

Board of Directors

Mark Ridenour, Chairman John W. Altman Janice Rogers Brown Heidi Ganahl Reuben Jeffery III Paul S. Levy Judith Messina Michael B. Poliakoff Karrin Taylor Robson Stuart Taylor, Jr. Stephen Joel Trachtenberg Edwin D. Williamson

Anne D. Neal Senior Fellow Joshua T. Katz

Scholar-in-Residence

Solveig Gold Senior Fellow in Education & Society

Council of Scholars

George E. Andrews Pennsylvania State University

Mark Bauerlein
Emory University
Marc Zvi Brettler
Duke University
William Cook
SUNY-Geneseo

Paul Davies
William & Mary
David C. Doughty, Jr.
Christopher Newport University

Niall Ferguson Stanford University Allen C. Guelzo Princeton University

Sidney L. Gulick III University of Maryland

Robert "KC" Johnson CUNY–Brooklyn College

Anatoly M. Khazanov University of Wisconsin

Alan Charles Kors University of Pennsylvania

Jon D. Levenson Harvard Divinity School

Molly Levine Howard University

George R. Lucas, Jr. *U.S. Naval Academy*

Matthew A. Malkan

UCLA

Michael Podgursky University of Missouri

James A. Sellers

University of Minnesota-Duluth

February 6, 2025

The Honorable Clare Oumou Verbeten 95 University Avenue West Senate Office Building, Room 2101 St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Senator Oumou Verbeten:

I wanted to reach out to you in light of your recent work on **SF 377**. As a nonprofit organization committed to the preservation of academic freedom, excellence, and accountability, the American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA) appreciates your efforts to safeguard fair admissions practices at our nation's colleges and universities. We share your sentiment that legacy preferences are detrimental to the integrity of the admissions process.

In this spirit, I would like to offer our aid if there is any way we can be of assistance. For over 25 years, ACTA has worked with trustees and public officials across the country to ensure that all Americans can receive a high-quality education at an affordable price. We have testified before various state legislatures and commissions in states including Florida, New Jersey, Alaska, Georgia, Montana, Texas, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, and Ohio, on matters such as curricular quality, academic assessment, and institutional accountability.

If there is anything we can do to help your efforts to support SF 377, or in any matter in the future, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at (202) 467-6787 or via email at AAlacbay@GoACTA.org.

We are immensely grateful for your commitment to American higher education, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Armand B. Alacbay

Chief of Staff & SVP of Strategy