

amendment to the Continuing Appropriations Act of 2013 that limits the use of federal funds in

President Obama has signed the bill into law.

Whereas:

The Faculty Senate of Dickinson University, State University of New York, believes that

rigorous scientific review process that federal agencies use to fund research that advances

knowledge. This action creates a dangerous dilemma that makes all scientific research

vulnerable to the whims of political pressure. We maintain that national science research

should be conducted in an open and public debate. We believe that

academic freedom and open public debate are essential to the advancement of

knowledge and the progress of science. We believe that

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Defending Political Science at NSF

Randall H. McGuire  
Distinguished Professor of Anthropology  
Binghamton University

*None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out the functions of the Political Science Program in the Division of Social and Economic Sciences of the Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences of the National Science Foundation, except for research projects that the Director of the*  
*economic interests of the United States. Coburn Amendment to HR 933*

On March 26, 2013, President Obama signed into law HR 933, the Continuing Appropriations

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ACCEPTED THE SENATE AMENDMENTS AND SENT HR 933 TO THE WHITE

The Coburn amendment represents the culmination and the first real success of decades

and I cannot have continued to use the only time I use my research but taken the attack

political communications on the internet

American Enterprise Institute promised to call for the elimination of all political science research at NSF.

Learned societies including the American Association of University Professors, The American Political Science Association, The National Council on Humanities, the Social Science Associations, The Association of American Universities and others have generated a plethora of protests to the defunding of political science.

amendment violates the NSF's legal charter to *de facto* research. They contend that the Social approximately 0.2% of the NSF budget of approximately \$7 bn. The total NSF budget would

approximately 0.2% of the NSF budget of approximately \$7 bn. The total NSF budget would such research in the United States. The Education of Associations in Political and D.

http://www.issues.com/merit/merit-n2337476

individuals and our faculty. Senate to what we respond to this breach of academic freedom. Many have voiced their concerns in the letter to the communication and research in the future.

about its rigor and its benefits. This is a good thing and I hope that we will constantly strive to be better communicators. Being better communicators will certainly aid us in the public

believe that people like Obama and Clinton are the best. I hope that we will not be so naive as to

common the fact that Counselor's have assassinated science because they put the GRE the exams in

looking for fifty times my own discipline of Anthropology offers far more easily ridiculed

predicted the results of the election. I hope that we will not be so naive as to

crimes. Elected politicians hate it when people point out they are naked. Or perhaps, as some

political science was going to blue states and not red states. We should also remember that many

of these same politicians who denied the validity of opinion polling in 2012 also deny global warming, biological evolution and the efficacy of the whole language approach to teaching

interjects non-scientific criteria into the consideration of research. As the American Association

of Economic Geographers has pointed out, "the attack on the social sciences

Our campuses are important economic and cultural institutions in each of the Federal

Congressional districts in the state. A similar majority (21 out of 27) of the

Congress (21 out of 27) did not support HR 933 the Continuing Appropriations Act

support the bill with the Corburn amendment (Pete King NY 2<sup>nd</sup>, Michael Grimm NY 11<sup>th</sup>,

Richard Hanna NY 22<sup>nd</sup>, Tom Reed NY 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Chris Collins NY 27<sup>th</sup>). More troubling four

<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/110/hr/933/amendments/1> for the Burke amendment

those who have signed and cosigned. What we have seen is a group of names

What has been most disheartening in the process has been the actions of our Senators

Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand. They joined not a single one of them could have

forcing that step back. The SUNY University Faculty Senate should also take action on this  
issue. Minimally, we should pass a resolution in support of Political Science in the NCE and

other actions such as inviting our Senators or our Congressman to a fall meeting to discuss these

issues. If we do not act, we may be condemning the defending of all social sciences at NYU.