

Policy for departmental statements

The history department may issue occasional statements about significant matters following these guidelines (voted and approved by the faculty 9 April 2025, 34 in favor, no one opposed, no abstentions).

When a matter of concern arises, any eight eligible voting faculty members may request an emergency meeting to discuss the issue. Attendance at such a meeting is entirely optional. After discussion, an anonymous vote (winning a simple majority of those eligible to vote) will prompt the chair to appoint an ad hoc committee to write a statement. Once composed, the statement will be posted for consideration for 48 hours before a period of voting is opened. Votes will be collected anonymously. For a statement to be posted on the department website, 75% of eligible faculty must support it. Each statement will give the date adopted and the vote in percentages (yes, no, abstain, absences).

In the event of a statement produced by another entity, the procedure for a departmental endorsement will be as follows: Eight colleagues can request consideration of a statement. They can request the chair either to call an optional meeting to discuss the statement or to arrange an immediate department vote. The procedure for voting will be the same: anonymous, with 75% of eligible faculty needed to pass; the same policy for recording the vote apply, as per the general policy.

In both instances, the voting period will be for 5 working days, or when all voting is completed, whichever comes first.