



CONSORTIUM *of* SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS

# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

*Working for you to ensure a vibrant social and behavioral science research enterprise.*

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## ABOUT COSSA

The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to promote sustainable federal funding for social and behavioral science research and federal policies that positively impact the conduct of research. COSSA (“COH-sah”) serves as a united voice for a broad, diverse network of organizations, institutions, communities, and stakeholders who care about a successful and vibrant social and behavioral science research enterprise.

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# From the Executive Director

## Greetings!

It has been a year of ups and down. Throughout 2015, the social and behavioral science community was up against extraordinary challenges in Congress, including proposals that had the potential to decimate social science research funding across the federal government. I am pleased to report that we were able to end 2015 on a high note, by dodging such proposals in the final FY 2016 omnibus appropriations package that was enacted on December 18, 2015 (further details follow later in this report). This success is due in large part to the efforts of COSSA's members.

I am very proud of our accomplishments over the last two years since my joining COSSA in 2014. In that time we have updated our logo and brand, overhauled our website ([www.cossa.org](http://www.cossa.org)), redesigned the COSSA Annual Meeting, and held our first-ever Social and Behavioral Science Advocacy Day in March 2015, which brought 60 researchers to Washington, DC to advocate in support of our science.

Even more, I am proud of our efforts to more fully engage you—our members—in our advocacy activities. We have worked hard to ensure that timely, useful information and helpful tools get into the hands of our members. If you haven't already, I invite you to take advantage of all of the resources COSSA offers (more details within).

All of our efforts are in recognition of the fact that our work is not done. On the contrary, in the ebb and flow of social science attacks, we happen to be in the midst of a surge. The most recent challenges to social and behavioral science funded by the federal government are couched within slanted definitions of "national interest" and assertions by some that our science simply does not fit within those definitions. Arguments that social science does not serve the national interest and therefore should not be supported by taxpayer funds have led to an uptick in attacks on specific research grants. If left unopposed, these efforts by a select few in Congress have the potential to leave social science funding on the cutting room floor.

That is why I believe so strongly that COSSA—and your participation as a member—is central to the future vitality of the social and behavioral science research enterprise. We still have work to do; and while we know we will never convince everyone of the value of these sciences to enhancing the nation's vitality, there are gains to be made if we are persistent, like we were in 2015, and if we trust in our science.



Wendy A. Naus

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not recognize the many partners we have worked with over this past year to counter attacks and proactively promote our research (check out our full list of partner organizations on page 8). For every attack by a critic in Congress there is a leader ready to counter. We are fortunate to have vocal social science champions like Reps. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), David Price (D-NC), Daniel Lipinski (D-IL), Donna Edwards (D-MD), Mike Honda (D-CA), and others who have come to the defense of social science throughout 2015.

As we head into a new legislative year, I am confident in COSSA's position to promote, protect, and advance the social and behavioral sciences. Thank you for being part of the team!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wendy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

WENDY A. NAUS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# COSSA Staff

## Wendy A. Naus, Executive Director

Wendy Naus joined COSSA as its Executive Director in January 2014. She came to COSSA from the private lobbying world, where she worked for nearly a decade to promote federal policies and legislation important to the scientific community, including social and behavioral scientists. In her role at COSSA, Wendy serves as the lead advocate for federal funding and policy that positively impact social and behavioral science research across the federal government, representing the breadth of the social science research enterprise. She is also responsible for the day to day operations of COSSA, member engagement, management of the COSSA team, and is a non-voting member of the COSSA Board of Directors. A native of Buffalo, New York, Wendy holds a B.A. in political science and urban studies from Canisius College, graduating magna cum laude from the All-College Honors Program.

## Angela L. Sharpe, Deputy Director

Angela Sharpe is the Deputy Director of COSSA. She is responsible for lobbying Members of Congress and their staff on health, behavior, and education research and representing COSSA to executive branch agencies, particularly the National Institutes of Health and Department of Education. She co-chairs three coalitions on behalf of COSSA, including the Coalition to Promote Research (CPR), the Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Science Research (CAHT-BSSR), now the Friends of NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (Friends of NIH BSSR), and the Collaborative for Enhancing Diversity in Science (CEDs). Angela joined the COSSA staff in 1995. Previously, she 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, Angela worked for the Library of Congress' National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. She earned her Master in Government from The Johns Hopkins University and holds a B.S. in industrial relations and a B.S. in psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

## Julia Milton, Assistant Director for Public Affairs/Government Relations Associate

Julia Milton joined COSSA in 2012. She works on issues affecting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Department of Agriculture research agencies, and federal statistical agencies, among others. Julia also assists with COSSA's communications efforts, serving as editor of the *COSSA Washington Update*, COSSA's biweekly newsletter. She previously worked at The George Washington University as a research assistant. Julia is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Wesleyan University with a dual B.A. in government and English.

COSSA is always looking for interns to join the team throughout the year, especially students from COSSA member institutions. To inquire, email [cossa@cossa.org](mailto:cossa@cossa.org).



Julia Milton, COSSA's intern coordinator, with our 2015 intern Jianyi Nie.

## COSSA Gives Back

In August, the COSSA team volunteered at **Bread for the City** for its annual service outing. Bread for the City ([www.breadforthecity.org](http://www.breadforthecity.org)) is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that provides food, clothing, medical care, and legal and social services to vulnerable residents in Washington, DC. The team spent the day sorting and bagging produce in the food pantry. The annual service outing is COSSA's way of giving back to the local DC community.



# Year in Review

Thanks to the persistence of COSSA, the active participation of our members, and strong support from our allies, the social and behavioral science community had many reasons to celebrate in 2015...

## Social Science Funding Preserved for FY 2016

The 114<sup>th</sup> Congress was sworn in on January 6, 2015, with the GOP assuming control of both chambers. The partisan divide between the Republican-controlled Congress and the Democratic White House created a contentious environment for policy making in 2015, witnessed by a near-government shutdown in the fall over whether and how to lift caps on discretionary spending, a coup from the far-right to oust the sitting House Speaker, and a protracted fight over final fiscal year (FY) 2016 funding for all government agencies and programs that lasted almost until Christmas, more than three months into FY 2016. In the end, crisis was averted on most fronts and an omnibus spending package was enacted that provided boosts to research accounts. Most notably, the final 2016 package reversed earlier proposals that sought to cut social science funding at the National Science Foundation, eliminate direct appropriations for the National Institute of Justice, and make the American Community Survey voluntary. The work of COSSA and its allies ensured that these and other proposals did not become law in 2015.

### Snapshot of Final FY 2016 Science Funding

	FY 2016	+/-
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	<b>334 million</b>	<b>-8.2%</b>
Bureau of Justice Statistics	<b>41 million</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Bureau of Labor Statistics	<b>609 million</b>	<b>2.8%</b>
Bureau of the Census	<b>1.4 billion</b>	<b>25.9%</b>
Institute of Education Sciences	<b>618 million</b>	<b>7.7%</b>
International Education and Foreign Language Studies	<b>72.2 million</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
National Institute of Justice	<b>36 million</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
National Institutes of Health	<b>32 billion</b>	<b>6.6%</b>
National Science Foundation	<b>7.5 billion</b>	<b>1.6%</b>

## ACS Questions Important to Researchers Retained

The Census Bureau will retain several questions in the American Community Survey (ACS) originally identified for removal in late 2014. The news comes after roughly 2,000 comments were

received objecting to the proposed elimination. The questions in jeopardy included one asking about undergraduate field of degree and a series of questions related to marital history. The questions were proposed for elimination as part of the Bureau's 2014 Content Review of the ACS aimed at finding efficiencies in the survey. COSSA objected to the removal of these questions in a written comment and encouraged members to weigh in as well. Success in retaining the questions is attributed to the public's response through these comments.

## NIH Behavioral Science Office Celebrates 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2015 and marked the occasion with a series of events on June 23-25. As part of the celebration, Coalition for the Advancement of Health through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (CAHT-BSSR), which is co-chaired by COSSA, along with 21 other professional associations, scientific societies, coalitions, and organizations sponsored a Capitol Hill poster exhibition and reception. The event showcased social and behavioral science research supported across the NIH, with 17 of NIH's 27 institutes, centers, and offices exhibiting at the reception. In addition, OBSSR Director William Riley presented COSSA Deputy Director Angela Sharpe and Pat Kobor of the American Psychological Association certificates of appreciation for their service to the Office as co-chairs of CAHT-BSSR.



Credit: Charles Votaw

## Why Social Science? Share Your Stories!

COSSA launched a new campaign in 2015 to collect stories of social science success from social and behavioral scientists across all disciplines. Is your research pushing the frontiers of science or advancing your field? Has your research contributed to an important finding or breakthrough? Are there interesting applications or potential applications to your work? We want to hear it!

**Submit your stories online at**  
[www.cossa.org/share-your-stories](http://www.cossa.org/share-your-stories).



Why **SOCIAL**  
**SCIENCE?**

## COSSA Pushes for Pro-Science COMPETES Reauthorization

In May, the House passed the *America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2015* (H.R. 1806), despite widespread opposition by the scientific and higher education communities. The bill seeks to cut the National Science Foundation's Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate by more than 50%. What is more, the bill seeks to break with current practice by giving Congress, not NSF, control over how NSF spends its research dollars, thereby side-stepping and politicizing the peer review process. COSSA and its partners fought hard against the bill throughout the spring.

When the COMPETES bill failed to progress any further, the bill's sponsor, Lamar Smith (R-TX), introduced the *Scientific Research in the National Interest Act* (H.R. 3293), which took Section 106 from the COMPETES bill and turned it into a standalone piece of legislation. This bill seeks to set a definition of "national interest" to govern the type of research NSF can fund. While the bill does not call out social science by name, the intent behind the bill is aimed once again at social science as well as climate change research, which both tend to be political hot-potatoes. Like the COMPETES bill, the national interest bill adds a level of political review to NSF's grant-making decision process. H.R. 3293 passed the House Science Committee in October, again amid strong community opposition, but has failed to progress any further. Thanks to tireless advocacy by COSSA and its partners, the Senate did not take up Smith's COMPETES or national interest bills in 2015.

## Draft Common Rule Revision Addresses Many Concerns of Social Science Community

The Department of Health and Human Services released a proposal in 2015 to update the regulations that govern

research involving human subjects (the Common Rule). The long-awaited Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) outlined several proposed changes and posed a number of questions for which the department sought public comment. The Common Rule has not been updated since 1991. The NPRM is the next step in a process that began in 2011 with the issuance of an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) asking for input. A number of the proposed changes attempt to address concerns raised by the social and behavioral science community, particularly those that would make the level of review proportional to the potential level of harm. The NPRM states the drafters' intention to "more thoroughly address behavioral and social science research perspectives and the broader types of research conducted or otherwise supported by the other Common Rule agencies." COSSA coordinated comments among several associations for submission in early 2016. After the close of the public comment period, the Office of Human Research Protections will review the comments and release a final rule.

Additional details on these and other COSSA activities can be found at [www.cossa.org](http://www.cossa.org).

## Social Science Teams among 2015 Golden Goose Winners



Recipients of the 2015 Golden Goose Award were honored at a ceremony in Washington, DC on September 17. The Golden Goose Award recognizes researchers whose federally funded work may have seemed odd or obscure when it was first conducted but has resulted in significant benefits to society. COSSA is a supporter of the award. The 2015 recipients included a group of psychologists—Walter Mischel, Philip Peake, and Yuichi Shoda—whose work on delayed gratification in children (known as the "marshmallow test") had far-reaching implications for our understanding of human behavior, education, and health. The Golden Goose Award also honored two scientists—Joel E. Cohen and Christopher Small—whose collaborative research on "hypsographic demography" (the study of how the population is distributed with respect to altitude) has had impacts on areas from manufacturing to cancer research. Learn more about the awards, including how to nominate projects, at [www.goldengooseaward.org](http://www.goldengooseaward.org).

## 2015 COSSA Annual Meeting & Social and Behavioral Science Advocacy Day

More than 100 social and behavioral science researchers and advocates from across the country came to Washington on March 9-10 for the 2015 COSSA Annual Meeting and Social and Behavioral Science Advocacy Day. The meeting, which had traditionally been held in the fall, was moved to the spring starting in 2015 to better align with the Congressional calendar. The meeting format also received a makeover.

Meeting attendees heard from several federal agency representatives on topics of interest to social science research, including the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, Department of Defense, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Visit the COSSA website for the full agenda and session summaries.

### Defending Sound Science: When Politics and Peer Review Collide

The meeting included a special panel featuring researchers whose work has been the subject of Congressional and media scrutiny. Three panelists spoke from personal experience of having their research unflatteringly caricatured. **David Scholnick, professor of biology at Pacific University**, had his research into the physiological impacts of pollution and warming oceans on marine life receive national attention after his video of a “shrimp on a treadmill” went viral. Scholnick tried to take advantage of his newfound notoriety to bring positive attention to his research, but was frustrated by the experience and concerned about the impact on the many undergraduate researchers who worked in his lab.

**Megan Tracy, assistant professor of sociology at James Madison University**, found out her research on the food safety regulation system in China had been called into question during a 2013 House Science Committee hearing when she was contacted by a reporter for comment. She recalled the sheer amount of time she had to spend responding to inquiries, which was an unfortunate distraction from her research. **Filippo Menczer, professor of informatics and computer science at Indiana University**, saw his “Truthy project” on the spread of misinformation on social media mischaracterized by the conservative media as an attempt to limit free speech. Inspired by his experiences, he has begun work on automated fact-checking, although he expressed skepticism that it would do much good in a world where the media is increasingly polarized.



*Sociologist Megan Tracy, James Madison University*  
Credit: Chris Flynn

**Joanna Kempner, an assistant professor of sociology at Rutgers University**, shared the findings from her research on the lasting impacts of controversy on scientists. Kempner’s work focused on grants targeted by then-Representative Pat Toomey and a “family values” group in 2003, most of which were looking at sexuality or HIV. Kempner found that the unwanted attention was actually motivating for some researchers, reinforcing their commitment to the work they were doing. However, for others, it led to self-censorship; researchers chose to seek grants on less controversial topics or to reframe their work to leave out easily politicized buzzwords.

Year in Review...continued

On March 10, more than 60 COSSA members descended on Capitol Hill for the first-ever Social and Behavioral Science Advocacy Day. Advocates met with 84 different offices in the House and Senate to discuss the value of social science research and the critical role the federal government plays in supporting this research.

A special thanks to the 2015 Annual Meeting sponsors:



Join us for the  
**2016 COSSA Annual Meeting & Social and Behavioral Science Advocacy Day**  
**March 15-16, 2016**  
**Washington, DC**

More at:  
[www.cossa.org/event/2016-annual-meeting](http://www.cossa.org/event/2016-annual-meeting)



(Photo Credit: Chris Flynn)

## 2015 Annual Meeting



*NSF Director France Córdova presenting to Annual Meeting participants.*



*COSSA Board Chair Felice Levine, AERA*



*Philip Rubin receiving the 2015 COSSA Distinguished Service Award.*



*(Photo Credits: Chris Flynn)*

# The COSSA Community

COSSA enjoys a robust and diverse membership—a community with a shared commitment to ensuring a secure future for federally-supported social and behavioral science research.

The COSSA community is comprised of professional associations, scientific societies, and institutions across two main membership categories: Governing Members and Affiliate or Non-Governing Members. Our Affiliate members are further broken down into Membership Organizations, Research Centers and Institutes, and Colleges and Universities.

COSSA welcomed six new and returning members in 2015:

**Society for Personality and Social Psychology  
joined as COSSA's 19th Governing Member**



## Non-Governing Members



COSSA's complete 2015 membership list can be found on the back cover of this report.

## Coalitions and Partners

COSSA works in coalitions and with the broader scientific and higher education communities on issues of common concern. COSSA leads and is centrally involved in numerous coalitions that advocate for topics important to the social and behavioral science research community.

### Campaign for Social and Behavioral Science

Formerly known as the “Collaborative Initiative to Advance Social and Behavioral Science,” the Campaign for Social and Behavioral Science is a joint effort between COSSA, COPAFS<sup>1</sup> and FABBS<sup>2</sup> with financial support provided in part by SAGE Publishing. The Campaign serves as a broad and influential effort aimed at showcasing, defending, and proactively promoting social and behavioral science research to external audiences, including policy makers. The collaboration began in 2013.

The initiative's top accomplishments include:

- **Creation of a diverse community in support of social and behavioral science research.** The Campaign has brought to the table stakeholders from the higher education community, other scientific disciplines, and some private sector interests to speak out collectively on the value of our research.
- **Direct advocacy successes.** The Campaign can be credited with contributing to the 2016 funding successes addressed earlier in this report. Thanks to the collective efforts of Campaign participants, proposals that would have decimated funding for social science research were left out of the final FY 2016 appropriations bills. In addition, the Campaign has worked diligently over the last few years to proactively educate policy makers and Congressional staff on the value of this research and the important role the federal government plays in supporting it.

<sup>1</sup> Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics, <http://www.copafs.org/>

<sup>2</sup> Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences, <http://www.fabbs.org/>

## Friends of NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research

In 2015, the Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (CAHT-BSSR) became the Friends of NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (Friends of NIH-BSSR). The coalition was formed by COSSA in 1993 to support the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and is led by COSSA Deputy Director Angela Sharpe. Friends of NIH BSSR works closely with NIH officials, Members of Congress and their staffs, and other policymakers to advocate for funding for OBSSR, and serves as a liaison between NIH and researchers in these disciplines to enhance behavioral and social sciences research at NIH. Most of its meetings are off-the-record. Beginning in 2016, the Friends of NIH BSSR will hold periodic on-the-record meetings with various NIH officials. Any COSSA member organization is invited to participate in the meetings as long as they can attend in person. Through the years, the coalition has also allowed the participation of non-COSSA members whose organizations support social and behavioral science research and/or OBSSR. In June 2015, the Friends of NIH BSSR's activities included sponsoring a Capitol Hill exhibition and reception to celebrate OBSSR's 20th anniversary.

## Coalition to Promote Research

The Coalition to Promote Research (CPR) is comprised of 74 national organizations committed to promoting public health, innovation, and fundamental knowledge through scientific research. Five organizations joined the coalition in 2015. CPR's members represent hundreds of thousands of scientists, physicians, health care providers, and patients who support federal investments in basic and applied biomedical and behavioral research. CPR was formed in 2004 to defend NIH's support of 150 "sex grants" cited by the Traditional Values Coalition and against an amendment offered by then-Representative Pat Toomey (R-PA), now Senator Toomey. Today, the coalition continues to mobilize the community in response to Congressional attacks on scientific research. COSSA Deputy Director Angela Sharpe and the American Psychological Association's Pat Kobor co-chair the coalition.

CPR held two Congressional briefings in 2015 aimed at educating Congressional staff about the National Institutes of Health and the peer review process. The first, *NIH 101: Peer Review & Priority Setting*, provided an overview of the agency and featured Keith Yamamoto of the University of California, San Francisco. The second briefing, *NIH Priority Setting: How Peer Review Assists the NIH in Selecting the Best Science*, featured Richard Nakamura of the NIH Center for Scientific Review, Danielle Li of Harvard University, and Felice Levine of the American Educational Research Association and COSSA Board Chair. Summaries are available on the COSSA website.

## Collaborative for Enhancing Diversity in Science

In 2007, an interdisciplinary group of professional associations and scientific societies began working together to draw attention to the need to enhance diversity in the sciences. In 2008, that informal coalition held a leadership retreat, *Enhancing Diversity in Science: A Leadership Retreat on the Role of Professional Associations and Scientific Societies*, which focused on the need to broaden participation in the sciences and brought together 98 leaders from 37 professional associations and scientific societies, as well as representatives from universities, federal agencies, and private foundations. In 2009, the groups formalized their partnership, creating the Collaborative for Enhancing Diversity in Science (CEDS). In 2012, CEDS held its second workshop, *Enhancing Diversity in Science: Working Together to Develop Common Data, Measures and Standards*, which addressed the need to establish a more comprehensive and cohesive effort to track the many and various efforts of government, university, private foundations, and associations to enhance minority participation in the sciences. In 2015, the coalition began to examine the research around mentoring and its impact on early career faculty.

## Other coalitions and collaborative efforts include:

- Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research\*
- CDC Coalition
- Census Project
- Close the Innovation Deficit
- Coalition for Health Funding
- Coalition for National Science Funding
- Coalition for International Education
- Friends of Agricultural Statistics and Analysis
- Friends of AHRQ
- Friends of BLS
- Friends of IES
- Friends of NCHS
- Friends of NIAAAA
- Friends of NICHD\*
- Friends of NIA
- Friends of NIDA\*
- Friends of NIMHD
- NDD United
- Science and Human Rights Coalition

\* COSSA serves on the steering committee.

## COSSA is fortunate to work with numerous partners, including:

- American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
- Association of American Universities (AAU)
- Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU)
- Council on Food, Agricultural, and Resource Economics (CFARE)
- Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (COPAFS)
- Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Science (FABBS)
- National Humanities Alliance (NHA)
- National Prevention Science Coalition to Improve Lives (NPSC)
- Research!America
- SAGE Publishing



2015 Annual Meeting &  
Social and Behavioral Science  
Advocacy Day

(Photo Credit: Chris Flynn)

# COSSA Outreach & Resources

Through our various activities and resources, COSSA works to engage our members, the broader scientific and higher education communities, and the general public to promote social and behavioral science research.

## COSSA Washington Update

COSSA's most recognizable public resource is its biweekly newsletter, the *COSSA Washington Update*. A staple deliverable since COSSA's earliest days, *Update* provides members and the public with in-depth, timely analysis of policy developments impacting social and behavioral science research. Check it out and subscribe online at [www.cossa.org/washington-update](http://www.cossa.org/washington-update).



## COSSA Annual Meeting

The COSSA Annual Meeting brings together more than 100 representatives of the social and behavioral science community from across the country for a day of discussion on federal issues impacting social and behavioral science research. It provides an opportunity for COSSA members to engage directly with leaders of federal science agencies, Congressional staff, and colleagues from other associations and institutions. Registration discounts are offered to COSSA members. More at [www.cossa.org/event/2016-annual-meeting](http://www.cossa.org/event/2016-annual-meeting).

## Social & Behavioral Science Advocacy Day

In conjunction with the COSSA Annual Meeting each spring, COSSA members from across the country come to Washington for Social and Behavioral Science Advocacy Day. Members who volunteer to participate are scheduled for meetings with their Congressional delegations to discuss the value of social science research and the importance of federal support. Members are provided all necessary materials, including handouts and talking points, and also receive hands-on advocacy training. This is the only coordinated cross-disciplinary advocacy day in support of social and behavioral science research.



## Timely, In-depth Analysis & Policy Expertise

COSSA serves as a reliable resource for in-depth analysis of bills, proposed regulations, and other policy developments impacting social and behavioral science research. We boil down often-complicated topics into easy-to-digest briefs, articulating how the issue specifically impacts the social and behavioral science community. Our Advocacy webpage ([www.cossa.org/advocacy](http://www.cossa.org/advocacy)) is an excellent source for statements, funding analysis, testimony, and other resources. In addition, COSSA's lobbying experts are on hand to answer your questions or give formal presentations to your members or staff on the policy landscape and recent developments.

## Members-Only Messages

Any individual from a COSSA member institution may sign up to receive members-only messages. Member Messages are used to share timely information on recent developments and new COSSA products that are limited to member use only. To inquire, email [cossa@cossoa.org](mailto:cossa@cossoa.org).

A MESSAGE to  COSSA MEMBERS...

## Advocacy Resources

The COSSA website houses several resources for members wishing to engage in advocacy. There you will find the COSSA Advocacy Handbook, funding and policy related talking points, and policy briefs on a variety of topics. You can also find links to Congressional and federal agency websites that are relevant to social science research. Find this and more at [www.cossa.org/resources](http://www.cossa.org/resources).



## NEW! Annual University Social Science Rankings

Curious how your university stacks up in terms of federal funding for social and behavioral science research? COSSA produces an annual ranking of total social and behavioral science research funding awarded by the federal government to U.S. colleges and universities. Using the most current federally collected data, we aggregate the data and maintain a ranking on the COSSA website at [www.cossa.org/resources/sbs-r-d-rankings](http://www.cossa.org/resources/sbs-r-d-rankings). These rankings help tell positive stories about the value of social science research to a variety of audiences. For example, Members of Congress would love to know that several millions of dollars in research funding is going to their local university!



### College and University Rankings for Federal Social and Behavioral Science R&D

RANK	INSTITUTION	FEDERAL SBS R&D (2014)
1	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, The	94,132,000
2	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	89,662,000
3	University of Maryland, College Park	73,678,000
4	University of Washington, Seattle	36,886,000
5	University of Pennsylvania	36,504,000
6	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities	36,241,000
7	Pennsylvania State University, The, University Park and Hershey Medical Center	31,631,000
8	Florida State University	30,403,000
9	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick	30,029,000
10	University of Wisconsin-Madison	29,273,000
11	Arizona State University	28,949,000
12	Harvard University	28,350,000
13	New York University	26,507,000
14	Duke University	24,719,000
15	University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh	23,801,000
16	Ohio State University, The	22,898,000
17	University of Southern California	22,877,000
18	University of Colorado Boulder	21,944,000
19	Michigan State University	21,231,000
20	University of California, Berkeley	20,420,000
21	University of California, San Diego	19,879,000
22	University of South Florida, Tampa	19,741,000
23	University of Texas at Austin, The	18,594,000
24	San Jose State University	17,067,000
25	University of Connecticut	16,313,000
26	Columbia University in the City of New York	16,141,000
27	Stanford University	15,886,000
28	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	15,868,000
29	Princeton University	15,785,000
30	Brandeis University	15,651,000
31	University of Chicago, The	15,076,000

This data comes from the National Center for Science and Education Statistics' Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) Survey for fiscal year 2014. The "Federal R&D" column lists combined federal research and development expenditures for social sciences, psychology, law, communications, and social work.

To learn more visit <http://ncesdata.nsf.gov/herd/2014/> or <http://www.cossa.org/resources/sbs-r-d-rankings/>

## State by State Funding Fact Sheets

What's the economic impact of social science funding to your state? COSSA's state by state funding fact sheets use federally collected data to show how much federal funding goes to each state annually. The fact sheets also list the primary federal sources of this funding (e.g. NSF, HHS, DOD), as well as the leading recipients of funding in your state. Check it out for yourself at [www.cossa.org/resources/state-fact-sheets](http://www.cossa.org/resources/state-fact-sheets).

## Federal Investments in Social and Behavioral Science Research in New York

Federally-supported social and behavioral science research yields important findings that contribute to a healthier, safer, and more prosperous population.  
This support represents significant investment at institutions across New York.

New York higher education institutions receive  
**\$135.3 million**  
in Total Federal Social and Behavioral Science Research Funding

**Primary Sources of Federal Social and Behavioral Science Research Funding to New York**

- \* HHS (incl. NIH) (\$78.5M)
- \* National Science Foundation (\$20.2M)
- \* Dept. of Defense (\$8.4M)
- \* Dept. of Agriculture (\$4.0M)

**Leading Recipients of Social and Behavioral Science Research Funding in New York**

- \* New York University (\$25.9M)
- \* Columbia University (\$16.7M)
- \* University of Rochester (\$13.3M)
- \* Cornell University, All Campuses (\$12.9M)
- \* CUNY Hunter College (\$8.7M)
- \* SUNY at Binghamton (\$6.9M)



*The federal government spends approximately \$18.5 billion annually on research and development. Of that total, less than 5% (\$1.9 billion) is invested in Social and Behavioral Science Research.*

Source: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, Higher Education Research and Development Survey, FY 2012. For more information, visit [www.cossa.org/state-fact-sheets](http://www.cossa.org/state-fact-sheets)



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## Grassroots Action Alerts

COSSA issues alerts to members when action is needed on a federal policy issue. Our alert platform allows members to easily write to their Members of Congress. We provide members with background and talking points to help them craft their communications to policy makers. Check out our TAKE ACTION webpage at [www.cossa.org/advocacy/take-action](http://www.cossa.org/advocacy/take-action).



# Governance, Finance, and Lobbying Disclosure

## Governance

The COSSA Board of Directors oversees the operations and affairs of the organization. In 2014, the Board unanimously passed an amendment to the COSSA Bylaws, revising the governance structure effective January 1, 2015. The change alters the Board structure by reducing the number of Governing Member representatives from two to one, and reducing the number of at-large directors from seven to three, thereby creating a smaller, more effective Board. The revised Bylaws can be viewed on the COSSA website at [www.cossa.org/about/bylaws](http://www.cossa.org/about/bylaws).

The Board meets quarterly in Washington, DC to discuss issues of COSSA policy and priority. Felice Levine, Executive Director of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), was elected Chair of the Board for the 2015-2016 term.

See the inside cover of this report for the full membership of the 2015 Board of Directors.

## Finance and Lobbying Disclosure

As a 501(c)(6) non-profit advocacy organization, COSSA complies with the regulations set by the *Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995*, as amended. COSSA files quarterly lobbying reports with the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate, and COSSA and each registered lobbyist on staff completes political contribution disclosure reports twice a year. COSSA has determined that it spends approximately one-third of its annual income on lobbying expenses. COSSA does not make any political contributions. All reports are publicly available at [www.Senate.gov](http://www.Senate.gov).

COSSA had an operational budget of approximately \$630,000 in 2015 and is required to file IRS Form 990, which is available for viewing upon request. COSSA's finances are subject to an external audit each year in compliance with the COSSA Bylaws.



(Photo Credit: Chris Flynn)



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## Governing Members



AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION  
FOUNDED 1902



Population Association of America



### MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences  
American Evaluation Association  
American Psychosomatic Society  
Association for Asian Studies  
Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies  
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management  
Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations  
Association of Research Libraries  
Council on Social Work Education  
Economic History Association  
History of Science Society  
Midwest Sociological Society  
National Association of Social Workers  
North American Regional Science Council  
Rural Sociological Society  
Social Science History Association  
Society for Research on Adolescence  
Society for Social Work and Research  
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues  
Society of Behavioral Medicine  
Southern Political Science Association  
Southern Sociological Society  
Southwestern Social Science Association

### CENTERS AND INSTITUTES

American Academy of Arts and Sciences  
American Academy of Political and Social Science  
American Council of Learned Societies  
American Institutes for Research  
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences  
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research

Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan  
Institute for Social Science Research, University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
Institute for Women's Policy Research  
Owens Institute for Behavioral Research, University of Georgia  
NORC at the University of Chicago  
Population Reference Bureau  
RTI International  
Social Science Research Council  
Vera Institute of Justice

### COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Arizona State University  
Boston University  
Brown University  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Clark University  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Duke University  
George Mason University  
Georgetown University  
Harvard University  
Indiana University  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY  
Johns Hopkins University  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Michigan State University  
New York University  
Northwestern University  
Pennsylvania State University  
Princeton University

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
Stanford University  
Stony Brook University, SUNY  
Texas A&M University  
The George Washington University  
The Ohio State University  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, San Diego  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of Chicago  
University of Colorado, Boulder  
University of Illinois  
University of Iowa  
University of Maryland  
University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota  
University of Missouri  
University of Nebraska, Lincoln  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
University of Oklahoma  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of South Carolina  
University of Texas, Austin  
University of Texas, San Antonio  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Virginia Tech  
West Virginia University  
Yale University

Membership as of December 31, 2015.