



WASHINGTON UPDATE

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COSSA Conference Agenda Released; Hotel Block Rate Expires Feb. 28

The [preliminary agenda](#) for the 2017 COSSA Science Policy Conference & Social Science Advocacy Day on March 29-30 is now available. Featured speakers include University of California, Berkeley sociologist **Archie R. Hocheim** and **John Sides** of the Washington Post's [Monkey Cage](#) blog. Other sessions will highlight topics including **Mobilizing Students as Ambassadors for Social Science**, **Promoting Your Expertise with National Media Outlets**, **Social Science in Government Service**, and **Advocating from Home**. [Register today!](#) Don't forget: participants from [COSSA member organizations](#) and universities are eligible to receive a discount on registration. Email jmilton@coffa.org for details.

For those planning to travel to the Conference from out of town, the conference hotel block

rate expires on **February 28**. Book your room at the [Hilton Garden Inn Washington DC/U.S. Capitol](#) before prices go up next week! Use [this link](#) when booking to get the block rate or book over the phone and use the SRP code **SCI**.

COSSA IN ACTION

The American Anthropological Association Answers "Why Social Science?"



This week's *Why Social Science?* guest post comes from Anne Kelsey, marketing and communications manager for the American Anthropological Association, who, in honor of Anthropology Day, writes about anthropology's contributions to helping solve some of this century's most pressing challenges. Read it [here](#) and [subscribe](#).

COSSA 2016 Annual Report Now Available

COSSA has released its 2016 Annual Report, which highlights some of COSSA's activities and successes over the past year. Click [here](#) to read the report and [learn](#) how your organization can become a member of COSSA. Annual reports from previous years are available on the [COSSA website](#).

COSSA Joins Scientific Community in Urging Approval of NIH FY 2017 Budget

On February 7, COSSA joined 260 patient, medical, scientific, academic, and research organizations of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research in sending a joint [letter](#) and [fact sheet](#) to the President and the House and Senate leadership. The letter urges the enactment of a final FY 2017 spending package that includes \$34.1 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Federal agencies and programs are currently operating under a continuing resolution that expires on April 28.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

Congressional Committees Organize, Begin Hearings

Several committee and subcommittee rosters have been announced in the recent weeks, including for committees overseeing federal funding and policy issues important to social and behavioral science research. Notable committee rosters include [House](#) and [Senate](#) Appropriations; House Science, Space, and Technology [Democrats](#) and [Republicans](#); and [Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation](#). The [House Energy and Commerce](#) Committee, which is responsible for health policy, and the [Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions](#) Committee have also announced their committee membership.

New committee leadership of note for social and behavioral science research funding include new House Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Subcommittee Ranking Member [Jose Serrano \(D-NY\)](#) and new Senate Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Subcommittee Ranking Member [Jeanne Shaheen \(D-NH\)](#).

After officially organizing (which includes welcoming new members and approving the

committee rules), committees began holding hearings and announcing their priorities for the coming year. While Senate committees have been primarily focused on vetting presidential nominees, House committees have been releasing oversight and authorization reports, which include their priorities for the 115th Congress. The Science, Space, and Technology oversight report can be found [here](#), and the Energy and Commerce oversight report can be found [here](#). The Science Committee oversight report in particular outlines the committee's plans for oversight of the National Science Foundation, noting that the committee will seek to "increase support for basic research in the *physical* sciences," adding that "these are the areas with the greatest potential for breakthroughs to new industries and U.S. jobs." Social science is likely to continue to face challenges in the Science Committee this year, despite the efforts of strong champions in the minority. A webcast of the Science Committee's first hearing of the year is available [here](#).

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

Tom Price Confirmed as Secretary of Department of Health and Human Services

Rep. Tom Price (R-GA), an orthopedic surgeon and a six-term member of the House of Representatives, was confirmed as Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) by a party-line vote of 52 to 47 in the late hours of February 10. Price, who most recently served as chair of the House Budget Committee, is fiscally conservative and is considered a stern foe of the *Affordable Care Act* (ACA) and abortion rights. However, he has been mostly supportive of increasing funding for federal research agencies, including the National Institutes of Health, which is one of the agencies under HHS' jurisdiction. Rep. Diane Black (R-TN) has been named interim chair of the House Budget Committee.

NSF Director's Monthly Message Outlines Big Ideas, Highlights Antarctic Program

In her [January Monthly Message](#), Dr. France Cordova, Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF), shared a [video outlining the Six Big Ideas for Future NSF Investment](#) and an update on the [status of research in these areas](#). The six "Big Ideas" serve as bold and broad questions to help direct NSF's long-term research agenda and ensure that future generations will reap the benefits of fundamental scientific research.

Date Change: 10th Matilda White Riley Behavioral and Social Sciences Honors

The date for the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) 10th Matilda White Riley Behavioral and Social Sciences Honors has been changed to **April 25** on the NIH campus. The Honors program pays tribute to the "research trajectory and continuing influence of [Dr. Matilda White Riley](#) in the behavioral and social sciences across and beyond" the NIH. For more information about the program see the NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research's [website](#).

PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

National Academies' Global Change Research Advisory Committee Accepting Nominations

The National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's [Committee to Advise the U.S. Global Change Research Program](#) (USGCRP) is soliciting nominations for new members. The Committee, whose expertise spans the physical, ecological, and social science of global change,

advises the [USGCRP](#) and supports climate communication activities across the Academies. Members serve three-year terms, with an option to reappoint after the first term. The Academies are particularly interested in candidates with expertise in extreme event risk and human dimensions of global change, among other fields. Nominations are due on March 15, 2017 and can be submitted by filling out [this form](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- NICHD/NINR: Research to Address Sleep Disorders in the Context of Medical Rehabilitation (R01) ([PAR-17-163](#))
 - NIMH: Research to Support the Reduction and Elimination of Mental Health Disparities (Admin Supp) ([PA-17-165](#))
 - NIMH: Formative and Pilot Intervention Research for Prevention and Treatment of HIV/AIDS (R34) ([PA-17-166](#))
 - [NIH Concept Clearances](#)
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EVENTS CALENDAR

- [AERA Centennial Lecture: Deborah Lowe Vandell - The Opportunities and Challenges of Early Child Care and Education](#), February 22, 2017, Oklahoma City, OK
- [American Psychosomatic Society Annual Scientific Meeting](#), March 15-18, 2017, Seville, Spain
- [Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference](#), March 16-19, 2017, Toronto, Canada
- [Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting](#), March 21-25, 2017, Kansas City, MO
- [AERA Centennial Lecture: Charles Payne - The Limits of Schooling, the Power of Poverty](#), March 23, 2017, Detroit, MI
- [COSSA 2017 Science Policy Conference & Social Science Advocacy Day](#), March 29-30, 2017, Washington, DC
- [Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting](#), March 29-April 1, 2017, San Diego, CA
- [Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), March 29-April 1, 2017, Greenville, SC
- [Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), March 30-April 2, 2017, Milwaukee, WI
- [American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting](#), April 5-9, 2017, Boston, MA
- [Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference](#), April 6-9, 2017, Chicago, IL
- [Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting](#), April 6-8, 2017, Austin, TX
- [AERA Centennial Lecture: Russell Skiba - School Discipline: Issues of Equity and Effectiveness](#), April 12, 2017, Boston, MA
- [Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Meeting](#), April 12-15, 2017, Austin, TX
- [10th Matilda White Riley Behavioral and Social Sciences Honors](#), April 25, 2017, Bethesda, MD
- [American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting](#), April 27-May 1, 2017, San Antonio, TX
- [Population Association of America Annual Meeting](#), April 27-29, 2017, Chicago, IL

A list of COSSA members' annual meetings and other events can be found on the COSSA [events page](#).

COSSA members who have an upcoming event they would like to see listed in the Events Calendar and on our website should send an email to jmilton@coffa.org.

REGISTER NOW!

Consortium of Social Science Associations Members

Governing Associations

American Anthropological Association
American Association for Public Opinion Research
American Economic Association
American Educational Research Association
American Political Science Association
American Psychological Association
American Society of Criminology
American Sociological Association
American Statistical Association
Association of American Law Schools
Law and Society Association
Linguistic Society of America
Midwest Political Science Association
National Communication Association
Population Association of America
Society for Personality and Social Psychology
Society for Research in Child Development

Membership Organizations

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
American Association of Geographers
American Evaluation Association
American Historical 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 of Colleges of Arts and Sciences
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

Colleges and Universities

Arizona State University
Boston University
Brown University
Carnegie Mellon University
Clark University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
Fielding Graduate University
George Mason University
George Washington University, The
Georgetown University
Harvard University
Howard University
Indiana University
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
Johns Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Michigan State University
New York University
North Carolina State University
Northwestern University
Ohio State University, The
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
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University of Texas, Austin
University of Texas, San Antonio
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin, Madison

American Academy of Arts and Sciences
American Academy of Political and Social Science
American Council of Learned Societies
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
NORC at the University of Chicago
Owens Institute for Behavioral Research, University of Georgia
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Social Science Research Council

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COSSA

Executive Director: Wendy A. Naus

Deputy Director: Angela L. Sharpe

Assistant Director for Public Affairs: Julia Milton

Government Relations Associate: Camille Hosman

Address all inquiries to COSSA at newsletter@cozza.org. Telephone: (202) 842-3525

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.

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