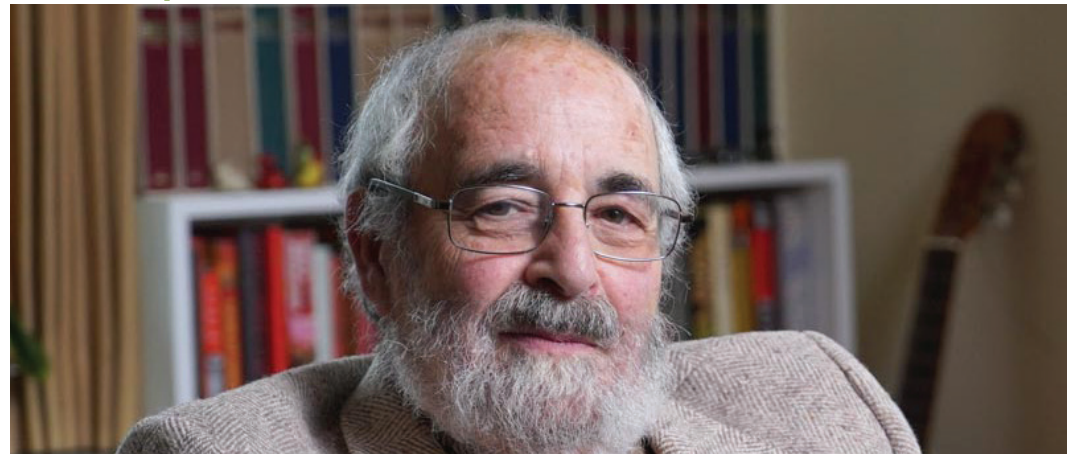




Promoting
Academic
Freedom and
Excellence

Alan Charles Kors: Champion of Individual Liberty



Alan Charles Kors is the recipient of ACTA's 2023 Philip Merrill Award for Outstanding Contributions to Liberal Arts Education. A distinguished scholar of European history, an award-winning teacher, and the cofounder of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, Dr. Kors is the embodiment of the qualities that the late Philip Merrill envisioned when he established the award—namely, an indefatigable dedication to teaching the humanities and transmitting the values of Western Civilization to the next generation.

Dr. Kors joined the University of Pennsylvania in 1968, where he now holds the post of Henry Charles Lea Professor Emeritus of European History. His scholarship and teaching focus on European history of the 17th and 18th centuries, the French Enlightenment, the history of classical liberalism, and the phenomenon of political disillusionment. He served as editor-in-chief of the Oxford *Encyclopedia of the Enlightenment* and has written several books and many articles on

early modern French intellectual history. He served for six years on the National Council for the Humanities and has received fellowships from the American Council for Learned Societies, the Smith-Richardson Foundation, and the Davis Center for Historical Studies at Princeton University. In 2005, President George W. Bush awarded the National Humanities Medal to Dr. Kors for his dedication to the study of the humanities and to the defense of academic freedom. Three years after accepting the National Humanities Medal, Dr. Kors also received the prestigious Bradley Prize.

Throughout his career in academia, Professor Kors observed with alarm a deterioration of respect for open inquiry and individual liberty on campus. In academic censorship and speech codes, he saw a threat not only to the liberal values of the Enlightenment that he had devoted his life to studying, but also to the well-being of our free society. In response, he coauthored *The Shadow University: The Betrayal of Liberty on*

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Save the Date! ATHENA Roundtable 2023

On **October 27**, ACTA will present the **2023 Philip Merrill Award** to **Professor Alan Charles Kors**, who has been at the forefront of the fight for open inquiry and individual liberty on campus since 1998. Join us in honoring Professor Kors at our 18th annual **ATHENA Roundtable Conference and Gala** at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, DC. Details to come soon!

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Lyndel Manson, Chair, Arizona Board of Regents

“On behalf of the Arizona Board of Regents, thank you for serving as a judge . . . during the 2023 Regents’ Cup competition at the University of Arizona. You played an integral role in ensuring the Regents’ Cup embodied the theme of ‘liberty, prosperity and the Constitution’ while celebrating the intrinsic right of all students to freedom of expression.”

**Isabella Carrega, Student Engagement Coordinator
Open Discourse Coalition**

“Thank you so much for having me and giving me the opportunity to speak on the panel. . . . I feel so honored to have been invited to attend. I had a wonderful time and look forward to the Open Discourse’s continued relationship with ACTA/ AFSA and ensuring both organizations flourish. We’re stronger together.”

Carolyn Ward, Alumna, New College of Florida

“Thank you so much for the fantastic conference last week! It was so energizing to be around so many determined and effective people.”

Gregory E. McAvoy, Professor and Head, Department of Political Science, University of North Carolina–Greensboro

“I am writing to express my gratitude and admiration for the work that you do in promoting civil discourse and constructive dialogue among people with differing perspectives. . . . The students who participated in the debate did an exceptional job of preparing and presenting their arguments in a clear and

concise manner, while also demonstrating willingness to listen and engage with opposing viewpoints. Through the discussion, the different assumptions and expectations for the bill by each side emerged. The chair and moderator, Doug Sprei, was instrumental in guiding the discussion and ensuring that everyone had a chance to speak and be heard. Overall, I would highly recommend Braver Angels to anyone looking to foster greater understanding and cooperation between individuals and communities with different political beliefs.”

Note: ACTA and Braver Angels recently held a debate at the University of North Carolina–Greensboro.

**Brittany Wilson, Student
University of North Carolina–Charlotte**

“I would like to sincerely thank you for your participation in the Institutional Neutrality Seminar held at UNC Charlotte this morning. . . . I particularly wanted to thank you for your thoughtful response to my question. (I was the student who asked about the role of professors in maintaining a neutral stance in the classroom.) Prior to the panel, I was not familiar with the American Council of Trustees and Alumni. As a student who values the importance of free speech and constructive dialogue on campus, I find ACTA’s mission deeply resonant.”

Note: Steven McGuire, ACTA’s Paul & Karen Levy Fellow in Campus Freedom, spoke at the Institutional Neutrality Seminar on April 21, a panel and forum conducted by the faculty Free Expression and Constructive Discourse taskforce at UNC–Charlotte.

ACTA Calls on Stanford to Make Urgent Course Correction

On March 7, ACTA launched the next campaign in our Campus Freedom Initiative™ (CFI) at Stanford University, urging the institution to take strong steps to restore a vibrant culture of free expression. Stanford faces a stunning erosion of free speech on campus. The Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression’s 2022 College Free Speech Rankings found that 61% of Stanford students believe it is always or sometimes acceptable to prevent invited guests from speaking on campus. Stanford lived up to this disheartening finding when, on March 9, student protesters shouted down Fifth Circuit Judge Stuart Kyle Duncan.

That students feel empowered to silence anyone with whom they disagree comes as no surprise. In November 2022, dozens of faculty demanded that the university call off a two-day conference dedicated to exploring the future of academic freedom in America. In a February 24, 2023, article in *National Review*, titled “Stanford University’s Pernicious Snitching Apparatus,” ACTA’s Steven McGuire, Paul & Karen Levy Fellow in Campus Freedom, revealed that Stanford is using software to track alleged bias incidents. The Protected Identity Harm Reporting (PIH) system allows anyone to report anonymously any incident that “adversely and unfairly targets an individual or group on the basis of one or more . . . actual or perceived characteristics,” including “race,” “sex,” “disability,” and “gender identity or expression.” The PIH website says the process exists to address “situations involving real or perceived incidents” and even encourages students to report incidents that “may involve constitutionally protected speech.”

ACTA’s CFI campaign calls on Stanford to take the steps outlined in our Gold Standard for Freedom of Expression™, including the adoption of the 2015 Chicago Principles on Freedom of Expression; the 1967 Kalven Report, which calls on institutions to maintain neutrality on controversial political and cultural issues; and the 1972 Shils Report, which exhorts colleges to rely on academic merit alone when making hiring and promotion decisions. We also urge Stanford to disband its Protected Identity Harm Reporting system once and for all. ●

Concerned Alumni Convene in Washington, DC



Virginia Secretary of Education Aimee Rogstad Guidera delivers the keynote address at ACTA's Alumni Summit.

With generous support from the Stanton Foundation, ACTA and the Alumni Free Speech Alliance (AFSA) held the second annual Alumni Summit on Free Expression on March 30 and 31. More than 120 alumni gathered at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC, for a series of panel discussions, keynote speeches, and networking opportunities.

At an evening reception on March 30, the **Honorable Janice Rogers Brown**, retired judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, delivered keynote remarks. In her speech, “The Wisdom of *Sesame Street* or the Madness of Mao?” Judge Brown traced the origins of the ideas corrupting institutions of higher education today and emphasized the urgency of taking action to restore truth-seeking and open inquiry on campus.

On March 31, ACTA President Michael Poliakoff, U.S. Representative **Greg Murphy**, and AFSA President **Chuck Davis** spoke passionately about the vital role of alumni in defending freedom of expression. President Poliakoff stated, “It is a fundamental miscarriage of an institution’s vision to think of its alumni as simply a group of walking checkbooks. They are the guardians of values.” Speaking about students who are fighting back against restrictions on free speech, Congressman Murphy said, “It is absolutely incumbent upon us—us—to stand behind them.”

(continued on 6)

Alan Charles Kors, *continued from 1*

America’s Campuses. This highly influential book exposed the sacrifice of liberty, open inquiry, and fairness at the altar of political correctness and the enforcement of an ideological monoculture through kangaroo courts, coercion, and campus life bureaucracies.

That same year, the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) was born, for which Professor Kors has served as the pro bono codirector, president, and chairman.

It must never be lost from the history of American higher education that it was Alan Charles Kors who rescued a University of Pennsylvania freshman, newly arrived from Israel, from the humiliating reeducation and, indeed, persecution that Penn administrators had in mind for him in Penn’s notorious “water buffalo affair.” When Penn threatened

this innocent student with expulsion if he did not confess to racism of which he had no trace, it was Dr. Kors who stood by him all the way to his complete vindication. They took on the university in public, and Penn backed down in the face

“If you find yourself in higher education . . . at moments of unfairness and abuse of power, then you have a moral responsibility both to higher education and to your students and to a free society to do something about the state of rights and liberties.”

of public moral outrage. Thus, the principled courage and vision of Dr. Kors and a brave undergraduate became the catalyst for the birth and growth of FIRE.

In 2005, on the occasion of receiving the National Humanities Medal, Dr. Kors remarked, “You don’t choose the historical moment into which you were born. If

you find yourself in higher education . . . at moments of unfairness and abuse of power, then you have a moral responsibility to higher education and to your students and to a free society to do something about the state of rights and liberties. But I never let that take me away from my scholarly and teaching obligations. I adore teaching.”

Indeed, Professor Kors’s commitment to his students is exceptional. He has won the Lindback Award and the Ira Abrams Memorial Award for distinguished college teaching. His seminars, rigorous classes, and stalwart defense of Enlightenment values have emboldened many on campus and beyond to understand western culture’s emphasis on individual liberty and boldly resist the suppression of free speech, from whatever quarter it arises. ●

“SPEAKING UP”

Do DEI Offices Help or Harm Diversity?

In his March 29 *Forbes* column, titled “Do Campus Diversity Offices (DEI) Help or Harm Diversity?”, ACTA President Michael Poliakoff exposed the myriad ways that DEI offices chill campus speech, from creating bias response teams to using anonymous online reporting systems for tracking alleged infractions against diversity and inclusion. DEI bureaucracies are also attempting to stop “wrong-thinking” students and faculty from stepping foot on campus in the first place by requiring diversity statements.

President Poliakoff noted in his article that five state legislatures are now reviewing bills that seek to limit or abolish DEI offices on public university campuses. Another 15 state legislatures are reviewing bills that seek to ban or limit functions related to DEI offices, such as mandatory diversity training. One such bill is now being considered by the Ohio Senate’s Workforce and Higher Education Committee. Introduced by Senator Jerry Cirino, Senate Bill 83 would prohibit mandatory DEI training and ban political litmus tests in hiring and admissions.

In March, Dr. Poliakoff delivered testimony before the Ohio committee. He remarked, “At this moment, it appears that one in five faculty hires is to some degree dependent on the candidate’s diversity statement. At the University of California–Berkeley, the hypothetical answer, ‘I always invite and welcome students from all backgrounds to participate in my research lab, and in fact have mentored several women,’ would likely end the applicant’s eligibility for a faculty position. How many young Albert Einstein’s are getting cut on Berkeley’s diversity chopping block? Some programs at Ohio’s public universities are already using mandatory diversity statements for hiring and promotion. Such requirements are likely to spread without bold legislative action such as SB 83.”

He continued, “We are pleased to see that Ohio lawmakers are both asking how your state can be a leader in campus freedom of inquiry and expression and recognizing that fostering the free exchange of ideas will require remedial action.” ●

ACTA Takes On Overreaching Accreditor

The University of North Carolina (UNC)–Chapel Hill’s Board of Trustees recently passed a resolution to accelerate the development of a School of Civic Life and Leadership. The school will have independent hiring power to recruit professors who will bring wider intellectual diversity to the institution. In response to media attention, Belle Wheelan, president of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), which accredits UNC–Chapel Hill, announced that she is not happy with the board’s resolution and threatened the school’s accreditation status.

In a February 28 article entitled “Questions for UNC’s Accreditor,” the *Wall Street Journal’s* editorial board reported on the matter, focusing on a letter sent by ACTA President Michael Poliakoff to the Department of Education’s National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality (NACIQI), in which he requested a review of SACSCOC and its actions related to the School of Civic Life and Leadership. President Poliakoff, who is a NACIQI committee member, detailed Dr. Wheelan’s egregiously intrusive behavior at her meeting on February 7 with North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper’s Commission on the Governance of Public Universities. When she preemptorily announced at the meeting that SACSCOC might issue a warning against UNC–Chapel Hill, she had not even read the board’s resolution. She also presented a list of “What a Board Member is NOT.” The list asserted a board member is not “Solver of all problems” or “One who runs the institution.” Instead, board members should be “Eyes in, hands off.”

This, President Poliakoff wrote, is a “significant and deleterious misunderstanding of the duty of higher

(continued on 6)

ACTA Testifies in Support of REACH Act

On March 2, Bradley Jackson, ACTA’s vice president of policy, testified before the North Carolina House of Representatives’ Education Committee in favor of House Bill 96, titled the Reinforcing College Education on America’s Constitutional Heritage Act (REACH Act). If passed, the bill would require public university and community college students to take three credit hours of instruction in American government in order to graduate. The REACH Act is modeled after a successful bill of the same name enacted in South Carolina in 2021.

The REACH Act would require the study of important works of American political literature, including the Declaration of Independence, the Federalist Papers, and writings by Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Jr., and other core texts. In his testimony before the committee, Dr. Jackson remarked, “Such coursework is particularly well-suited for college-level education, in which one is expected to read and analyze primary documents. Indeed, it is especially important today for it shows students the meaning of active citizenship—Alexander Hamilton, Abraham Lincoln, and Martin Luther King, Jr., were ordinary citizens of humble backgrounds whose love and faith in their country inspired them to take action in its name, to redeem its promise and to brighten its future. Learning directly from such minds is excellent preparation for any American citizen.”

The bill has been approved by the House Education Committee on Universities and is now being considered by the House Education Committee on Community Colleges. ●

Effective TRUSTEESHIP



Trustee Webinar: The Importance of Leadership and Data

On April 18, ACTA held a well-attended webinar for college trustees on the challenges of financial stewardship and cutting institutional costs. Our panelists included **Matthew Hendricks**, economist and former faculty member at the University of Tulsa; **Robert Dickeson**, cofounder of Academic Strategy Partners and former president of the University of Northern Colorado; the **Honorable Hank Brown**, former U.S. senator and former president of the University of Colorado; and **Alice Lee Williams Brown**, former president of the Appalachian College Association.

The panelists focused on two key elements of financial stewardship: data and strong leadership. Dr. Hendricks shared that when he was a professor at the University of Tulsa, the school announced it would cut 40% of academic programs to balance the budget. Dr. Hendricks investigated and found that rather than a budget problem, Tulsa had a spending problem. The highest outlays were not in instructional spending, but in other areas like institutional support, auxiliary enterprises, and athletics. Ultimately, the university heeded his findings and made cuts to the problem areas instead of slashing academic programs. Dr. Hendricks counseled trustees: “Don’t guess and don’t assume. Ask questions and check for the answers. It’s pretty rare these days that you can’t find answers in the data.”

Dr. Dickeson suggested that trustees ask two questions when balancing the budget: “What programs do we truly need?” and “Which programs do our people do well?” He

stressed that not all programs are equal. Some are more efficient, some are more central to the institution’s mission, and trustees can use data to make those determinations.

Difficult spending decisions require engaged leadership. Recalling her work with rural colleges, Dr. Brown shared that the most effective trustees “believed in the mission of the school firmly and held to it no matter what.” She said, “Trustees need to have courage to be able to act when they really need to act, when hard decisions have to be made. They need to do something besides postponing to the next meeting.” Dr. Dickeson agreed, saying, “Engagement is one of the tenets ACTA has been advancing, and I applaud that sincerely. . . . Trustees have the responsibility and even the duty to get into the middle of these things and discover what they can do better.”

Discussing his experience righting the ship when he became president of the University of Colorado–Boulder, Senator Brown said the first thing he did was eliminate several millions from the presidential budget, setting the tone for the rest of the campus. By being forthright about financial problems and planning budget decisions far in advance, trustees can more easily get administrators and faculty on board with difficult but necessary changes.

During the Q&A session, our panelists shared advice with attendees about how to choose appropriate peer institutions when comparing spending trends and how to tap trustee expertise. We thank Dr. Hendricks, Dr. Brown, Dr. Dickeson, and Senator Brown for participating in this panel, and we encourage trustees to contact us about topics they would like to discuss in future webinars. ●



“When you two have finished arguing your opinions, I actually have data!”



H E A R D C A M P U S ON

Rising Marijuana Use on Campus

A recent study by researchers at the University of Texas (UT)–Austin found that nearly 40% of students use marijuana and more than 26% have used the drug while on campus. The study surveyed 14,000 Texas college students at 19 institutions. As more states have legalized marijuana in the last decade, customers can walk into unregulated dispensaries across the nation and pick up marijuana with THC content of 25% and above. Novel ways to use the drug like vaping have proliferated, particularly among young people. The UT–Austin study found that students who vaped marijuana were 2.35 times more likely than those who used marijuana via other modes to use the drug in a public location on campus, such as classrooms and libraries.

The Texas data align with nationwide trends. The National Institute on Drug Abuse’s Monitoring the Future survey found that annual use of marijuana among college students in 2020 stood at 44%, the highest since the early 1980s. Daily marijuana use (marijuana use on 20 or more occasions in the past 30 days) rose to 8% in 2020 among 19-to-22-year-old college students, an increase of three percentage points over the previous five years. Marijuana use by college students is associated with decreased cognition, poor academic performance, dropping out of school, and with serious mental health disorders.

Some institutions are recognizing the severity of the problem, like St. Peter’s University in New Jersey, which filed a lawsuit last August to block a marijuana dispensary and lounge from opening near a residence hall. There are evidence-based strategies that colleges and universities can implement to help struggling students and discourage damaging substance use. For advice on where to start, college leaders can email info@

GoACTA.org for a copy of our report, *Addressing College Drinking and Drug Use: A Primer for Trustees, Administrators, and Alumni*.

Colleges Abandon Broken Ranking System

On March 21, the *Wall Street Journal* published “The Unraveling of the U.S. News College Rankings,” detailing the revolt of many colleges and universities against the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. Forty law schools, led by Yale Law School in November 2022, have announced they will no longer cooperate or share data with *U.S. News*. Many medical schools have followed suit—including those at Harvard, Stanford, and Columbia universities, as well as the University of Pennsylvania and Mount Sinai—and undergraduate schools are also withdrawing, including the Rhode Island School of Design and Colorado College in February 2023. College leaders stated that the rankings were “opaque, favored the wealthiest schools and promoted practices that didn’t benefit students.”

Veronica Mayer Bryant, ACTA’s director of curricular improvement, remarked, “When weighing whether to sit out of the unpopular rankings game, America’s colleges and universities ought to consider alternative methods. They owe their alumni, students, and prospective students objective metrics on the intellectual value for which many pay a high price.”

ACTA’s What Will They Learn?® project measures what matters most, academic quality, by rating the core curricula of over 1,100 colleges and universities on an “A” through “F” scale. Our website WWTL.com allows students and parents to compare the academic programs of schools across the country, as well as tuition costs, four-year graduation rates, and the campus climate for free speech. ●

Alumni Summit, *continued from 3*

The following panel discussions focused on how to use the legal system to combat restrictions on free speech; how to influence university administrations to adopt new policies that promote free expression; and how to transform campus culture through civil debate. On our fourth panel, current students and recent graduates shared their personal encounters with censorship and viewpoint discrimination.

Virginia Secretary of Education Aimee Rogstad Guidera delivered the day’s luncheon keynote. In her speech, entitled “Defending Virginia’s Hallmark: Free Speech and Inquiry in Education,” she highlighted Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin’s proactive work with university administrators and trustees to safeguard free expression and intellectual diversity at the state’s colleges and universities.

ACTA was honored to co-host with AFSA the Alumni Summit on Free Expression. We have several efforts underway to continue motivating and equipping alumni to advance free speech and open inquiry at their alma maters. ●

Accreditor, *continued from 4*

education governing boards to ensure that their institutions operate under the highest standards of academic excellence. . . . Such posturing, albeit intrusive and noisome, might be considered innocent, but for the fact that ‘warning’ status with an accreditor is tantamount to an existential threat to a university and at very least injures its reputation.”

Dr. Wheelan’s unprofessional behavior makes it “incumbent upon NACIQI to exercise its oversight of the accreditor. To neglect to do so would erode public confidence in NACIQI’s commitment to its statutory duty.” ●

ACTA in the NEWS: College Debate Programs Offer Hope for America's Future

In February, ACTA President Michael Poliakoff and Vice President for Campus Partnerships Doug Sprei were invited by the Arizona Board of Regents to serve as judges for the Regents' Cup. The Regents' Cup, created by former Arizona regent and current ACTA Board Member Karrin Taylor Robson, is an annual debate competition between students at Arizona's three public universities. The event seeks to celebrate free speech and civil discourse by providing an opportunity for students to compete through debate for course credit and scholarships.

This year, students debated whether the federal government should implement a Fairness Doctrine, if the pursuit of liberty should take precedence over the pursuit of prosperity, and if term limits should be added to the U.S. Supreme Court. *Washington Post* columnist Henry Olsen, who also served as a judge for the Regents' Cup, wrote about the competition in his March 1 column titled, "I found hope for democracy in an unexpected place." He remarked, "If, like me, you are worried about political polarization and what it is doing to our country, I invite you to consider Arizona's Regents' Cup. It might just offer you a ray of hope for our democracy."

Mr. Olsen continued, "The Regents' Cup isn't unique in showing that democracy and civility can go hand in hand. The American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA) sponsors a campus debate series that thousands of students have participated in over six years. The program partners with Braver Angels and BridgeUSA, two other groups dedicated to lowering partisan temperatures, to tackle such acrimonious topics as the rights of transgender athletes and the taking down of Confederate monuments. Denison University recently included the ACTA program as part of its mandatory first-year orientation program to show incoming freshmen how mature college students engage in the debate of ideas."

Mr. Olsen shared that the Regents' Cup and ACTA's College Debates and Discourse Program are helping to provide genuine solutions to political division by "training future leaders how to think like statesmen and stateswomen." We thank the Arizona Board of Regents for inviting us to participate in the 2023 Regents' Cup, and we look forward to the many debates we are holding at colleges nationwide this year! ●



ACTA Vice President Doug Sprei, director of ACTA's College Debates and Discourse Program and judge at the Regents Cup, is pictured with Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs, other judges, and students at the competition.

Growing Interest in Classical Education

On March 10, Steven McGuire, ACTA's Paul & Karen Levy Fellow in Campus Freedom, and Veronica Mayer Bryant, our director of curricular improvement, attended the Florida Classical Education Summit in West Palm Beach. The summit, hosted by the Classic Learning Test (CLT) in partnership with Palm Beach Atlantic University, featured classical education leaders from around the country. In the summit's final panel, entitled "K-12 to Higher Education—Taking the Classical Road to Success in Higher Education," Dr. McGuire spoke about the need for colleges to live up to the values that they claim to represent by delivering a rigorous curriculum in the liberal arts.

The panel's moderator, CLT founder and CEO Jeremy Tate, praised ACTA's efforts to raise the standard for liberal arts education at American colleges and universities, especially through its What Will They Learn?® project.

Dr. McGuire stated, "As many colleges and universities struggle to maintain enrollments, those that are dedicated to classical education . . . are growing." ACTA is encouraged to see this nationwide grassroots interest in classical education and academic excellence, and we continue to reach out to students, parents, homeschooling families, and K-12 educators to help them locate colleges that prepare students to be lifelong learners and informed citizens. ●



Steven McGuire, Jeremy Tate, and Veronica Mayer Bryant at the Florida Classical Education Summit.



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Higher Education Needs ACTA More Than Ever

A recent article in the *Wall Street Journal*, entitled “Americans Are Losing Faith in College Education, WSJ-NORC Poll Finds,” reports a disturbing decline in confidence in higher education. The finding is based on a survey of 1,000 adults conducted by the *Journal* and the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago.

The skyrocketing costs of a college education and the perception that universities are not doing enough to prepare students for the workforce are the main reasons why half of the survey respondents said they believe the investment in a four-year degree is not worth it.

American higher education, once the envy of the world, the path for millions of young people to climb the socioeconomic ladder in this country, is desperately in need of repair. Clearly, the future of our colleges and universities is at stake and, consequently, our nation’s prosperity and progress are in jeopardy. ACTA’s mission is to uphold high academic standards, expose and discourage the wasteful spending that makes tuition unaffordable, and safeguard the free exchange of ideas on campus. That mission is now crucial to the survival and rebirth of our institutions.

It is for that reason that the demand from trustees, alumni, and policymakers for our unique resources has never been greater. In 2022, we expanded our programs and staff and launched exciting initiatives focused on promoting freedom of expression on campus and reducing college costs. The time is right for ACTA to do more to broaden and deepen our impact on higher education.

We must ensure that the next generation receives a high-quality college education at an affordable price. I hope you will send a generous gift today. Thank you!

Michael B. Poliakoff
President and CEO