



CONSORTIUM of SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Promoting social science in a changing world.

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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 and widespread use of social and behavioral science research, as well as 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. The COSSA membership includes professional and disciplinary associations, scientific societies, research centers and institutes, and U.S. colleges and universities.

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*Partial year appointment

From the Executive Director

Greetings!

As anticipated, 2017 was a year of new challenges and abounding unknowns, starting with the transition to the Trump Administration in January. The COSSA team kept busy throughout the year assessing the new political reality in Washington and developing advocacy strategies to assure the rightful place of social and behavioral science research in this new normal. Even more than twelve months into the new Administration, there remains little clarity about what the future holds for science funding. Therefore, our important work continues.

FINDING SUCCESS

While the year has been tough on science in general—especially for certain areas like climate change research—COSSA was still able to achieve significant wins in 2017. Most notable was the nurturing of new champions for social and behavioral science research within the Congress. COSSA's team of lobbyists hit the ground running in 2017 as the 115th Congress was sworn in, conducting dozens of meetings with the staff of new and returning Members of Congress. This outreach served the COSSA community well throughout the year with Congressional offices turning to COSSA for information, expertise, input into floor speeches, questions for hearings, among other requests.

The first session of the 115th Congress was also notable because of the legislation that was *not* introduced. Thanks to COSSA's advocacy—including action by you, our members—we saw no direct legislative threats to social science research programs in 2017. This is a significant victory considering a recent history of efforts by some in Congress to divert funds away from social science programs to “other sciences,” to defund entire disciplines (e.g. political science at NSF), and to upend the peer review process by adding a layer of political review to the federal grant review process. Keeping such proposals from advancing this year took a concerted effort. Make no mistake, there were challenges in 2017. But thanks to leaders like the aforementioned champions in Congress who came to the defense of social science when we needed them the most, we have made it through 2017 in a strong position for the future.

Despite an abysmal first budget request from the Trump Administration, COSSA worked with its partners and Congressional champions to reject the arbitrary and harmful cuts to science agencies and programs. While FY 2018 appropriations have not yet been completed at the time of this writing (FY 2018 began on October 1, 2017), it appears likely that final FY 2018 funding legislation will not take direct aim at social science research programs.

Another notable success in 2017 was the launch of COSSA's new **Why Social Science?** initiative, which is designed to talk about social science research in new ways that resonate with more general audiences (see pages 10-11 for more).

CHALLENGES REMAIN

As for science funding more generally, though, the jury is still out. Unfortunately, until Congress acts to change the law to allow for increases in discretionary spending caps—which impact all federal funding that is not entitlements—we will continue living in an era of flat and decreasing budgets. Even if a bipartisan deal is struck to allow for additional spending in 2018 and beyond, programs across the government are already squeezed, making continued flat funding a bittersweet reality for the foreseeable future. For now, funding for research (and so many other federal programs) continues to be held hostage by highly-partisan non-research policy debates (e.g. immigration or health care).

Arguably, 2018 will be even more challenging for the federal agencies and programs we care about, as we expect to see additional efforts by the Trump Administration to cut spending and a major new effort next year to reorganize federal agencies with an eye towards shrinking the federal bureaucracy, cost-savings, and increased efficiencies. But there is one thing I can promise: the COSSA team will do everything we can to promote, protect, and defend our sciences. I hope you will join us.

In closing, I invite you to read this report and learn about COSSA's many activities throughout 2017, as well as the resources we have produced to help our community best articulate the value of our science to policy makers and public. Stay tuned for even more exciting developments in 2018!

Thank you as always for the support and I look forward to working with you in the years ahead.



WENDY A. NAUS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Wendy A. Naus

The COSSA Team

Wendy A. Naus • Executive Director

Wendy Naus became the fourth Executive Director of COSSA in 2014 following a decade of lobbying for the federal research and policy interests of scientific societies and U.S. universities. Over her career, she has worked to shape legislation, programs, and regulations important to the research community and has advocated for increased research funding across federal agencies. 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 and member engagement. 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.

Julia Milton • Assistant Director for Public Affairs/Government Relations Associate

Julia Milton splits her time between lobbying on a variety of issues of importance to the COSSA community and heading up COSSA's communications and public affairs efforts. She serves as editor of the *COSSA Washington Update*, COSSA's signature biweekly newsletter. Prior to joining COSSA in 2012, Julia 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.

Camille Hosman • Government Relations Associate

Camille Hosman joined COSSA in 2016. She represents the COSSA constituency before Congress and among a variety of federal agencies. Additionally, she supports COSSA's communication efforts. Camille previously worked with the state and federal government relations offices for the University of Missouri System and helped promote policy in support of science and higher education. A Missouri native, Camille holds her B.A. in political science from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

COSSA Gives Back

On August 10, the COSSA team participated in its annual community service outing. Staff volunteered at **Food & Friends** (www.foodandfriends.org) in Northeast Washington. The team packaged hundreds of diet-specific, nutritious meals for the most vulnerable in the greater Washington, DC region, which are then delivered directly to their homes. Food & Friends caters specifically to men, women and children living with HIV/AIDS, cancer, and other life-challenging illnesses. COSSA initiated the service outing in 2015 as a way to give back to the local DC community.



LOL! Take Your Dog to Work Day

COSSA participated in the 19th Annual Take Your Dog to Work Day on June 23, 2017 (www.facebook.com/takeyourdog). Gunner Naus reported for duty as COSSA's newest social science advocate.



INTERNS WANTED!

COSSA is always looking for interns to join the team throughout the year, especially students from COSSA member institutions. We had the privilege of hosting three undergraduate interns in 2017:

Spring: Laila Rosenthal, American University

Summer: Shannon Emmett, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Fall: Erin Buechele, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

To inquire, email jmilton@coffa.org.



POLICY

2017 Legislative Priorities

Throughout 2017, the COSSA team worked to advance a multi-faceted legislative agenda (<http://bit.ly/2Ez64lx>) to support social and behavioral science research. Our efforts centered around four priorities: (1) cancelling harmful sequestration cuts for fiscal year 2018 and protecting nondefense discretionary spending, (2) providing real growth in research funding, including for basic research, across all areas of STEM, (3) supporting the use of social science research across federal agencies to ensure policies are based on sound evidence, and (4) investing in and protecting the federal statistical and data enterprise. These priorities were shared with over sixty congressional offices and were used as talking points for the social science advocates who took part in COSSA's third annual Social Science Advocacy Day.



Evidence-Based Policymaking Movement Makes Strides

On September 7, the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking (CEP) released its final report, *The Promise of Evidence-Based Policymaking*¹. The Commission was established by a bipartisan 2016 bill championed by House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) and Senator Patty Murray (D-WA). It charged the Commission with developing a strategy to strengthen the government's evidence-building efforts while ensuring the privacy and confidentiality of the information it collects. The final report makes 22 recommendations aimed at strengthening privacy protections, improving access to data, and enhancing the government's capacity to generate evidence. COSSA issued a statement praising the report in October, and in November, Speaker Ryan and Sen. Murray introduced legislation to codify several of the Commission's recommendations, the *Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act*. The bill was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives and is currently awaiting consideration by the Senate. We expect to see passage of this legislation in 2018 and perhaps even the introduction of a second evidence-based policymaking bill to build on the progress of the first.

¹ <https://www.cep.gov/cep-final-report.html>

National Academies Report on the Value of the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

In June 2017, at the request of the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine convened an expert committee that released a report on the value of the social, behavioral, and economic (SBE) sciences to national priorities. The committee concluded that these fields serve many of the most important needs of society and help address “nearly every major challenge the United States faces.” The report included examples of the contributions of SBE sciences to health, prosperity and welfare, national defense, progress of science, missions of many federal agencies, and industry and business. More at: http://sites.nationalacademies.org/DBASSE/The_Value_of_Social_Behavioral_and_Economic_Sciences_to_National_Priorities/index.htm

Graduate Tuition Waivers Protected in Tax Plan

After months of negotiations between House and Senate Republicans, the Republican-controlled Congress passed a compromise tax bill on December 19, 2017. While the House version of the tax bill included a proposal that would classify graduate tuition waivers as taxable income—meaning that some graduate students' taxes could increase by 100 percent or more while they earn the same (generally limited) income—the final law did not include this provision. COSSA and its partners advocated successfully to keep graduate waivers untouched. However, implementation of the tax law will need to be closely watched in the coming years as the resulting tax breaks are expected to add an estimated trillion dollars to the federal deficit over the next decade, likely leading to a further squeezing of non-defense discretionary funding in the years to come, including federal research programs.

EVENTS

Webinar: Social Science in the Age of Trump: What We'd Like to See

On February 9, COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus was featured in a webinar discussion with Michael Todd of SAGE Publishing's **Social Science Space** website on "Social Science in the Age of Trump:



What We'd Like to See." Naus discussed what she sees as likely activities and efforts of the Trump Administration during the first year in office. More at www.cossa.org/resources/webinars.

Advocating for Federal Research Support—Navigating New Waters in Challenging Times

The COSSA team attended the **American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting**, San Antonio, Texas on April 27 – May 1, 2017. COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus was featured on the panel, "Advocating for Federal Research Support—Navigating New Waters in Challenging Times" alongside Felice Levine, AERA Executive Director; Juliane Baron, AERA Director of Government Relations; Edward Liebow, Executive Director of the American Anthropological Association; and Mark Vieth, Senior Vice President, CRD Associates. The panel discussed the current political climate surrounding science policy and what the social science community is doing to respond. More at <https://youtu.be/oYuFENcmv9E>.



Making the Case for Social Sciences in Canada and the United States: Challenges and Opportunities

COSSA attended the **American Sociological Association Annual Meeting** in Montréal, Québec from August 12-15, 2017. COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus participated in a panel discussion on "Making the Case for Social Sciences in Canada and the United States: Challenges and Opportunities," alongside ASA President Michèle Lamont of Harvard University; Steven Brint of the University of California, Riverside; Ted Hewitt from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada; and Alondra Nelson, head of the Social Science Research Council in the U.S. The panel discussed the current state of play for social science support in the U.S. and Canada, including how the countries' approaches to social science support differ, and strategies for promoting social science among policy makers.

Boosting the Impact of Social Science and Humanities Conference, Cardiff, Wales

On September 19-21, 2017, COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus attended an international conference on *Boosting the Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities* in Cardiff, Wales (aesisnet.com/event/impact-ssh). The conference explored the contributions the social sciences and humanities make to addressing societal challenges. COSSA was invited to discuss structural approaches to enabling impact at the national level alongside panelists representing the Netherlands and Canada. In addition, she presented as part of a plenary session on strategic and institutional approaches to research impact, answering the question, "How can universities, funders and other institutions create conditions which facilitate impact?"



Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences Annual Meeting

COSSA was invited to participate in the Annual Meeting of the Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences in Denver, CO from November 1-4, 2017. COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus offered remarks to about 500 deans of arts and sciences at U.S. universities about the value of COSSA and the resources available to member universities (see the RESOURCES section of this report for more information).

Why Social Science? Congressional Briefings

With generous support from SAGE Publishing, COSSA launched a new series of *Why Social Science? Congressional Briefings* in 2017 (see pages 10-11 for information about *Why Social Science?*).

Two events were held this year:



Why Social Science? Because Understanding Markets Can Save Lives

On April 18, COSSA kicked off the new briefing series with a conversation with Dr. Alvin Roth, winner of the 2012 Nobel Prize in Economics. The briefing, *Why Social Science? Because Understanding Markets Can Save Lives*, focused on Dr. Roth's fundamental research in market design, which revolutionized kidney exchanges, allowing incompatible patient-donor pairs to find compatible kidneys for transplantation, demonstrating how social science can have real, significant impacts on our everyday lives.



Social Science Solutions for Health, Public Safety, Computing, and Other National Priorities

On October 4, COSSA hosted a panel discussion on Social Science Solutions for Health, Public Safety, Computing, and Other National Priorities. The event featured authors of past *Why Social Science?* blog posts, including Representative Daniel Lipinski (D-IL), Peter Harsha of the Computing Research Association, Nancy La Vigne of The Urban Institute, and William Riley of the National Institutes of Health. Panelists discussed the importance of social science applications to challenges of national importance, such as preventing cyberattacks, addressing health disparities, reforming the criminal justice systems, and using behavioral reinforcement or “nudges” to improve programs and policies.



Complete recordings of both events are available on COSSA's website.



MARCH FOR SCIENCE

COSSA served as an official partner of the March for Science (www.marchforscience.com), a nonpartisan movement that organized record-setting marches and events around the world in support of robustly funded and publicly communicated science as a pillar of human freedom and prosperity. COSSA marched in solidarity with other scientists and science enthusiasts on April 22, 2017 to showcase the important contributions that science, especially the social and behavioral sciences, make to our country and global community.



COSSA Science Policy Conference and Social Science Advocacy Day

March 29–30, 2017 ★ Washington, DC

COSSA held its 2017 Science Policy Conference and Social Science Advocacy Day on March 29-30, 2017 in Washington, DC. Sessions featured discussions about the role of social science within the context of the Trump Administration and the new 115th Congress. The keynote address was delivered by University of California, Berkeley sociologist Arlie R. Hochschild, whose book, *Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right*, was a finalist for the 2016 National Book Award. The program also included an expert panel addressing the political and policy challenges of the day and strategies for addressing them, and discussions on the benefits of public engagement by social scientists, mobilizing social science students, engaging with national media outlets, the role of social scientists in government service, and ways to meaningfully advocate from home. Check out the full conference summary at www.cossa.org/event/2017-science-policy-conference.



Staying Focused, Moving Forward

The 2017 conference included a panel of experts in social science policy, including Ron Haskins of the Brookings Institution and the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking, Kei Koizumi of AAAS and formerly of the Office of Science and Technology Policy at the White House, Kenneth Prewitt of Columbia University, and COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus. The panel was moderated by Felice Levine, American Educational Research Association. Haskins discussed the efforts of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking and the broader efforts and effects of the evidence-based policy movement, including so-called “evidence-based cutting,” which could result in the elimination of government programs without complete evaluation (see YEAR IN REVIEW for more). Koizumi highlighted the unknown fate of social science research funding programs, particularly the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate at the National Science Foundation (NSF). Koizumi and Haskins both expressed concerns about the fate of federal data and statistics in the current political moment.



Credit: TMD Enterprises

Prewitt offered a positive spin by explaining that the social and behavioral science community has more infrastructure today to field attacks than it has had in the past but cautioned that we must think “outside the box” and develop new allies to support and share our research. Naus elaborated on the fate of the social science research funding at NSF, explaining that these programs are a very small part of the federal budget and therefore not a likely target for the Trump Administration, and noted that Congress—not the President—controls all government spending, making a case for advocates to prioritize outreach to Capitol Hill.

The Benefits of Public Engagement by Social Scientists

The conference featured a plenary presentation by John Sides, Associate Professor of Political Science at the George Washington University and co-founder and editor-in-chief of the *Monkey Cage* blog, which currently publishes at the *Washington Post* and features commentary by political scientists who use findings from their discipline to illuminate topics in the news. Sides observed that traffic on the *Monkey Cage* blog has grown every year, sharply increasing with its move to the *Washington Post* in 2013 and spiking during the 2016 election year. A poll of contributors to the blog found that around 90 percent viewed their experience favorably and that many received positive contact from colleagues, administrators, and the media as a result. Many contributors reported receiving additional opportunities for non-academic writing, interest from other media outlets, and contact from local legislators and other decision-makers. Sides advised potential contributors to outlets like the *Monkey Cage* that there is “no substitute for salience” in terms of which articles found the biggest audience.



Join Us for the
**2018 COSSA Science Policy Conference
 & Social Science Advocacy Day**

April 30-May 1, 2018 • Washington, DC

More at:
www.cossa.org/event/2018-science-policy-conference

Social Science Advocates Take to Capitol Hill

On March 30, about 70 advocates participated in the second annual *Social Science Advocacy Day*, meeting with House and Senate offices to discuss the value of social science research and the critical



Credit: TMD Enterprises

role the federal government plays in supporting it. Advocates received hands-on training prior to their meetings and were equipped with the necessary messages and materials to make strong arguments for social science research funding.

COSSA Presents 2017 Distinguished Service Award to Senators Gardner and Peters

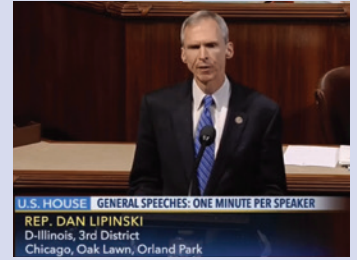
On March 29, as part of the 2017 COSSA Science Policy Conference and *Celebration of Social Science Capitol Hill Reception*, COSSA presented the 2017 Distinguished Service Award to Senators Cory Gardner (R-CO) and Gary Peters (D-MI). The COSSA Distinguished Service award recognizes leaders who have gone above and beyond to promote, protect, and advance the social and behavioral science research enterprise. Senators Gardner and Peters were recognized for their bipartisan work on the *American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (AICA)*, legislation that reauthorizes activities at the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), STEM education programs, and seeks to reduce the administrative burden associated with federal grants. Senators Gardner and Peters worked to ensure an inclusive and bipartisan process when writing the AICA, engaging the scientific research community along the way. The AICA was one of the last bills signed into law by President Obama in January 2018.



Sen. Gary Peters and Sen. Cory Gardner accepting the COSSA Distinguished Service Award
 Credit: TMD Enterprises

COSSA Advocates Lauded in House Floor Speech

On March 29, 2017 Representative Daniel Lipinski (D-IL) spoke on the floor of the House of Representatives to recognize the participants in COSSA's annual Social Science Advocacy Day and celebrate the many benefits of social science research. Lipinski highlighted the applications of social science research to strengthening our national security, creating efficient markets, and keeping cyber systems secure.



A special thank you to the 2017 conference sponsors



COSSA Resources



Through its various activities and resources, COSSA works to engage its members, the broader scientific and higher education communities, and the general public in the promotion of social and behavioral science research. A number of these resources are reserved for members only.

Signature COSSA Resources

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. The team of policy experts boil down often-complicated topics into easy-to-digest briefs, articulating how the issue specifically impacts the social and behavioral science community. COSSA's ADVOCACY webpage (www.cossa.org/advocacy) is an excellent source for statements, funding analysis, testimony, and other resources. In addition, COSSA's experts are on hand to answer questions and provide formal presentations to audiences of all sizes on the policy landscape, recent developments, and future outlook.

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 comprehensive, timely analysis of policy developments impacting social and behavioral science research. Check it out and subscribe online at www.cossa.org/washington-update/archive.

Annual COSSA Science Policy Conference

The Annual COSSA Science Policy Conference brings together members of the social and behavioral science community for a day of discussion on federal issues impacting social and behavioral science research. It provides an opportunity for COSSA members and other stakeholders 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/2018-science-policy-conference

Social Science Advocacy Day (MEMBER BENEFIT)

In conjunction with the COSSA Science Policy Conference each spring, COSSA members from across the country are invited to come to Washington for Social 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 funding 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.



Annual University Social Science Rankings

COSSA's 2018 *College and University Rankings for Federal Social and Behavioral Science R&D* was released in December 2017. The ranking highlights the top university recipients of federal research dollars in the social and behavioral sciences. Based on federally collected data, the COSSA rankings use an inclusive selection of fields to calculate the total federal R&D funding received by universities in the social and behavioral sciences. The 2018 rankings reflect expenditures in fiscal year 2016, the most current available data. View the rankings at www.cossa.org/resources/sbs-r-d-rankings.

RANK	UNIVERSITY	FEDERAL \$ MIL (2016)
1	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	\$36,250,000
2	University of Michigan	\$30,000,000
3	Pennsylvania State University, University Park and Hershey Medical Center*	\$28,100,000
4	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities*	\$26,100,000
5	University of Washington, Seattle*	\$26,000,000
6	University of Pennsylvania	\$25,100,000
7	University of Maryland, College Park*	\$24,000,000
8	Arizona State University	\$23,200,000
9	University of South Florida, Tampa	\$23,000,000
10	New York University	\$22,000,000
11	University of Wisconsin-Madison*	\$21,000,000
12	University of Washington, Bothell*	\$20,000,000
13	University of California, Berkeley*	\$19,000,000
14	Ohio State University*	\$18,000,000
15	Florida State University*	\$17,000,000
16	Cornell University*	\$16,000,000
17	University of California, San Diego*	\$15,000,000
18	University of Colorado Boulder*	\$14,000,000
19	Harvard University	\$13,000,000
20	Harvard University of New Haven, New Brunswick*	\$12,000,000
21	University of California, San Diego	\$11,000,000
22	San Jose State University	\$10,000,000
23	University of Texas at Austin*	\$9,000,000
24	Indiana University, Bloomington*	\$8,000,000
25	Stanford University	\$7,000,000
26	University of California, Berkeley*	\$6,000,000
27	University of Chicago	\$5,000,000
28	Brandeis University	\$4,000,000

State Funding Fact Sheets

COSSA's state funding fact sheets use federally collected data to show how much federal social and behavioral science research funding is awarded to each state annually. The fact sheets also list the primary federal sources of this funding (e.g. NSF, NIH, DOD), as well as the leading recipients of funding in your state. View the fact sheets online at www.cossa.org/resources/state-fact-sheets.



COSSA Hot Topics

COSSA "Hot Topics" are periodic, featured articles prepared by COSSA staff members offering insights into timely issues important to the social and behavioral science community. They are not issued with any regularity. Instead, they are produced when staff notice a trend or series of events occurring on a topic of interest to the SBS community. In 2017, COSSA issued two Hot Topics discussing changes to human subjects research regulations and the NIH's new "clinical trials" definition and its impacts on basic behavioral and social sciences research. The reports are available on the COSSA website at www.cossa.org/resources/hot-topics.



Grassroots Action Alerts (MEMBER BENEFIT)

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 and tailor the communication to highlight their own expertise and local issues. COSSA members receive background information and talking points to help them craft their communications to lawmakers. More information is available on COSSA's TAKE ACTION webpage at www.cossa.org/advocacy/take-action.

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.

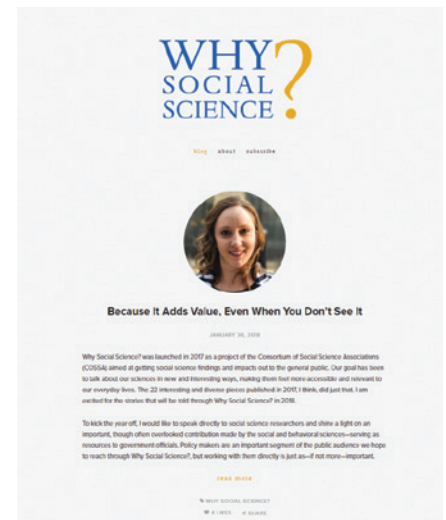


COMING IN 2018! Social Science Policy Training Program (MEMBER BENEFIT)

COSSA will be launching a new initiative in 2018 called the Social Science Policy Training Program. The program will offer COSSA members the opportunity to partner with COSSA policy experts on webinars, workshops, and other activities aimed at informing the social science research community about a variety of topics. Through the program, the COSSA team can engage with members on topics such as advocacy training, communicating social science, federal budget 101, and more. Stay tuned!

Why Social Science?

In 2017, COSSA launched a new initiative aimed at promoting the value of social and behavioral science research to public audiences. *Why Social Science?* is a new blog series featuring guest contributors who offer insights about the value of the social sciences to our everyday lives. The home for the activity is a new COSSA website, www.whysocialscience.com, which serves as a centralized hub for social science information written for a lay audience. In 2017, pieces were published from a diverse collection of contributors, including non-social science disciplines, voices from outside the scientific community (such as industry), and even officials working in Congress and U.S. federal agencies.



Read the full blog posts at www.whysocialscience.com

Why Social Science?



Because the Social and Behavioral Sciences Contribute to Improving the Health of the Population

William T. Riley, National Institutes of Health Associate Director for Behavioral and Social Sciences Research and Director of the NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research



Because It Makes the World Safer for Cultural Differences

Anne Kelsey, Marketing and Communications Manager, American Anthropological Association



Because We Need to Understand What Will Motivate People to Take Action

Marcia McNutt, President, National Academy of Sciences



Because Small Tweaks to Behavior Can Be the Difference Between Life and Death

David Neal, Founder and Managing Partner of Catalyst Behavioral Sciences, LLC and Executive-in-Residence at Duke University's Center for Advanced Hindsight



Because It is in the National Interest, Both in Interdisciplinary Work and on Its Own

Daniel Lipinski, United States Representative, Illinois' 3rd Congressional District, U.S. House of Representatives



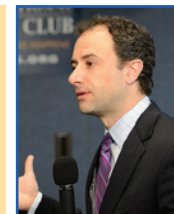
Because All Fields of Science Are Drivers of Freedom and Prosperity

Consortium of Social Science Associations



Because Social Science Is Necessary to Achieve Health Equity

Courtney Ferrell Aclin & Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institutes of Health



Because Multilingualism Is an Asset and a Goal Worth Pursuing

John Tessitore, Senior Program Advisor, American Academy of Arts & Sciences



Because Information Without Meaning Lacks Purpose

Paaige K. Turner, Former Executive Director, National Communication Association



Because Social Science Drives Smart Investments in Public Safety

Nancy La Vigne, Chair, Crime and Justice Research Alliance



Photo: Chris Flynn



Because Social Science Makes Sense of the Institutes that Shape Our Lives

Steven Rathgeb Smith, Executive Director, American Political Science Association



Because Social Science Informs Effective, Efficient, and Equitable Education Policies

Juliane Baron, Director of Government Relations, American Educational Research Association



Because It Makes Computing Work for People

Andrew Bernat, Executive Director, Computing Research Association



Because Social and Behavioral Research Improves Health and Quality of Life

Mary Woolley, President & CEO, Research!America



Because Social Science is the Fundamental Bedrock of Just Societies

Sara Miller McCune, Founder & Executive Chair, SAGE Publishing



Because Social Science Helps Us to Enhance Diversity in the Interest of Positive Societal Outcomes

Jean H. Shin, Director of Minority and Student Affairs, American Sociological Association



Because It Is Central in Guiding Efforts to Foster Success in STEM in Our Children and Youth

Martha Zaslow, Director for Policy and Communications, Society for Research in Child Development



Because Language Is Essential to Human Interaction

Evan Bradley, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Penn State Brandywine



Because Social Science Fosters Robust and Trustworthy Knowledge

Felice J. Levine, Chair, COSSA Board of Directors, Executive Director, American Educational Research Association

Interested in contributing to **Why Social Science?**

Contact jmilton@coffa.org

The COSSA Community



Membership

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.

Membership in COSSA is institutional and comprises professional associations, scientific societies, and institutions across two main membership categories: **Governing Members** and **Affiliate Members**. Affiliate Members are further categorized into Membership Organizations, Research Centers and Institutes, and Colleges and Universities. A “fair share” principle is utilized for setting annual membership dues. Visit www.cossa.org/members/join-cossa for more information. COSSA’s complete membership list can be found on the back cover of this report and is available online at www.cossa.org/members.

COSSA member organizations receive a number of resources and benefits that are exclusive to membership. Anyone working at a member organization may sign up to receive COSSA’s members-only resources (more in COSSA Resources section).

COSSA welcomed six new and returning members in 2017:



Coalitions and Partners

COSSA works in coalitions and with the broader scientific and higher education communities on issues of common concern. Our many coalition and collaborative partnerships 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
- Coalition to Promote Research*
- Friends of Agricultural Statistics and Analysis
 - Friends of AHRQ
 - Friends of BLS
 - Friends of IES
 - Friends of NCHS*
- Friends of NIA
- Friends of NIAAA
- Friends of NICHD*
- Friends of NIDA*
- Friends of NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research*
- Friends of NIMHD
- NDD United

* COSSA serves on the executive or steering committees.

COSSA is fortunate to work with exceptional 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)
- National Humanities Alliance (NHA)
- Research!America
- SAGE Publishing

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 creating a smaller, more effective governing board. The COSSA Bylaws can be viewed on the COSSA website at www.cossa.org/about/bylaws.

The COSSA Board of Directors meets quarterly in Washington, DC to discuss issues of COSSA policy and strategy. Felice J. Levine, Executive Director of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), is serving her second two-year term (2017-2018) as Board Chair. Ronald Wasserstein, Executive Director of the American Statistical Association (ASA), is serving his second two-year term (2017-2018) as COSSA Treasurer.

See the inside cover of this report for the full roster of the 2017 Board of Directors.

Finances

COSSA's operational budget in 2017 was approximately \$650,000. COSSA is required to file IRS Form 990, which is available for public review upon request. COSSA's finances are subject to an external audit each year in compliance with the COSSA Bylaws.

Lobbying Disclosure

As a 501(c)(6) nonprofit advocacy organization, COSSA complies with the regulations set by the *Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995*, as amended (2 U.S.C. 1601 et. seq). COSSA files quarterly lobbying reports with the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate, and COSSA and each registered lobbyist on staff complete 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 campaign contributions. All disclosure reports are publicly available at www.senate.gov.



Credits: TMD Enterprises

GET ACTIVE!

Join COSSA today by visiting www.cossa.org/members/join-cossa

Governing Members



Affiliate Members

MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
African Studies Association
American Association of Geographers
American Council of Learned Societies
American Evaluation Association
American Historical Association
American Psychosomatic Society
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
National Council on Family Relations
North American Regional Science Council
Rural Sociological Society
Social Science History Association
Society for Prevention Research
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

RESEARCH CENTERS & INSTITUTES

American Academy of Arts and Sciences
American Academy of Political and Social Science

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
RTI International
Social Science Research Council

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Arizona State University
Boston University
Brown University
Carnegie Mellon University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
Fielding Graduate University
Florida State University
George Mason University
George Washington University, The
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
North Carolina State University
Northwestern University
Ohio State University, The
Pennsylvania State University

Princeton University
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Stanford University
Texas A&M University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Chicago
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Georgia
University of Illinois
University of Iowa
University of Maryland
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
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