RSA Conference Collegiality and Social Media Policy

Renaissance Society of America (RSA) online conferences and webinars, as well as our in-person Annual Meeting, provide an international forum where Renaissance studies content is communicated among diverse fields, as well as more broadly among faculty, graduate students, early career scholars, independent scholars, museum and library professionals, and others interested in the field. These events promote interdisciplinary exchange and the study of the period 1300–1700. The RSA is committed to providing a safe and productive meeting environment that fosters open dialogue and the exchange of ideas, promotes equal opportunities and treatment for all participants, and is free of harassment and discrimination. All participants are expected to treat others with respect and consideration and to abide by the RSA’s Professional Conduct Policy.

Live-tweeting and sharing of conference content on social media is welcome, and we hope it will spark dynamic discussions. For Twitter, please consider using the hashtag #RenSA24 for the RSA Chicago 2024 conference. If a meeting speaker does not wish to have their research shared on Twitter or Instagram, they should make an announcement before and during their presentation. Attributions and quotations on social media should be as clear as possible, accurately representing presenters’ arguments and ideas. Presenters, audience members, and commentators should maintain a professional tone, avoiding personal comments or other matters one would not typically raise in a published forum.

CONSENT – Any presenter (whether sharing pre-circulated material or speaking live) has the right to request that their work and comments not be used on social media. Please ask subjects involved before posting and tagging photos.

PROFESSIONAL TONE – RSA hashtags represent an extension of the conference. Presenters and attendees are encouraged to consider their comments to be public and to avoid remarks that would be inappropriate in other professional spaces as well.

FAIR QUOTATION – Live-tweeting often represents itself as a transcript of written words. Social media users should be aware of the potential for misrepresentation, appropriation, and removal of context. Posts should be attributed with a speaker’s handle or full-name (e.g., @handle:xxx). Retweeting and favoriting remove posts from temporal sequence, so it is best to attribute individual tweets, rather than just the first in a sequence.¹

RSA Twitter link: https://twitter.com/rsaorg
RSA Instagram link: https://www.instagram.com/rsaorg/
Questions about this policy should be directed to the RSA staff at rsa@rsa.org.

¹ The above three recommendations are adapted from a policy developed by the Shakespeare Association of America.