

COSSA

Consortium of Social Science Associations



*Advocating
for the
Social and Behavioral Sciences
for Over 25 Years*

2007 Annual Report

CONSORTIUM OF SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS

GOVERNING MEMBERS

American Association for Public Opinion Research
American Economic Association
American Educational Research Association
American Historical Association
American Political Science Association
American Psychological Association
American Society of Criminology
American Sociological Association
American Statistical Association

Association of American Geographers
Association of American Law Schools
Law and Society Association
Linguistic Society of America
Midwest Political Science Association
National Communication Association
Rural Sociological Society
Society for Research in Child Development

MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS

American Agricultural Economics Association
American Association for Agricultural Education
Association for Asian Studies
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
Association of Research Libraries
Council on Social Work Education
Eastern Sociological Society
International Communication Association
Justice Research and Statistics Association
Midwest Sociological Society
National Association of Social Workers
National Council on Family Relations

North American Regional Science Council
North Central Sociological Association
Population Association of America
Social Science History Association
Society for Research on Adolescence
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality
Sociologists for Women in Society
Southern Political Science Association
Southern Sociological Society
Southwestern Social Science Association

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Arizona State University
Brown University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
Carnegie-Mellon University
University of Chicago
Clark University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
George Mason University
George Washington University
University of Georgia
Harvard University
Howard University
University of Illinois
Indiana University
University of Iowa
Iowa State University
Johns Hopkins University
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
Kansas State University
University of Kentucky
University of Maryland
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse

University of Michigan
Michigan State University
University of Minnesota
Mississippi State University
New York University
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
North Carolina State University
Northwestern University
Ohio State University
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Purdue University
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
University of South Carolina
Stanford University
University of Tennessee
State University of New York, Stony Brook
University of Texas, Austin
Texas A & M University
Tulane University
Vanderbilt University
University of Virginia
University of Washington
Washington University in St. Louis
West Virginia University
University of Wisconsin, Madison
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Yale University

CENTERS AND INSTITUTES

American Academy of Political and Social Sciences
American Council of Learned Societies
American Institutes for Research
Brookings Institution
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan

Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research
Institute for Women's Policy Research
National Bureau of Economic Research
National Opinion Research Center
Population Reference Bureau
Social Science Research Council

COSSA

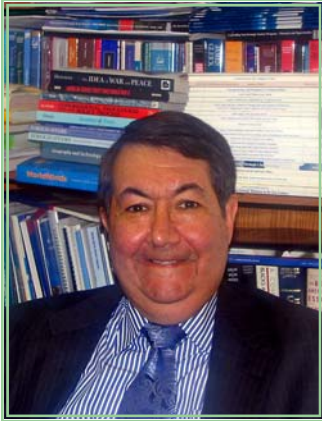
Consortium of Social Science Associations



*Advocate for the
Social and Behavioral Sciences*

2007 Annual Report

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



The past year once again challenged COSSA's advocacy acumen. There were challenges to social/behavioral research as well as a roller-coaster Federal funding process. COSSA's role promoting and defending the social and behavioral sciences flourished again. The year began with the takeover of the Congress by the Democrats, which meant new Committee Chairs and key staff people. Also in January, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2007, which began on October 1, 2006, appropriations' process remained unfinished. COSSA was in the midst of advocacy activities to help the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Census Bureau gain exemptions from the new Congress' determination to simply fund all agencies at their previous year's levels. COSSA's efforts were successful.

In May, the NSF authorization bill reached the House floor. Once again the plan was to double the Foundation's budget in seven years (the previous authorization had tried and failed to do so in five years). In an attempt to embarrass the new Democratic majority, leaders of the Republican Study Committee decided to launch an attack on already-funded grants with what they deemed "silly titles." The defunding proposals were sponsored by Reps. John Campbell (R-CA) and Scott Garrett (R-NJ).

Representative Brian Baird Becomes A Champion

COSSA organized and coordinated the efforts to defeat the amendments. Working with its members and its allies, through connections built up over years of cooperation, in the scientific and higher education community, we reached out to sympathetic members of Congress willing to oppose these legislative provisions. Rep. Brian Baird (D-WA), a Ph.D. psychologist and Chairman of the Research and Science Education Subcommittee, and Rep. Vern Ehlers (R-MI), a Ph.D. physicist who is also the Ranking Republican on that Subcommittee, were magnificent in leading the fight on the House floor that ultimately defeated these amendments.

Later in the year, the NSF authorization became part of the America COMPETES Act, a massive piece of legislation to improve the Nation's competitiveness through investment in science, technology, and science and math education. Baird succeeded in ensuring that the social sciences were included with the other sciences and engineering in NSF's priorities.

Having Baird as Chair of the Subcommittee also gave him the power to set agendas and hold hearings on subjects of interest to him. COSSA worked with Subcommittee staff to help organize a series of hearings on the contributions of the social and behavioral sciences to public policy. In September, Baird held the first of these hearings, on social science contributions to the Nation's energy challenge. More hearings are scheduled for early 2008.

The Ups and Downs of the FY 2008 Funding Game

The FY 2008 appropriations process also included highs and lows and some strange activity. As has happened in too many years recently, Congress did not complete its work on the domestic spending bills until after the fiscal year began. With the new Democratic majority the number of oversight hearings blossomed and once again outside groups were given the opportunity to press their case for the agencies they cared about. COSSA presented testimony to the House Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Subcommittee in April. Because the Subcommittee has jurisdiction over five agencies that support social and behavioral science research, COSSA discussed budgets for NSF, Census, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the National Institute of Justice, and the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). Unfortunately, the amount of time given each outside witness was limited and so COSSA had six minutes to promote the budgets of these five agencies.

COSSA also provided written testimony regarding the budgets of the NIH, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research, the Institute of Educational Sciences, the International and Foreign Language programs of the Department of Education, and the research programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. COSSA also communicated with the Agriculture Committees about these research programs as they worked on the new Farm Bill.

In addition, Rep. David Price (D-NC) became the Chair of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations Subcommittee. This allowed COSSA to work closely with an old friend to help secure funds for DHS's University Programs. This funding line provides support for DHS' Centers of Excellence including the one devoted primarily to social/behavioral research at the University of Maryland, as well as the scholarship and fellowship programs, which help many of our graduate students.

As the appropriations process moved along through the summer and early fall, NSF had received significant increases, over ten percent, from both the House and Senate committees. However, there was an anomaly with the BJS budget in the Senate. The Senate Appropriations Committee had reduced BJS's budget from \$35 million to \$10 million without explanation. COSSA organized efforts to ascertain why and to try and remedy the situation. Eventually, we were told that the \$10 million was a "misprint" that would be corrected later on in the process.

The "later on" did not occur until late December as the Congress tried to avoid a post-Christmas session. Faced with President Bush's unwillingness to budge from his insistence that Congress not exceed his cap for domestic discretionary spending, the Democratic leadership decided to reduce the funding increases for NSF to 2.5 percent, to provide less than a one percent increase for the NIH, and to pretty much level-fund at the previous year's level everything else, including BJS.

The one exception was the Census Bureau which received its requested significant increase to continue its preparations for the 2010 count. COSSA, as a member of the 2010 Census Advisory Committee, has participated in many discussions regarding the march toward the upcoming decennial tally. COSSA had advocated for many years for the American Community Survey, which has made possible the elimination of the long-form Census questionnaire. With the dress rehearsal coming up in 2008 and the issue of using new technology for follow-up still up-in-the-air, the Census faces difficult challenges ahead. It will face those challenges with a new leader. After almost a year after Director Louis Kincannon's announced resignation, Steve Murdock, the Texas state demographer, took over the reins of the Bureau.

Health and Behavior and Diversity Too

COSSA's work with the NIH continued through our leadership of the Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Science Research (CAHT-BSSR). David Abrams, Director of NIH's Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research (OBSSR), met monthly with the group to discuss NIH's activities regarding health and behavior. Abrams spoke at the COSSA Annual Meeting in December and then early in 2008 announced he would be leaving NIH in the spring.

Other COSSA foci at NIH included: pushing the National Institute of General Medical Sciences to be more inclusive of the social/behavioral sciences, which is evident in its new strategic plan; participating in meetings to discuss NIH's efforts in personalized medicine, obesity, health disparities, and cancer prevention through behavioral interventions; monitoring the reassessment of NIH's peer review process; and tracking the progress of the National Children's Study.

COSSA has also undertaken a major effort regarding "Enhancing Diversity in Science." Significant planning for a retreat that will take place at the end of February 2008 took place in 2007. Under the leadership of COSSA's Deputy Director for Health Policy, Angela Sharpe, a large group of professional associations across all the sciences will take part in this effort, supported by NIH, to build a scientific workforce that responds to the Nation's increasingly diverse population.

In 2007, COSSA maintained its close ties to the National Academies' Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (DBASSE). Late in the year, COSSA testified to a newly formed panel assessing the research portfolio of the National Institute of Justice. Earlier in the year, COSSA participated in the release of the study of the Title VI programs of the U.S. Department of Education, whose committee was chaired by former COSSA President Janet Norwood. COSSA also monitored the release of the Academies' report on Science and Security, whose panel it testified to at its first meeting in January 2006. DBASSE also continued its efforts on evidentiary social science and COSSA participated in those meetings, chaired by former Census Bureau Director and COSSA "Founding Father," Ken Prewitt. In addition, COSSA was asked to make a presentation to the Committee on National Statistics on the budgetary outlook for statistical agencies.

Annual Meeting and COSSA Family Changes

The COSSA Annual meeting was held in early December, somewhat later than usual. We experimented with a morning that included concurrent sessions on issues where social/behavioral science research has made important contributions - Developing Human Capital and Global Issues of Climate Change, Economic Growth, and International Politics. Another panel examined the Peer Review processes at Federal agencies. In addition to Abrams' address, the representatives of COSSA's membership also heard a luncheon talk on the promises and perils of Nanotechnology from Julia Moore of the Woodrow Wilson Center's Nanotechnology Project.

This past year also saw changes in the leadership of COSSA's Governing Members, with three new Executive Directors. The COSSA Executive Committee also had two new designated members from groups without Washington offices, bringing the turnover to five. I look forward to working with these new people as COSSA moves forward.

As always, I would like to thank the professional associations, scientific societies, universities, and research centers and institutes that support COSSA's important work. I would also like to express my appreciation to the members of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, COSSA staff, social and behavioral scientists on and off campus, colleagues in the scientific and higher education advocacy communities, Members and staff on Capitol Hill, and officials at Federal agencies, who make the work at COSSA continually interesting and challenging.

Howard J. Silver
Executive Director
February 2008

2007 HIGHLIGHTS

Defending the Social and Behavioral Sciences

COSSA organized and coordinated the response to another attack on social and behavioral science grants. This attack occurred during House consideration of the National Science Foundation (NSF) reauthorization bill in May. Once again there was a fight over attempts to defund already-awarded, peer-reviewed grants in the social and behavioral sciences. COSSA led the effort to defeat the amendments offered by Representatives John Campbell (R-CA) and Scott Garrett (R-NJ).

We were helped by COSSA's members, the American Association for Advancement of Science, the Association of American Universities, and the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges as well as scientific societies in the natural and physical sciences. Rep. Brian Baird (D-WA), a Ph.D. psychologist, and Rep. Vern Ehlers (R-MI), a Ph.D. physicist, were magnificent in the defense of NSF and the threatened grants. Both amendments failed. When the reauthorization bill became part of the *America Competes Act*, Baird succeeded in offering an amendment that added the social sciences to the other disciplines considered as a "priority" at NSF.



Rep. Vern Ehlers (R-MI)



Rep. Brian Baird (D-WA)

Appropriations Testimony



Regarding the FY 2008 budget, COSSA testified to the House Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Appropriations Subcommittee advocating increases for NSF, the Census Bureau, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the National Institute of Justice, and the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). Following a seeming severe cut for BJS in the Senate spending bill, COSSA led an effort to clarify and correct what we were told was a "misprint".

COSSA Executive Director testifies before
the CJS Appropriations Subcommittee

Welcoming Back Cora Marrett



In June, along with the American Sociological Association (ASOCA) and the American Educational Research Association (AERA), COSSA was delighted to sponsor a welcome back reception for Cora Marrett. A sociologist by training, Marrett served as the first Assistant Director for the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate from 1992-96. After high administrative positions at the University of Wisconsin System and the University of Massachusetts, she returned to NSF to head the Education and Human Resources Directorate. She is the first person ever to have led two NSF directorates.

Felice Levine (AERA), Sally Hillsman (ASOCA), Marrett, Silver

Moving Towards the 2010 Census

COSSA remained on the 2010 Census Advisory Committee and participated in briefings on the ramp-up to the next Census. It joined with others in the Census Stakeholders Group to advocate for adequate funding for 2010 and the American Community Survey. We succeeded in securing full funding for the Bureau in fiscal year 2008. This will allow it to move forward with 2010 preparations including the Dress Rehearsal that will take place in the spring of 2008. COSSA also joined other stakeholders in a meeting with Rep. William 'Lacy' Clay and his staff. Clay chairs the House Subcommittee that oversees the Census Bureau. COSSA also wrote to the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee calling for confirmation hearings for then Census Bureau Director-Designee Steve Murdock.



Steve Murdock at Confirmation Hearing

Hearings Highlighting Social and Behavioral Science Research

With a Ph.D. psychologist, Rep. Brian Baird, as Chairman of the Research and Science Education Subcommittee in the House, an opportunity presented itself to hold hearings featuring the contributions of social and behavioral science research to national problems. Working closely with Subcommittee staff, COSSA helped plan and shape, what we expect to be a series of hearings. The first one, held on September 25, focused on "Social Science Contributions to the Energy Challenge." The witnesses were: Robert Cialdini of Arizona State; Duane Wegener of Purdue; John Laitner of the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy; Jerry Ellig of George Mason; and Bob Bordley of General Motors. Next year should bring further explorations of social/behavioral research contributions to national security and health.

*L-R: Cialdini, Wegener,
Laitner, Ellig, Bordley*

2007 ANNUAL MEETING

COSSA's Annual Meeting took place on December 3rd in Washington, DC. President Susan Cutter presided over the meeting that brought together representatives from COSSA's members. A full report on the day's proceedings is available at <http://www.cossa.org/volume26/26.22.pdf>.



David Abrams on Health Research

The day began with the return appearance of David Abrams, director of the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR). He first appeared at a COSSA meeting in 2005, after about six months on the job. Now after three years, Abrams discussed his perspective of the research needed to advance the health of the nation, which includes a major focus on "systems science" that integrates biology, behavior, and the social environment.

He acknowledged that "many challenges remain," for health researchers including both emerging human threats and persistent public health problems. The emerging public health threats include: the unsustainable cost of quality healthcare, obesity and the accompanying diabetes epidemic, and natural and human-made disasters. Persistent public health problems include: disparities, stereotypes, health literacy, quality of life, well-being, tobacco use, stress, unhealthy built environments, chronic disease management and support, and health care delivery systems and policy.



Julia Moore on Nanotechnology

This year's luncheon speaker was Julia Moore, Deputy Director of the Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies, a joint partnership between the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and The Pew Charitable Trust. Moore provided a brief overview on nanotechnology's current status and possible future risks.

Nanotechnology is the purposeful engineering of matter at scales of less than 100 nanometers to achieve size-dependent properties and functions. Moore expects that in our lifetime we can expect nanotechnology to lead to the development of materials created from the bottom up; that is we will have the capability to build things atom by atom. This is already happening, as Moore pointed out that "over the past two years, nanotechnology has moved dramatically from the lab into the marketplace." She even brought a prop (see picture) to illustrate. However, the uncertain impact on our personal health that may arise from using and working with products that contain nanotechnology remains a concern and our current regulatory structure is unprepared to deal with those uncertainties, Moore asserted.

Sally Maggard of USDA examines teddy bear made with nanoparticles



2007 ANNUAL MEETING

A Panel on Global Issues:



L-R: Zartman, Britnall, O'Connor, & Von Furstenberg

The meeting also featured a session on Global Issues moderated by Michael Brintnall, Executive Director of the American Political Science Association. William Zartman, Professor at the School for Advanced International Studies of the Johns Hopkins University discussed the difficulty in ascertaining the current geopolitical order. George von Furstenberg, Professor Emeritus of Economics at Indiana University and currently a program officer in the National Science Foundation's (NSF) economic program, focused on the difficulties in bringing about economic convergence among nation-states. Finally, Robert O'Connor, Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Penn State and now program officer for NSF's Decision, Risk, and Management Science program, addressed what we know about the human dimensions of the global climate change problem and what we still need to know.

Developing Human Capital

Running concurrently with the session on Global Issues, a panel, moderated by Mary Ann McCabe from the Society on Child Research and Development, examined the Development of Human Capital and its policy implications. James Griffin, formerly Assistant Director for the Social, Behavioral, and Education Sciences at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and currently at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, discussed trends in early childhood as they relate to learning, school readiness, and other issues affecting human capital. Ruth Friedman, Senior Education Adviser on the Majority Staff of the House Education and Labor Committee, discussed the intersection of research and policies under discussion by the current Congress focusing on issues that arose from House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's (D-CA) National Summit on America's Children. William Tate, Distinguished Professor of Arts and Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, the current President of the American Educational Research Association and a new member of the COSSA Board of Directors, addressed another point along the continuum of developing human capital – the problems with urban schools.



L-R: McCabe, Friedman, Griffin & Tate

Peer Review: Is it Working?

The meeting concluded with a panel examining peer review moderated by Richard Lempert of the University of Michigan Law School and former director of NSF's Division of Social and Economic Sciences. Lawrence Tabak, director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, described the process the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is currently using to analyze its peer review system. Jacqueline 'Jack' Meszaros, program officer for NSF's Innovation and Organizational Science program, described the difficulties the peer review process is facing at her agency, noting a recent NSF report *The Impact of Proposal and Award Management Mechanisms*. James Wilson of the House Science Committee Majority Staff and a former program officer at the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, where program managers make funding decisions based on their own knowledge and evaluation of the proposal and proposer, gave his perspective on the process from the two positions where he has observed it.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Met with key congressional staff on House and Senate appropriations committee and the House Science Committees and Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee regarding NSF's reauthorization, which became part of the *America Competes* legislation.

Held regular meetings with David Lightfoot, Assistant Director for the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE) Directorate.

Organized meetings with SBE Division Directors and participated in SBE Advisory Committee meetings.

Met with Cora Marrett, new Assistant Director for the Education and Human Resources directorate (EHR). Attended the EHR Advisory Committee meeting.

Kept in regular and frequent contact with NSF's Office of Legislative and Public Affairs (OLPA).

Attended the National Science Board's meeting, annual awards dinner, and Congressional reception.

Homeland Security

COSSA submitted testimony and advocated for increased funding for the University Programs account in the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate. Worked with Rep. David Price (D-NC), chair of the DHS Appropriations Subcommittee, his staff, and the Association of American Universities (AAU) on this effort.

Executive Director visited the START Center of Excellence at the University of Maryland and its director Gary LaFree.

COSSA continued to monitor the National Academies' study of Science and Security issues and informed the community of the study's results.

Health

Deputy Director for Health Policy continued to lead the **Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Science Research (CAHT-BSSR)**. The Coalition's activities included meeting monthly with David Abrams, director of the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR). We also met with Vivian Ota Wang of Genome/OBSSR regarding nanotechnology and personalized medicine. Bob Croyle of the National Cancer Institute described his branch's initiatives at another meeting.

CAHT-BSSR

The Coalition for the Advancement of Health
Through Behavioral and Social Science Research

The Coalition submitted testimony to both Houses on NIH appropriations. The Senate testimony focused on OBSSR's efforts on genetics and environmental research and the need for a broader definition of personalized medicine.

COSSA monitored the many hearings conducted by the House and Senate Appropriations Committee regarding spending for the NIH Institutes. We continued to participate in the off-the-record meetings with the 27 NIH institute directors as part of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Funding Steering Committee.

COSSA is organizing a significant activity on the issue of Minority Training. Social, behavioral, and biomedical groups have joined to plan a conference in February 2008. COSSA Deputy Director Angela Sharpe has met with NIH Deputy Director Raynard Kington and COSSA Board Member and AAAS Director of Education and Human Resources Shirley Malcolm to discuss training issues. To prepare for the meeting COSSA and the groups have conducted a survey of association efforts to diversify their membership and workforce.



*NIH Deputy Director
Raynard Kington*

COSSA monitored NIH's Peer Review Assessment. The Center for Scientific Review (CSR) reviewed the social and behavioral sciences study sections and met with COSSA's member societies to receive their input.

COSSA attended the Institutes' Advisory Committee meetings monitoring their activities and decisions, especially as they affect health and behavior issues. Sharpe, as part of the Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition, attended at meeting with Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee staff to discuss the Senate's health disparities bill.

Deputy Director for Health Policy continued to co-chair the **Coalition to Protect Research**. CSR's Director Toni Scarpa also presented at the Coalition to Protect Research's meeting in April.

Submitted testimony to the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations Subcommittee advocating increased funding for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC).

Statistical Policy

Met with the Director of the Office of Statistical Policy at the Office of Management and Budget.

Spoke to the Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) about the budgets and other issues facing statistical agencies. Consulted with CNSTAT director, Connie Citro, on a number of issues.

Met with Steve Landesfeld, director, and Rosemary Marcuss, deputy director of the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) to discuss their agenda and their funding needs.

Worked with the Council on Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (COPAFS) on numerous issues and co-sponsored the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) conducted by the National Center on Health Statistics (NCHS).



Steve Landesfeld, BEA



Ed Sondik, NCHS

Justice

Organized a meeting with Jeff Sedgwick, director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), and his staff, for COSSA groups interested in the agency. Led the response to the BJS funding problem with the Senate Appropriations Committee including organizing grass roots lobbying efforts. Met with House Appropriations staff regarding BJS and the need for increased funding for the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS).

Met with National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Director-Designate David Hagy and Office of Research and Evaluation Director Thomas Feucht.

Attended NIJ's annual research and evaluation conference and the Jerry Lee symposium on crime.

Monitored and discussed the National Academies' review of BJS and testified to the new panel assessing the research portfolio of NIJ.

Attended the MacArthur Foundation's launch of its new project on Law and Neuroscience.

Agriculture and Rural Development

Jointly submitted testimony to the House and Senate Appropriations Committee with the Council on Food and Agriculture Economics (CFARE) regarding funding for agricultural research agencies.

Contacted both the House and Senate expressing our concerns about the research provisions of the 2007 Farm bill.

Spoke to the Regional Rural Development Center directors regarding their efforts to improve dissemination of their research and extension activities.

Spoke to the ESCOP Social Science Committee to discuss alternative funding sources for research on rural America.

Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

Met with Jack Marburger, OSTP director and Presidential Science Adviser.

Monitored the developments of the Social and Behavioral Science Subcommittee of the Committee of Science of the National Science and Technology Council, particularly with regard to the development of a strategic plan for our sciences. Consulted with writers of the report.

Met with the OMB examiner for NSF to discuss SBE funding and other issues.

Human Research Protection and Other Ethical Issues

The Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs Inc., of which COSSA is a founding member, continued to persuade universities and other research entities to submit to voluntary accreditation of their human participants' research protection plan.

Monitored the activities concerned with protecting human participants in research, including attending the meetings of the Health and Human Services Secretary's Advisory Committee on Human Research Protections. Responded to the Committee's request for comments regarding expedited review.

Met with staff from the office of Rep. Diana DeGette (D-CO) to discuss her proposed legislation regarding Human Research Protection. We were particularly concerned with its impact on social and behavioral research. So far, the legislation has not been introduced.

Participated in a workshop on Nanotechnology's ethical, legal, and social implications.

Education

Monitored policies, research activities, and appointments at the Institute of Education Sciences (IES).
Attended and reported on National Board for Education Sciences Meetings.

Monitored and reported on the release of the National Academies' (NAS) study of HEA Title VI programs.
Former COSSA President Janet Norwood chaired the panel.

Participated in the Coalition for International Education (CIE), which advocates for increased appropriations for Title VI international education centers, language resource centers, and other programs. CIE also defended these programs from attack as the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act (HEA) moved forward, without resolution. We also succeeded in getting one of the recommendations of the NAS report into the House legislation. It would create an Assistant Secretary of Education for International and Foreign Language programs.

COSSA submitted testimony to the Appropriations Committee regarding funding for Title VI, IES, the Javits Graduate Fellowship program, and the Thurgood Marshall Legal Education Opportunity grants.

Attended many briefings at Brookings and the Education Sector concerning No Child Left Behind, Student Learning, Education and Social Mobility, and Higher Education.

International Social Science



Met with the new Secretary General of the International Social Science Council (ISSC).
Consulted with key U.S. social scientists regarding future U.S. participation in ISSC.

Continued communication with the International Human Dimensions on Global Change Programme.

**Heide Hackmann,
ISSC Secretary General**

CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFINGS

Why Populations Aging Matters: A Global Perspective
May 21, 2006

Joseph Chamie, Center for Migration Studies, New York City
Lisa Berkman, Harvard School of Public Health
Adele Hayutin, Stanford Center on Longevity
James Smith, RAND Corporation
Mary Jo Hoeksema, Population Association of America (*Moderator*)

Co-sponsored with the Population Association of America . Presented with the assistance of the Senate Select Committee on Aging and the National Institute on Aging



Hoeksema, Smith



Berkman, Chamie, Hayutin

STEM Education, Girls and the Challenges that Follow: From the Classrooms to STEM Careers
July 18, 2007

Jacqueline Eccles, University of Michigan
Laurel Haak, Discovery Logic Inc., Study Director for NAS Report
“Beyond Bias and Barriers: Fulfilling the Potential of Women in Science and Engineering.”

Co-sponsored with Women’s Policy Inc. and 17 other organizations including AAAS, APA, SRCD.

COSSA & THE COMMUNITY

COSSA *Washington UPDATE* remains the Consortium's major tool of communication. The electronic-only document has expanded its coverage of events in Washington affecting social and behavioral science research and other aspects of science policy. It is sent to over 1,600 people at universities, on Capitol Hill, in the Federal Agencies, and social and behavioral scientists in the Washington community and overseas.

The newsletter continues to receive praise from social scientists and non-social scientists alike for its coverage of science policy issues. The annual budget analysis issue examines over 50 agencies supporting social and behavioral science research and remains a key reference for many people.

Staff remains a source for the science press, both background and on the record.

COSSA's active participation in the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) continued. Met with Office of Management and Budget officials, NSF leadership, and key Congressional staff. Encouraged COSSA members to participate in the CNSF exhibition.

Participated in many national coalitions to increase funding for social and behavioral research related to health including: the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Funding, the Friends of NICHD, the Friends of the Agency for Healthcare Policy and Research, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coalition, the Genome Action Coalition, and the Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition.

Deputy Director for Health Policy served as a member of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Funding Steering Committee.

Maintained relations with the Division on Behavioral and Social Science and Education (DBASSE) at the National Academies. Attended a number of Board and Committee meetings, including the Committee on Law and Justice and the Board on Behavioral and Sensory Sciences. Testified to the committee assessing the National Institute of Justice. Met with Executive Director Michael Feuer.

Executive Director joined with many others from the science community, including AAAS and the National Academies, to discuss ways to combat the anti-science efforts of many groups, including those advocating teaching intelligent design as a scientific alternative to evolution. COSSA contributed to a focus group and survey effort to determine effective messages to communicate the pro-science cause.



CONSTITUENCY RELATIONS

The Executive Director spoke on two panels at the American Political Science Association meeting in Chicago, one on interdisciplinary research and the other on human subjects' protection. He also participated on a panel on advocacy at the American Educational Research Association meeting also in Chicago. He also spoke at a farewell reception for John Hagen at the Society for Research in Child Development's meeting in Boston.

COSSA staff also attended the annual meetings of the Association of American Law Schools, American Psychological Association, American Sociological Association, and the Midwest Political Science Association.

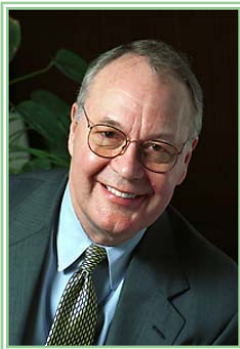
Myron Gutmann, former COSSA President and director of the Inter-university Consortium of Political and Social Research, invited COSSA Executive Director Howard Silver to speak on a panel with David Lightfoot of NSF and David McMillen of the National Archives and Records Administration, at its meeting of Organizational Representatives in Ann Arbor in October. James Jackson, COSSA Board Member and director of the Institute for Social Research, introduced the panel. While in Ann Arbor, Silver met with: Terry Sullivan, University of Michigan Provost; Susan Collins, newly appointed Dean of the Ford School of Public Policy; Marvin Parnes and Pamela Smock, Associate Vice Provosts for Research; David Featherman, director of the Center for Advancing Research and Solutions for Society; and Arthur 'Skip' Lupia, co-principal investigator of the American National Election Studies.



*Jackson, Lightfoot, McMillen, Sullivan,
Silver, Gutmann*

Staff attended American Educational Research Association's Office of Information Affairs Policy Conference, and its Policy Forums.

Attended the awards dinner and policy conference of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences (AAPSS), and the National Bureau of Economic Research's Tax Policy Seminar.



*Robert Berdahl,
AAU President*

Robert Berdahl, President of the Association of American Universities (AAU), met with the COSSA Executive Committee as did Jessica Irons of the National Humanities Alliance.

Staff met with many representatives of COSSA's Member Organizations, Universities, and Centers and Institutes, including the University of Maryland, where Silver met with Ed Montgomery, Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

In 2007, COSSA welcomed Mississippi State University as a new member and North Carolina State University as a returning member.

GOVERNANCE & FINANCE

The Consortium began in the late 1960s as an informal group of social science associations that met to exchange information and discuss common problems. In May 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 to establish a Washington-based advocacy effort.

In 1982, the Consortium of Social Science Associations was incorporated as a 501(c)(6) organization by ten disciplinary-based associations. That same year, COSSA's founding members decided to invite other associations to become Affiliates of the organization, and universities and research institutes to become Contributors. In 2003, this nomenclature was changed to Governing Members, Membership Organizations, universities, and Centers and Institutes. The most recent additions to the Governing Members' category were the American Association for Public Opinion Research and the Midwest Political Science Association, who elevated their status from Member Organizations in 2004. In 2003, the American Anthropological Association, one of the founding members, withdrew from the Consortium. At the end of 2007, the Consortium had 17 Governing Members, 23 Membership Organizations, 59 Universities, and 13 Centers and Institutes.

The Board of Directors consists of two representatives from each of the 17 Member associations and at-large members selected to represent other segments of the Consortium's Constituency. 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 2007, Susan Cutter, Carolina Distinguished Professor of Geography and Director of the Hazards Research Lab at the University of South Carolina, served the first of her two-year term as COSSA's president. A list of the 2007 Board of Directors can be found on the back cover of this report.

The Executive Committee consists of the executive officers of the Member associations and COSSA's executive director, *ex officio*. In 2007, Michael Brintnall, Executive Director of the American Political Science Association, completed the first year of his second term as Chair. The Committee meets quarterly to discuss issues of COSSA policy and priorities. In 2007, there was considerable turnover on the Committee:

Ron Wasserstein replaced William Smith at the American Statistical Association;
Felix Oliver replaced Margaret Reynolds at the Linguistic Society of America;
Lonnie Sherrod replaced John Hagen at the Society for Research in Child Development;
Gary LaFree replaced Richard Bennett for the American Society of Criminology; and
Stanley Presser replaced Elizabeth Martin for the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

The Consortium's budget for 2007 was approximately \$500,000.



COSSA STAFF

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



Dr. Silver, COSSA's leader since 1988, is responsible for planning and directing all programs and initiatives of the Consortium and serves as its chief lobbyist. He formerly served COSSA as Associate Director for Government Relations, a position he held from 1983 to 1988. Elected by his science policy colleagues, from 1994 - 2000 he chaired the Coalition for 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 the Ph.D. in political science from the Ohio State University.

Angela L. Sharpe, Deputy Director for Health Policy



Angela Sharpe is responsible for lobbying Members of Congress and their staff on health and behavior 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 former Rep. Carrie P. Meek (D-FL) and to the late Rep. R. Lawrence Coughlin (R-PA). Prior to working on Capitol Hill, Ms. Sharpe worked for the Library of Congress' National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. She earned her Masters in Government from The Johns Hopkins University. She received a B.S. in Industrial Relations and a B.S. in Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Pamela L. Pressley, Associate Director for Public Affairs



Pamela Pressley is responsible for writing and editing COSSA's publications. Ms. Pressley also works closely with Congress and the Executive branch to assist with COSSA's lobbying efforts on issues surrounding health and the Census. She comes to COSSA from Generations United, where she served as the Public Policy Coordinator and Newsletter Editor. Prior to that Ms. Pressley served as the Victims Services Advocate and Family services Associate for the Children's National Medical Center's Child and Adolescent Protection Center. She received her Bachelor's degree from Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina and earned a Masters of Social Work from Howard University, with a concentration in community organization, advocacy, and social policy.

La Tosha Lewis, Assistant Director for Government Relations



La Tosha Lewis spends part of her time as COSSA's office administrator and part of her time assisting with COSSA's lobbying efforts. She came to COSSA from the National Humanities Alliance where she assisted with their Humanities Advocacy day. She also served as a government relations assistant at the National Cable and Telecommunications Association and has provided administrative support to a number of non-profits, government relations firms, and political organizations in Washington. She began her Washington career as a policy assistant for the U.S. House of Representatives Democratic Caucus. Ms. Lewis earned a dual B.A. in political science and advertising from Iowa State University.

2007 BOARD of DIRECTORS

American Association for Public Opinion Research

*Richard Kulka, Abt Associates
Stanley Presser, University of Maryland*

American Economic Association

*Sidney Winter, University of Pennsylvania
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*Jess Gilbert, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Kenneth Pigg, Treasurer*

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*Arnold Sameroff, University of Michigan
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