



## **Who Speaks for the Big Ten Academic Alliance?**

### **For Whom Does the Big Ten Academic Alliance Speak?**

#### **The Big Ten Academic Alliance Policy on Public Statements**

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The Big Ten Academic Alliance (Consortium) is both a Board of Directors (Board) appointed by the presidents of the member institutions (traditionally the chief academic officers, or provosts), and an organization (an Illinois non-profit corporation). Insofar as the Consortium has a public voice, it is the voice of its member institutions speaking in unison through their representatives.

The Consortium as an organization includes many affinity groups, committees, and working groups under the general umbrella called the Big Ten Academic Alliance. Some of these are created by the Board, some are loosely linked to the board, and some may have no direct links at all.

The Consortium itself, or any of these groups, may speak, on behalf of the member institutions, through the Consortium on matters of policy so long as these general guidelines are followed:

- Dissemination of the statement must be authorized and coordinated by the Board or its designee (ordinarily the President of the Big Ten Academic Alliance).
- Each member of the group must have authority to speak for his or her institution on the particular policy matter or issue.
- Agreement to the statement must be unanimous within the group.

Members of the Consortium staff may represent and interpret to the public (as appropriate) actions or positions taken by any of Consortium groups (including the provosts) that follow these guidelines. Consortium staff will not represent a "Big Ten Academic Alliance position" on issues the Board has not discussed and agreed upon.

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