



*Press Release*

November 15, 2010

**Williamsburg, VA** - The national Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences (CCAS) has recognized the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) with its 2010 “Arts & Sciences Advocacy Award.” The announcement was made November 12 at the organization’s 45th Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. Accepting on behalf of ACLS was its president, Dr. Pauline Yu.

The CCAS Arts & Sciences Advocacy Award honors an individual or organization demonstrating exemplary advocacy for the arts and sciences, flowing from a deep commitment to the intrinsic worth of liberal arts education.



In presenting the award to ACLS, CCAS President Vickie Rutledge Shields, dean of social & behavioral sciences and social work at Eastern Washington University (on the right in photo), announced that CCAS was honoring ACLS for continuing to fulfill its mission for “the advancement of humanistic studies in all fields of learning in humanities and social sciences and the maintenance and strengthening of relations among the national societies devoted to such studies.” She said further, “for decades, ACLS has given essential support to Ph.D. students and mid-career faculty members by providing fellowships for scholarly research. Hundreds

of faculty members at CCAS institutions have received ACLS funding at some point in their careers.”

In accepting the award, Yu thanked the Council and noted that “the critical and analytical thinking, cultural understanding, communication skills, and habits of mind the liberal arts instill equip students for not just their first job, but for a succession of positions in an information economy that surely will bend and reshape occupations many times over the course of a career.” She told the assembled deans that with four million college students served by the institutions which comprise CCAS, “you have both an extraordinary opportunity and, as you well know, a weighty responsibility to sustain and convey the importance of the liberal arts.”

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CCAS is the largest association of arts and sciences deans, with approximately 1600 members at nearly 500 baccalaureate-granting institutions. CCAS is headquartered at The College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia.