



Press Release

November 15, 2013

Williamsburg, VA - The Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences (CCAS) has recognized the Federation of State Humanities Councils with its 2013 Arts & Sciences Advocacy Award. The announcement was made November 8 at the organization’s 48th Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, Florida.

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.



Founded in 1977, the Federation is the membership association of 55 state and territorial councils. In presenting the award, CCAS President Mary Anne Fitzpatrick (on left in photo), dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of South Carolina, said that “with only a limited budget, the Federation of State Humanities Councils has a big impact. Among other activities, the Federation brings together the state humanities councils to advocate with Congress for NEH funding, including the significant portion that flows through to the state councils, and through the course of that also advocates for the value of the humanities in all of our lives. By bringing the state councils together for advocacy purposes, it has succeeded in fostering the sharing

of best practices that allow the councils to learn from each other in ways that benefit their respective programming, private fundraising, data collection, and other areas of operations.”

Further, Fitzpatrick said that the Federation has “worked tirelessly with the NEH itself and other humanities-related advocacy groups, such as the National Humanities Alliance, to foster the humanities generally and engage the public as to the value of the humanities in our everyday lives.”

Federation President Esther Mackintosh was unable to accept the award as her organization’s annual conference was being held in Birmingham, Alabama. Accepting the award on behalf of the Federation was Willis H. Lott, a former chair of the Mississippi Humanities Council board and of the Federation board.

Learn more about the Federation of State Humanities Councils at <http://www.statehumanities.org>

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CCAS is the largest association of arts and sciences deans, with approximately 1700 members at over 500 baccalaureate-granting institutions in the US, Canada, and other countries. CCAS is headquartered at The College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia.