



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** November 18, 2015

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## HUMANITIES WASHINGTON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JULIE ZIEGLER ELECTED TO FEDERATION OF STATE HUMANITIES COUNCILS

Washington D.C.—The Federation of State Humanities Councils has announced the election of Julie Ziegler, executive director of Humanities Washington, to its board of directors, along with a new chair and three new members.

“This is an era of often bitter political and social division, and the Federation’s work supporting humanities programs that help us better understand each other and our history has never been more important,” said Ziegler. “It’s an absolute honor to be elected.”

Ziegler is the first executive director in Humanities Washington’s forty-year history to be elected to the Federation board.

Prior to joining Humanities Washington’s staff as executive director, Ziegler served eight years as a trustee for the organization and held a variety of board leadership positions. From 2003-2005, Ziegler managed the national grants program and several grassroots programs at Safeco Insurance and, prior to that, served as Northwest Regional Manager of the Bank of America Foundation. She has also volunteered for nonprofit organizations such as ArtsFund, Philanthropy Northwest, United Way of King County, Leadership Tomorrow, and Powerful Schools. She is also a member of Seattle Rotary #4.

The Federation also elected a new chair, Peter Torkildsen, a Government Affairs and Business Development Consultant and former member of the US House of Representatives (1993-1997) from Massachusetts.

Ziegler was officially appointed on November 7, 2015.

To read more about the Federation Board of Directors, please visit: [www.statehumanities.org/about-us/our-board/](http://www.statehumanities.org/about-us/our-board/)

### **ABOUT THE FEDERATION OF STATE HUMANITIES COUNCILS**

The Federation of State Humanities Councils, founded in 1977 as the membership association of state and territorial councils, provides support for the state humanities councils and strives to create greater awareness of the humanities in public and private life.

For more information about the Federation of State Humanities Councils, please visit: [www.statehumanities.org](http://www.statehumanities.org).

### **ABOUT THE STATE HUMANITIES COUNCILS**

The state humanities councils are independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organizations supporting grassroots humanities programs and community-based activities. Humanities councils were created by Congress in the early 1970s and receive an annual congressional appropriation through the National Endowment for the Humanities, which most councils supplement with state and private funding.

For more information about the state humanities councils, please visit: <http://www.statehumanities.org/the-state-humanities-councils/>

### **ABOUT HUMANITIES WASHINGTON**

Humanities Washington sparks conversation and critical thinking using story as a catalyst, nurturing thoughtful and engaged communities across our state. For more about Humanities Washington, visit [humanities.org](http://humanities.org).

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