

A network diagram with red and black nodes connected by lines, set against a light red background.

# The Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities on Society

17-18 October 2019, Washington DC

Rasmuson Theater, 1.45 - 3.30pm

## Closing Plenary



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## Recommendations morning sessions October 17

**Synergy with governmental  
institutions**

By changing systems and institutions, we can increase researchers' contextual knowledge and strengthen relationships with practitioners, policymakers, and knowledge brokers – to have more impact

**Stakeholder co-creation**

Identify societal challenges by *listening* to and *working with* relevant stakeholders, create incentives, rewards and new funding opportunities with partnership requirements.

**Supporting SSH impact  
through foundations**

Create incentives, infrastructures and indicators for open (interdisciplinary) problem-oriented partnership-driven research

**Interdisciplinary research**

How can we incentivize greater cross-disciplinary collaboration in defining and measuring the impact of our SSH interventions in society?



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## Recommendations afternoon sessions October 17

### Indicators of SSH impact

That we closely examine when metrics might introduce as much risk of damage as they introduce helpful indicators

### Institutional assessment systems

Challenging academics to work with external stakeholders on both design and implementation of impact frameworks is the way forward

### Measurement tools

Multiple problems, multiple methods, multiple perspectives. Context matters but standardization is important in order to join the community

### Public engagement

We need to combat humanities exceptionalism: we have public humanities but can be just translating... one-directional... we need engagement that co-creates the research or citizen science need model, good models, good examples in Humanities



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## Commercialising methodologies in SSH

Richard Chylla

*AUTM*

Mark Mann

*Oxford University Innovation*

*Be very careful about the words/vocabulary K/TT professionals  
use when we engage in SSH impact creation*



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## Intermediary institutions

Susan Renoe

*Center for Advancing Research*

*Impact in Society (ARIS)*

*A core competency for intermediate organizations is to become  
an expert generalist*

David Phipps

*York University*

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## Evidence-informed Policy

Kate Tromble

*Results for America*

Daniel Sarewitz

*Consortium for Science,  
Policy & Outcomes*

*There is value in clarifying what evidence is being used, by whom, and for what purpose. We need to be more formally attendant to the links between processes of evidence creation and the value systems that surround its creation and us*



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## Institutions, leadership & impact

Toby Smith

*Association of American  
Universities*

David Oxtoby

*American Academy of Arts and  
Sciences*

*Leadership to promote impact must come from the top-down, bottom-up, middle-out, sideways-in and must look to determine, evaluate, and assess impact at the beginning and end of research and beyond*

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## Assessing and optimising societal impact in the Humanities

Stephen Kidd

*National Humanities Alliance*

Rolf Hvidtfeldt

*Humanomics Research Centre*

*Humanities: Very good at changing people's mind/ how people think but  
not too good at changing what people think about the humanities; a dire  
paradox*





# The Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities on Society

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## Assessing and optimising societal impact in the Social Sciences

Wendy Naus

*Consortium of Social Science  
Associations*

Ronald Kassimir

*Social Science Research Council*

*Consideration of "stakeholders" as "partners", not "research subjects" throughout the entire research process (eg research design, post-study storytelling, etc.); BUT we need more support to accomplish this (training, support processes, best practices, empathy, etc.)*

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## Science policy on impact

### Arthur Lupia (Chair)

*Head of the Directorate for Social, Behavioural, and Economic Sciences,  
National Science Foundation*

**Social science and the humanities can have a greater impact if they  
validate the people that they are seeking to help**



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## Engaging Universities

David Budtz Pedersen (Chair)

*Director, Humanomics Research Center, Denmark*

*Recommendation > How to get to Brown*

*University leadership is necessary and required for supporting impact/oriented SSH /  
investments + incentives*

*Universities can do fundamental basic research within targetted programmes*



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## Training & skills for impact

Susan Renoe (Chair)

*Executive Director, Center for Advancing Research Impact in Society (ARIS)*

*Engagement should be personal and meaningful*



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Facilitating & supporting entrepreneurship

Marc Sedam (Chair)

*Chair-Elect, AUTM*

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**Rasmuson Theater, 1.45 - 3.30pm**

**Ranking the Recommendations**

**<http://etc.ch/iiAH>**



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Rasmuson Theater, 1.45 - 3.30pm

## Ranking the Recommendations

### Results

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# The Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities on Society

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**Rasmuson Theater, 2.30 - 3.30pm**

## **Closing plenary panel: Optimising Impact of SSH for the USA (and beyond)**

**Moderator:**

*Alan Leshner*

**Panel members:**

*Arthur Lupia*

*Kenneth Prewitt*

*Amanda Anderson*

*David Sweeney*

*Maryrose Flanigan*



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## Closing Remarks and Summary

Alan Leshner

*Interim CEO of the American Association for the Advancement of Science*

# The Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities on Society

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Thank you!



AESIS

 #SSH19

# The Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities on Society

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## Upcoming AESIS events

*6-8 November 2019*

*London, United Kingdom*



### **Course**

**Methods & Instruments for  
Assessing the Societal  
Impact of Research**

*27-29 November 2019*

*Oslo, Norway*



### **Course**

**Integrating Societal Impact  
in a Research Strategy**

*16-18 June 2020*

*Krakow, Poland*



### **Annual Conference**

**Impact of Science**

**AESIS**

 **#SSH19**