

**106TH CONGRESS OPENS FOR BUSINESS:
IMPEACHMENT DOMINATES EARLY
AGENDA** *HS*

On January 6th the 106th Congress commenced. The following day the Senate opened the impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton. The House, which ended the 105th Congress by impeaching the President in a bitter partisan debate and votes, chose a new Speaker who promised cooperation and a Democratic leader who talked of "burying the hatchet." Bill Clinton is the first United States President impeached since Andrew Johnson in 1868. Yet, he retains the support of the American people with poll numbers indicating around 70 percent approve of his stewardship of the presidency. Welcome to 1999 in Washington.

Despite the historic events surrounding the impeachment trial, routines continue. The President's Fiscal Year 2000 budget is currently scheduled for release on February 1 and another year of debating federal spending priorities will begin. Those debates will take place in the context of additional projected budget surpluses and a determination to "save Social Security." It will take place with so-called "spending caps" still in place that will continue to squeeze discretionary spending. Although Congress demonstrated last year that where there is a will to break the caps, there is a way. As always, leaks have indicated some of the President's funding priorities: increased defense spending, more dollars for after school programs. A new major initiative in information technology is also expected, which should provide the National Science Foundation some new money.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH), having received a \$2 billion present from the Congress last year, will receive a very small increase from the President's budget, it is rumored. Congress will likely ignore the administration's concern with NIH's ability to absorb all these new funds, and may continue the plan to double the NIH budget in five

years. The NIH funding situation has also raised questions about the balance of the nation's science and technology portfolio. Some have argued that the concentration of riches in health research at the expense of significant increases for basic research in all the sciences as well as research on agriculture, education, crime, and other areas is not healthy for the country.

The new Speaker has vowed that the House will pass all 13 appropriations bills by the summer, or "it will not leave town" for the traditional August recess. The Senate is too busy right now with impeachment to worry about enacting appropriations bills on time. Whether the bills pass Congress and are signed by the President before Fiscal Year 2000 begins on October 1, 1999, may depend on how many controversial non-spending policy riders are in the legislation.

Unlike last year, the Congress hopes this year to pass a Budget Resolution to start the process off right. The non-binding resolution gives the respective House and Senate Budget Committees a chance to assert their priorities within the spending functions and provide guidelines for the appropriators. A

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budget resolution also allows the Congress to promote its ideas for fiscal policy. The Republican majorities in the House and Senate hope to work out their differences and enact a significant tax cut this year.

The New Leadership

A former high school teacher and wrestling coach has been lifted from semi-obscurity and named the new Speaker of the House; third in line of succession to the Presidency. Representative Dennis Hastert (R-IL) replaces the retired Newt Gingrich and the soon-to-be-retired Bob Livingston (who only made it to "Speaker-designate") as the leader of the House. Hastert had been serving as Chief Deputy Whip, key assistant to Majority Whip Representative Tom DeLay (R-TX). The Whips are responsible for keeping party members in line and for counting noses for upcoming floor votes. Although some see Hastert as a front man for DeLay, whose nickname is "The Hammer," and who has been one of the most partisan of Republicans; others see a different fellow. One of the first people to greet Hastert after his swearing-in as Speaker was his former colleague from Illinois, former Minority Leader Bob Michel. Michel was viewed by Gingrich and his followers as too mild mannered and accommodating to Democrats. While Hastert surely will promote the House Republican agenda of large tax cuts, limited government,

rebuilding defense, and local control of education, he made it clear in his inaugural address that he was willing to meet the Democrats half-way, if not more. With only a 223-212 GOP margin, this may become necessary more often than not.

Committee and subcommittee rosters, including leadership positions, remain incomplete. House Democrats have not made their assignments for ranking members of the appropriations subcommittees. The House Science Committee has not organized, so a new leader for the Basic Research Subcommittee has not been selected. The full House has passed a package of rules, that gives the Government Reform Committee (formerly the Government Reform and Oversight Committee) another waiver to continue its Subcommittee on the Census. There had been some discussion of giving jurisdiction of the Census to the House Administration Committee (formerly Oversight).

In instances where decisions have been made, Representative Michael Castle (R-DE) was chosen to lead the Early Childhood, Youth and Families Subcommittee. It will have jurisdiction over the Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI). The Ways and Means Committee has chosen Representative Clay Shaw (R-FL) as the new head of the Social Security Subcommittee, making him a key player in any attempt to revise that system. Representative Nancy Johnson (R-CT) takes over Shaw's slot as head of the Human Resources Subcommittee. She has indicated a strong interest in reviewing the impact of welfare reform and examining the federal role in child care as part of her agenda for the panel.

If and when Congress gets past the impeachment process, other issues awaiting action include: the much-postponed juvenile crime legislation, the continuation of the fight over sampling in the Census, especially if the expected Supreme Court ruling is not definitive, a renewal of the debate over data base protection legislation, and the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. In addition, there might be great debates about the future of Social Security and Medicare, and the new National Security issue of protection against terrorism, including the administration's embrace of a missile defense system.

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The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA), an advocacy organization for federal support for the social and behavioral sciences, was founded in 1981 and stands alone in Washington in representing the full range of social and behavioral sciences. *UPDATE* is published 22 times per year. Individual subscriptions are available from COSSA for \$75; institutional subscriptions, \$150, overseas mail, \$150. ISSN 0749-4394. Address all inquiries to COSSA, 1522 K Street, NW, Suite 836, Washington, D.C. 20005. Phone: 202/842-3525, FAX: 202/842-2788. <http://members.aol.com/socscience/COSSAindex.htm>

**STEVENSON REPLACES AUERBACH AT
WHITE HOUSE SCIENCE OFFICE** HS

David Stevenson has been named Assistant Director for the Social and Behavioral Sciences at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). He replaces Judy Auerbach, who has returned to the Office of AIDS Research (OAR) at the National Institutes of Health, where she served prior to her tenure at OSTP.

Before joining OSTP in November, Stevenson served as a senior adviser to Mike Smith, Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education. His responsibilities included the development of legislation and policy for elementary and secondary education as well as research and statistics. Additionally, he worked on Goals 2000 and the Department's education technology initiatives.

Stevenson was also the Deputy Executive Director of the congressionally established National Council for Education Standards and Testing, which issued the report *Raising Standards for American Education*.

He has a B.A. from Johns Hopkins University and a Ph.D. in Sociology from Yale University. His research has been in a range of areas including sociology, social psychiatry, human development, social policy and education. He has held teaching and research positions at the University of Chicago, Stanford University, and Oberlin College. Stevenson's most recent book, *The Ambitious Generation*, will be published in 1999.

Auerbach returned to OAR under its new Director, Neal Nathanson, to continue her efforts to enhance social and behavioral research efforts to cope with the AIDS epidemic. Nathanson is committed to augmenting the prevention agenda and Auerbach, as the HIV Prevention Science Coordinator, will be in charge of developing and implementing many of OAR's initiatives in this area.

**NSF ANNOUNCES TWO RESEARCH GRANT
OPPORTUNITIES** DH**Child Learning and Development**

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate recently announced a competition for child learning and development research grants. The initiative aims to support studies that increase our understanding of cognitive, social, and biological processes related to children's and adolescents' learning in formal and informal settings. Additional priorities are to support research on learning and development that: incorporates multidisciplinary, multi-method, microgenetic, and longitudinal approaches; develops new methods and theories; examines transfer of knowledge from one domain to another; assesses peer relations, family interactions, social identities, and motivation; examines the impact of family, school, and community resources; assesses adolescents' preparation for entry into the workforce; and investigates the roles of demographic and cultural characteristics in children's learning and development.

NSF anticipates approximately \$2 million will be made available for this initiative in Fiscal Year 1999 to fund 15 to 20 awards. For further information on any aspect of preparation or submission of proposals in response to this solicitation, contact Diane Scott-Jones, Program Director, Child Learning and Development, Division of Social, Behavioral and Economic Research, 4201 Wilson Blvd., NSF, Room 995, Arlington, VA 22230; Telephone: 703/306-1732; Fax: 703/306-0485; Email: dscott@nsf.gov. **The deadline for submission of proposals is March 15, 1999.**

Research on Survey Methodology

The NSF's Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics (MMS) Program in the Division for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Research, in collaboration with a consortium of federal statistical agencies represented by the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP) and the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM), invites research proposals that further the development of new and innovative approaches to surveys. Although

proposals submitted in response to this funding opportunity may address any aspect of survey methodology, priority will be given to basic research proposals that have broad implications for the field in general and that have the greatest potential for creating fundamental knowledge of value to the Federal Statistical System. The NSF expects to fund 2 to 5 awards, with an approximate duration of 1 to 3 years, and an expected award range of \$60,000 to \$125,000 per award per year.

Potential topics for consideration include but are not limited to:

Measurement Issues: Decision approaches for determining new data needs and eliminating data items that are no longer needed, and calibration of and adjustment for measurement errors.

Questionnaire Design: Improvement of procedures for designing and pretesting questionnaires for household and establishment surveys, and interviewing inflexibility and the conversational aspects of designing questionnaires.

Survey Technology: Secure and easy-to-use methods of collecting survey data via the Web, and graphical editing and data imputation.

Analytical Issues: Innovations that address and overcome reasons for nonresponse, and integration of information across government surveys.

For more information, contact Cheryl L. Eavey, Program Director, Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics, 4201 Wilson Blvd., NSF, Room 995, Arlington, VA 22230; Telephone: 703/306-1729; Fax: 703/306-0485; Email: ceavey@nsf.gov. **The deadline for submission of proposals is March 1, 1999.**

DRUG ABUSE AND ADDICTION RESEARCH ON WOMEN "SOBERLY NEGLECTED" AS

"Drug abuse and addiction are among the most pressing health and social issues facing our Nation, posing serious health risks and often tragic consequences for those who are afflicted and for their families and communities. Although extraordinary

progress has been made in understanding these disorders and in finding the best ways to prevent and treat them, unfortunately, research on drug abuse and addiction related to women has, until relatively recently, been sorely neglected," according to National Institute on Drug Abuse Director Alan Leshner.

Leshner made the remarks in the forward of the recently published *Drug Addiction Research and the Health of Women*. According to Leshner, "because women traditionally have been underrepresented in research studies and drug abuse treatment groups, the effects of drug abuse are far less understood for women than for men." The volume is the result of a September 1994 two-day conference titled "Drug Addiction Research and the Health of Women."

Two publications were produced based on the proceedings of the conference: an executive summary and a companion volume that builds on the conference presentations and provides greatly expanded reviews of research in this field. "Taken together, the material clearly illustrates the breadth and complexity of drug abuse-related issues that affect women's health," said Leshner. To obtain copies of either publication contact the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, P.O. Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20847-2345, 1800-NCADI-64 (1-800-622-3464) or log on to its webpage: <http://www.health.org>.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE NEWS DH

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) recently announced a homepage for its Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring (ADAM) program (See *UPDATE*, January 19). The webpage contains a full description of the ADAM system, a list of national ADAM sites, and an update of the latest developments within the ADAM program. In addition, the page contains links to research data and reports. The ADAM homepage address is: <http://www.adam-nij.net/adam/index.htm>.

International ADAM

NIJ is currently working on the creation and expansion of an international component to the ADAM system. International ADAM (I-ADAM) will examine the prevalence of drug abuse and crime within and across national boundaries. Incompatible drug surveillance systems within different countries makes it inherently difficult to compare crime and drug abuse in separate countries. I-ADAM provides a basis for nations to coordinate drug control policies and resources resulting in improved multilateral cooperation.

The NIJ notes that many countries currently participating or intending to participate in the I-ADAM system are at various stages of program development. Some countries, for example, England, already collect ADAM-like data; other countries are determining how to fund pilot or feasibility studies; while others are only beginning to learn the benefits of ADAM.

Operations are currently underway for establishing an I-ADAM infrastructure, including the creation of a common survey, development of a unified mergeable database and data entry system, development of training guidelines, conducting feasibility/pilot studies in all I-ADAM countries, and conducting technical assistance site visits. Five countries — Australia, Chile, England, Scotland, and South Africa — are currently proceeding with implementation of their ADAM programs.

International Center

NIJ recently named James Finckenauer as Director of its International Center. Finckenauer, a criminal justice professor, is taking a leave of absence from the School of Criminal Justice of Rutgers University. He has served as both department chair and acting dean during his 24-year tenure at Rutgers.

The Center's goal, according to the NIJ, is to disseminate information derived from research, evaluation, and practice dealing with crime and justice issues throughout the international criminal justice community. The Center will both disseminate abroad information from the United States, and

import the work of foreign scholars and practitioners for use in the United States.

NEW BOOK EXAMINES THREATS TO SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH HS

The New Know-Nothings: The Political Foes of the Scientific Study of Human Nature by Morton Hunt (Transaction Books: 1999) examines attacks on social and behavioral research by political, religious, and other special-interest groups of all ideological persuasions. Hunt, who has written many books, including *The Story of Psychology* and *How Science Takes Stock: The Story of Meta-Analysis*, is concerned with the hounding of researchers out of universities, the cut off of researcher funding through congressional and state legislative pressure, and the harassment of researchers by public demonstrations and picketing, all in the hope of forcing them to abandon their studies.

Three of Hunt's examples focus on situations in which COSSA played a significant role. In "Keeping Sex a Mystery," Hunt describes the congressional and Bush administration attacks on the Survey of Health and AIDS Related Practices (SHARP), and the American Teenage Survey (ATS), two studies funded by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development. Since both surveys included questions concerning adult and teenage sexual behavior, Congress cut off funding for SHARP and the Bush administration canceled funding for ATS. Attempts to ban all research on sexual behavior were defeated, however.

The chapter "Just Say No" explores Congressional attempts to make school survey research more difficult through the imposition of stringent "informed written consent" procedures. Hunt describes the successful battle, led by the ad-hoc Research and Privacy Coalition, to prevent enactment of House bill H.R. 1271.

In "The War Against Social Science Research," Hunt discusses the attacks from conservative Republicans in the late 1970s, the Reagan Administration in the early 1980s, and by then House Science Committee Chairman Robert Walker in 1995. In examining these attacks, Hunt reviews the

beginnings of COSSA and the subsequent role it played in thwarting both the Reagan administration and Walker.

In other chapters, Hunt also looks at the attack on the proposed NIH Violence Conference because it included researchers postulating biological explanations of violent behavior and feminist attacks on gender differences research.

SILVER NAMED AAAS FELLOW; ELECTED TO APSA COUNCIL HS

COSSA Executive Director Howard J. Silver has been named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). The 150 year old scientific organization cited Silver's leadership as "a tireless and effective advocate for the social sciences before Congress and the Executive Branch of the federal government." Silver will receive a certificate and a lapel pin at the AAAS Annual Meeting in Anaheim in late January.

In August, Silver was elected to a two year term on the Council of the American Political Science Association (APSA). He joins 15 other political scientists on the policy making body of the professional association. He is the only member of the Council not working at an academic institution.

CAROL GEARY SCHNEIDER, AAC&U PRESIDENT, JOINS COSSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS HS

Carol Geary Schneider, President of the Association of American Colleges and Universities, (AAC&U) has been elected to a two-year term as an at-large member of the COSSA Board of Directors. Prior to her elevation to the Presidency in January 1998, Schneider served as AAC&U's Executive Vice President for ten years.

During those ten years Schneider directed a series of major educational initiatives: *Engaging Cultural Legacies* helped colleges and universities to incorporate global and multicultural intercultural perspectives into the curriculum; *Re-Forming the*

Major was a multiproject initiative involving partnerships with national learned societies. Among her recent activities are *American Commitments: Diversity, Democracy, and Liberal Learning and Diversity Works*.

Prior to joining AAC&U, she led Academic Programs in Continuing Education at the University of Chicago and was an administrator and faculty mentor in the University Without Walls Program that served adult learners at Chicago State University.

Schneider earned a B.A. from Mount Holyoke College and a Ph.D. in History from Harvard. In 1982 she was named a Mina Shaughnessy Fellow of the U.S. Department of Education.

LIS 1999 SUMMER WORKSHOP DH

The Luxembourg Income Study (LIS) is now accepting applications for its 1999 introductory LIS Summer Workshop. The 1999 workshop, to be held in Differdange, Luxembourg from July 11th to July 17th, is designed to introduce young scholars in the social sciences to comparative research in income distribution and social policy using the LIS database. The LIS has made available more than 75 large microdata sets which contain comprehensive measures of income and economic well-being for a set of over 25 modern industrialized welfare states. For more information on the LIS Summer Workshop, contact Kati Foley, 426 Eggers Hall, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13244-1020; Telephone: 315/443-4526; Email: LISAA@maxwell.syr.edu. Application forms are due by May 1, 1999. For an application form, contact the LIS webpage at: <http://lissy.ceps.lu/index.htm>.

EDITOR'S NOTE

The Consortium has compiled a comprehensive index for the 1998 issues of *UPDATE*. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the 1998 index, feel free to contact COSSA or consult the webpage at: <http://members.aol.com/socscience/COSSAindex.htm>

SOURCES OF RESEARCH SUPPORT DH

COSSA provides this information as a service and encourages readers to contact the agency for further information or application materials. Additional application guidelines and restrictions may apply.

**National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), Department of Education (ED),
Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP)
Request for Applications (RFA): AA-99-001
Letter of Intent Receipt Deadline: February 23, 1999
Application Receipt Deadline: March 23, 1999**

The NIAAA, in conjunction with the ED and the CSAP, seeks grant applications to conduct intervention-oriented research that will ultimately lead to the reduction of alcohol-related problems among college students. The purpose of this RFA is to encourage research that develops and/or tests interventions that have the potential of preventing or reducing alcohol abuse and associated problems among college students. These prevention strategies may focus on the larger normative or cultural environment in which drinking occurs or on drinkers as individuals or groups of persons engaged in hazardous drinking behavior. Up to \$3 million will be made available for the first year, and it is anticipated that four to eight awards will be made. For more information, contact Gayle Boyd, Program Director for Research on Youth and Aging, Prevention Research Branch, DCPR, NIAAA; Telephone: 301/443-8766; Email: gboyd@willco.niaaa.nih.gov. Or contact the NIAAA webpage at: <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov>.

**National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)
Preventing Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)
Request for Applications (RFA): AA-99-002
Letter of Intent deadline: February 23, 1999
Application deadline: March 23, 1999**

The purpose of this RFA is to stimulate research that develops and/or tests interventions that have the potential for preventing FAS among human populations and thereby reducing its incidence and prevalence. Up to \$2 million in total costs will be available for the first year of awards under this RFA. For more information, contact Suzanne M. Heurtin-Roberts, Division of Clinical and Prevention Research, NIAAA, 6000 Executive Boulevard, Suite 505, Bethesda, MD 20892-7003; Telephone: 301/443-0639; FAX: 301/443-8774; Email: sheurtin@willco.niaaa.nih.gov.

**National Institute of Justice (NIJ)
Graduate Research Fellowship Program: Tomorrow's Research Community
Deadlines: May 15 (to be reviewed in June) and September 15 (to be reviewed in October)**

The NIJ's Graduate Research Fellowship Program provides dissertation support to outstanding doctoral students undertaking independent research on issues in crime and justice. Students from any academic discipline are encouraged to apply. Applicants must have completed all doctoral degree requirements except the research, writing, and defense of a dissertation. For more information or to obtain an application, contact the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) at 800/851-3420; the Department of Justice Response Center at 800/421-6770; or the NIJ webpage: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij>, under "Funding Opportunities." For information about topic viability, contact Voncile B. Gowdy at 202/307-2951.

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