

Advocacy at All Levels

Advocacy is important whether it means your department's classes make enrollment and thus the Dean remains happy or proving to the local school board that one year of a language is not enough so that your child can continue taking French with a living teacher instead of Rosetta Stone. Reaching out to businesses for supporting anecdotes, writing letters to your state legislature, answering the calls made by the National Humanities alliance: all of these things are advocacy. CAMWS has the Committee for the Promotion of Latin (and Greek!), the ACL has a Visibility and Advocacy Task Force as it plans its organizational redesign, the SCS supports National Latin Teacher Recruitment Week—we recognize as a field that promotion is important for the continuation of the field. We do not as individuals, however, always know what to do in a time of crisis let alone the steps which could have prevented the crisis from occurring in the first place.

This workshop will provide both an overview of current and future advocacy plans for the Classics and actions large and small which participants can take to strengthen their own programs. The presenter will also outline efforts to promote all languages at all levels and how these efforts also support the Classics specifically. A list of resources and organizations will provide helpful data and ideas for participants' future efforts. Participants will be asked to share individual concerns so that the presenter can help them generate ideas for next steps.

The presenter has given a version of this workshop at a meeting of a state language association, but no Classicists attended the session and so it is completely new material for the CAMWS audience.

Organizations providing supporting data and ideas:

ACTFL-<https://www.actfl.org/advocacy>

JNCL-NCLIS-<https://languagepolicy.org>

National Humanities Alliance-<https://www.nhalliance.org>

Very many state and regional organizations both for languages in general and for the Classics