

### **MPSA Procedures for Advocacy and Policy Statements**

The purposes of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) are to promote the professional study and teaching of political science, to facilitate communications between those engaged in such study, and to develop standards for and encourage research in theoretical and practical political problems. As such, MPSA is a nonpartisan association. It does not support political parties or candidates. MPSA's advocacy and public awareness efforts have therefore been designed to support researchers, political science as a discipline and the social sciences in general.

The MPSA has adopted the following procedure for considering requests by MPSA members and to issue letters and advocacy and policy statements in the name of the MPSA.

The MPSA is nonpartisan, and does not take positions on partisan issues. The MPSA also does not take positions on individual Promotion and Tenure cases. The MPSA has taken positions that relate to the importance of a safe work environment of members, academic freedom, the importance of scientific research, etc.

Correspondence should be emailed to the MPSA Executive Director and the MPSA President and contain:

**1. Cover letter containing:**

- a. *Summary of the issue;*
- b. *Brief history, if any, of relevant MPSA positions, advocacy or statements, as well as those of other social science associations or relevant organizations if known;*
- c. *List of other groups supporting the effort or cause with contact information;*
- d. *Contact information for person or committee submitting the request;*
- e. *Brief appendices, where appropriate, including reference documents, etc.*

- 2. Draft Policy Statement/Letter.** *This should be no more than three paragraphs in length and it needs to state exactly what the submitter wants the MPSA to support or oppose. It is likely that the MPSA will revise this as needed and so it conforms with previous statements.*

These requests will either be reviewed by the entire MPSA Council or by a committee comprised of the President, President-elect, Immediate Past President and Executive Director with MPSA officers and legal counsel consulted as needed. If a revised policy statement/letter is approved, it will be published on the MPSA website, or forwarded to the relevant addresses. The request should be emailed to: [ExecutiveDirector@mpsnet.org](mailto:ExecutiveDirector@mpsnet.org).