

Consortium of Social Science Associations



Advocate for the Social and Behavioral Sciences

Annual Report 1999

*A Report of the Activities of the
Consortium of Social Science Associations*

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University (COSSA President)**

Kathleen Frankovic, CBS News

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Cruz.

John Kasarda, University of North Carolina

Carol Geary Schneider, Association of American
Colleges and Universities

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Executive Director's Report

The work of an advocacy group most often revolves around routines that have been established to accomplish its mission. For COSSA, whose goal is the promotion of attention to and federal funding for the social and behavioral sciences, this has meant over the years testifying to appropriations committees in Congress, meeting with Congressional and Agency staffs, mobilizing and informing the community, and providing the results of social and behavioral science research to policymakers. In 1999, as I will describe shortly, COSSA did all of these things.

However, from time to time, unanticipated issues arise that take up enormous amounts of time and energy. In 1999 such an issue arose that affected not only COSSA, but the whole science community. It began in late 1998 when Congress passed a provision, what became known as the "Shelby amendment," requiring that Federal grant-making agencies "ensure that all data produced under an award will be made available to the public through the procedures under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)." The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) was charged with interpreting this provision and revising Circular A-110, which governs grants to non-profit institutions.

Viewed as a significant threat to how scientists conduct their research, the scientific community responded with alarm. The social science community, which has a history of sharing data through such mechanisms as the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research originally thought that some balancing act could be achieved to satisfy the public's need to know with protection of science. However, this soon changed. To formulate a response, COSSA mobilized the social and behavioral science community and convened many meetings. It participated with other stakeholders in both the scientific and higher education community, such as the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Association of American Universities. Congressional activity to overturn the Shelby provision commenced. The late Representative George Brown introduced a bill in the House to repeal Shelby. Representatives Jim Walsh (R-NY) and David Price (D-NC) tried to forge a compromise in the Fiscal Year 2000 appropriations bill. COSSA worked in support of both the Brown bill and the Walsh-Price amendment. Neither succeeded. Representative Stephen Horn (R-CA), responding to requests from COSSA and others, aired the contentious issues in a July hearing. The Senate Science and Technology Caucus held a forum. The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy also worked to mitigate any damage from Shelby.

OMB produced draft rules in early February and invited public comment. COSSA responded objecting to some glaring omissions in the document. It joined almost 10,000 commentators on both sides of the issue. In mid-August, OMB issued a second iteration of its proposed revisions to A-110. These adopted many of the suggestions for improvement made by the scientific community after the first proposal. OMB gave the public another 30 days to comment. Again, COSSA provided comments, largely praising OMB for making the best out of a bad situation. OMB issued its final rule on October 8, mostly satisfying the science community that they had done the best they could, while also addressing some of the concerns of Senator Shelby and his allies, notably the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The day the new rules went into effect, November 8, Mark Frankel of the AAAS came to the COSSA Annual Meeting to review the 10 month struggle.

All of this intense activity over 10 months reflected COSSA's role as: educator, through the newsletter, the *COSSA WASHINGTON UPDATE*; convener, consultant, and mobilizer of the community;

partner in coalitions; and communicator with policymakers. Like many such efforts there was a sense of satisfaction that some evil had been thwarted. However, these kinds of issues are never fully resolved. As expected, a court case has already been filed regarding the new rules.

Back to Routines

In a political year that began with President Clinton surviving an impeachment conviction in the Senate by 12 votes, the budget and appropriations process inevitably did not go smoothly and many other legislative issues remained stalled amidst partisan disagreements. Once again, many Continuing Resolutions proved necessary to keep government agencies funded and operating. Yet, in the end, key agencies that COSSA focuses on achieved significant success. COSSA's activities in the budget and appropriations process brought Bill Hoagland, Staff Director of the Senate Budget Committee, and Frank Cushing, chief staffer of the House Veterans' Affairs, HUD, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, to speak at the Annual Meeting.

COSSA's relations with the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) began on a devastating note. David Stevenson, newly recruited from the U.S. Department of Education (ED) to take over as Assistant Director for the Social and Behavioral Sciences, took ill suddenly and died. His passing silenced a strong and thoughtful voice for our sciences in the White House. Lisa Towne, who came from the Department to help David, was elevated to the Assistant Directorship. The regular monthly meetings that COSSA has participated in for many years resumed and discussions of the Interagency Educational Research Initiative, the Children's Initiative, and the aforementioned battle over A-110, dominated. At many of the meetings, Arthur Bienenstock, OSTP's Associate Director for Science consulted us on a variety of issues. COSSA also took part in a number of multi-society budget briefings with Neal Lane, OSTP's Director and the President's Science Adviser.

With regard to the National Science Foundation (NSF), the usual practices of presenting testimony to the appropriations subcommittee, consulting with the leaders of the Social, Behavioral and Economic Science Directorate (SBE), attending the SBE Advisory Committee meetings, working with NSF's Office of Legislative and Public Affairs, occurred. In addition, NSF Director Rita Colwell met with the COSSA Executive Committee and COSSA participated in a number of sessions with her to discuss strategy and plans for enhancing the Foundation's support. The Senate Appropriations Committee provided one jarring note in 1999 to COSSA's activities on behalf of NSF. In their report, the Committee inserted language denigrating economics research and suggesting the social and behavioral sciences were not an integral part of NSF. Working with allies in the community and in Congress, COSSA helped draft language noted on the Senate floor in a colloquy between Senators Daniel Inouye (D-HI) and Kit Bond (R-MO) that made explicit the importance of the social and behavioral sciences to NSF's research portfolio. The year was capped by the appearance of NSF Deputy Director Joe Bordogna at the Annual Meeting. It also ended with the completion of Bennett Bertenthal's tenure as Assistant Director for SBE. During that tenure, he introduced new programs, divided the research division into two, and admonished social and behavioral scientists to "think big."

COSSA's activities in the health research arena expanded in 1999. Again, the routines of presenting testimony, attending advisory committee meetings, meeting with National Institutes of Health (NIH) Institute directors and staffs, working with Norman Anderson and the staff of NIH's Office of Behavioral and Social

Science Research (OBSSR), all occurred. As attention to the behavioral and social sciences expand across all NIH Institutes, COSSA began to pay attention to the National Cancer Institute, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive, and Kidney Diseases, and the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences. In addition, NIH's peer review system came under review in 1999. COSSA worked with its members to respond to the Panel on Scientific Boundaries Report. Alan Leshner, Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), addressed the Annual Meeting. Late in 1999, both NIH Director Harold Varmus, and OBSSR Director Norman Anderson announced that they would be leaving the government. The replacements for both of these able men will determine if the progress made in connecting behavior to health will continue.

Interaction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also increased in 1999. COSSA staff visited CDC in Atlanta and worked with the Office of Prevention. Alex Crosby from CDC's Division of Violence Prevention participated in the Annual Meeting's panel on youth violence. COSSA also monitored the activities of the Agency for Health Care Policy Research (AHCPR) including the reauthorization bill that changed its name to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

Education and crime are always on the top of the American public's concerns. Yet their research support from the federal government remains minuscule. In 1999 enhancing education research became a focus for a number of people and agencies concerned with how children learn and how teachers. The Interagency Educational Research Initiative (IERI) became a priority for the administration. Securing federal funding for this cooperative effort of the NSF, the Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI), and the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), was the focus of COSSA's activities in education. Success was achieved. COSSA continued its participation in the Intersociety Group on Education Research (IGER), working with many groups to monitor the activities of OERI, including a pending reauthorization effort. Long efforts to save the Javits Fellowship program, which provides graduate students in the social sciences with support, paid off. The program not only survived, but changes in its funding structure will serve students better.

COSSA continued its efforts to support crime and criminal justice research. We maintained our close relations with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and its Director Jeremy Travis. COSSA monitored the stalled juvenile justice legislation and the attempt to reorganize the Office of Justice Programs (OJP). At the Annual Meeting a panel on youth violence discussed issues raised by the tragic school shootings that occurred across American in 1999. COSSA President, distinguished criminologist Al Blumstein, and *U.S. News and World Report* editor Ted Gest joined CDC's Alex Crosby on the panel.

Monitoring the events and disputes leading up to the 2000 Census kept COSSA busy in 1999. Meeting with Census Director Ken Prewitt, attending White House briefings and meetings of the Census Monitoring Board, the Census 2000 Advisory Board, and a series of congressional hearings, COSSA kept watch on developments to insure a fair and accurate count. Terri Ann Lowenthal of the Census 2000 Initiative addressed the annual meeting on many of these developments.

COSSA presented testimony to the Agriculture and Rural Development Appropriations Subcommittee in the House, worked with the Council on Food and Agricultural Economics (CFARE), met with rural sociology leaders, addressed a meeting of social scientists interested in rural America, and attended stakeholder meetings organized by U.S.D.A. and the National Association of State Universities and Land

Grant Colleges (NASULGC). In all these activities COSSA continued its long efforts to inject the social science perspective into the public agenda of issues affecting agriculture and rural America.

Finally, COSSA continued to monitor issues affecting database and information collection activities. Prue Adler of the Association of Research Libraries briefed the annual meeting on two major pieces of legislation before the Congress that would impact access to information and data.

Another highlight of the past year was the Executive Director's invitation from the government of Norway to visit and meet with officials of the Ministries of Education, Research and Church Affairs, and Children and Social Affairs, the Research Council of Norway, social scientists from the Universities of Oslo and Bergen, the independent research institutes, and Norwegian Social Sciences Data Services. The Executive Director made a presentation on COSSA and U.S. social and behavioral sciences to the Research Council.

COSSA held three Congressional seminars: *Is Welfare Reform Working: The Impact of Economic Growth and Policy Changes*, which set an attendance record with over 150 people attending; *Not What the Doctor Ordered: Challenges Individuals Face in Adhering to Medical Advice/Treatment* with Norman Anderson as moderator; and *Do Americans Care About and Trust Their Government* with Representative David Price (D-NC) as moderator. COSSA sends edited transcripts of these sessions to all Members of Congress and many other interested parties. We thank the Ford Foundation for their continuing generous support of the seminars.

In 1999, COSSA entered the modern era and developed a Web Page. The address is www.cossa.org. COSSA continues to rely on a professional, dedicated, and hard working staff: Angela Sharpe, Associate Director for Government Affairs; David Hess, Associate Director for Public Affairs; and Karen Carrion, Administrative Officer. Without them not much of what I am reporting would happen.

As we enter the new millennium COSSA remains as vigilant as ever in its mission to promote attention to and federal funding for the social and behavioral sciences. A committed and supportive Executive Committee and Board of Directors makes it possible to continue to carry out our important work. I am also extremely grateful for the continued support of COSSA's Members, Affiliates and Contributors.

The 20th Century is over. It was the era of scientific and technological breakthroughs. The 21st Century promises more of the same. The social and behavioral sciences played an important role in the last era of science. They are poised to play an even more important one in the years to come. COSSA will make sure that they are given the chance to do so.

The following pages report on the Consortium's activities from January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999. The document outlines COSSA's activities in representing the social and behavioral sciences before Congress, the Executive Branch, the social and behavioral science community, and the wider science and public policy community.

Howard J. Silver, Ph.D.
Executive Director
February 2000

Social Science in the National Policy Agenda

The **Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)** was very active in responding to a congressional missive that would have required all data produced under a federal grant to be available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act.

Office of Science and Technology Policy

The year-long effort to repeal, which failed, and then to mitigate its impact on the science community, which succeeded, involved COSSA and many other scientific societies. OSTP also successfully pushed funding for the Interagency Educational Research Initiative. The tragic death, early in the year, of David Stevenson, Assistant Director for the Social and Behavioral Sciences, resulted in the loss of a strong advocate for the social and behavioral sciences within OSTP.

Key COSSA Activities

Met with Neal Lane, President's Science Advisor; Elgie Holstein, OMB Director for Natural Resources and Science; and Tom Kalil, National Economic Council, to discuss FY 2000 science budgets.

Conveyed to Neal Lane the importance of including social and economic consequences of information technology in his testimony to Congress. He mentioned it in the testimony and in his responses to questions. Similar language appeared in H.R. 2086, the "Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Act."

Communicated with Arthur Bienenstock, Associate Director for Science, on numerous occasions regarding Circular A-110 revisions regarding data sharing and the Freedom of Information Act.

Held regular monthly meetings with OSTP's Assistant Director for Social and Behavioral Sciences, Lisa Towne.

Attended meetings of the President's Committee of Advisers on Science and Technology (PCAST) and the OSTP budget briefing.

The **National Science Foundation (NSF)**, after up and down congressional action, ended the year with a significant seven

National Science Foundation

percent increase. NSF Director Rita Colwell announced her intention to increase support for the social and behavioral sciences and to seek input from the community on a special initiative for those sciences in the FY 2003 budget. The Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) Directorate held a special competition to enhance infrastructure funding that resulted in six awards and strongly indicated the large need for more

resources in this area. The SBE Directorate also said farewell to its second Assistant Director, Bennett Bertenthal who completed his three-year term filled with significant accomplishments and some frustrations.

Key COSSA Activities

Executive Director continued to lead the Coalition for National Science Funding

Presented testimony to House VA, HUD, IA Appropriations Subcommittee on the need for increased funding for research in the social and behavioral sciences.

Organized meeting with Frank Cushing, Staff Director, House VA, HUD, IA Appropriations Subcommittee to lobby for FY 2000 funds. Met with other House and Senate appropriations staff.

Coordinated response to language in Senate VA, HUD, IA Appropriations Subcommittee report denigrating economics research and suggesting the social and behavioral sciences were not an integral part of NSF. Helped write colloquy between Senators Daniel Inouye and Committee Chair Kit Bond, on Senate floor during the bill's consideration. The colloquy made explicit the importance of the social and behavioral sciences to the NSF's research portfolio.

Organized meeting with NSF Director Rita Colwell for COSSA Executive Committee. Executive Director, representing the social and behavioral sciences, met with her on two other occasions, with representatives from the natural and physical sciences and engineers. Attended her speech at the National Press Club as NSF's special guest. Communicated with the Director on many other matters including the search for a new Assistant Director for NSF's Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE).

Regular and frequent contact with NSF's Office of Legislative and Public Affairs.

Met with Bennett Bertenthal, Assistant Director for the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences directorate (SBE), regarding the FY 2000 budget for the Directorate.

Held regular meetings with Bill Butz and Hilleary Everist, Directors of SBE's Social and Economic Sciences and Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences Divisions, respectively.

Executive Director attended SBE Advisory Committee meetings, as well as meetings of the National Science Board and the Board's annual awards dinner.

In 1999, the agencies making up the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) saw a number of changes, with most of that change occurring at the **National Institutes of Health (NIH)**. After almost five years of heightening the stature of the NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), OBSSR's first and so far only director,

***Health Research: NIH,
CDC, and AHRQ***

Norman Anderson announced that he was leaving his post for the private sector and academia. Anderson's announcement came one day after NIH Director Harold Varmus announced that after six years he was moving on to other endeavors. Also in 1999, Representative John E. Porter (R-IL), NIH champion and chair of the powerful appropriations subcommittee that provides funding allocations to NIH, announced that he would not seek reelection in 2000. Despite the departures, though, the NIH did have some good news: it received a second record increase (15 percent) in funds appropriated to the agency.

In April, the NIH's Council of Public Representatives (COPR), established in response to the 1998 Institute of Medicine report, *Scientific Opportunities and Public Needs*, met for its inaugural meeting. Additionally, an examination of the NIH's peer review system became a major focus of the Center for Scientific Review. The NIH Peer Review Oversight Group (PROG) considered the use of "public participants" in the peer review process. Individual NIH Institutes, including the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institute of Mental Health, and the National Cancer Institute began to include public participants in the scientific review process.

In 1999, the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** saw less dramatic change, but it did focus more of its resource and energy on prevention research. In FY 2000 the CDC received \$15 million through the Clinton Administration's 21st Century Research Fund initiative to strengthen its prevention research activities. The initiative included CDC's extramural research programs and its funding of research of immediate relevancy to public health problems. Also in FY 2000, the CDC began to seek more investigator-initiated research proposals to inform public health policy in several areas including: genetics, prevention of viral sexually-transmitted diseases, effective health communication strategies, managed care, and applied research on surveillance of vaccine preventable diseases in managed care settings and introduction of new vaccines.

The reauthorization of HHS' Agency for Health Care Policy and Research provided the agency with a new name: the **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality**. AHRQ received a 20 percent increase in funding in FY 2000.

Key COSSA Activities

National Institutes of Health

Associate Director for Government Affairs continued to lead the Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Science Research.

Maintained close interaction with Norman Anderson, OBSSR director, and his staff.

Participated in more than 30 Institute Advisory Committee meetings (three times per year): National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institute on Aging, National Institute of Nursing Research, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institute of Mental Health, National Human Genome Research Institute, Office of AIDS Research, Office of Research on Women's Health, National Institute of Mental Health, Center for Scientific Review, Advisory Committee to the Office of the Director, National Health, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, NIH's Peer Review Oversight Group and the Council of Public Representatives. This includes expanding COSSA's coverage to the John E. Fogarty International Center, National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences, and the National Cancer Institute.

Participated in the NIH's planning of the "Level of Analysis" (sociocultural) conference scheduled for June 2000. The conference is being organized by the OBSSR.

Monitored proposed changes in NIH's peer review system. Organized COSSA's and members of the Health and Behavior Alliance's response to the Panel on Scientific Boundaries Report.

Participated in the Ad Hoc Group's visits with NIH Institute Directors: Alan Leshner (National Institute on Drug Abuse), Steve Hyman (National Institute of Mental Health), Vivian Pinn (Office of Research on Women's Health), Duane Alexander (National Institute on Child Health and Human Development), and Norman Anderson (OBSSR).

Met with NIH staff: Robert Croyle of the National Cancer Institute; Sanford Garfield of the National Institute for Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases; and La Sonya Hall-Harris of the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences. Organized meetings for Garfield and Hall-Harris with the Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Science Research.

Submitted testimony to House and Senate Labor, Health and Human Service, Education Appropriations Subcommittees supporting increased funding for social and behavioral science research at NIH for FY 2000.

Led the Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Science Research in lobbying on behalf of full funding of the National Longitudinal Study on Adolescent Health (Add Health), including providing language to the House Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee, subsequently incorporated in the report accompanying the bill.

Associate Director for Government Affairs continues to serve on the Executive Committee of the Friends of NICHD.

Attended numerous forums/conferences on social and behavioral science research: the NIH's Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Coordinating Committee monthly lecture series; the National Institute on Drug Abuse's symposium celebrating its 25th anniversary; and the NIH/New York Academy of Sciences conference: *Socioeconomic Status and Health in Industrial Nations: Social, Psychological, and Biological Pathways*.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Attended advisory committee to the Director in Atlanta.

Submitted appropriation's testimony to Labor, HHS, Education Subcommittees supporting increased funding for social and behavioral science research at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Initiated and maintained regular contact with Ruth Berkelman and Lynda Doll of the CDC's Office of Prevention.

Organized meeting with Lynda Doll and the Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Science Research.

Participated in the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) Task Force to increase the funding for the NCHS.

Continued to play an active role in the CDC Coalition.

Agency for Health Care Research and Quality

Submitted appropriations' testimony to the Labor, HHS, Education Subcommittees supporting increased funding for social and behavioral science research at AHCPR.

Attended AHCPR's advisory committees and met with AHCPR officials.

Continued to participate in the Friends of AHCPR coalition.

Educational Research

The nation's educational research system is in dire need of improvement. This was the overriding theme of several congressional hearings convened in 1999 to discuss education research and the federal government's investment in this system. The hearings were geared to provide Members of Congress information as they begin the process of crafting legislation to reauthorize the Department of Education's **Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI)**. Several studies of the Nation's education research system called for "drastic" increases in the federal investment to determine what works and what does not in classrooms across the country. Congress will likely discuss the government's investment in education research during the second session of the 106th Congress, and possibly craft a reauthorization bill before the end of the session.

Key COSSA Activities

Met with Kent McGuire, Assistant Director, Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI).

Active member of the Intersociety Group on Educational Research (IGER), and met with key staff members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees and Subcommittees, as well key staff members of the House Education and Workforce Committee and the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.

Participated in OERI Reauthorization Working Group and helped draft recommendations for reauthorization submitted to the House Education & Workforce Committee and the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.

Attended regular meetings of the National Education Research Policy & Priorities Board, and maintained relations with the Priorities Board's Executive Director Eve Blither.

Participated in the Coalition for International Education seeking increased appropriations for Title VI international education centers and other programs.

Despite plenty of Congressional rhetoric about the need for youth violence and gun control legislation, all that Congress did was talk. As with youth violence and gun control, the Office of

Crime and Research: The OJP

Justice Programs (OJP) was the center of a lot of attention but received little real "action." Most of the interest in the OJP stemmed from language inserted in the Fiscal Year 1999 Omnibus Budget Bill that required the OJP to submit a reorganization plan to address congressional concerns about overlap, inefficiency, and redundancy within the agency. Consequently, the plan was the topic of several congressional hearings; however, these hearings failed to serve as the spark for legislation codifying the proposed changes to consolidate and streamline OJP. However, part of the reorganization plan was realized through language in the FY 2000 Consolidated Appropriations Bill which transferred all the powers and responsibilities of the director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance to the Assistant Attorney General for the OJP.

Key COSSA Activities

Met with National Institute of Justice Director Jeremy Travis. Attended NIJ's Research Conference and Breakfast seminars.

Met with and talked to key congressional staff regarding Juvenile Justice legislation.

Met with key congressional staff and attending hearings on reorganization of the Office of Justice Programs and the consolidation of the research function in the National Institute of Justice.

Met with and discussed Office of Justice Programs reorganization plans with NIJ leadership and staff.

Submitted testimony to the Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary Subcommittees supporting increased appropriations for NIJ and the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Regular contact with offices and staffers of members of the House and Senate Judiciary Committees.

Attended and participated in meetings of the Criminal Justice Editors' Group, of which COSSA is an active member.

Attended meetings of the Committee on Law and Justice of the National Academy of Science's Commission on Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education.

Census Bureau and the 2000 Census

1999 was a busy year for the Census Bureau as it geared up its preparations for the 2000 headcount. The big story was the controversy surrounding the proposed use of scientific statistical sampling to estimate portions of the population — minority groups and children — that have historically been undercounted. The year got off to a rocky start as the Supreme Court ruled in the case *House of Representatives vs. Census Bureau* (check case name) that the Bureau could not use sampling for the purpose of determining each state's representation in Congress, also called reapportionment. The decision left open, some say mandated, the use of sampling for the distribution of federal funds based on formula grants, as well as for redistricting within the states. Some expected the controversy to boil over during consideration of the funding bills for Fiscal Year 2000; however, this never materialized and except for minor skirmishes funding for the Census Bureau and the decennial census went relatively smoothly.

Key COSSA Activities

Attended White House briefings on the 2000 Decennial Census, as well as a Rose Garden Speech by President Clinton on the 2000 Census.

Attended meetings of the Panel on the Research on Future Census Methods of National Academy of Sciences' Commission on Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education and Committee on National Statistics.

Maintained regular contact with House Census Subcommittee members' offices, and attended meetings of the bipartisan Census Monitoring Board, and attended meeting of the 2000 Census Advisory Committee.

Worked with the Census 2000 Initiative, including co-sponsoring a televised press conference, to ensure a fair and accurate census.

Agriculture

The Congress continued to value formula and special grants more highly than competitive grants. The administration's attempt to significantly increase funding for the National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program was rejected by the Congress. The administration decided to spend funds for the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems and to award grants under the Fund for Rural America. Social

scientists continued their efforts to infuse the rural agenda with their research and to convince other stakeholders of the importance of social, behavioral, and economic factors on agriculture and rural America.

Worked with the Council on Food and Agricultural Economics (CFARE) and Rural Sociological Society on agricultural research and funding issues. Submitted joint testimony with CFARE to the Agriculture and Rural Development Appropriations Subcommittees.

Spoke to the Mobilizing the Social and Human Sciences workshop aimed at developing agendas and activities for the social science interests in agriculture.

Represented social science interests at a meeting of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges Board of Agriculture planning priorities meeting.

FOIA, A-110, and Other Issues

Submitted comments to OMB regarding their proposed revisions to Circular A-110 implementing the Shelby provision on the use of the Freedom of Information Act to impose sharing of data.

Member of group coordinating strategy for Walsh-Price amendment to allow for further study before implementation of the Shelby provision regarding data sharing.

Participated in many strategy meetings and conversations with social science community, broader science community, Congress, Executive Branch agencies, and attended hearing of the House Government Reform Subcommittee on this issue.

Worked with House Science Committee staff successfully to include social and behavioral sciences in Information Technology legislation sponsored by House Science Committee Chairman James Sensenbrenner.

Continued participation in Digital Future Coalition and efforts to get Congress to enact database legislation that would continue to protect fair use by researchers.

Social and Behavioral Sciences on the Hill: Congressional Hearings

In 1999 Congress convened many hearings to discuss issues of importance to social and behavioral scientists. Listed below are some of the hearings attended by COSSA staff as one way to keep informed of congressional attitudes towards these important topics.

National Science Foundation Director Rita Colwell and National Science Board Chairman Eamon Kelly testify before the House VA, HUD, Independent Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee. (March 4)

National Institutes of Health Director Harold Varmus appears before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education and Related Agencies. (February 24)

Kenneth Prewitt, Census Bureau Director, makes his first appearance before the House Commerce, Justice, State (CJS) Appropriations Subcommittee. (March 23)

Laurie Robinson, Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), talks about the OJP's congressionally-mandated reorganization plan before the Senate Judiciary Committee Youth Violence Subcommittee. (March 25)

Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee holds hearing to discuss the state of the Nation's education research system. (April 14)

Rita Colwell, NSF Director, and Eamon Kelly, NSB Chairman, discuss the agency's research agenda before the House Science Committee Basic Research Subcommittee. (April 28)

The reauthorization of the Agency for Health Care and Policy Research (AHCPR) is considered during a hearing of the House Commerce Subcommittee on Health and Environment. (April 29)

Criminal justice researchers discuss school violence and safety before the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. (May 6)

Researchers discuss Geographic Information Systems (GIS) at hearing of the House Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Management, Information and Technology. (June 9)

The Basic Research Subcommittee of the House Science Committee holds hearing on the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Act (H.R. 2086). (July 14)

House Government Reform Subcommittee on Government Management and Information Technology Subcommittee holds hearing on FOIA and Circular A-110 provision. (July 15)

Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee holds hearing on a nearly \$1 billion youth violence prevention initiative. (September 14)

COSSA Before Congress: Congressional Testimony

Testifying before congressional and agency panels or submitting testimony for the official record are two of COSSA's most visible and effective advocacy tools. Outlined below is a brief description of testimony delivered or submitted for the record on behalf of the Consortium. Complete copies of testimony are available; please contact COSSA or consult our webpage.

Fiscal Year 2000 Appropriations for the National Science Foundation

Testimony provided on April 28 by Howard J. Silver, COSSA Executive Director

House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and Independent Agencies

Honorable James T. Walsh, Chairman

Fiscal Year 2000 Appropriations for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Testimony submitted for the record on April 15 by Angela L. Sharpe, Associate Director for Government Affairs, on behalf of the Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research

House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

Honorable John Edward Porter, Chairman

Fiscal Year 2000 Appropriations for Research Programs at the Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI) and the NIH

Testimony provided on April 13 by Patrice O'Toole, Assistant Director of the Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences, on behalf of COSSA, the American Educational Research Association (AERA), and the American Psychological Association (APA)

House Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

Honorable John Edward Porter, Chairman

Fiscal Year 2000 Appropriations for the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), Office of Justice Programs

Testimony submitted for the record on April 7 by David A. Hess, Associate Director for Public Affairs

House Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies

Honorable Harold Rogers, Chairman

Fiscal Year 2000 Appropriations for the U.S. Department of Agriculture

Testimony submitted for the record on April 16 by COSSA and the Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (CFARE)

Senate Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies

Honorable Thad Cochran

COSSA's Angela Sharpe and NIDA Director Alan Leshner discuss NIDA's future budget and research priorities.

Constituency Relations

New Contributors

Washington University in St. Louis
Nelson Rockefeller Institute of Government
Howard University

New Affiliate

Midwest Political Science Association

Selected COSSA Activities

Executive Director served on the American Political Science Association (APSA) Council; Met with Association of American Geographers Council.

COSSA staff attended meetings of the American Psychological Association (APA), American Sociological Association (ASA), and the American Society of Criminology (ASC).

Participated in Decade of Behavior Advisory Committee meeting. Coordinated visits by Tennessee social and behavioral scientists to Senator Bill Frist's office. Worked on White Papers. Advised on possible TV series.

Spoke to Council of Midwest Political Science Association and convinced them to affiliate with COSSA; Spoke to Chairs of Midwest Rural Sociology Departments.

Participated in Association of American Universities' (AAU) Working Group on the NSF and other science agencies.

Met with representatives of American Educational Research Association (AERA), Association of Research Libraries (ARL), National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA), Rural Sociological Society (RSS), and many university government relations officers.

Executive Director spoke to West Virginia University's Research Funding Conference.

Executive Director attended Geographic Information Systems User's Conference sponsored by Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc., Jack Dangermond, COSSA Board member, President.

Co-sponsored lunch for William Julius Wilson, recipient of 1998 Medal of Science. Attended Medal of Science dinner.

UPDATE remains COSSA's major tool of communication. The biweekly newsletter is currently mailed to almost 1,600 readers in universities across the nation, on Capitol Hill, in the Federal agencies, and other social and behavioral scientists in the Washington community. It continues to receive praise from policymakers, as well as social scientist and non-scientists alike for its coverage of science policy issues. Every year the Consortium publishes an *UPDATE* that contains a comprehensive analysis of the administration's budget request for over 40 federal agencies that support social and behavioral science research. As it has for the past several years, the magazine, *Society*, republished the *UPDATE* budget issue in its November/December 1999 issue. The newsletter is available by subscription, contact COSSA with any questions or consult the Consortium's webpage: <http://www.cossa.org>.

Media Relations

In 1999 COSSA continued to be active in its media relations and outreach activities, with the goals of enhancing the visibility and effectiveness of the Consortium, and drawing attention to the contributions of social science. The COSSA staff frequently serve as resource contacts and provide background information to journalists covering social and behavioral science issues, and issues press releases when relevant. In 1999 COSSA worked with reporters from a number of different publications, including: *Science*, *Science and Government Report*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *The Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, and *Chemical and Engineering News*. Ted Gest, *U.S. News and World Report* editor, participated in the Annual Meeting.



COSSA Executive Director Howard Silver and Ohio State University Professor Randall Ripley at the Annual

COSSA Executive Director Howard Silver and M.R.C. Greenwood at the AAAS

COSSA and the Science Community

Executive Director re-elected Chair of the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF), whose close to 80 members include groups in the natural and physical sciences, social and behavioral sciences, engineering, higher education, and the industrial sector. COSSA Members participated in the CNSF Annual Exhibition.

Participated in national coalitions to increase funding for social and behavioral research related to health including: the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, the Friends of NICHD (staff on Executive Committee), the National Organizations Responding to AIDS, the Friends of the Agency for Health Policy and Research; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coalition, the Coalition to Fight Sexually Transmitted Diseases, and the Genome Action Coalition.

Represented social and behavioral sciences at meetings of Public Affairs Network, the Science Coalition, and the Science and Technology Working Group.

Continued interaction with Commission on Behavioral and Social Science and Education (CBASSE). Met with leaders of National Research Council Boards and Committees. Attended National Academy of Sciences conference on measuring basic research. Attended meetings of the Board on Children and Families, and the Forum on Adolescence.

Invited observer at Committee on National Statistics meetings (CNSTAT). COSSA prepared materials for the briefing book distributed at the quarterly meetings. Met with Chief Statistician of the U.S.

Participated in preliminary meeting of the National Research Council's Office of Scientific Engineering and Personnel considering the next edition of the Research Doctorate Programs in the United States.

Maintained relationship with the Office of International Affairs of the National Academy of Sciences. Grant to International Human Dimensions Program continued.

Organized trip of Executive Director and President of the International Social Science Council (ISSC) to Washington, DC.

At the invitation of government of Norway, Executive Director met with officials from Ministries, Research Council, research institutes, and Universities of Bergen and Oslo.

Attended AAAS annual Colloquium on Science and Technology Policy. Executive Director officially received Fellow recognition.

Working with Others: Coalitions and Committees

COSSA participate in many coalitions in order to represent better the interests of the social and behavioral science community. COSSA joins these coalitions and committees to ensure that they incorporate the concerns — and the potential contributions — of social and behavioral scientists (See left column).

In addition, the Consortium works with other groups to advance the concerns of its constituents (See right column).

AAAS Professional Society Ethics Group
Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Funding
Centers for Disease Control Coalition
Coalition to Fight Sexually Transmitted Diseases
Coalition on International Education
Friends of the Agency for Health Care
Policy and Research
Friends of NICHD Coalition
Genome Action Coalition
Intersociety Group on Education Research
National Organizations Responding to AIDS
National Prevention Coalition
Public Affairs Network

- American Chemical Society
- Association of American Medical Colleges
- Association of American Universities
- Census 2000 Initiative
- Council of Graduate Schools
- Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics
- Council on Food, Agriculture, and Resource Economics
- Federation of Behavioral, Psychological and Cognitive Sciences
- National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges
- National Humanities Alliance
- Population Resource Center

International Linkages

The highlight of COSSA's international activities in 1999 was COSSA Executive Director Howard Silver's trip to Norway as a guest of the government. The trip was arranged through the good auspices of the Royal Norwegian Embassy in the United States and its Science Attache, Tore Li. During five days in Oslo and Bergen, Silver met with officials of the Ministries of Education, Research and Church Affairs, and Children and Social Affairs. He made a presentation about COSSA and U.S. social science to the Research Council of Norway, where Arvid Hallen, head of the Culture and Society Division, described the Norwegian research structure. In addition, Hans Skoie, a noted science policy journalist, interviewed Silver about U.S. science policy. Silver also met with administrators and social science faculty at the Universities of Oslo and Bergen. Researchers from the Institute of Social Research and the Norwegian Social Research Institutes (NOVA) described the independent institute structure of Norwegian social science. Additionally, Silver met with the leaders of the Norwegian Social Sciences Data Services (NSD), the country's data archive and survey research center, located in Bergen.

In early September, COSSA arranged a series of meetings for Leszek Kosinski, Executive Director, and Kurt Pawlik, President, of the International Social Science Council (ISSC). The meetings with officials from the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, the National Science Foundation and the National Academy of Sciences, resulted in the return of the United States as a member of ISSC. Silver also attended a special briefing by Ali Kazancigil and David Makinson of the UNESCO social science section, who were the co-editors of the *World Social Science Report*.

COSSA continued to administer a grant from the Office of International Affairs of the National Academy of Sciences to the International Human Dimensions Program (IHDP), based in Bonn, Germany. COSSA consulted with the NAS office on the project and kept in contact with the IHDP staff, including its new Executive Director, Jill Jager. COSSA continues to maintain communications with similar social science groups in Great Britain, the Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand, Nigeria, the Republic of South Africa, and other nations through newsletter exchanges and other means. These linkages and other activities provide COSSA with a comparative perspective on problems facing social and behavioral scientists.

Silver in Norway. COSSA's Silver with ... during his trip to Norway to speak with Norwegian science officials.

Congressional Briefings

The Congressional Briefings series provides COSSA an outlet to inform government officials and policy makers of current research on a wide range of topics in the social and behavioral sciences. Funding for the briefings was provided through a generous grant from the Ford Foundation.

In 1999 COSSA sponsored three Congressional Briefings, all of which were widely attended by Members of Congress, congressional staffers, federal agency officials, as well as many other interested persons. The topics of 1998's briefings included: welfare reform, adherence to medical advice, and trust in government.

Is Welfare Reform Working? The Impact of Economic Growth and Policy Changes, March 16, 1999

Speakers

Sheldon Danziger, University of Michigan
"The Welfare Caseload Decline: A False Indicator?"

Robert Moffitt, Johns Hopkins University
"Reasons and Determinants of the Decline"

LaDonna Pavetti, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc
"States' Approaches to Welfare Reform"

Pictured (l-r): Sheldon Danziger, COSSA's Howard Silver, Robert Moffitt, and LaDonna Pavetti.

Not What the Doctor Ordered: Challenges Individuals Face in Adhering to Medical Advice/Treatment, April 16, 1999

Speakers

Karen Luftey, Indiana University, Bloomington
Bernice Pescosolido, Indiana University, Bloomington
"History of Compliance and Adherence Research"

Noel J. Chrisman, University of Washington
"Social and Cultural Factors of Adherence"

Margaret Chesney, University of California, San Francisco
Adherence and AIDS

Pictured (l-r): Margaret Chesney, Noel Chrisman, Norman Anderson, Karen Luftey, Bernice Pescosolido, and COSSA's Angela Sharpe.

Do Americans Care About and Trust Their Government?, July 16, 1999

Speakers

John Hibbing, University of Nebraska
“Confidence in Political Institutions”

Pippa Norris, Harvard University
“Mass Media and Public Confidence”

Wendy Rahn, University of Minnesota
“Public Dissatisfaction: A Real Problem”

Honorable David Price,
U.S. House of Representatives
Moderator

Pictured (l-r): COSSA’s Howard Silver, Pippa Norris, John Hibbing, Wendy Rahn, and Rep. David Price.

Congressman Rush Holt (D-NJ) listens intently at the July 16 “Trust and Government” briefing.

Over 150 people attended COSSA’s March 16 briefing on welfare reform.

The Annual Meeting

COSSA held its Annual Meeting on November 8. Over 75 representatives of COSSA's Members, Affiliates, and Contributors heard speakers from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), the National Science Foundation (NSF), Congress, and panel discussions on information technology and youth violence.

Drug Abuse and Prevention

*Alan Leshner, Director
National Institute on Drug Abuse*

National Institute on Drug Abuse Director Alan Leshner was the day's luncheon speaker. Leshner spoke about drug abuse and addiction, and considered many questions that social and behavioral scientists will have to address in the next several years to advance our understanding of prevention and treatment.

The scientific findings of the last two decades, he said, have revolutionized our understanding of these problems. Leshner said that the social and behavioral sciences have contributed greatly to this knowledge. Stressing the importance of the knowledge NIDA has gleaned over the years from research, he noted that it is important to get this information to the field. To this end, he explained that NIDA recently published and distributed a research-based guide, "Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment." He stressed, however, that the information contained in the guide must be adapted to specific characteristics of each community.

Despite the research produced by social and behavioral scientists over the years, Leshner said that does not mean that they are off the hook. There is still a lot that we do not know. He pointed to several areas in which NIDA would like more knowledge, including more information about prevention and what works for different segments within the population. In addition, Leshner said there was a need for a greater sophistication in treatment research. He put a lot of emphasis on the need to know more about the transition from drug use to drug addiction. This, he said, will be a major focus of NIDA over the next several years.

The Annual Meeting also featured National Science Foundation Deputy Director Joe Bordogna. Stating that there "will always be a need for social and behavioral scientists" in NSF's themes of "people, ideas, and tools," Bordogna's talk focused on several broad themes: the need for a state-of-the-art infrastructure for the social sciences, the need for research partnerships among the different disciplines, a need for more resources, and a reexamination of the federal government's role in supporting the social and behavioral sciences.

The Future of the Nation's Social Science Research

*Joe Bordogna, Deputy Director
National Science Foundation*

At this time, he stressed that the social sciences do not have the requisite databases and state-of-the-art infrastructure to make the most effective use of the knowledge gathered by researchers. He spoke of the need to increase the use of large-scale computers in the social and behavioral sciences.

Bordogna noted a “disquieting trend” in federal funding of research and development. In 1998, public and private funding for research and development totaled \$240 billion. The federal government, he said, accounted for 25 percent of the \$240 billion total. This amount is much less than the government’s share of research and development in the 1950s (around 90 percent), the 1970s (over 50 percent), and the 1980s (46 percent). In fact, Bordogna noted that the federal government’s investment is at its lowest level since 1953.

He further stressed the importance of research partnerships, and the need for all the disciplines within the rubric of social and behavioral science to move together to address the many challenges in the next century. Echoing Presidential Science Advisor Neal Lane’s clarion call, Bordogna called on all social and behavioral scientists to become “civic scientists.”

In the midst of the final negotiations over the FY 2000 appropriations, Frank Cushing, clerk and staff director of the House Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on the Departments of Veterans’ Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies, and William Hoagland, staff director for the Senate Budget Committee, spoke about this year’s budget process and the funding picture for various government agencies. Each related his frustrations with this year’s budget process.

Budget Matters

*Frank Cushing, Staff Director and Clerk
House Appropriations VA, HUD, and
Independent Agencies Subcommittee*

*William Hoagland, Staff Director
Senate Budget Committee*

Cushing, who has witnessed federal budget negotiations since the Carter Administration, noted that every year the road to a final budget agreement is different from the year before. This year produced particular aggravation as the President and Congress jockeyed for political advantage going into the 2000 elections. Hoagland lamented the fact that this was supposed to be an easy year for formulating the budget. He suggested the President and the GOP-led Congress had an opportunity, presented with increasing budget surpluses, to fashion an early agreement that could have satisfied each of their competing budget priorities. Instead, he said, we got another year of partisan fighting over who was going to save Social Security and other divisive issues.

TerriAnn Lowenthal, of the Census 2000 Initiative, spoke about the census as a part of a broader data system that informs public policy, planning, and the most basic understanding of our society. She said that the census should be viewed as the cornerstone of a national statistical system. Unfortunately, Lowenthal explained that this aspect has been overshadowed or drowned out by the debate surrounding the proposed use of scientific statistical sampling in the upcoming headcount.

Information Issues

*TerriAnn Lowenthal, Consultant
Census 2000 Initiative*

*Prudence Adler, Associate Executive
Director
Association of Research Libraries*

*Mark Frankel, Director
Scientific Freedom, Responsibility and Law
Program, American Association for the
Advancement of Science (AAAS)*

Prue Adler, assistant executive director of the Association of Research Libraries, spoke about database legislation currently awaiting action by Congress. H.R. 354, also known as the Collections of Information Piracy Act, sponsored by Representative Howard Coble (R-NC) could have debilitating

effects on the education and research community. The bill would prohibit the extraction or use of “all or a substantial part . . . of a collection of information gathered, organized, or maintained by another person through the investment of substantial monetary or other resources, so as to cause harm to the actual or potential market.”

Adler noted that her organization, and many others, including COSSA, have thrown their support behind a competing and compromise bill sponsored by Representative Thomas Bliley (R-VA) and chair of the Commerce Committee. H.R. 1858 would provide more exemptions and would thus protect the traditional customs and functions of the research community. (Neither bill passed the House this year.)

Mark Frankel, director of the Scientific Freedom, Responsibility and Law Program at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), discussed the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) effort to amend Circular A-110 to “require all federal awarding agencies to ensure that all data produced under an award are made available to the public through the procedures established under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).” He noted that the exact day of COSSA’s annual meeting marked the day in which the new rules governing access to research data came into effect. “We are in a new regime,” said Frankel.

Youth Violence

Alfred Blumstein, COSSA President and Professor, Carnegie Mellon University

Alex Crosby, Medical Epidemiologist Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Ted Gest, National News Editor U.S. News & World Report

Al Blumstein, COSSA President and principal investigator of the National Science Foundation-funded National Consortium on Violence Research (NCOVR), addressed youth gun violence. He noted that youth violence, particularly youth gun violence, dramatically increased between 1985 and 1993, and since that time has steadily declined. He attributed the increase in youth gun violence to the rise of crack markets in America’s inner-cities.

Alex Crosby, medical epidemiologist in the Division of Violence Prevention at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), spoke about youth interpersonal violence and some of the risk and

protective factors that the CDC has identified through several longitudinal research studies. He noted that even though some of the youth violence rates (particularly youth homicide) have declined, there is “still a lot we don’t know about the risk and protective factors associated with youth violence.” In fact, he said that even though youth interpersonal violence rates are dropping, they are still quite high for the United States. Therefore, the CDC, stated Crosby, is very interested in sponsoring more research in this field.

Ted Gest, national news editor for *U.S. News & World Report* and president of the Criminal Justice Journalists (CJJ) group (<http://www.reporters.net/cjj>), discussed news media coverage of youth violence. He addressed the standard critique that the media cover juvenile crime too much and that makes the public unduly fearful and skews public policy in favor of more punitive measures. This criticism, he said, assumes that there is a correct base-level for coverage. Gest also disagreed with the criticism that news media coverage leads to bad or skewed public policy. He said the news media has gotten a bad rap for creating support for punitive measures for juvenile criminals. He contended that there is no proven nexus between news media coverage and implementation of bad public policy. The social sciences, he asserted, lack research in this area.

Annual Meeting in Pictures

Frank Cushing, clerk and staff director of the House VA, HUD, Independent Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, discusses the FY 2001 budget request.

William Hoagland (l), staff director of the Senate Budget Committee, talks about the budget process as COSSA President Al Blumstein looks on.

NSF Deputy Director Joseph Bordogna talks about federal support of the social and behavioral sciences.

Ted Gest talks about the media's role in reporting youth violence, as members of the youth violence panel look on. Pictured (l-r): Executive Committee member Felice Levine, Blumstein, and CDC's Alex Crosby.

Mark Frankel (l), from AAAS, and Prudence Adler, from ARL, prepare to discuss information issues.

TerriAnn Lowenthal, from the Census 2000 Initiative, talks about the data products of the upcoming census.

Governance and Finance

The Consortium began in the late 1960s as an informal group of social science associations that met once a month to exchange information and discuss common problems. In 1981, the disciplinary associations, responding to disproportionately large budget cuts proposed for the social and behavioral sciences at the National Science Foundation, used the informal COSSA collaboration as the basis for a temporary Washington-based advocacy effort.

By late 1981, the Members had concluded that the experimental organization had proven its value to all of the disciplines as a vehicle for monitoring, educating, and lobbying on behalf of the social and behavioral science community. The Consortium of Social Science Associations was incorporated as a 501(c)(6) organization in 1982. Full members originally included 10 disciplinary based associations. In 1982, COSSA's Members decided to invite other associations to become Affiliates of the organization, and universities and research institutes to become Contributors. The Law and Society Association enhanced its membership status from Affiliate to full Member in 1993. The American Society of Criminology in 1994, and the Society for Research in Child Development in 1996, did the same. In 1999, the National Communication Association became COSSA's 14th Full Member. At the end of 1999, the Consortium had 27 Affiliates and 66 Contributors.

The Board of Directors consists of two representatives from each of the fourteen Member associations (the executive officer and the president or other designated individual), and up to seven at-large members. The latter are selected to represent other segments of the Consortium's constituency, including Affiliates, Contributors, social scientists employed outside academia, users of social science research from the private sector, and other members of the scientific community. COSSA'S executive director serves *ex officio* as a member of the Board. The Board meets annually to approve the COSSA budget and to set policy. In 1999, Alfred Blumstein, J. Erik Jonsson, Professor of Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University, served the first year of his two-year term as COSSA's president. A list of the COSSA Board of Directors is included in the front of this report.

The Executive Committee consists of the executive officers of the Member associations and COSSA's executive director, *ex officio*. The Committee meets quarterly to discuss issues of COSSA policy and priorities. In 1999, Felice Levine, Executive Officer of the American Sociological Association, began her second two-year term as Chair.

During 1999 COSSA re-examined its dues structure for its Full Members. A statement of A Fair Share Principle on Member's Due was adopted by the Board. The statement is as follows:

- 1) Each association would be assessed dues based on its total individual membership.
- 2) An association could petition to exempt some of its Members from the full count. The Budget Committee would assess the petitions and make recommendations to the Executive Committee.
- 3) A model assessing dues of at least \$2 per 1999 reported individual member total, plus 8 percent inflation was accepted as a goal for 2003. The American Historical Association, American Psychological Association, and the American Statistical Associations were granted exemptions. Associations whose dues would go up significantly would have a four-year phase-in period to reach the 2003 goal.
- 4) The 2003 goals are not set in concrete. Each year COSSA will assess its needs and develop Member dues accordingly. Each association's total individual members would remain the basis for apportioning the dues.

Affiliates, which tend to be smaller organizations or who represent more specialized research fields, are asked to contribute at a rate of \$1.20 per relevant member. Contributor universities pay annual dues of \$1,800 to

\$3,600. Research institutes and other organizations contribute between \$350 and \$1,800 annually. A copy of COSSA's 1999 audit appears on the following pages.

The Staff

HOWARD J. SILVER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Silver is responsible for planning and directing all programs and initiatives of the Consortium and serves as COSSA's chief lobbyist. He formerly served COSSA as Associate Director for Government Relations, a position he held from 1983 to 1988. In 1994 he was elected Chair of the Coalition of National Science Funding. Dr. Silver was previously a consultant for legislative and political research, a political campaign manager and a legislative analyst in the Department of Education. He taught political science and public policy at several colleges and universities. He received his Ph.D. in political science from Ohio State University.

ANGELA L. SHARPE, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Ms. Sharpe is responsible for lobbying Members of Congress and their staff on health and behavioral research, and representing COSSA to executive branch agencies, particularly the Department of Health and Human Services. She joined the COSSA staff in June 1995. She previously served as a legislative assistant to Rep. Carrie P. Meek (D-FL) and to former Rep. R. Lawrence Coughlin (R-PA). She received a Masters in Government from The Johns Hopkins University and a B.S. in Industrial Relations and a B.S. in Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

DAVID A. HESS, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Mr. Hess is responsible for lobbying Members of Congress, congressional and federal agency staff, and other advocacy organizations on issues affecting social and behavioral science, particularly criminal justice and education research. He coordinates COSSA's media relations and outreach efforts, and is the editor of the Consortium's bi-weekly newsletter, *COSSA WASHINGTON UPDATE*. Mr. Hess joined COSSA in 1997 after earning a Masters in Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh. He earned a B.A. from Franklin & Marshall College.

KAREN E. CARRION, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ms. Carrion is responsible for a wide variety of managerial and administrative duties, in addition to helping maintain COSSA's date bases and newsletter circulation. She is also responsible for COSSA's bookkeeping and general accounting, and performs various personnel-related tasks. Ms. Carrion joined COSSA in 1990 after working at the American Political Science Association. She received her B.S. in Physical Sciences from the University of Maryland.

