

American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies
Policies on Sexual Harassment and Professional Conduct

ASECS is committed to the free and respectful exchange of ideas in an environment of inclusion, safety, and mutual respect. All scholarly and professional exchanges across the Society should be carried out in a manner that conveys recognition, preserves dignity, and nurtures the intellectual development both of individual members and of the field.

To this end, the Society condemns all forms of discrimination, coercion, and violence and harassment, including sexual harassment. ASECS members and all participants in our events are expected to act in accordance with the highest standards of scholarly and professional conduct and to treat every member with respect regardless of race, class, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, sex, gender, sexual orientation, disability, rank, or status.

The Society expects all members, caucuses, and affiliate groups to foster an inclusive and welcoming environment for the exchange of knowledge and ideas that affirms the diversity of our membership and of their intellectual commitments. The values of equity, access, nondiscrimination, and mutual respect should inform all conduct, whether in a seminar room or at social gathering, in a plenary presentation or a conference session, in electronic communications or on social media. Our standards call for sensitivity to differences of power among our membership and particularly to safeguarding the personal autonomy and the contributions of individuals in less secure and more junior positions.

ASECS condemns all forms of harassment and expects its members to understand the range of behaviors that harassment, including sexual harassment, encompasses. All attendees of the Annual Meeting and other ASECS events are expected to abide by this policy.

Those who register for the Annual Meeting, whether they are members of ASECS, members of an ISECS affiliate, exhibitors, or staff, will be required to affirm that they have read, understood, and agreed to this policy.

Until the Society establishes further procedures, any member who has experienced or witnessed a breach of this policy is encouraged to contact any member of the ASECS Board.

This statement does not create any legally enforceable protections or obligations on the part of ASECS, nor does it form a basis for civil liability.

Approved February 22, 2019