to address recruitment of a strong, diverse pool of graduate students; Graduate Programs to better support a larger range of students and outcomes; and Post-Degree Pathways to realign humanities graduate education with the need for advanced educated professionals with humanistic skills and perspectives, inside and outside academia.

In 2026, the three Doctoral Futures committees will gather and assess existing research and models for each area and share concrete recommendations about the best approaches for achieving doctoral reform for a “New Academy.” In 2027, the initiative will focus on institutional buy-in among faculty, deans, provosts, and presidents to adopt, adapt, and implement the recommendations.

The program is made possible by a grant from the Mellon Foundation, with additional funding by the ACLS endowment.



Doctoral Futures
Committee Chairs
(L-R) Steed Davidson,
Sarah Weicksel, and
Paula Krebs.

Collaborate with those who publish and otherwise disseminate scholarship to ensure its reach to broad audiences

In 2025, ACLS continued our role in guiding monthly meetings for the **Path to Open Community Advisory Committee**, an assembly of leading publishing and library representatives, as well as open access authors, who advise and provide recommendations for Path to Open, a community-supported open access monograph program by JSTOR. In addition, **Sarah McKee**, ACLS Project Manager for Amplifying Humanistic Scholarship, has co-developed a webinar series to support publishers new to open access, collaborated with JSTOR in publishing a history of the Path to Open initiative, and, in May 2025, convened a panel for the Society for Scholarly Publishing meeting to highlight authors' perspectives on open access.

Identify and promote institutional policies and culture that foster growth in the academic humanities and social sciences

In March 2025, ACLS awarded the second round of **Intention Foundry Learned Society Extended Engagement Microgrants**. Recognizing the value of equity-centered collaboration in supporting students and scholars representing a rich variety of backgrounds and experiences, the 2025 awardees were the American Academy of Religion, American Antiquarian Society, Medieval Academy of America, and Middle East Studies Association of North America, Inc.

The **Arthur Vining Davis Foundations/ACLS Fellowships for Research on the Liberal Arts Program** culminated with research presentations by the Fellows at a July convening in New York. Fellows were trained and given access to the extensive College and Beyond II (CBII) database at the University of Michigan to examine the impacts of liberal arts education on students during and beyond their undergraduate degree programs.

Be Ready for Anything

Increase our ability to adapt to changing conditions, threats, and needs

Review and revise our governance

Recognizing the need to improve practical functions to best meet the needs of today's member institutions and scholarly community, ACLS introduced amendments to our bylaws to the Council at our 2025 Annual Meeting. After an in-depth overview and a wide-ranging discussion with member society delegates and leaders, the Council voted to adopt the changes.

The new governance structure enables ACLS to respond more effectively to a rapidly changing academic environment while galvanizing the energies and experiences of the 81 delegates representing our member societies in ensuring ACLS programs and initiatives remain aligned with the needs of today's scholars.

Assess organizational structure and operations and make improvements where needed

In summer 2025, ACLS created a single unit to house its US Programs and International Programs units to better align fellowship and grant competition functions and benefit from synergies across programs. Now under the leadership of Senior Director of Programs Christopher Thornton, the revised organizational structure has already yielded efficiency and valuable shared learning experiences.

Strengthen our financial sustainability by diversifying our sources of funding

ACLS is focused on an increased fundraising goal and has identified potential new sources along with a strong timeline and strategy for approaching those targets.

Respond to the needs of member societies and institutions and assist in their efforts to thrive and make a greater impact

A greater focus on building the capacity of ACLS member societies was demonstrated in 2025. In addition to three in-person meetings focused on the needs of leadership around board relations, fundraising, and managing conflict, ACLS continues to provide weekly forums for peer exchange among executive directors.

The fall 2025 meeting of the ACLS Research University Consortium also deepened our focus on practical knowledge sharing in the face of increasing attacks on departments, coursework, and research in humanistic fields.

In 2025, ACLS also joined new coalitions to strengthen our advocacy efforts. These include being named to the Washington Higher Education Secretariat, an invitation-only forum for chief executive officers of national higher education associations; participating in the presidential roundtable convened by the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, which yielded the April 2025 ["Call for Constructive Engagement,"](#) a statement against undue government intrusion on academic freedom; and participation in the fall 2025 national convening of the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Research Leadership Network (HASS-RLN).

Ensure that our convenings are timely and responsive to the needs of our community

ACLS has also taken time to assess and envision the purpose and format of our Annual Meeting. In addition to providing channels for feedback from across our community, ACLS is reviewing ways to maximize engagement and broaden the reach of the event. The new format will be introduced at the spring 2027 event.



2025 Competition Awardees

2025 ACLS Open Access Book Prize
recipient Camelia Dewan.

ACLS is committed to maintaining the highest standards in the administration of our programs and the ways we support the hundreds of fellows and grantees we recognize each year. We continue to develop programming to increase engagement with and among fellows around the world, with the goal of providing networks of support concerning issues of societal engagement, public scholarship, the academic reward structure, and diverse career pathways for PhDs.

We work closely with scholarly communities, partners, and allies around the world as part of our ongoing efforts to advance the growth and circulation of humanistic study.

ACLS continually and intensively assesses and refines each of our programs in areas such as application materials, related outreach and promotion, nominating procedures, review processes, and support to awardees. As a result, our awardees are more diverse than ever, and we will continue to develop and expand programs that represent the highest standard of inclusive excellence in the quality of the scholarship we support.

2025 Awardees

ACLS Endowment-Funded Programs

Fellowship and grant programs funded primarily by the ACLS endowment, which has benefited from the generous support of esteemed funders, members, and individual donors since our founding in 1919.

ACLS Fellowship Program

The oldest and most competitive program, ACLS Fellowships embody the ACLS core belief that inclusive excellence enhances the scholarly enterprise. The fellowships recognize academic excellence across the broad spectrum of humanities and social sciences.

Nina Amstutz

Associate Professor, History of Art and Architecture, University of Oregon
A Multispecies Framework for Art: The Bowerbird Across Disciplines, Cultures, and Time

Maile Arvin

Associate Professor, History, University of Utah
Nā Lei Poina 'Ole (Beloved Children Not Forgotten): Institutionalized Children in the Hawaiian Kingdom and US Territory of Hawai'i

Lloyd D. Barba

Assistant Professor, Religion, Amherst College
A Refuge of Resistance: A History of the US Sanctuary Movement

Tria Blu Wakpa

Assistant Professor, World Arts and Cultures and Dance, University of California, Los Angeles
Choreographies in Confinement: Native Education, Incarceration, and Performance

Simone Browne

Associate Professor, African and African Diaspora Studies, University of Texas at Austin
Art on Surveillance

Yannick Coenders

Assistant Professor, Sociology, Washington University in St. Louis
Dispersal: Governing Against the Ghetto in Post-World War II Europe

Gabrielle Cornish

Assistant Professor, Music, University of Wisconsin–Madison
Socialist Noise: Sound and Soviet Identity after Stalin

Maurice Crandall

Associate Professor, Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, Arizona State University
Tiger of the Human Species: Yavapai-Apache Scouts and the Worlds They Made

Nushelle de Silva

Assistant Professor, Art History, Fordham University
Conveying Culture: The Control and Care of Art in Transit

Scott Doebler

Visiting Assistant Professor, History, Pomona College
The Lure of the Lowlands: An Early Modern Environmental History of Yucatán and Guatemala's Maya Forest, 1517–1817

Theodora Dragostinova

Professor, History, The Ohio State University
Spoils of War: The Repatriation of Children in the Post-1918 Balkans

Natalie Ghassan El-Eid

Postdoctoral Fellow, Contemporary Arab Studies,
Georgetown University

*Transnational Druze and Reincarnation: Remembering,
Recording, and Reconnecting*

[ACLS/Marwan M. and Ute Kraidy Centennial Fellowship in
the Study of the Arab World and Latin America](#)

Ruth Madeline Ezra

Lecturer, Art History, University of St. Andrews, UK

*Leaves of Glass: Mica between Art and Science in Early
Modernity*

Stephen C. Ferguson

Associate Professor, Philosophy, North Carolina State
University

*On the Black Side of Philosophy: Black Philosophers
Confront Black Power and Communism*

Tamara Surani Fernando

Assistant Professor, History, State University of New York,
Stony Brook

*Shallow Blue Empire: Pearl Diving in the Indian Ocean
1850–1925*

Zoltán Glöck

Assistant Professor, Anthropology, American University

*The Long War on Terror: Decolonization and Recolonization
in Kenya*

Eric Godoy

Associate Professor, Philosophy, Illinois State University

*Public Power: Ethical Energy and Democracy's Role in a Just
Transition*

april i. graham-jackson

Postdoctoral Scholar, Sociology, University of Chicago

*Black Life Beyond the City: Black Suburbanization Across
Chicago Southland*

Anne Gray Fischer

Assistant Professor, History, University of Texas at Dallas

Going Ballistic: A Concealed History of Feminism and Guns

Leslie Gross-Wyrtzen

Lecturer, International and Area Studies, Yale University

*Bordering Blackness: Migration and Dispossession in the
Afro-Mediterranean*

Lauren Jae Gutterman

Associate Professor, American Studies and Women's,
Gender and Sexuality Studies, University of Texas at Austin
*Queer Survival: Gender, Sexuality, and the History of
Childhood Sexual Abuse*

Tyrell Haberkorn

Professor, Asian Languages and Cultures, University of
Wisconsin–Madison

*The Carceral Kingdom: Political Prisoners, Monarchy and
History in Thailand*

Amanda Joyce Hall

Assistant Professor, History, University of California, Santa
Barbara

*Shantytown Solidarities: Black Consciousness and Global
Anti-Apartheid*

Nadine Hubbs

Professor, Women's and Gender Studies, University of
Michigan, Ann Arbor

Border Country: Mexico, America, and Country Music

Stacy Kamehiro

Associate Professor, History of Art and Visual Culture,
University of California, Santa Cruz

Objects of the Nation: Hawai'i at the World Fairs, 1855–1899

Naiima Khahaifa

Assistant Professor, African & African American Studies,
Duke University

*Making Prisons Work: Black Correctional Officers and
Carceral Geographies of Western New York*

Nataliia Laas

Postdoctoral Fellow, Global Affairs, Yale University

*A Soviet Consumer Republic: Environmental Citizenship and
the Economy of Waste in the Post-WWII Soviet Union*

Patricia Lagarde

Postdoctoral Fellow, Curatorial, The Walters Art Museum
(Un)tethered: The Lives of Chavín's Tenon Heads

[ACLS H. and T. King Fellow in Ancient American Art and
Culture](#)

Tonhi Lee

Assistant Professor, English, Tufts University

Migration and Mimesis in the English Renaissance, 1492–1668
[ACLS Carl and Betty Pforzheimer Fellow](#)

Awardees by the Numbers

357

Number of Awards

222

Unique Institutions

18

Countries



32

States plus Washington, DC

Awardees by State

Arizona	7	Louisiana	4	New York	44
California	63	Massachusetts	12	Ohio	5
Colorado	5	Maryland	7	Oregon	2
Connecticut	9	Maine	2	Pennsylvania	10
District of Columbia	9	Michigan	10	Rhode Island	5
Florida	10	Minnesota	3	Tennessee	4
Georgia	8	Missouri	5	Texas	10
Iowa	3	North Carolina	13	Utah	2
Illinois	23	Nebraska	1	Virginia	8
Indiana	4	New Hampshire	2	Washington	3
Kentucky	1	New Jersey	5	Wisconsin	9



2025 ACLS Fellow
Patricia Lagarde (right)
at the Museo Larco in
Lima, Peru.

Julia Lewandoski

Assistant Professor, History, University of California, San Diego
Land Tenure Survival: Imperial Law and Indigenous Creativity in the Treaty Era, 1763–1891

Erika T. Lin

Associate Professor, Theatre and Performance, City University of New York, The Graduate Center
Festive Performance and the Birth of Theatre: Holiday Playing on Shakespeare’s Stage

Alexandra Maria Lossada

Assistant Professor, English, Creative Writing and Rhetoric, Berry College
The Interpreter of Crimmigration and Detention

Brian McCammack

Associate Professor, Environmental Studies, Lake Forest College
Black, Brown, and Green: The Origins of Environmental Justice in the 1970s

Robin Bo Eun McDowell

Visiting Assistant Professor, History, Wesleyan University
Black Bayou: Race, Ecology, and the Transformation of Louisiana Wetlands

Suhaila Meera

Assistant Professor, Theater, Lewis & Clark College
The Child at the Border: How Children Perform Displacement

Sarah M. Miller

Independent Scholar
Photography Now: Materiality, Materialism, Experience

Kathryn R. Morgan

Assistant Professor, Classical Studies, Duke University
Beyond Midas: An Archaeological History of Phrygia

Anna Muenchrath

Assistant Professor, Arts and Communication, Florida Institute of Technology
Amazon Crossing: Translation Publishing, Algorithmic Data, and the Future of the Literary Marketplace

Debashree Mukherjee

Associate Professor, Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies, Columbia University
Tropical Machines: A Decolonial History of Media & Modernity

Laura Nasrallah

Professor, Religious Studies and Divinity, Yale University
Divination Machines in the Ancient Mediterranean World: Randomness, Meaning, and the Sublunar Condition

Yasser A. Nasser

Assistant Professor, History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Opening the Door: The People’s Republic of China in the Era of Global Economic Reform
[ACLS Frederic E. Wakeman, Jr. Fellow](#)

Rebecca Nedostup

Associate Professor, History, Brown University
War Being: Lost and Found in Mid Twentieth Century China and Taiwan

Udodiri R. Okwandu

Postdoctoral Fellow, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Rutgers University–New Brunswick
Mad Mothers: A Racial History of Maternal Mental Illness in the United States

Katrina B. Olds

Professor, History, University of San Francisco
The Picaresque Enlightenment: Irreverence, Fraud, and Magic in the Eighteenth-Century Spanish Atlantic

Marc D. Perry

Associate Professor, Race, Ethnicity, Gender and Sexuality Studies, University of Texas at San Antonio
Black Trades: Cultural Performance & Economies of Race in New Orleans

Anya Plutynski

Professor, Philosophy, Washington University in St. Louis
Making Mental Health

Jason Protass

Associate Professor, Religious Studies, Brown University
Heart of the River: A Buddhist History of the Lower Yangtze and Coastal Fujian

Jessie B. Ramey

Associate Professor, Humanities, Chatham University
The Struggle Is the Victory: Kipp Dawson and Women's Radical Collaboration in US Social Movements Since the 1950s

China Sajadian

Assistant Professor, Anthropology, Vassar College
Debt and Refuge: Syrian Farmworkers and the Politics of Displacement in Lebanon

Michael A. Schoeppner

Associate Professor, Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, University of Maine Farmington
Living Illegally: Free Black Migrants, Border Controls, and Belonging in the Early United States

Jesse Witkin Schwartz

Professor, English, City University of New York, LaGuardia Community College
America's Russia: The Bolshevik Revolution, US Print Culture, and the Concept of Eurasia, 1881–1929

Rovel Jerome Alex Sequeira

Assistant Professor, Women's and Gender Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
The Empire and Its Deviants: Global Sexology and the Racial Grammar of Sex in Colonial India

Iqra Shagufta Cheema

Assistant Professor, Humanities, Graceland University
Paindoo Production: Vernacular Lives of Punjabi in Postcolonial Pakistan

Melanie Masterton Sherazi

Lecturer, Humanities and Social Sciences, California Institute of Technology
Black Mediterranean Aesthetics: African American Cultural Workers in Postwar Rome

Henry Stoll

Assistant Professor, Musicology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Unsung: The Revolutionary Music of Haiti
[ACLS Susan McClary and Robert Walser Fellow](#)

Preston Taylor Stone

Lecturer, English, Santa Clara University
Queer/Indigenous/Horror: Sovereign Speculative Imaginaries and Cultures of Resilience and Retribution

Desiree Valentine

Assistant Professor, Philosophy, Marquette University
Reproductive Reparations: Justice and the Afterlives of Slavery

Ng'ang'a Wahu-Mũchiri

Associate Professor, English, University of Nebraska–Lincoln
Water & Waterscapes in Writing from the African Continent
[ACLS Pauline Yu Fellow](#)

Dara Walker

Assistant Professor, African American Studies, Pennsylvania State University
High School Rebels: Black Power, Education, and Youth Politics in the Motor City, 1966–1973
[ACLS Oscar Handlin Fellow](#)

Alexis Wells-Oghoghomeh

Associate Professor, Religious Studies, Stanford University
American Fetish: Black Women and Witchcraft in Early America

Sarah T. Weston

Assistant Professor, English, Washington University in St. Louis

The Cypher & The Abyss

[ACLS Morton N. Cohen and Richard N. Swift Fellowship Fund](#)

Lida Zeitlin-Wu

Assistant Professor, Communication & Theatre Arts and Humanities Institute, Old Dominion University

How Color Became a Technology: The Making of Chromatic Capitalism

ACLS Project Development Grants

These awards provide flexible seed funding to support faculty at teaching-intensive colleges and universities pursuing research projects with the potential to significantly advance areas of humanistic study. This program reinforces the ACLS commitment to support promising scholars whose dedication to classroom teaching ensures that future generations can benefit from the insights gained through innovative new research.

Judith Anderson

Associate Professor, Ethnic and Race Studies, City University of New York, Borough of Manhattan Community College

Searching for Blackness in Buenos Aires: The Resurgence of Black Identity in Argentina

Sarah C. Bishop

Professor, Communication Studies, City University of New York, Baruch College

Recovering the Visibility of Post-Deportation Experiences in El Salvador: A Family Communication Approach

Stephanie Bonnes

Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice, University of New Haven

Beyond Policy: Institutional Response to Sexual Harassment, Bureaucratic Harassment, and Sexual Assault in the US Military

Lydia C. Bremer-McCollum

Adjunct Faculty, Religious Studies and Philosophy Department, Spelman College

The Book at the Limits of Christian Materiality

Dorothea Browder

Associate Professor, History, Western Kentucky University
Labor Education and Anti-Racist Transnational Labor Solidarity in the YWCA Industrial Program, 1907-1950

James Cantres

Associate Professor, Africana, Puerto Rican and Latino Studies, City University of New York, Hunter College
Going Home: Michael X, Belongings, and Black Worldmaking 1957-1975

Olivia Chilcote

Associate Professor, American Indian Studies, San Diego State University
Cháam Qéchyam: Reclaiming the San Luis Rey Indian Village in California History

Andrew Chittick

Professor, East Asian Studies, Eckerd College
Sino-Southeast Asian Maritime Exchange in the First Millennium CE

Jeremy D. Coltman

Lecturer, Anthropology, University of California, Riverside
Brilliance and Sacrality in Classic Maya Religion

Amy Cooper

Associate Professor, Department of English and Fine Arts, United States Air Force Academy
"Speaking Pictures": From Aesthesis to Aesthetics

Esther Liberman Cuenca

Assistant Professor, Department of Social Sciences, University of Houston-Victoria
Tattooing Customs and Ethnographies of Skin in the Premodern World (c. 250-1750)

Monica DeHart

Professor, Sociology and Anthropology, University of Puget Sound
Localizing Transpacific Politics: Ethnographic Insights into the Next Phase of China-Central America Relations

Mark Dike DeLancey

Professor, History of Art and Architecture, DePaul University
The Tomb of Askia Muhammad: Pilgrimage, Politics, and Colonial Myth

Cynthia C. Delgado

Assistant Professor, Women's and Gender Studies, Pace University
Staging the Interstice: The Space of Transfeminist Performance

Katherine M. Fobear

Associate Professor, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, California State University, Fresno
Cuentos de Mariposas

Anabel Galindo

Assistant Professor, Comparative Cultural Studies, Northern Arizona University
Towards a New Cartography of Yaqui Mobility

Shehnaz Haqqani

Assistant Professor, Religion, Mercer University
Exploring Religious Authority and Agency through Muslim Women's Interfaith Marriages

Andrey V. Ivanov

Associate Professor, History, University of Wisconsin-Platteville
Apostle of Empire: Faith, Science and Enlightenment of Archbishop Feofan Prokopovych

Amr Kamal

Associate Professor, Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures, City University of New York, City College
Iconography of Displacement: Deconstructing Imagery of Rootlessness in Contemporary Mediterranean Cinema

Dasol Kim

Assistant Professor, Digital Media and Journalism, State University of New York at New Paltz
K-Beauty Project: From Post-War Ashes to Global Desire

Hye Won Kim

Assistant Professor, English, Kennesaw State University
Performing Transnational Encounters: The Development of South Korean Musical Theater 1962-2024

Adele Kudish

Professor, English, City University of New York, Borough of Manhattan Community College
Women, Fashion, and Money in Early 20th Century Fiction

Crystal B. Lake

Professor, English, Wright State University
Reading/Making: Handcrafting Literature in the Long Eighteenth Century

Jacqueline Lyon

Assistant Professor, Chicana and Latinx Studies, California State University, Long Beach
Engendering 'Illegality': Race, Reproduction, and the Fight for Birthright Citizenship in the Dominican Republic

Laura Menchaca Ruiz

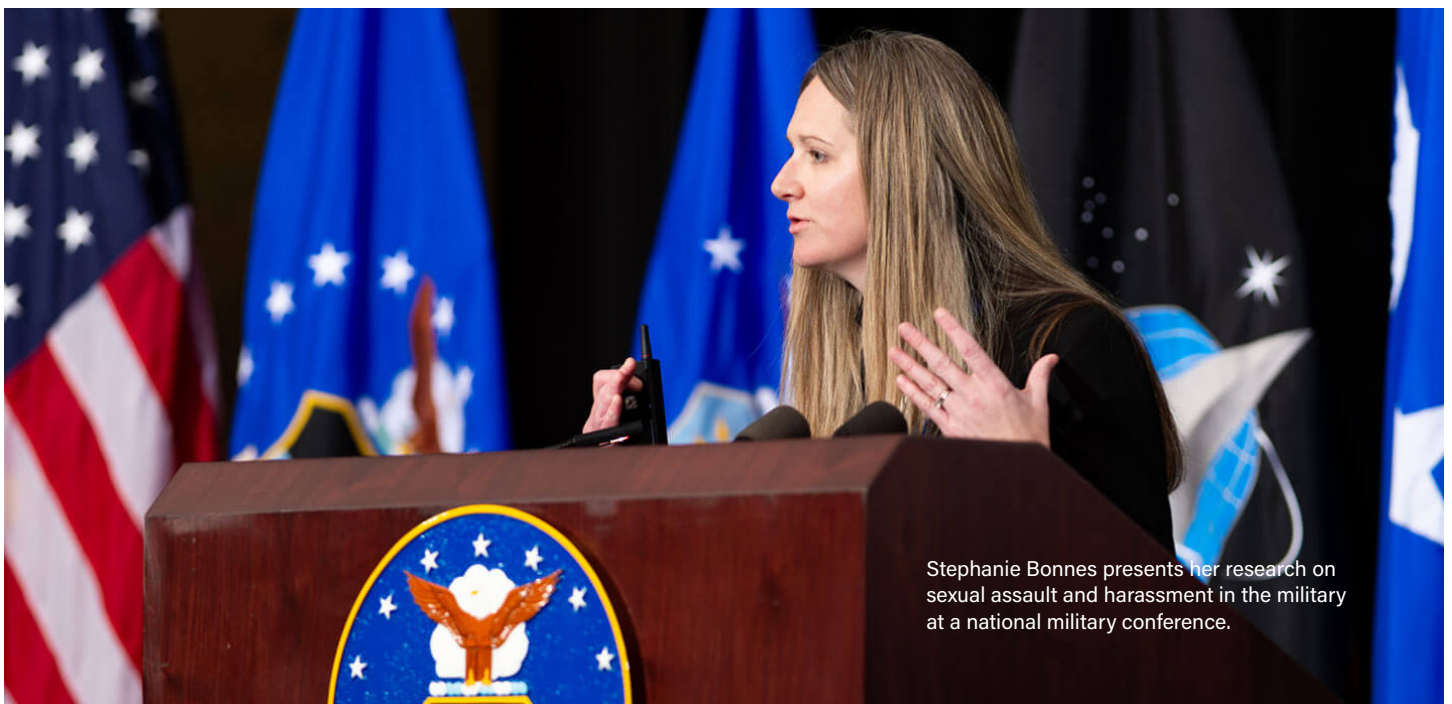
Visiting Assistant Professor, Division of Humanities and the Practicing Arts, Al Quds-Bard College
Hay Betl'em: A Visual Archive of Palestinian Survivance

Oksana Nesterenko

Adjunct Faculty, Humanities, Union County College
A Forbidden Fruit? Sacred Music in the Soviet Union Before Its Fall

Thuy Linh Nguyen

Associate Professor, Social Sciences, Mount Saint Mary College, (NY)
Coastal Sand Dunes and Exotic Timber Species: An Environmental History of the French Colonial Empire



Stephanie Bonnes presents her research on sexual assault and harassment in the military at a national military conference.

Kirsten Paige

Associate Teaching Professor, Performing Arts & Technology, North Carolina State University
Keyboard Botany: Climate, Empire, and the Tropical Piano in Southeast Asia

José Miguel Palacios

Assistant Professor, Cinematic Arts, California State University, Long Beach
The Cinema to Come: The Archives, Writings, and Films of Raúl Ruiz

Elizabeth M. Perego

Assistant Professor, History, Appalachian State University
Icons and Agents of Liberty: Algerian Women and Global South–South Feminist Solidarity in the Fight for Decolonization, 1954 to 1990

Nicole R. Rice

Professor, English, Saint John's University (NY)
A Literary History of Care: English Texts, Practices, and Reformations, 1350–1600

Noa T. Shaindlinger

Assistant Professor, History and Political Science, Worcester State College
Experimental Occupation: Israel's 125 Days in Gaza, 1956–1957

A. K. M. Skarpelis

Assistant Professor, Sociology, City University of New York, Queens College
Anxious Order: Race, Reason, and the Violence of Classification

Tyler S. Talbott

Assistant Professor, English, Creighton University
Plotting Ethnonationalism: Race and Novel Theories of the Nation Since the Victorians

Johnathon K. Vsetecka

Assistant Professor, Humanities and Politics, Nova Southeastern University
"In Order to Expand the World's Knowledge": Investigative Famine Commissions, Ukraine, and Transitional Justice during the Late Cold War

Louise Zamparutti

Associate Professor, English, University of Wisconsin–La Crosse
Monument in Motu: The Positionality of Place

ACLS HBCU Faculty Fellowships and Grants

These awards support the scholarship of humanities and social sciences faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities with flexible fellowships and project development grants that attend to the research, teaching, and service commitments at these vital institutions.

ACLS HBCU Faculty Fellows

Tempest M. Henning

Assistant Professor, Philosophy and Religious Studies, Fisk University
When and Where I Carry: Black Women and American Gun Rights

Jasmine Kelekay

Assistant Professor, Sociology and Criminology, Howard University
Weaponizing Exceptionalism: Policing Black Life in a Nordic Welfare State

Celeste N. Lee

Assistant Professor, Sociology/Anthropology, Spelman College
Racial Bias and Black Maternal Health: An Examination of Nurses' Knowledge and Perspectives

Shearon Roberts

Associate Professor, Mass Communication, Xavier University of Louisiana
Black Press New Orleans: A Century of Pleading Our Own Cause

Hannah Baker Saltmarsh

Assistant Professor, English, Hampton University
The Maternal Is Political: Intersectional Feminisms

Sharlene Sinegal-DeCuir

Professor, History/African American and Diaspora Studies, Xavier University of Louisiana
Forging a Path: Chief Justice Bernette Joshua Johnson and Louisiana State University Law School

Sabah Firoz Uddin

Assistant Professor, Language, Literature, and Cultural Studies, Bowie State University
Taking Lessons from Black Joy: Centering Muslimness Through Art and Design

Robinson Woodward-Burns

Associate Professor, Political Science, Howard University
Racial Disenfranchisement and American Democratic Backsliding, 1965–2025



2025 ACLS HBCU Faculty Grantee
Ra Malika Imhotep, Assistant Professor,
International Studies, Spelman College.

ACLS HBCU Faculty Grantees

Patrick D. Anderson

Associate Professor, Humanities, Central State University
Editing Eldridge Cleaver: The Collected Prison Writings and Political Works

Steven L. Dashiell

Assistant Professor, Center for Urban Health Equity, Morgan State University
"What You Playing At?" The Question of African-American Men and Leisure

Jeremiah Dibua

Professor, History, Morgan State University
TransAfrica, African Americans, and the Struggle Against Apartheid and Authoritarianism in Africa

Andrew J. Douglas

Professor, Political Science, Morehouse College
Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Black Liberal Arts Tradition: A Symposium and Edited Volume

Kelisha Graves

Assistant Professor, Educational Leadership, Virginia State University
Africa and America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities: From Shared History to New Opportunities

Mikki K. Harris

Associate Professor, Journalism, Morehouse College
Mapping Memory and Resistance: A Participatory GIS Study of Traditional Land Use and Identity in Barbuda

Ra Malika Imhotep

Assistant Professor, International Studies, Spelman College
The Tar Baby Principle: embracing the black trickster-feminine

Jacob M. Ivey

Associate Professor, Social Sciences, Florida Memorial University
From Sun City to the Sunshine State: Florida and the Anti-Apartheid Movement

Shu-Shan Lee

Assistant Professor, Political Science and History, Hampton University
When Confucianism Confronts Democracy: A Guardianship Perspective

Khalid Long

Associate Professor, Theatre Arts, Howard University
An Architect of Black Feminist Theatre: Glenda Dickerson, Transnational Feminism, and The Kitchen Prayer Series

Samuel Rowley

Associate Professor, Music, Virginia State University
The History and Evolution of the HBCU Wind Band Movement

Jermaine A.R. Young

Assistant Professor, Political Science, Howard University
Law, Violence, and Emergency: Jamaica's Path to Normalized Exception

Building a stronger culture for humanistic research at HBCUs

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) have played an essential role at the intersection of humanistic scholarship and social justice movements in the United States.

Yet today, more than 80% of research coming from HBCU campuses falls within STEM disciplines. Much of this is due to significantly more financial support for research in these fields at these institutions.

Recognizing this growing disparity and how it is exacerbated by heavy teaching loads and intensive mentoring, service, and other expectations unique to HBCU humanities and social science faculty, in 2023 ACLS introduced the **ACLS HBCU Faculty Fellowship and Grant Program**. The program recognizes the scholarly contributions of HBCU faculty working in humanistic fields, offering financial support for outstanding research projects, as well as research development assistance and networking opportunities. With each fellowship and grant to individual scholars in this program, ACLS also provides a \$2,500 grant to the awardee's home institution to support humanities programming or infrastructure.

Now in its second year, the program's impact is already visible.

"Faculty at HBCUs are often keeping their research agendas vibrant and competitive amidst high teaching loads and limited resources, infrastructure, and support from relatively underfunded institutions," said 2024 Fellow **Trushna Parekh**, Associate Professor of Geography at Texas Southern University. Her research documents the history of Mary's...Naturally, the longest-running gay bar in Houston, Texas. "Funding that is specifically targeted to research at HBCUs, such as that provided by ACLS, addresses an essential need in the humanities and social sciences."

Right: (top to bottom): Lamon B. Lawhorn; Trushna Parekh (left) with community partners; and Ana Lucia Araujo.





2025 ACLS HBCU Faculty Fellow
Tempest M. Henning teaching at
Fisk University.

The program, funded solely by the ACLS endowment, provides a lifeline for faculty who may have limited support and infrastructure to advance their research at their home institutions.

“Diversity in philosophy for Black professors is astonishingly low, with Black professors representing roughly three percent of the field within the United States,” noted 2025 Fellow **Tempest M. Henning**, Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Philosophy and Religious Studies Program Coordinator at Fisk University. “I am grateful for organizations like ACLS fostering diverse scholarship and course innovations while rejecting a zero-sum approach. Being awarded the ACLS HBCU Faculty Fellowship bolsters my hope in the future of academia and the humanities, especially since federal funding for the humanities has been essentially gutted.”

In an increasingly limited funding landscape for humanistic research, the ACLS HBCU Faculty Fellowship and Grant Program provides vital support for materials and travel, as well as vital research and writing time.

“Receiving the grant for my work has allowed me to secure editors, seek publishing for my document, and aid in the purchase of items and documents,” said 2024 grantee **Lamon B. Lawhorn**, Assistant Professor of Music and Coordinator of Percussion Studies at Virginia State University, who is researching the history of contemporary gospel drumming across popular

“Funding that is specifically targeted to research at HBCUs, such as that provided by ACLS, addresses an essential need in the humanities and interpretive social sciences.”

genres. “I have also been able to secure travel and attend conferences for research purposes as well as present my findings at future conventions and conferences.”

“My work benefited in multiple ways from the ACLS HBCU Faculty Fellowship, with released time from teaching and service to conduct research and writing and additional resources, especially travel support,” said 2024 Fellow **Ana Lucia Araujo**, Professor of History at Howard University. She used her fellowship to focus on her new book, *The Power of Art: The World Black Artists Made in the Americas*, under contract with Cambridge University Press. “The fellowship is an important recognition of the work I have been doing over the past 20 years.”

Externally-Funded Programs

ACLS Community College Faculty Research Fellowships

These flexible fellowships support faculty at two-year colleges with two-to-three month research residencies at the American Antiquarian Society, The Folger Institute, and the Newberry Library.

This program was made possible by the support of the Mellon Foundation.

American Antiquarian Society Awardees

Olivia Chiang

Professor, Visual Fine Arts, Manchester Community College (CT)

Sharing the Archives: Open Access Essays on American History from the American Antiquarian Society

Anita Baksh

Professor, English, City University of New York, LaGuardia Community College

Human and Marine Mammal Kinship: Whales and Colonized Peoples in the Writing of Contemporary Caribbean American Writers

Patrick Barker

Assistant Professor, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Miami Dade College

With Her Cutlass Always Raised: Slavery and Collective Struggle in the Plantation Caribbean

Jewon Woo

Professor, Arts and Humanities, Lorain County Community College

Lost and Found: Intimate Reading of Black Newspapers

Jessica C. Moronez

Associate Professor, Sociology, Chaffey College

Understanding Women's Criminality Beyond the Headlines: Narratives and Counternarratives

Folger Institute Awardees

Elizabeth P. Porter

Assistant Professor, English, City University of New York, Eugenio María de Hostos Community College

Feminist Fictions: Plotting Women in the British Long Eighteenth Century

Layla Zeitouni

Associate Professor, English, Roxbury Community College
Teaching Drama as Drama: The Challenge of Reinventing Theatre to Increase Cultural and Social Capital of Low-Income Students of Color at Urban Community Colleges

Deborah Finkelstein

Adjunct Faculty, General Education, Urban College of Boston
All the World's an Inside Stage

Christopher W. Thurley

Instructor, English, Gaston College

Anthony Burgess's Shakespearean Lectures in America AND Enderby's Dark Lady (Critical Irwell Edition)

Newberry Library Awardees

Antonio Ramirez

Associate Professor, History and Political Science, Elgin Community College

A Century of Latinx Suburbia in Oral Histories, 1925-2025

Agnieszka Tuszynska

Associate Professor, English, City University of New York, Queensborough Community College

"A Damn Hard Fight": The Life of Willard Motley

Daniel Gomes

Assistant Professor, English, Bakersfield College

Old Songs for New Shores: Ballads and the Remaking of Irish America

Megan Cole

Assistant Professor, English, Victor Valley College

Fossil-Fueled Fictions: Coal, Oil, and the Making of American Literary Modernity (1900-1955)

Sheba Kian Kaufman

Assistant Professor, English, Saddleback College

Women, Wit, and Wisdom: Queen Sheba, Early Modern England, and the Public Humanities

Boyd J. Johnstone

Assistant Professor, English, City University of New York, Borough of Manhattan Community College

Falling Awake: Visionary Politics in Medieval Dream Literature

ACLS Digital Justice Grants

These grants support projects that diversify the digital domain, advance justice and equity in digital scholarly practice, and/or contribute to public understanding of racial and social justice issues. With Seed Grants for projects at early stages of development and Development Grants for projects that have advanced beyond the start-up phase, the awards recognize outstanding digital projects that critically engage with the interests and histories of people of color and other historically marginalized communities through the ethical use of digital tools and methods.

This program is made possible by a grant from the Mellon Foundation.

ACLS Digital Justice Seed Grantees

History with Grit: Recovering the Life of John E. Bruce and the Formation of Early Black Yonkers

Robert Baskerville, Adjunct Professor, State University of New York, Westchester Community College

Mary Hoar, President Emerita, Yonkers Historical Society

Harold McKoy II, Vice President of Strategic Planning and Partnerships, RISEUP Research Initiatives for the Strategic Empowerment of the Urban Populace Inc.

Mary Robison, Head of Reference and Adult Services, Riverfront Library, Yonkers Public Library

William Seraille, Professor Emeritus of African American History, City University of New York, Lehman College

Co-Designing Equitable Generative AI Tools for Inclusive Sexual Health Education with Queer Teens

Andrew Berry, Assistant Professor, Northwestern University

William Wibowo Liem, Doctoral Student, Northwestern University

Duri Long, Assistant Professor, Northwestern University

Kathryn Macapgal, Associate Professor, Northwestern University

A Holistic Approach to Tulare Lake

William Barrios, Cultural Liaison

Naya Bender, Undergraduate Researcher

Jessie Blattner, Undergraduate Researcher

Rowan Bolton, Undergraduate Researcher



A walking survey of a village site, part of *A Holistic Approach to Tulare Lake*, a 2025 ACLS Digital Justice Seed Grantee.

Deidre Brin, Head of UCLA Cotsen Digital Archaeology Lab

Gregory Cuara, Cultural Consultant

Nichole Escalon, Cultural Preservation Officer

Monica Hinojosa, Undergraduate Researcher

Robin Meyer-Lorey, Doctoral Student, University of California, Los Angeles

Brenda Salmeron, Undergraduate Researcher

Chloe Tu, Undergraduate Researcher

Cimarronas: A Black Women's Archive of Ayiti-Quisqueya

Elizabeth Milagros Alvarez, Doctoral Candidate, Urban Planning in the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Columbia University

Sophia De La Cruz, Undergraduate Research Assistant, African American Studies, and **Elise A. Mitchell**, Assistant Professor of History, Swarthmore College

Sophia Monegro, Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Race, Ethnicity, and Equity, Washington University in St. Louis



A UC Irvine Prison Pandemic volunteer sorts through incoming mail from incarcerated contributors.

Ruth Pión, Educator, Researcher, and Consultant, Instituto Antropológico y Arqueológico Antillano

Margarita Rosa, Lecturer, Department of Black and Latino Studies, City University of New York, Baruch College

Dream Palaces – Black Independent Cinemas

Alicia Abieyuwa Bergamelli, Film Programmer, Eye Film Institute

Esé Emmanuel, PhD Student, University of Iowa

Chrystal Oloukoi, Assistant Professor, University of Washington

Dara Omotoso, MA Student, Ruhr University Bochum and Sorbonne Nouvelle University

Land Is Life (“Ang Lupa AY Buhay”): Decolonial Cartographies for Indigenous Land Justice in the Philippines

Ervic Angeles, Co-Founder, Ulirat Mapping Collective

Maria Carolina Rodriguez Bello (Dawonlay), Director, Lalang Hu Mga Laga Organization, Inc., Philippines

Yany P. Lopez, Associate Professor, University of the Philippines

Maria Simeona Martinez, Assistant Professor, University of the Philippines

Arnisson Andre Ortega, Assistant Professor, Syracuse University

Advancing Digital Justice for Indigenous Stewardship in Ecuadorian Amazonia: Using Kichwa Traditional Ecological Knowledge to Protect Amazonian River Ecosystems

Elizabeth Swanson Andi, MA Sustainability Student, Arizona State University, Napu Kichwa, Ecuadorian Amazon

Fredy R. Grefa, Profesor, Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Colegio de Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades (COCISOH)

Tod D. Swanson, Associate Professor, School of Philosophical, Historical and Religious Studies, Arizona State University

Gabriela Valdivia, Professor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Stabilizing Futures: Mapping Housing Loss with AI

Traci Blue, Director of Strategic Community Initiatives, Bright Community Trust

Yulia Panfil, Senior Fellow and Director, New America’s Future of Land and Housing Program

Frank Wells, President and Chief Impact Officer, Bright Community Trust

Amelia Winger-Bearskin, Associate Professor, University of Florida

Sabiha Zainulbhai, Deputy Director of Domestic Housing, New America’s Future of Land and Housing Program

ACLS Digital Justice Development Grantees

Archaeological Archives as Inclusive Learning Laboratories

Hiba Alkhalaf, Independent Scholar

Jennifer A. Baird, Independent Scholar

Anne Chen, Assistant Professor, Art History and Visual Culture Program, Experimental Humanities, Bard College

The Black Lunch Table Digital Archive

Keondra Bills Freemyn, Executive Director, Black Lunch Table

Heather Hart, Co-Founder, Black Lunch Table

Supporting Ottawa Data Sovereignty and Cultural Restoration: Digital Infrastructure, Interactive Mapping, and On-the-Ground Experience at Maple River, Michigan

Gareth Baldrice-Franklin, PhD Candidate, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Caroline Gottschalk Druschke, Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Josh Freaney, Senior Vice President of Digital Strategy, Grand Rapids Public Museum

Marty Holtgren, Principal Scientist, Encompass Socio-ecological Consulting

Erin Hughes, Digital and Community Outreach Archivist, WiLS

Stephanie Ogren, Vice President of Science and Education, Grand Rapids Public Museum

Matt Schultz, Chief Consultant, Fringe Digital

Under False Pretenses: The Inequities of Tickets Issued in Error

Kasey Henricks, Assistant Professor of Criminology, Law, and Justice, University of Illinois at Chicago

Thámien Ohlone Augmented Reality Tour

Monica V. Arellano, Culture Bearer, Former Vice Chairwoman of Muwekma Ohlone Tribal Council

Gloria Arellano-Gomez, Culture Bearer, Former Council Member and Secretary for Muwekma Ohlone Tribal Council

Isabella 'Amne Gomez, Youth Ambassador

Danielle Heitmuller, Assistant Professor of Digital Illustration and Animation, Santa Clara University

Amy Lueck, Associate Professor of English, Santa Clara University

Kai Lukoff, Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Engineering, Santa Clara University

Lee M. Panich, Professor of Anthropology, Santa Clara University

Reco(r)ding CripTech: A Legible, Accessible, and Impactful Online Archive of Crip Creative Process

Cheryl E. Ball, Digital Publishing Consultant, Independent Scholar

Daragh Byrne, Associate Teaching Professor, School of Architecture, Carnegie Mellon University

Luke Kudryashov, Senior Digital Accessibility Analyst, University of Minnesota

Elizabeth McClain, Assistant Professor of Musicology and Director of Disability Studies, Virginia Polytechnic Institute

Veronica Dittman Stanich, a2ru Research Program Manager, University of Michigan

UC Irvine's Prison Pandemic: Inspiring Community Dialogues with Incarcerated Voices

Elena Mo Brewster, Creative Producer and Designer

Keramet Reiter, Professor, Department of Criminology, Law and Society, University of California, Irvine

Naomi F. Sugie, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles

Kristin Turney, Professor, University of California, Irvine

Supporting Fields Under Attack

“We realize that American scholarship...devotes itself rather narrowly to Western civilization, to the rather well worked fields of the modern languages and literature, to classical studies and modern and medieval history, ancient history and related studies; and that it would be a great advantage to us if the scope of our interest should be broadened to take in the cultures of the entire world.”

This guidance was shared in 1941 by Waldo G. Leland, a former ACLS Director. More than 80 years later as we face an increasingly hostile climate toward the humanities and social sciences, his words serve as an important reminder of our foundational values.

Attacks on the scholarly enterprise and expertise accelerated sharply in 2025, with the humanities and social sciences hit especially hard. Executive orders issued by the White House called out ethnic, gender and sexuality, and environmental studies resulting in severe federal funding cuts for research and curriculum censorship.

The intensity of these attacks harken back to McCarthy-era allegations reported by a House committee that ACLS dominated American higher education by serving as a “clearinghouse” for subversive ideas, including “internationalism” and “moral relativism.”

ALCS stood firm then, as it does now, in its commitment to support the creation and circulation of knowledge in fields and areas of study that, together, can provide a complete picture of the human experience.

“I am honored to have the support of the ACLS during this important moment in American history. Our society seems hopelessly polarized these days, but fortunately the ACLS continues its work supporting scholars in our quest to try to better understand our fellow human beings through the humanities,” said **Antonio Ramirez**, Associate Professor of History at Elgin Community College and Project Director of Chicagolandia, an online oral history archive documenting the 70 year history of Latinos living in Chicago’s suburbs. He used his **2019 Mellon/ACLS Community College Faculty Fellowship**

Top to bottom: Jessie B. Ramey with Kipp Dawson; Antonio Ramirez with Dr. Ana Gil-Garcia, founder of the Illinois Venezuelan Alliance; Tria Blu Wakpa; and student researchers working on the Environmental Injustice Global Record.



and **2025 Community College Faculty Research Fellowship** to further develop the platform and related materials.

"Federal funding cuts in my area of research have been dramatic. ACLS support has provided an alternative, and through programs that expressly validate research focused on equity, inclusivity, transnationalism, environmental sustainability and other topics now censured by funders like the National Science Foundation," explained **2024 ACLS Digital Justice Grantee Kim Fortun**, Professor of Anthropology and Director of EcoGovLab at the University of California, Irvine. She heads the Environmental Injustice Global

"Our society seems hopelessly polarized these days, but fortunately the ACLS continues its work supporting scholars in our quest to try to better understand our fellow human beings through the humanities,"

Record, an expansive digital archive and collaboration space designed to address environmental injustice in settings around the world.

Diversity in scholarship has long been a part of the ACLS approach to supporting and advancing humanistic fields. Our record of inclusive excellence in humanities scholarship includes convening committees of researchers in the 1920s to explore China Studies and Native American Languages, then new areas of scholarship. In the 1940s we marshalled organizations to create microfilm copies of all African American newspapers published before 1900 to be permanently stored by the Library of Congress. In the 1980s we supported the research of **John D'Emilio**, Professor emeritus at the University of Illinois Chicago and a pioneer in LGBTQ Studies. Our diverse community of scholars and scholarship continues to reflect this important commitment.

"ACLS support is particularly critical in this sociopolitical moment as state and federal governments have slashed awards for projects focused on Native American, ethnic, and gender studies," noted **2025 ACLS Fellow Tria Blu Wakpa**, Assistant Professor of Dance Studies in the Department of World Arts and Cultures/Dance at the University of California, Los Angeles. "Considering this context, it is all the more important to illuminate the enduring inequities that Indigenous peoples face and their powerful and plentiful contributions."

Jessie B. Ramey agrees. The Founding Director of the Women's Institute and Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies and History at Chatham University received a **2025 ACLS Fellowship** to support her research on activist, coal miner, and educator Kipp Dawson, whose contributions span the Civil Rights, free speech, women's rights, gay liberation, labor, and education justice movements. "This is precisely the history at the center of censorship battles right now... Dawson's story offers an urgent antidote to these attempts to erase the legacy of our collective history of resistance. Her story also demonstrates the power of ordinary people working together to strengthen our democracy."

In addition to supporting established scholars and research projects, ACLS support for fields under attack provides hope and inspiration for emerging scholars faced with increasingly discouraging messages about the validity and usefulness of their research fields.

"At a time when humanistic research is often misunderstood, the ACLS award has strengthened my commitment to producing scholarship that is historically grounded, analytically rigorous, and publicly engaged. It has made clear that the work of the humanities is not only worth defending, but necessary," said **2025 ACLS Fellow Udodiri R. Okwandu**, Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow and incoming Assistant Professor (Fall 2026) in the Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Rutgers University-New Brunswick. Her research examines the ways in which scientific and psychiatric knowledge have shaped racialized ideals of motherhood and informed policies that continue to structure maternal health, and its disparities, today. "The ACLS investment in my work affirms that historical scholarship is not peripheral to contemporary debates, but central to understanding how inequities are produced, rationalized, and sustained over time."

ACLS Leading Edge Fellowships

Through this program, recent PhDs partner with nonprofit organizations advancing justice and equity in their communities. Fellows take on substantive roles that draw on the skills and capacities learned in graduate school.

This program is made possible by the support of the Mellon Foundation.

Maria Almeida Reis

PhD, History, University of California, Berkeley
Appointed as Qualitative Research Manager, UpTogether

Aixin Aydin

PhD, Religious Studies, University of Texas at Austin
Appointed as Advocacy Manager, Universal Representation Initiative, Amica Center for Immigrant Rights

Duygu Basaran Sahin

PhD, Sociology, City University of New York, The Graduate Center
Appointed as Research and Policy Associate, Coalition for the Homeless

Alicia Danze

PhD, Geography, University of Texas at Austin
Appointed as Narrative and Opinion Researcher, ReThink Media

Breanna Escamilla

PhD, Anthropology, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Appointed as Assistant Director for Programming, Hispanic Scholars Program

Claudia Garcia-Rojas

PhD, Black Studies and Political Science, Northwestern University
Appointed as Community Advocacy Manager, Open Communities

Ipshita Ghosh

PhD, Anthropology, Syracuse University
Appointed as Disability Policy and Advocacy Analyst, Disability Rights North Carolina

Aubrial Harrington

PhD, Philosophy, Arizona State University
Appointed as Narrative Development Specialist, Americans for Immigrant Justice

Ashley Hollingshead

PhD, Sociology, Rutgers University–New Brunswick
Appointed as Housing Equity Specialist, North Carolina Justice Center

Megan Jordan

PhD, Sociology, Vanderbilt University
Appointed as Public Memory and Participatory Design Specialist, Highlander Research and Education Center

Jessica M. Kiebler

PhD, Psychology and Women's and Gender Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Appointed as Research and Policy Director, Sojourner House

Faith A. Otchere

PhD, Communication, University of Maryland, College Park
Appointed as Strategic Communications and Research Director, Sojourner House

Mark Tseng-Putterman

PhD, History, American Studies, Brown University
Appointed as Communications/Narrative Change Specialist, Asian Americans Advancing Justice–AAJC

Vuk Vukovic

PhD, History of Art and Architecture and Film and Media Studies, University of Pittsburgh
Appointed as Associate Curator and Summit Coordinator, National Public Housing Museum

Callie Ward

PhD, Iberian and Latin American Cultures, Stanford University
Appointed as Impact Effectiveness Manager, The Community

Jade Chanel Williams

PhD, English Literature, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Appointed as Strategic Programs Manager, The Petey Greene Program

Beyond Campus: The Value and Impact of PhD Training in the Humanities and Social Sciences

In July 2020, during the height of the COVID pandemic, ACLS launched a bold experiment. With support from the Henry Luce Foundation, it introduced the **ACLS Leading Edge Fellowship Program**, placing recent PhDs in year-long posts with community-centered nonprofits to help document and interpret the damage of the pandemic.

At a time when early career PhDs faced the most difficult academic job market seen in a generation, the Leading Edge program challenged six bright minds to respond to the tired but long-held trope, "What can you do with a humanities PhD besides teach?"

In the five years since the program launched, the experiences of 144 Fellows have provided strong,

inspiring responses to that question. These scholars represent effectiveness of humanistic training beyond the academy, particularly with initiatives dedicated to advancing justice and equity.

Now funded by the Mellon Foundation, the Leading Edge Fellowship has emerged as one of the most popular programs offered by ACLS, as well as a much sought after resource for nonprofit partners seeking to benefit from and build capacity through the scholarly training and skill sets the fellows bring.

Leading Edge Fellows not only lend the skills and expertise honed through their academic training, but are vital contributors in researching and writing reports, policy briefs, managing community projects, and more. At the same time, they are given a daily front row seat to the inner workings of the nonprofit sector, working closely and learning from experienced colleagues at their host organizations.

In celebrating the continued success of this singular program, ACLS asked past and current Leading Edge Fellows about the different paths, the lessons learned, and benefits gained through their fellowship experiences.



2021 Leading Edge Fellow Chris Hedlin (left) in her current role as Director of Curriculum for the Sheedy Family Program in Economy, Enterprise, and Society at the University of Notre Dame.

“Three years ago, [when] I defended my dissertation...I wholeheartedly believed that the tenure-track was the only career path possible for me,” noted 2024 Fellow **Emily K. Sterk**, who earned her PhD in Spanish at Pennsylvania State University. Through the program, she was appointed to a two-year term as Research and Advocacy Associate with the Milwaukee Turners, the city’s oldest civic organization. In her role, she supports the “Confronting Mass Incarceration” initiative, conducting research, critically assessing policy reform efforts, and contributing to projects challenging the systemic inequalities in Wisconsin’s carceral system.

“The ACLS Leading Edge Fellowship has been one of the greatest gifts of my professional career. [It] has shown me that humanities PhDs can do many exciting things outside of the academy.”

For 2021 Fellow **Chris Hedlin**, who earned her PhD in English at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the fellowship provided an important professional development opportunity. “The experiences I gained in the ‘real world’ absolutely changed my relationship to my work for the better.”

Chris was appointed to a one-year post with PublicSource, which informs and inspires the Pittsburgh region through the power of deep, independent journalism. “I was struck most by the impact of my outstanding colleagues and supervisors in my fellowship experience...My learning was made possible by working alongside such great people.”

Today, Chris serves as Assistant Teaching Professor and the Director of Curriculum for the Sheedy Family Program in Economy, Enterprise, and Society at the University of Notre Dame. The Sheedy Program is a rigorous academic program that brings together undergraduate students with majors and minors in both business and the liberal arts.

“[Leading Edge] made me a stronger candidate for my role at Notre Dame. I was more fit to manage complex projects, collaborate with a team, and take on new challenges with confidence.”

When he was awarded his Leading Edge Fellowship in 2023, **Kevin Alejandro**, who earned his PhD in sociology with a focus on social and racial inequalities at the University of Kentucky, already had experience working with local nonprofits in outreach roles. His

Leading Edge appointment as Learning and Impact Manager with the Center for Cultural Power gave him valuable experience as a researcher for a national arts organization.

“Being strategically integrated into a team...I was able to learn a lot about nonprofit work structures, funding structures, leadership development, research teams, and research project opportunities,” he explained.

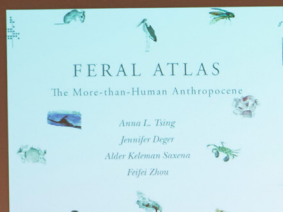
Today, he serves as School Outreach and Engagement Advisor with the Oregon Health Authority. “One of the biggest lessons I have taken from my fellowship is being better at advocating for myself in the workplace. My fellowship advisor and work manager was really helpful in working through that with me. It has helped me to be honest about what drives me in life, and to be bold in pursuing my dreams.”

In addition to their work with participating nonprofits, Leading Edge Fellows also participate in professional development workshops. Each summer, ACLS convenes fellows after the first year of their engagement with host organizations to reflect on their experiences, share developing professional goals, and plan for their second year while building relationships with other fellows and a growing community of scholars working outside the academy.

“Career navigation is most successful when supported by a community with common goals, willing to contribute their diverse experiences,” said **Desiree Barron-Callaci**, ACLS Senior Program Officer in US Programs, who has led the program since its inception. “Leading Edge Fellows share a passion for mission-driven careers. These in-person meetings enable them to share their experiences and resources, and learn, support, and promote each other on their individual journeys.”

2025 Multimodal Winner

Feral Atlas: The More-Than-Human Anthropocene



Anna L. Tsing

Distinguished Professor of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz

Jennifer Deger

Professor of Digital Humanities, Charles Darwin University

Alder Keleman Saxena

Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Northern Arizona University

Feifei Zhou

Independent Scholar

Jasmine Mulliken

Journals and Digital Program Manager, Stanford University Press



Authors panel from the 2025 Open Access Book Prizes and Arcadia Open Access Publishing Awards at the New York Public Library.

ACLS Open Access Book and Arcadia Open Access Publishing

These awards celebrate the authors and publishers of exceptional, innovative, and open access humanities scholarship. The program aspires to generate enthusiasm and prestige for this new mode of publication among humanistic scholars while raising public awareness of the resources freely available to anyone with an internet connection.

This program is made possible by a generous grant from Arcadia.

Environmental Humanities

Camelia Dewan and University of Washington Press

Misreading the Bengal Delta: Climate Change, Development, and Livelihoods in Coastal Bangladesh (2021)

History

Eryn Lê Espiritu Gandhi and University of California Press

Archipelago of Resettlement: Vietnamese Refugee Settlers and Decolonization across Guam and Israel-Palestine (2022)

Literary Studies

Hannah Frank, edited by Daniel Morgan, and University of California Press

Frame by Frame: A Materialist Aesthetics of Animated Cartoons (2019)

Multimodal

Anna L. Tsing, Jennifer Deger, Alder Keleman Saxena, and Feifei Zhou and Stanford University Press

Feral Atlas: The More-Than-Human Anthropocene (2020)

Luce/ACLS Program in China Studies

Offering a variety of fellowships, grants, and professional development opportunities, the program aims to broaden the field of China Studies by amplifying diverse scholars and perspectives on Chinese and Sinophone cultures, societies, and histories, and developing resources to advance public understanding.

The competitions in this program are made possible by the generosity of the Henry Luce Foundation.

Luce/ACLS Early Career Fellows in China Studies—Flexible

These fellowships support early career scholars pursuing research, writing, and publicly engaged scholarship for a three-month tenure.

Yu-chuan Chen

Assistant Professor, Art, Art History, and Design, Oakland University

Boating through the Sacred Landscape: Artistic Visions of the Wuyi Mountains

Keren He

Assistant Professor, Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Anti-Aging in the Sinosphere

Yuqing Liu

Lecturer, Asian Studies, University of Edinburgh

Saltwater Poetics: Pidgin English in Chinese Literature

Evan Nicoll-Johnson

Adjunct Assistant Professor, East Asian Studies, University of Alberta

"Strange Tales" and Landscape Representation in Early Medieval Chinese Literature

Sandy Zhang

Assistant Professor, Languages and Philosophy, Southern Utah University

Literary Venues and Societies in China's Reform Era, 1978–1989: Interview with Three Literary Magazine Editors

Mengyang Zhao

Assistant Professor, Sociology, University of California, Santa Cruz

Strategic Play: The Labor Politics of Online Gaming in China

Luce/ACLS Early Career Fellows in China Studies—Long-Term

These fellowships support early career scholars pursuing research, writing, and publicly engaged scholarship for a four- to nine-month tenure.

Thomas Chan

Assistant Professor, History, Indiana University Bloomington

From Users to Criminals: Creating, Pathologizing, and Killing

"Drug Criminals" in Twentieth Century China



Attendees at the ACLS China Studies Mentor Reception at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference in March 2025.

Shan Lin

Assistant Professor, History, Colby College
Playing with Rules: Human Mechanisms, Political Negotiation, and Local Sustenance, 1127-1279

Xisai Song

Assistant Professor, Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin
One Foot in the Grave: Politics and Ethics of Chronicity in China

Mi Tian

Lecturer, Art and Archaeology, Princeton University
Rivalry, Resistance, and Resilience: The Artistic Production and Literati Collectivism of the Mufu System in Nineteenth Century China

Nathan Vedal

Assistant Professor, East Asian Studies, University of Toronto
Translation, Emulation, and the Creation of Manchu Literary Culture

Jiajing Wang

Assistant Professor, Anthropology, Dartmouth College
Pigs of Power: Domestication, Ritual, and Politics in Ancient China

Peiyu Yang

Assistant Professor, Modern and Classical Languages, George Mason University
State and Popular Voices in China-Arab Solidarity Building, from 1949 to 1969: A Digital Humanities Project

Shoufu Yin

Assistant Professor, History, University of British Columbia
The Great Intellectual Enterprise: The Manchu-Language Historiography in the Seventeenth Century Globe

Luce/ACLS Travel Grants in China Studies

These grants enable early career scholars to conduct research in collections, archives, and databases anywhere in the world.

Yiping Cai

Doctoral Candidate, Global and International Studies, University of California, Irvine
Gender, NGO, and Global China

Yajie Chen

Doctoral Student, Anthropology, Indiana University Bloomington
Running for Life: Aspirations, Economies, and Place-Making of New Chinese Migrants in Ecuador

Qimeng Duan

Doctoral Student, Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis
Cultivating the Past: Lost Crops in Neolithic and Bronze-Age China

Aleksei Epishev

Doctoral Student, History, University of Illinois at Chicago
We Need Them Desperately: Chinese Labor, Global Capitalism, and Imperial Modernity in the Russian Empire and Early USSR, 1880s-Late 1920s

Zhuoma Gadou

Doctoral Student, Geography, University of Colorado Boulder
The End of Yaks? Tibetan Pastoralism at a Crossroads in a Globalized Industrial Food Regime

Gabriel Groz

Doctoral Candidate, History, University of Chicago
Rethinking Early Qing Fiscal Politics, 1644-1690

Hairong Huang

Doctoral Candidate, East Asian Studies, University of Toronto
Swine Revolution: A Sentient History of Untamed Pigs in Maoist China

Chenxi Luo

Visiting Assistant Professor, History, Reed College
Intimate Others: A Social History of Booi Slavery in Early Qing China

Jiahe Mei

Doctoral Candidate, East Asian Languages and Cultures, University of California, Berkeley
(Un)Sensing Modernity: Perceptual Disabilities and the Making of Modern Chinese Literature

Isabel Qi

Doctoral Student, City and Regional Planning, University of California, Berkeley
Catastrophe Risk and Spatial Development: Resilience to Climate Disasters in Guangdong, China

Miaomiao Qi

Doctoral Candidate, Global Development, Cornell University
Land Rush from Below: Migrant Farmers, Translocality, and Rural-to-Rural Flows in China

Rachel Silberstein

Independent Scholar
Feather Satins and Orangutan Felts: A Material History of English Woolens in Qing China



Photograph referenced in 2025 Luce/ACLS Dissertation Fellow in American Art Jeannette Martinez's project on US Central American artists.

Ka Shing So

Doctoral Student, History, Binghamton University, State University of New York
Shadow Economy: Smuggling, the Gold Trade, and Everyday Life in Cold War Hong Kong

Anke Wang

Doctoral Candidate, History, Cornell University
State, Nature, and the Making of a Maritime Borderland in the Gulf of Tonkin, 1880-1950

Boyao Zhang

Doctoral Candidate, East Asian Studies, University of Toronto
Accounting for Revolution: Numeracy, Bureaucracy, and the Reckoning of Chinese Communism, 1940-1996

Muyun Zhou

Doctoral Candidate, Comparative Literature and Asian Studies, Pennsylvania State University
Ambiguous Alignments: Cold War Literature and Visual Culture in Sinophone Global Asia, 1950s-1980s

Luce/ACLS Collaborative Grant in China Studies

This grant supports the development of new models and collective resources that address pressing needs within the field of China studies.

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Un-Settling Xinjiang: Archiving, Digitizing and Curating Knowledge of Settler Colonial Violence in China and Beyond

Principal Investigator: Timothy Grose, Associate Professor of China Studies, Humanities, Social Sciences, and the Arts, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Project Team:

David Tobin, University of Sheffield
Emily Upson, Newcastle University

Luce/ACLS Dissertation Fellowships in American Art

These fellowships support doctoral research on the history of the visual arts of the United States, including all facets of Native American art.

This program is made possible by the generosity of the Henry Luce Foundation.

Max Bowens

Doctoral Candidate, Art, Film, and Visual Studies, Harvard University
Storing the Self: Art, Data, and Repatriation

O. M. Comstock

Doctoral Candidate, Art History, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Allen Fannin: Hand Spinning and Weaving, Nitty-Gritty Needs, and "The Black Craftsman Situation"

Isabel Elson-Enriquez

Doctoral Candidate, Art History, City University of New York,
The Graduate Center
Becoming Plastic: Synthetic Materiality in US Art 1965–1975
[Ellen Holtzman Fellow](#)

Jeannette E. Martinez

Doctoral Candidate, Art, University of New Mexico
*Visualities of Belonging: Creating Terruño in Contemporary
US Central American Art (1990s–Now)*

Taylor Rose Payer

Doctoral Candidate, Art History, University of Minnesota,
Twin Cities
*Crafting Kinship: Abstraction and Native American Women
Artists in the Twentieth Century*

Hampton Smith

Doctoral Candidate, History, Theory, and Criticism of Art
and Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
*Making against Slavery: Artisanry, Capitalism, and the
Material History of Abolition in the United States, 1791–1902*

Natalie Wright

Doctoral Candidate, Design Studies, University of
Wisconsin–Madison
*Functional Fashions: Dress and Disability in the United
States, 1950–1975*

Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Innovation Fellowships

These fellowships support innovative approaches to
dissertation research in the humanities and social sciences.
The program aims to expand the range of research
methodologies, formats, and areas of inquiry traditionally
considered suitable for the dissertation.

*The program is made possible by a grant from the Mellon
Foundation.*

Alyssa C. Arnell

Doctoral Student, History, University of New Hampshire
*Condemnation for Preservation: The Taking of Fazendeville,
Louisiana*

Luke Boyle

Doctoral Candidate, School for the Future of Innovation in
Society, Arizona State University
*For the Cities Yet to Come: Reimagining African Urban
Futures from the Margins*

Sofia Butnaru

Doctoral Student, Sociology, University of Chicago
*Seeds of Debt: The Racial and Environmental Underpinnings
of Consumer Credit*

Nia Cambridge

Doctoral Student, Geography, Rutgers University–New
Brunswick
*Banking on Blue: Debt Restructuring, Carbon Crediting and
the Financialization of Marine Ecosystem Services in the
Bahamas*

Licelot Caraballo

Doctoral Student, Anthropology, Brown University
*Transborder Mobilities: Border Market Work and Solidarity at
the Haitian–Dominican Border*

María Carrillo Marquina

Doctoral Student, Latin American Studies and Art History,
Tulane University
*Sculpting Identity: The Material Worlds of Colonial Afro-Latin
American Confraternities*

Jerry Chen

Doctoral Student, History, Harvard University
of the Brazilian Northeast during the Long Twentieth Century

Marie Comuzzo

Doctoral Candidate, Music, Brandeis University
*A Sonically Reimagined Silence: How the Discovery of Whale
Songs Inspired an Environmental Commitment to the Ocean*

Patrick Das

Doctoral Student, Linguistics, University of Colorado
Boulder
*A Spatial Approach to Language Contact in The Eastern
Himalayan Region*

Daniel Fernandez

Doctoral Candidate, History, University of Chicago
Making Prison Law in the United States, 1966–1981

Ria J. Gualano

Doctoral Student, Communication, Cornell University
*Crippling Time Across “Realities”: Technology-Integrated
Storytelling through a Co-Curated Disability and
Neurodiversity Arts Exhibition*

Martha D. Guerrero Badillo

Doctoral Candidate, History, Yale University
*Putting Migrants to Work: How the Contested World of US
Immigration Reform Created New Workers, Citizens, and
Transnational Economies (1976–2006)*

Michelle Ha

Doctoral Candidate, Modern Thought & Literature, Stanford University

Fiber Optics: Henequén Classification and Its Consequences

Steven M. Hernandez

Doctoral Student, Philosophy, City University of New York, The Graduate Center

Doubly Different: Autism and Neurotypicality as Cognitive Styles

Aziza Izamova

Doctoral Candidate, History of Art and Architecture, Harvard University

Visual Art and Craft Production in Central Asian Modernism, 1917-1945

Tamara Z. Jamil

Doctoral Candidate, Geography, University of California, Berkeley

Jail Expansion, Aesthetics of "Blight," and Rural Landscapes: Understanding the Ongoing Silent Jail Boom in Rural California

Max Jefferson

Doctoral Candidate, Music, University of California, Berkeley
Sound as Black Situation: Black Nationalist Music, Black Music Criticism, Black Worlding, 1965-1972

Diego Jesus

Doctoral Student, Spanish and Portuguese, University of Texas at Austin

Shifting Banks: Mapping Environmental Racism and Resilience in Brazilian Aquatic Spaces

Richard Lim

Doctoral Student, American Studies, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Complicated Coalitions: The Relationship Between Hate Violence, Policing, and Solidarity

Chloé Luu

Doctoral Student, Comparative Literature, University of Southern California

Des immigrés qui font des vagues: Bad Asians, Differential Racialization and Traces of Empire

Joaquin Marreros-Nunez

Doctoral Student, History, Brown University

Peruvian Maricones: Queer Urban Life, Race, and Violence in Twentieth-Century Peru

Kamini Masood

Doctoral Student, History, Columbia University

Troubled Waters: Natural Disaster, Space, and the State in Precolonial Panjab (1707-1849)

Bethel S. Moges

Doctoral Student, Anthropology, University of California, Los Angeles

Black Anti-Settler Placemaking: Cooperation Jackson's Eco-Villages from Mississippi to Vermont

Sara Moya

Doctoral Student, Geography, University of California, Los Angeles

Of Love and Packages: The Care Economy of Separated Families



2025 Mellon/ACLS Dissertation
Innovation Fellow
Olarotimi Ogungbem

Kasyoka Mwanzia

Doctoral Student, Cultural Anthropology, Duke University
Gaming Futures: Play, Work, and Youth Aspiration in Urban Kenya

Hossein Nakhaei

Doctoral Student, History of Art and Architecture, University of Pittsburgh
Luminous Past, Fragmented Present: Persian Luster Tiles from Sacred Architecture to Museum Galleries

Olarotimi Daniel Ogungbemi

Doctoral Student, English, University of Texas at San Antonio
The Entangled Waters: Climate, Sovereignty, and Environmental Politics in Lagos, Nigeria

Vincent Pacheco

Doctoral Student, South and Southeast Asian, University of California, Berkeley
The postcolonial documentary and neo-noir: Imagining populism, state-sponsored violence, and aesthetic communities in Indonesia and the Philippines

Julia Shizuyo Popham

Doctoral Student, Ethnic Studies, University of Colorado Boulder
Uneasy Intimacies: Seeing Irei and Aesthetic Ambiguity Through Fukunosuke Kusumi's Art

Balakrishnan Raghavan

Doctoral Candidate, Music, University of California, Santa Cruz
Everyday Resistance from the Margins: Feminist, Queer and Digital Incursions in Indian Song Traditions

Muhammad Raqib

Doctoral Student, Anthropology, University of California, Irvine
Law-Making as Statemaking: Lawfare in Post-Revolution Bangladesh

John Sabogal Venegas

Doctoral Student, Cultural Anthropology, Duke University
Searching for the Missing: Indigenous People, Ex-Combatants, and Transitional Justice in Colombia

Kiara Sample

Doctoral Student, African American and African Diaspora Studies, University of California, Berkeley
Return to the Earth: Herbalism, Rootwork, and Black Femme Ecologies of Survival

Daniela Sánchez

Doctoral Student, Sociology, University of Texas at Austin
'Acompañamiento': Transnational Feminist Interventions on Abortion Access in Mexico

Catalina Segú

Doctoral Student, Art and Art History, University of Rochester
White Unsettlements: Atmospheric Aesthetics and Erosions of the White Body in the Latin American Southern Cone

Ayan Sharma

Doctoral Student, History, University of Virginia
Colonial Agriculture and the Making of South Asia

Letícia Fernanda Carvalho Silva

Doctoral Student, African American Studies, University of Massachusetts Amherst
A Negra: Unearthing Enslaved Women's Histories from Tarsila do Amaral's pictorial narrative

Ingrid E. Sub Cuc

Doctoral Student, Native American Studies, University of California, Davis
Our Language Is Our Health: Conceptualizing Health and Wellbeing in Kaqchikel Maya to Improve Indigenous Health Outcomes

Babette Thomas

Doctoral Candidate, African-American Studies and American Studies, Yale University
"Can You Hear Me Now?": Twentieth-Century Black Feminist Soundwork in Transmission and Reception

Kristian E. Vasquez

Doctoral Candidate, Chicana and Chicano Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara
The Coloniality of the Wor(l)d: Aesthetics, Heresy, and the Decolonial Spirit of La Xicanada

Alexis Emily Wood

Doctoral Student, Geography, University of California, Berkeley
State of Mine(Mind): Affective Geographies of California's Rural North

Marcus Yee

Doctoral Student, History, Yale University
Urban Tropics: Dwelling under South and Southeast Asian Urban Microclimates



2025 Summer Institute for the Study of East Central and Southeastern Europe participants at the American University in Bulgaria.

Gabriela Yepes-Rossel

Doctoral Student, English-Interdisciplinary Theater Studies, University of Wisconsin–Madison
Disruptive Repertoires, Intuitive World-Making: Performance, Feminism, and Indigeneity in the Southern Peruvian Andes

Summer Institute for the Study of East Central and Southeastern Europe

Presented in partnership with the Centre for Advanced Study Sofia, this two-week residency for scholars of East Central and Southeastern Europe allows participants to research and write in a collaborative and interdisciplinary setting at the American University in Bulgaria.

This program is made possible by a generous donation from Carl and Betty Pforzheimer.

Anna Adashinskaya

Junior Fellow, Romanian Centre for Russian Studies, University of Bucharest
Voices in Stone: Exploring Commemorative Functions and Authorship of Graffiti in Early Modern Moldavian Churches

Catherine Ashcraft

Associate Professor, Natural Resources and the Environment, University of New Hampshire
An Environmental History of the Crimean War

Olga Blackledge

Visiting Assistant Professor, Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh
Ukraine New Wave: Animation of War and Peace

Anna Gaidash

Professor, Romance and Germanic Philology, Borys Grinchenko Kyiv Metropolitan University
Representations of the Holodomor in Drama: The Diasporic and Mainland Reading of the Ineffable

Brian Goodman

Assistant Professor, English, Arizona State University
The Antipolitical Imagination: Literature, Dissent, and Human Rights after 1968

Alina Kondratiuk

Senior Fellow, Institute of Southeastern European Studies, The Romanian Academy
Byzantine Receptions in Ukrainian Art of the First Half of the Seventeenth Century

Kriton Kuci

Lecturer, Political Science and International Relations, Mediterranean University of Albania
Nationalism and the Limits of Academic Freedom in Albanian Higher Education

Armin Langer

Visiting Assistant Professor, Center for European Studies, University of Florida
Religious Organizations and Authoritarian Politics: A Case Study of Jewish Federations in Hungary

Alexis Peri

Associate Professor, History, Boston University
An Environmental History of the Crimean War

Selma Rajjevic

Associate Professor, English, University of Dzemal Bijedic in Mostar

Narrating Worlds through Transnationalism: The Transnational Poetics of Aleksandar Hemon and Semezdin Mehmedinovic

Olena Sushyi

Head of Department, Mass and Community Psychology, Institute of Social and Political Psychology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

Artificial Intelligence in Scenario Forecasting for Post-War Community Reconstruction in Ukraine—Opportunities, Limitations, and Risks

Ruth Trumble

Assistant Professor, Global Studies and Geography, Hofstra University

Vulnerable Expertise: The Labor of Demining Explosives in the Former Yugoslavia

Justin Willson

Curator, Curatorial Department, The Icon Museum and Study Center

Epistemology of the Printed Icon

Matthew Worsnick

Assistant Professor, History of Art and Architecture, Vanderbilt University

Polemical Anachronism: Temporal Slippage and the Political Manipulation of Material Culture and Public Art

Iryna Yakovenko

Associate Professor, Linguistics and Translation, Borys Grinchenko Kyiv Metropolitan University

Narrative and Visual Discourses in Commemorating the Chernobyl Nuclear Disaster

The Arnold L. and Lois S. Graves Awards in the Humanities

The Graves Awards are offered biannually and recognize and encourage excellence among early-career faculty in teaching the humanities at liberal arts colleges in California, Oregon, and Washington.

These awards are made possible by a generous endowment established in 1957 by the late Arnold L. Graves, an attorney in Spokane, Washington, and his wife, Lois.

Brittany Asaro, Italian Studies, University of San Diego
Rima Basu, Philosophy, Claremont McKenna College

Maegan Parker Brooks, Communication and Rhetoric, Willamette University

Carlyn E. Ferrari, English, Seattle University

Nancy O. Gallman, History, Lewis & Clark College

Laura D. Gutiérrez, History, University of the Pacific

Jessica Ann Hughes, English Literature, George Fox University

Mateo C. Jarquín, History, Chapman University

Thomas Peter Landvatter, Classical Studies, Reed College

Althea Rani Sircar, Political Science, University of Redlands

Alastair Su, History, Westmont College

Danielle Wiggins, History, California Institute of Technology

Xiaobo Yuan, Cultural Anthropology, Whitman College

The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Program in Buddhist Studies

This expansive suite of fellowship and grant programs promotes the academic study of Buddhism, strengthens international networks of Buddhist Studies scholars, and increases the visibility of new knowledge and research on Buddhist traditions through fellowships, grants, convenings, workshops, and special initiatives.

Each of the competitions in this program is made possible by a generous grant from The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Global.

The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Buddhism Public Scholars

This program places early-career PhDs in professional positions with museums, libraries, and publishers promoting Buddhist art, thought, and practice, building vital capacity of host institutions to present and interpret knowledge of Buddhist traditions.

Tierney Brown

Appointed as a Buddhism Public Scholar to the American Museum of Natural History

Matthew Keller

Appointed as a Buddhism Public Scholar to the Detroit Institute of the Arts

Meng Tong

Appointed as a Buddhism Public Scholar to the Richard C. Rudolph East Asian Library, University of California, Los Angeles

The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Dissertation Fellows in Buddhist Studies

These fellowships support fieldwork, archival research, analysis of findings, and writing for PhD candidates engaged in full-time preparation of dissertations.

Briana Brightly

Doctoral Candidate, Religion, Harvard University
Anatomy of the Buddha: Making Images during the Golden Age of Tibetan Medicine, 1600–1800

Yuanyuan Duan

Doctoral Candidate, Asian Studies, Cornell University
Sacralizing Body, Sacralizing Kingship: Esoteric Rituals and Buddhist Sovereignty in Dali, 863–1424 CE

Harsha Gautam

Doctoral Candidate, Religious Studies, University of Texas at Austin
Buddhist Others and Other Buddhists: Religious Identity-Formation and Agency in Early India

Benjamin Goldstein

Doctoral Candidate, Religious Studies, McMaster University
Weaving Lifetimes Together

Alex Grabiner

Doctoral Candidate, Religious Studies, McGill University
Walking the Path as Living Bodhisattvas: Lineage, Doctrine, Text, and Practice in the Tzu Chi School of Buddhism

Audrey Guilbault

Doctoral Student, Philosophy, University of Chicago
Prajñākaragupta on Knowledge, Perception, and Time

Howard Mu

Doctoral Student, Buddhist Studies, University of California, Berkeley
On the Margins of Mahayana: The Cheng shi lun Tradition in Medieval Chinese Buddhism

Long Yin Sin

Doctoral Candidate, Philosophy, Kyushu University
A Study of Santaraksita's Apoha Theory: Sabdarthapariksa on Apoha

Alexandra Sokolow

Doctoral Candidate, Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania
Buddhism Behind Bars: Transforming Race, Religion, and Power

Beier Wang

Doctoral Candidate, South and Central Asian Studies, Universität Leipzig
Conceptualizing the World: A Study of Prapañca in the Yogācārabhūmi Corpus and Its Related Texts



Anthropology students take a closer look at historical collections of Cham dancer ornaments at the American Museum of Natural History.

The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Early Career Research Fellows in Buddhist Studies

These fellowships provide a release from teaching and other duties to enable pre-tenure scholars in Buddhist Studies to focus full time on their proposed projects.

Sajal Barua

Visiting Lecturer, The Buddha-Dharma Centre of Hong Kong
Rahula's Forgotten Legacy: Texts and Practices of the Rauli Communities in Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh

Ling-wei Kung

Research Fellow, History and Philology, Academia Sinica
Religion, Politics, and Multilingualism: Revisiting Qing-Tibetan Relations Through Desi Sangye Gyatso's Complete Account of the Fifth to Sixth Reincarnations

Nan Ouyang

Adjunct Faculty, Religious Studies, DePaul University
Buddhism "Revolutionized": Monastic Life on Mount Jiu Hua, 1949-1976

Chanon Praepipatmongkol

Assistant Professor, Art History and Communication Studies, McGill University
Buddhist Modernism: A Thai Art History

Kelzang Tashi

Independent Scholar, Harvard Asia Center, Harvard University
Sacred Confluence: Syncretic Art, Symbols, and Ritual Music in Bhutanese Buddhist Religiosity

The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation New Professorship in Buddhist Studies

This multiyear grant supports a college or university wishing to establish or expand teaching in Buddhist Studies with seed funding for a new, permanent faculty position.

Northern Illinois University

The grant will establish a new professorship in Buddhist Studies within the Department of Philosophy and the Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS) in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. As part of a robust transdisciplinary research and programming effort, the new professor will enliven and diversify the Philosophy department, bringing Buddhist perspectives into core philosophic disciplinary challenges. With wide expertise in Buddhist Studies, the professor will expand and deepen

the Center's long-standing interdisciplinary commitment to collaborations across the region that enrich the university and local communities.

The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Translation Grantees in Buddhist Studies

These grants support translations of important Buddhist texts for the benefit of contemporary audiences, including Buddhist communities of practice, who currently do not have access to them in their own languages.

Yi Ding

Assistant Professor, Religious Studies, DePaul University
An Annotated Translation of Twenty-Five "Northern Chan" Texts: Pseudo-Dialogues, Epitaphs, and Miscellaneous Writings

Jed Forman

Assistant Professor, Religion and Philosophy, Simpson College (IA)
The Seed of Enlightenment: Buddha Nature in the Geluk Tradition of Tibetan Buddhism

Venerable Jampa Gyaltzen

Geshe, Sera Jey Monastic University
The Seed of Enlightenment: Buddha Nature in the Geluk Tradition of Tibetan Buddhism

Monika Kiss

Assistant Professor, Japanese Studies, Institute of East Asian Studies
Translation of Esoteric Buddhist Sutras and Ritual Commentaries

Ulrich Kragh

Visiting Scholar, Apabhramsha Sahitya Academy
English Translation of Ten Female-Authored Buddhist Works

Dorjee Kyab

Research Fellow, Tibetan Literature, Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies
Bridging Traditions - Translating the Milindapañha into Tibetan

Benjamin Nourse

Assistant Professor, Religious Studies, University of Denver
A Translation of the Fifth Dalai Lama's Autobiography, Volume Two

Selection Committees for 2025 Fellowship and Grant Competitions

ACLS is committed to supporting the creation and circulation of knowledge that has the potential to significantly advance fields in the humanities and social sciences. We are equally dedicated to ensuring that the scholars, research, and methodologies we support truly reflect the broad spectrum of perspectives represented in the global community of humanistic studies. Peer review is a vital part of ensuring these high standards. Each year, we recruit more than 600 reviewers with expertise in a wide variety of disciplines, representing institutions, academic societies, and independent research initiatives from around the world, to evaluate competition applications and select awardees.

ACLS Fellowships

Emily Apter, New York University
Farid Azfar, Swarthmore College
Mark Boonshoft, Virginia Military Institute
Claudia Brittenham, University of Chicago
Julio Capo, Florida International University
Lori Diel, Texas Christian University
Tarek El-Ariss, Dartmouth College
Keona Ervin, Bowdoin College
Andrew Flachs, Purdue University
Natalie Fousekis, California State University, Fullerton
Pablo Gómez, University of Wisconsin–Madison
Christopher Grobe, Johns Hopkins University
David Hernandez, University of Notre Dame
Jacqueline Hidalgo, University of San Diego
Carmen Jarrin, College of the Holy Cross
Mark Jerng, University of California, Davis
Jeffrey McCune, University of Rochester
Hyun Ok Park, York University
Sara Protasi, University of Puget Sound
Xuefei Ren, Michigan State University

ACLS HBCU Faculty Fellowships

Shanna Benjamin, Wake Forest University
Charles Johnson, North Carolina Central University
Elizabeth Manley, Xavier University of Louisiana
Jontyle Robinson, Tuskegee University

ACLS HBCU Faculty Grants

TaKeia Anthony, Kentucky State University
Aaron Carter-Enyi, Morehouse College
Marci Littlefield, City University of New York, Borough of
Manhattan Community College
Loretta Parham, Atlanta University Center

ACLS Digital Justice Grants

Zakiya Collier, SHIFT Collective
Jennifer Guilliano, Indiana University Indianapolis
Yasmeen Shorish, James Madison University
Rianna Walcott, University of Maryland–College Park
Cynthia Wang, California State University
Remi Yergeau, Carleton University

ACLS Open Access Book Prizes and Arcadia Open Access Publishing Awards

Environmental Humanities Category

Cecilia Asberg, Linköping University
Alda Balthrop-Lewis, Florida State University
Lisa Brady, Boise State University
Ron Broglio, Arizona State University
Johanna Meetz, Ohio State University
John Levi Barnard, University of Illinois (second round)
Emily Ford, SPARC (second round)
Alexandra Hui, Mississippi State University (second round)

History Category

Keisha Blain, Brown University
Eric Dursteler, Brigham Young University
Kelly Hammond, University of Arkansas
Eric Lindquist, University of Maryland
Amy Ransford, Organization of American Historians
Ryan Nadeau, Franklin & Marshall College (second round)
Abigail Perkiss, Kean University (second round)
Matthew Romaniello, Weber State University (second round)

Literary Studies Category

Chris Barnes, Adelphi University
Elizabeth Ellcessor, University of Virginia
Julia Reinhard Lupton, University of California, Irvine
Selina Lai-Henderson, Duke Kunshan University
Vanessa Miseres, Notre Dame
Amy Earhart, Texas A&M (second round)
Kevin Ferguson, City University of New York, The Graduate
Center (second round)
Emma Molls, University of Minnesota (second round)

Multimodal Category

Manan Ahmed, Columbia University
Aleia Monae Brown, Eastern Carolina University
Lauren Klein, Emory University
Stephanie Rosen, University of Michigan
Kayla Shipp, Yale University
Barbara McCaskill, University of Georgia (second round)
Gwendolynne Reid, Emory University (second round)
Dan Tracy, University of Illinois (second round)

Luce/ACLS Program in China Studies Early Career Fellowships—Flexible and Long-Term

Keisha Brown, Tennessee State University
Rongbin Han, University of Georgia
Yiman Wang, University of California, Santa Cruz
Beverly J. Bossler, Brown University
Jack W. Chen, University of Virginia
Michael Gibbs Hill, William & Mary

Luce/ACLS Collaborative Grant in China Studies

Emily Baum, University of California, Irvine
Fabio Lanza, University of Arizona
Ruth Mostern, University of Pittsburgh
Brian Vivier, University of Pennsylvania
Diana Fu, University of Toronto

Luce/ACLS Travel Grants in China Studies

Emily Baum, University of California, Irvine
Kirk Denton, Ohio State University
Dimitar Gueorguiev, Syracuse University
Ari Daniel Levine, University of Georgia
Yingyi Ma, Syracuse University
Shuang Shen, Penn State University
Shellen Xiao Wu, Lehigh University
Paola Zamperini, Northwestern University

Luce/ACLS Dissertation Fellowships in American Art

Monica Bravo, Princeton University
Vanja Malloy, Smart Museum of Art
Anya Montiel, National Museum of the American Indian
Tatiana Reinoza, University of Notre Dame
Cherise Smith, University of Texas at Austin

Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Innovation Fellowships

Patricia Alvarez Astacio, Brandeis University

Allison Bigelow, University of Notre Dame
Deborah Boehm, University of Nevada, Reno
Bryan Carter, University of Arizona
Kevin Escudero, Brown University
Daniel Goldmark, Case Western Reserve University
Daniel Kerr, American University
Christine Labuski, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Anne O'Byrne, State University of New York, Stony Brook
Katina Rogers, Inkcap Consulting
Jenni Sorkin, University of California, Santa Barbara
Van Tran, City University of New York, The Graduate Center

Summer Institute for the Study of East Central and Southeastern Europe

Maria Sonevytsky, Bard College
Galina Tihanov, Queen Mary University of London
Balázs Trencsényi, Central European University

The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Program in Buddhist Studies Dissertation Fellowships

Stephanie Lynn Balkwill, University of California, Los Angeles
Youn-mi Kim, Ehwa Womans University
Dietrich Christian Lammerts, Rutgers University–New Brunswick
Reiko Ohnuma, Dartmouth College
Annabella Pitkin, Lehigh University
Jason Protass, Brown University
James Robson, Harvard University
Davey K Tomlinson, Villanova University
Nicole Willock, Old Dominion University
Wei Wu, Emory University

The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Program in Buddhist Studies Early Career Research Fellowships, New Professorships, Translation Grants

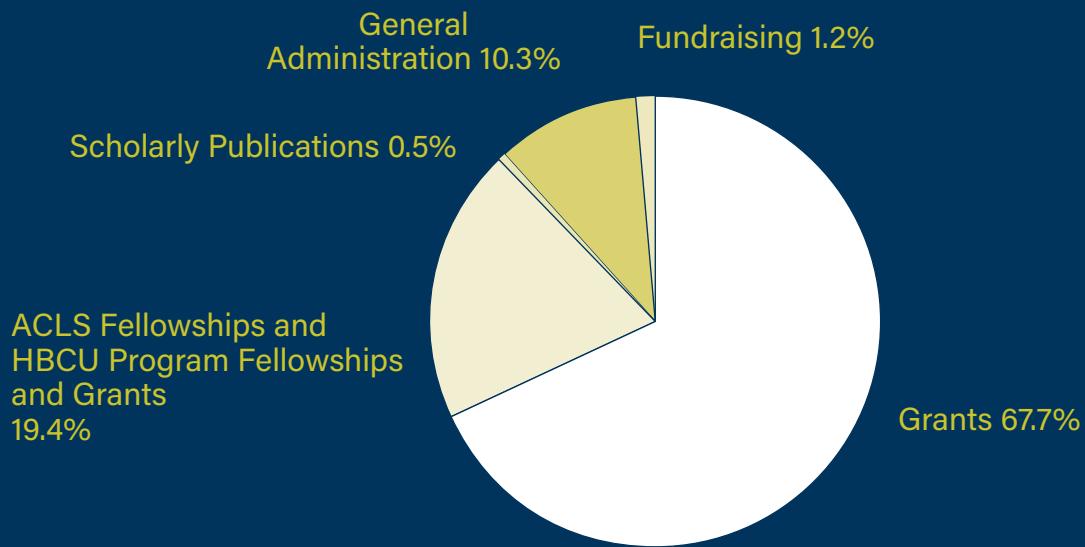
James A. Benn, McMaster University
Ester Bianchi, Università degli Studi di Perugia, Italy
Robert DeCaroli, George Mason University
Sherry D. Fowler, University of Kansas
Alastair Gornall, Singapore University of Technology and Design
James C. Dobbins, Oberlin College
Donald S. Lopez, University of Michigan
Maya Kerstin Hyun Stiller, University of Kansas



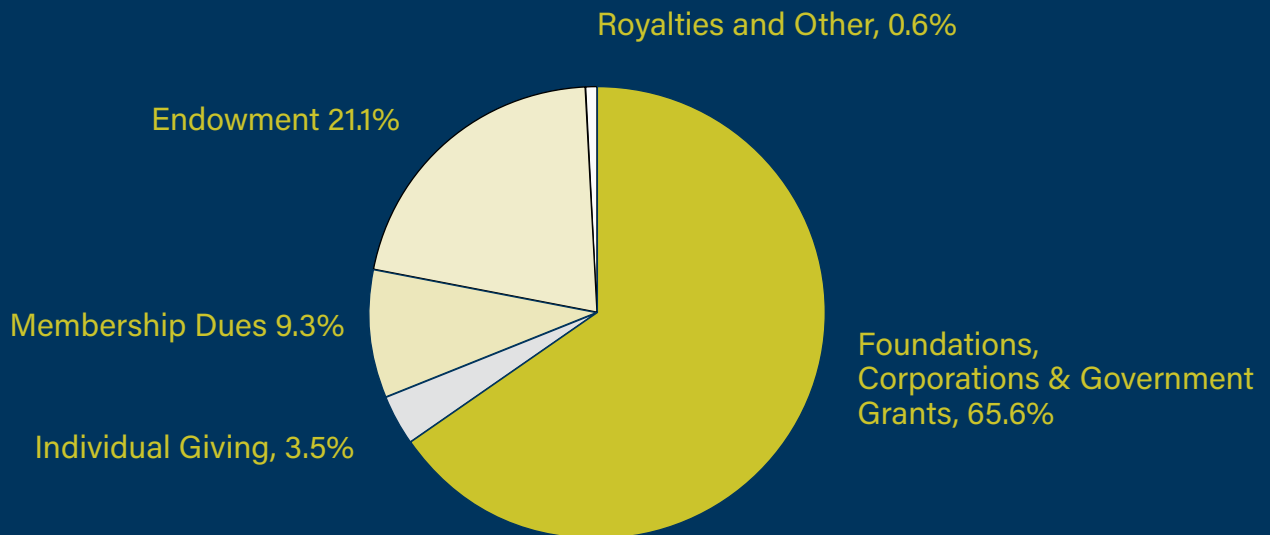
2025 Financial Statements

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ACLS Program Expenses FY2021 - FY2025



ACLS Program Revenues FY2021 - FY2025



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FISCAL YEAR 2025

REVENUES:

Foundations, Corporations & Government Grants	24,738,088
Individual Giving	614,089
Membership Dues	3,256,517
Endowment	7,542,001
Royalties and Other	89,320
Total Revenues	36,240,015

EXPENSES:

Grants	24,823,109
Central Fellowships	5,469,721
General Administration	3,943,604
Fundraising	476,479
Total Expenses	34,712,913

Change in Net Assets before Non-Operating Activities	1,527,102
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NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

Endowment Income in excess of authorized drawdowns	12,947,733
Restricted Grant Investment Income	282,336
Post-Retirement Medical Benefit Changes	32,205

Total Change in Net Assets	14,789,376
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Net Assets, Beginning of Year	189,487,926
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Net Assets, End of Year	204,277,302
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Ten ways to advance the humanities and social sciences

ACLS welcomes a broad community of engaged supporters to join us in advancing our mission and broadening our impact. Whether you are a scholar, institutional leader, or friend of the humanities, there is a meaningful role for you.

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Like, follow, and share our social media and website content to spread the word about our advocacy efforts, events, fellowship and grant competitions, and stories about awardees whose research makes an impact.

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Sign up for the monthly ACLS newsletter to receive announcements about upcoming events and updates from staff, member societies, and advocacy partners.

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If you work in the humanities and social sciences, practice speaking to non-academic audiences about why you enjoy the work you do, not just what you do. Take advantage of casual opportunities: mention what excites you when someone asks what you do for work. Our #TalkAboutHumanities media campaign is a great way to practice through social media.

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Gather with fellow supporters at online and in-person events to celebrate our awardees, share strategies with other higher education leaders, and learn how you and your community can champion the humanities and social sciences.

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Join ACLS community members in connecting the humanities and social sciences to timely issues by writing an op-ed for your local paper, blogging, or posting your perspectives and experiences to social media to reach audiences beyond academe.

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Pursue opportunities to speak at non-academic events within your community and demonstrate how the humanities and social sciences touch our everyday lives — at a rotary club, house of worship, local library, or programs like Lectures on Tap and Profs and Pints.

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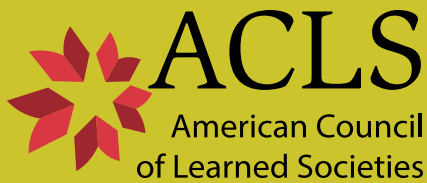
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