Advocating for the Social and Behavioral Sciences
Governing Members

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

Membership Organizations

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
American Evaluation Association
American Psychosomatic Society
Association for Asian Studies
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
Justice Research and Statistics Association
Midwest Sociological Society
National Association of Social Workers
North American Regional Science Council
North Central Sociological Association
Rural Sociological Society
Social Science History Association
Society for Anthropological Sciences
Society for Behavioral Medicine
Society for Empirical Legal Studies
Society for Research on Adolescence
Society for Social Work and Research
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Southern Political Science Association
Southern Sociological Society
Southwestern Social Science Association

Centers and Institutes

American Academy of Political and Social Sciences
American Council of Learned Societies
American Institutes for Research
Brookings Institution
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
Institute for Women's Policy Research
National Opinion Research Center
Population Reference Bureau
RTI International
RWJF Center for Health Policy at the University of New Mexico
Society for Social Work and Research
Vera Institute of Justice

Colleges and Universities

Arizona State University
Boston University
Brown University
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
Carnegie-Mellon University
University of Chicago
Clark University
University of Colorado
Columbia University
University of Connecticut
Cornell University
University of Delaware
Duke University
Georgetown University
George Mason University
George Washington University
Harvard University
Howard University
University of Idaho
University of Illinois
Indiana University
University of Iowa
Johns Hopkins University
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
University of Maryland
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse
University of Michigan
Michigan State University
University of Missouri, St. Louis
University of Minnesota
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
New York University
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
North Dakota State University
Northwestern University
Ohio State University
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
University of South Carolina
Stanford University
State University of New York, Stony Brook
University of Texas, Austin
University of Texas, San Antonio
Texas A & M University
Vanderbilt University
University of Virginia
University of Washington
Washington University in St. Louis
University of Wisconsin, Madison
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Yale University
Table of Contents

From the Executive Director 3
Introducing COSSA’s New Executive Director 7
2013 Highlights 9
Other Activities 13
Heard on the Hill: Congressional Briefings 18
COSSA and the Community 21
COSSA and its Constituents 22
Governance and Finance 23
COSSA Staff 24
As I leave COSSA after 30 years, 25 as its Executive Director, I want to first say it has been an honor and privilege to advocate for the promotion of and federal funding for the social and behavioral sciences. To paraphrase President Kennedy, the torch has now been passed to a new generation of leadership, and I hope that those who have provided me with such support over the years will now extend that cooperation to COSSA's new Executive Director, Wendy Naus.

In leaving, I first want to thank the staff members who have collaborated with me during my tenure to make COSSA the effective force it has become, in particular, Angela Sharpe, COSSA's current Deputy Director, who during the past 18 years has been an invaluable part of our efforts to advocate for the importance of the connection between health and behavior to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She has also served COSSA in many other ways that have enhanced its value.

I also want to thank all those who have served on the COSSA Executive Committee and Board of Directors, who have provided me with advice and support to make COSSA a key player in U.S. science policy. In addition, social and behavioral scientists across the country have answered our many calls to testify and lobby Congress, to present the results of their research in our many Congressional briefings, and to speak at our annual meetings. I am grateful for their responsiveness. Two people epitomize this, Al Blumstein of Carnegie Mellon University and Ken Prewitt of Columbia and the former director of the U.S. Census. Both served as COSSA President and both spoke at congressional briefings and annual meetings. Blumstein also was a COSSA witness before the House Appropriations Committee. Prewitt was a leading player in COSSA's founding.
During my tenure, I have dealt with five presidential administrations, 16 Congresses of all political combinations, nine National Science Foundation (NSF) directors, six NIH directors, seven presidential science advisers, six Assistant Directors for NSF's Social, Behavioral and Economic (SBE) sciences directorate, four directors of NIH's Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), and countless other officials in both the Executive and Legislative branches.

I have had the pleasure to work with many friends and colleagues in the Executive Branch agencies. In particular, interacting with Cora Marrett in her many positions of leadership at NSF has been a joy. It began during her tenure as the first Assistant Director for the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences in 1992 and culminates with her current second stint as NSF's Acting Director.

On Capitol Hill, Rep. David Price (D-NC), a fellow political scientist, has been a friend as well as supporter. The House Science Committee Chairmen, the late Rep. George Brown (D-CA) and Rep. Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY), also demonstrated strong support for all the sciences and it was a pleasure to work with them. I am also grateful for all the staff members who have listened to my arguments and sometimes did what I asked.

**Triumphs and Challenges**

COSSA has had many triumphs as well as some challenges. The formation of the SBE directorate in 1991, the establishment of OBSSR, and the creation of the position of Assistant Director for the SBE sciences at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) were all COSSA-driven successes.

Yet, problems have arisen throughout COSSA's history. One of my earliest activities at COSSA was, along with then-Bureau of Labor Statistics Commissioner Janet Norwood (who would later become COSSA's President) and Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT), helping to save the National Longitudinal Studies (NLS) of Labor Market Experiences, as it was known then. In the category of the more things change, the more they remain the same (of which there are many examples), the future of the NLS is once again uncertain.

Another example comes from my first visits with congressional staff back in 1983, when I was admonished that social scientists need to...
be more careful about their grant titles. During a recent visit with a Democratic Senator's staff person, it was clear that this issue still posed problems for this Senator when it came to supporting funding for social and behavioral science research.

Over the past thirty years, there have been significant attempts by Congress and the Administration to limit or eliminate funding for the SBE sciences. In the late 1980s and early 1990s there were attacks on NIH’s support for research on sexual behavior, which would later resurface in 2003 and 2004. In 1995-96, then House Science Committee Chairman Robert Walker (R-PA) wanted to eliminate the directorate at NSF. In 2006-07, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX) argued that the social sciences do not belong at NSF. In 2009, Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK) wanted to eliminate the political science program at NSF, a position later espoused in 2012 by Representative Jeff Flake (R-AZ). That same year Rep. Denny Rehberg (R-MT) tried to eliminate economics research at NIH, and Rep. Daniel Webster (R-FL) sponsored an amendment that passed the House to eliminate the American Community Survey. All of these challenges were eventually thwarted by COSSA working with its members, friends in Congress, and its allies in the rest of the science and higher education communities.

Finally, in March 2013 Senator Coburn returned with a successful amendment to the Fiscal Year 2013 appropriations bill that restricted NSF’s political science program to funding projects that “promote the national security and economic development of the United States.”

SUPPORT FROM THE SCIENTIFIC AND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMUNITIES

At the same time, since its establishment COSSA has enjoyed significant support from the rest of the science and higher education communities. The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has been a significant partner for COSSA in many endeavors and continues to help in the current difficulties by organizing inter-society letters of support. The Association of American Universities (AAU) and the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) as well as individual universities have also helped with COSSA’s efforts to promote and defend the SBE sciences. From 1994-2000, I was the Chair of the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF), which focuses on advocating increased NSF funding. This brought me into contact with the leadership of many other scientific societies outside the SBE world. The dividends of this cooperation have been apparent in many ways as the science community has stood with COSSA in continuing to oppose attacks on our sciences.

Working in coalitions has been an important part of COSSA’s success. Aside from CNSF, COSSA has also taken leadership positions in...
many coalitions and helped create two important ones, chaired by Angela Sharpe -- the Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (CAHT-BSSR) and the Coalition to Promote Research (CPR). Angela has also been responsible for COSSA's significant activities in the area of enhancing diversity in the sciences.

The COSSA newsletter, COSSA Washington Update, remains our key communications instrument. It covers news and events from Washington affecting the social and behavioral science community. We have also moved into the social media age with a Facebook page and a Twitter account @COSSADC.

As we continue to cope with the current threats to funding for the social and behavioral sciences, COSSA will remain ever vigilant. As the late Nobel Prize winner Herbert Simon once said: "Perhaps the most important role of the social sciences, among their many roles, is to provide this basic fund of knowledge about ourselves and our institutions -- a foundation of reality for the thinking and decision making of legislators, managers, both governmental and corporate, and all of us as citizens, householders, and employees." As he also noted, this is what makes the social and behavioral sciences the true "hard sciences." Again, thank you for the support and all the best for the future.

Howard J. Silver, Ph.D.
December 2013
Wendy Naus Named New COSSA Executive Director

COSSA is pleased to announce the appointment of Wendy A. Naus as the next COSSA Executive Director. Naus assumed her position on January 1, 2014.

Naus comes to COSSA from Lewis-Burke Associates LLC, a Washington, D.C. lobbying firm where since 2004 she represented the federal policy and research interests of national scientific associations and leading U.S. research universities. Over the last decade, Naus has worked to promote federal policies and legislation important to social and behavioral scientists, advocated for sustained funding for social science research and training programs at the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and other federal agencies, and engaged with Congress, federal agencies, and the broader scientific community to promote the value of federally-funded social science. In addition to her policy expertise in social science, Naus’ knowledge extends to federal policy and research programs related to biomedical research and environmental science across the federal government.

Naus has achieved several legislative, regulatory, and profile-raising successes on behalf of clients, including most recently the creation and funding of a new $10 million training grants program at the Department of Health and Human Services aimed at increasing the number of competently-prepared health professionals working in the area of mental health. She has worked to engage scientists directly in the public policy process by facilitating grassroots advocacy campaigns and identifying opportunities for researchers to serve as experts, such as opportunities to provide testimony and serve on influential federal boards and committees. In addition, Naus has designed and implemented countless advocacy training programs focused on assisting researchers in developing messages that will resonate with policy audiences about the importance of their science.

A native of Buffalo, New York, Naus holds a B.A. in political science and urban studies from Canisius College, graduating magna cum laude.
Challenges to the social and behavioral science community continued in 2013. The fiscal year (FY) 2013 appropriations process did not conclude until the end of March 2013. Of particular concern was the passage of an amendment to the FY 2013 appropriations bill by Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK) that limited the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Political Science program to funding only projects that “promote the national security and economic interests of the United States.” In light of this development at the eleventh hour of the FY 2013 appropriations process, COSSA spent a significant amount of time in 2013 working with its allies to eliminate the so-called “Coburn amendment.”

Thanks to the persistent effort by the social science advocacy community, the larger scientific community, and supporters on Capitol Hill, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014 is free of restrictive language that would limit social science at NSF. Similarly, the provision included in the House Appropriations Committee version of the FY 2013 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education bill which would have prevented the National Institutes of Health (NIH) from funding economics research, eliminated the American Community Survey (ACS), and zeroed out funding for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) was not retained in the final bill. The absence of the Coburn amendment and other policy riders impacting social and behavioral science was a major victory for the community.

Agencies’ FY 2013 budgets, nonetheless, included the five-percent across-the-board cut known as sequestration. Sequestration had a major impact on agencies across the federal government. COSSA joined the Non-Defense Discretionary (NDD) Coalition to advocate for a balanced deficit reduction plan that would avoid sequestration.

Also in 2013, COSSA spent considerable time working with its allies advocating for enhanced funding for those agencies that support social and behavioral scientists in the FY 2014 appropriations bills.
Challenges to social and behavioral science are also being felt outside the appropriations process. House Science, Space and Technology Committee Chairman Lamar Smith (R-TX) and House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-VA) have spoken out publicly against NSF funding of social, behavioral, and economic research. COSSA and its allies met with the Science Committee staff as well as the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee staff to ensure that the NSF Social, Behavioral and Economic (SBE) sciences directorate remains intact and that no direct threats to authorizing funding of our sciences occurred.

While the NSF reauthorization bill, known as the America COMPETES Act, expired on September 30, 2013, legislation was not introduced in 2013. However, the House majority floated draft legislation for reaction by the public late in the year. The science and higher education community objected to early drafts of the legislation, providing comment to the Committee on the impacts the draft would have on NSF and its “gold standard” merit-review system.

COSSA will closely monitor the COMPETES bill in 2014.

Increased Collaboration with DBASSE

COSSA continued its close working relationship with the National Academies, particularly its Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (DBASSE). Robert Hauser is DBASSE’s Executive Director and Ken Prewitt is its Advisory Committee Chair.

Among COSSA’s activities with DBASSE include:

- The COSSA executive director presented and participated in the DBASSE Advisory Committee meetings.
- COSSA staff attended the meetings of DBASSE’s Committee on National Statistics, Committee on Law and Justice, Committee on Population, Board on Environmental Change and Society, and the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences.
- COSSA participated in the National Academies’ efforts on gun violence, crime trends, marijuana legalization, reforming juvenile justice, and assessing the value of research on national goals, and reported on developments in the COSSA Washington Update.
- COSSA continued to consult with DBASSE on their Social and Behavioral Sciences in Action initiative, which seeks to inform the public and policy makers about the value of social and behavioral science.
Monday, November 4

Welcome and Introductions – COSSA President James Jackson

America’s Political Institutions in Trouble

Congress – Sarah Binder
Brookings Institution

The Presidency – Jeremy Mayer
George Mason University

The Supreme Court – Mark Graber
University of Maryland Law School

Challenges for NSF – Acting Director Cora Marrett

Challenges for NIH – Deputy Director Lawrence Tabak
Responses: Wendy Baldwin
Population Reference Bureau

James Jackson
Institute for Social Research
University of Michigan

Changes at Census – Director, John Thompson

How We Live Now: Societal Changes

Household Changes in the United States
Linda Jacobsen, Population Reference Bureau

Internet and Social Media
Lee Rainie, Pew Research Center Internet American Life Project

The Aging of the Baby Boomers
Deborah Carr, Rutgers University
Monday, November 4

Changes Regarding Race in America
Moderator – James Jackson
COSA President
Voting Rights Act – John Garcia
University of Michigan
Affirmative Action – Margaret Andersen
University of Delaware
Classification – Ken Prewitt
Columbia University

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren, Senator from Massachusetts

Reception in Honor of Retiring COSA Executive Director Howard J. Silver

Tuesday, November 5

The Press and Social Science
Scott Jaschik
Inside Higher Ed
Mike McAuliff
Huffington Post
D’Vera Cohn
Pew Research Center

Lobbying for Social Science: A 30 Year Journey – Howard J. Silver, COSA Executive Director
OSSA led and organized the response to eliminate the so-called “Coburn amendment” in the FY 2014 appropriations bill, which restricted the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Political Science program in FY 2013.

COSSA maintained its relationship with the appropriations subcommittee that funds NSF, including partaking in the following activities:

- COSSA accompanied constituents on a meeting with Chairman Frank Wolf (R-VA) of the House Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Appropriations Subcommittee, in a session organized by the American Psychological Association (APA).
- COSSA attended the Subcommittee’s hearings with NSF leadership and the hearing on SBE’s Youth Violence report, which COSSA also helped distribute to congressional staff.
- The executive director met with key staff of the Senate Appropriations CJS Subcommittee to discuss social, behavioral, and economic sciences at NSF in a session organized by the Population Association of America.

In addition, along with its partners in the science and higher education community, COSSA engaged with the NSF authorizing committees and personal offices of committee members to discuss the upcoming America COMPETES Act reauthorization.

At NSF, the COSSA executive director met with NSF Director Subra Suresh and Acting Director Cora Marrett, and engaged with the SBE Assistant Director (AD) Myron Gutmann and interim AD Joanne Tornow. COSSA staff also interacted with SBE’s division directors and program officers, and regularly attends the SBE Advisory Committee and the Education and Human Resources (EHR) Directorate’s Advisory Committee meetings. COSSA also attended the meetings of the National Science Board (NSB) and the annual NSB awards dinner.

Lastly, COSSA worked with NSF’s Office of Legislative and Public Affairs, particularly regarding the threat to the political science program, among other issues.
OSSA’s deputy director continued to co-chair the Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (CAHT-BSSR). CAHT-BSSR continued to meet with various agency personnel, including regular meetings with National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) director Robert Kaplan.

The deputy director also continued to co-chair the Coalition to Promote Research (CPR), which remained ever vigilant so that it could provide a rapid response to threats aimed at peer-reviewed research. CPR’s agenda included responding to the threat to economics research at NIH and the Coburn amendment.

COSSA staff monitored the many hearings conducted by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees regarding spending for NIH, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

COSSA provided support in the campaign to protect NIH health economics research. It worked closely with the American Economic Association and the Population Association of American to generate a Dear Colleague letter to NIH Director Francis Collins that included more than 80 House members as signatories.

The deputy director participated in an OBSSR-led meeting on modeling the social and behavioral science workforce. The meeting followed the March 7 presentation on Illustrative Mathematical Modeling in Scientific Workforce Analysis, by Navid Ghaffarzadegan, Joshua Hawley, and Dick Larson. Participants of the meeting also included staff from the National Science Foundation.

The deputy director monitored and attended the advisory council meetings of the various NIH institutes, including the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and the National Children’s Study (NCS). COSSA continued to follow the implementation of the NCS, particularly the efforts to develop a sampling frame that allows for the study’s generalizability.

COSSA’s deputy director continued to serve on the Steering Committee for the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research and attended meetings with numerous NIH institute directors. The deputy director assisted in organizing the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Congressional briefings, including “NIH 101: An Introduction to the Nation’s Medical Research Agency,” featuring COSSA Board member Wendy Baldwin.

COSSA supported and served on the steering committee for the “Rally for Medical Research Hill Day,” a day-long event on Capitol Hill. More than 170 organizations and institutions participated in the rally.

COSSA staff monitored and reported on the activities of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and attended the Board of Scientific Counselors meetings of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). Staff reported on NCHS’ data releases and met with staff.
OSSA’s executive director engaged with staff in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), including Philip Rubin, the Assistant Director for the Social and Behavioral sciences (SBS); Kei Koizumi, the Assistant Director for Federal R&D; and Jeff Smith, Senior Advisor to the OSTP Director. The executive director provided input regarding social sciences for President Obama’s speech to the National Academies in April.

COSSA monitored Presidential Science Advisor John Holdren’s congressional appearances as well as his talk to the AAAS Policy Forum. Holdren’s remarks included strong statements in support of the social and behavioral sciences.

The COSSA executive director met with Maya Shankar, Senior Advisor to the Deputy Director for Social and Behavioral Sciences at OSTP. Shankar leads the Administration’s effort to implement a Behavioral Insights agenda.

COSSA also continues to engage with the White House Office of Public Engagement to discuss the value of social and behavioral science, sequestration, and other issues affecting the science community.

**THE CENSUS BUREAU AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS ISSUES**

The COSSA executive director met with Acting Census director Tom Mesenbourg and new Census director John Thompson, who also presented at the 2013 COSSA Colloquium.

As a member of the Census Stakeholder’s Group, COSSA joined numerous other organizations to advocate for adequate funding for the FY 2014 Census budget. This included strong opposition to any amendments that would eliminate the American Community Survey or make it voluntary.

COSSA also advocated for the FY 2014 budget for the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). For this and the Census budget advocacy, the executive director joined his colleagues in communicating this support to both the House and Senate appropriations staff.

The executive director attended the BEA Advisory Committee meetings.

COSSA continued to join with other organizations to advocate that the Bureau of Labor Statistics maintain its support for the National Longitudinal Survey (NLS), which because of sequestration was once again endangered.

COSSA also joined with its allies in the agricultural community to express support for adequate FY 2014 funding for the Economic Research Service and the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Further, the executive director met with the Chief Statistician of the U.S. and head of the Office of Management and Budget’s Office of Statistical Policy.
As a member of the Coalition for International Education (CIE), COSSA continued to push the Administration and Congress to restore funding to the Title VI and Fulbright-Hays programs. The Coalition also weighed in with the Administration on its plans for supporting international education in the future. The Coalition met with then-Deputy Assistant Secretary Clay Pell, which resulted in a significant increase for these programs in the Administration’s FY 2014 budget. In addition, COSSA joined the CIE’s statement regarding Title VI in the upcoming reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

COSSA monitored activity with regard to the stalled reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and monitored the House and Senate Education Committees in anticipation of reauthorization of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES).

COSSA staff attended numerous congressional hearings held by the House Committee on Education and the Workforce and Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee regarding ESEA, the Administration’s Race to the Top program, education research, and education reform. Staff also monitored hearings and actions regarding the Department of Education by the appropriations panels.

COSSA staff attended and reported on meetings of the National Board for Education Sciences as well as briefings and events sponsored by Brookings, American Enterprise Institute, the Center for American Progress, the Urban Institute, the Education Sector, and other groups concerning elementary and secondary education, higher education, poverty, and children and other family issues.

COSSA and its members continued to press for the inclusion of the social and behavioral sciences in discussions and programs related to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education, and COSSA participated in the DBASSE-organized roundtable on the issue.

The executive director participated in a meeting with Karol Mason, the new Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs. The executive director also met with Greg Ridgeway, Acting Director of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), and William Sabol, Acting Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), to discuss their agencies’ budgets and operations.

The executive director spoke to the Office of Justice Program’s Scientific Advisory Board at its meeting in January about the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rule Making on the protection of human research participants. The Board is chaired by former COSSA President Al Blumstein.

COSSA organized and led a delegation from the American Society of Criminology and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences to meet with staff of Representative Frank Wolf (R-VA) to discuss budgets for NIJ and BJS.

COSSA testified for enhanced budgets for NIJ and BJS before the House Commerce, Justice, Science, Appropriations Subcommittee, chaired by Representative Wolf.

The executive director also spoke at a session that included Representative Bobby Scott (D-VA), sponsored by the George Mason University-based Center for Evidenced Based Crime Policy, and also attended the Center’s congressional briefings.

The COSSA executive director participated in a panel discussion at the American Society of Criminology annual meeting.
Agriculture and Rural Development

COSSA staff monitored developments on the reauthorization of the Farm Bill, including attending hearings on the research and rural development provisions.

COSSA staff attended hearings on the FY 2014 agriculture Appropriations for the research and statistics functions at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The executive director spoke to the Experiment Station’s Committee on Organization and Policy’s Social Science Subcommittee.

Enhancing Diversity in Science

The Collaborative for Enhancing Diversity in Science (CEDS), led by the COSSA deputy director, continued to meet. In June, CEDS sponsored a congressional briefing, Innovative Strategies for Building a Diverse Scientific Workforce, to officially release and highlight the accompanying recommendations from the summary report of the May 24, 2012 workshop, Enhancing Diversity: Working Together to Develop Common Data, Measures and Standards. The briefing was sponsored in conjunction with Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX). The report was distributed to Capitol Hill, Executive Branch agencies, and other interested parties.

Human Research Protection and Science and Human Rights

COSSA continued to monitor the Office of Human Research Protections’ (OHRP) attempt to revise the Common Rule that governs human research protection in federally-funded research.

COSSA continued to attend the meetings of the AAAS-Science and Human Rights Coalition.
COSSA continues to identify opportunities to bring cutting-edge social and behavioral science to Capitol Hill through its sponsorship of Congressional briefings. In partnership with COSSA members and others in the university and scientific communities, COSSA helped to facilitate conversations between social and behavioral science researchers and policy makers on the topics below.

**Health Economics Research: Saving Lives and Saving Money**

*April 12, 2013*

**Speakers:**
- **Alvin Roth**, Stanford University and Nobel Prize Winner (2012)
- **Mark McClellan**, Brookings Institution
- **Kevin Volpp**, University of Pennsylvania
- **Joseph Santos**, American Enterprise Institute


**Disaster Research: Communication, Resilience, and Consequences**

*April 25, 2013*

**Speakers:**
- **Cora Marrett**, Acting Director, National Science Foundation
- **Rep. Rush Holt (D-NJ)**, Co-Chair, House R&D Caucus
- **Dan O’Hair**, University of Kentucky
- **Roxy Cohen Silver**, University of California, Irvine
- **Elizabeth Frankenberg**, Stanford University

Organized by COSSA. Co-sponsored with the Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) and the House R&D Caucus.
Enhancing Diversity: Working Together to Develop Common Data, Measures and Standards
June 6, 2013

Speakers:
Erich Jarvis, Duke University Medical Center
Kellina Craig-Henderson, National Science Foundation
Roderic Pettigrew, National Institutes of Health
Sally Hillsman, American Sociological Association

Sponsored by: CEDS [Collaborative for Enhancing Diversity in the Sciences -- American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Educational Research Association, American Psychological Association, American Sociological Association, Association of American Medical Colleges, Consortium of Social Science Associations, National Association of Social Workers, and the Society for Research in Child Development] and Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), in collaboration with:

American Association for Dental Research
American Evaluation Association
Association of American Geographers
Association of Population Centers
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Council on Social Work Education
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences
Geological Society of America
IEEE-USA
Midwest Political Science Association
National Center for Institutional Diversity
National Research Council’s Research Associateship Programs
National Communication Association
National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON), Inc.
Population Association of America
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Prevention Research
The Academy of Radiology Research
The American Physiological Society
University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

Aging in Rural America: 21st Century Trends
June 20, 2013

Speakers:
Nina Glasgow, Cornell University
Kenneth Johnson, University of New Hampshire
Douglas Gurak, Cornell University
Joachim Singelmann, University of Texas, San Antonio

Sponsored by: COSSA; American Sociological Association; Association of Population Centers; Population Association of America; Rural Sociological Society; Farm Foundation; Cornell Agricultural Experiment Station; Cornell Population Center; Department of Development Sociology, Cornell University; University of New Hampshire Carsey Institute; Utah Agricultural Experiment Station, Utah State University.
Preventing Prescription Drug Abuse: Applying Science to Solve a Community Epidemic  
July 10, 2013

Speakers:
- Nora D. Volkow, Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
- Lisa Marsch, Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
- Amy Haskins, Jackson County Health Department; Jackson County Anti-Drug Coalition
- Phil Bauer, National Advocate for Prescription Drug Safety, York, PA

Co-sponsored with the Friends of NIDA.

NIH 101: An Introduction to the Nation’s Medical Research Agency  
July 31, 2013

Speaker: 
Wendy Baldwin  
Population Reference Bureau

Sponsored by: Ad Hoc Group on Medical Research, of which COSSA is a steering committee member.

What’s Ailing America? Shorter Lives, Poorer Health  
September 25, 2013

Speakers:
- Janine A. Clayton, Office of Research on Women’s Health (ORWH), National Institutes of Health
- Robert M. Kaplan, Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), National Institutes of Health
- Steven H. Woolf, Virginia Commonwealth University
- Thomas J. Plewes, Committee on Population, National Academy of Sciences

Sponsored by: 
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Science Research (CAHT-BSSR).
The COSSA Washington Update remains a major source of information for the community about activities affecting the social and behavioral sciences in the Washington policy arena. It is sent electronically to more than 1,800 individuals at universities, on Capitol Hill, in the federal agencies, and social and behavioral scientists in the Washington community and overseas. The annual budget analysis special issue reports on funding prospects for more than 50 agencies that support social and behavioral science research and remains a key reference for many.

COSSA initiated a Facebook page (www.facebook.com/socialscienceassociations) in 2011 that includes links to articles in the popular media that report on findings from social and behavioral science research, and launched its Twitter account in 2013 (@COSSADC).

COSSA staff remains a source for the science press, both on background and on the record, including for reporters from the New York Times, SCIENCE Magazine, Congressional Quarterly, the Chronicle of Higher Education, Inside Higher Ed, the London Times Higher Education Supplement, and others.

In addition, COSSA maintains strong relationships with the broader scientific community to ensure support of “all disciplines of science.” COSSA engaged closely this year with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), including on the development of an inter-society letter concerning the threat to the social, behavioral and economic sciences and the merit review process at NSF. In addition, COSSA staff authored and edited the chapter on social and behavioral sciences in the AAAS’s FY 2014 Federal R&D Report. With support from SAGE Publications, COSSA gained a new ally in working on behalf of the SBE sciences.

Further, COSSA has stayed connected with the National Academies, particularly the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (DBASSE), the Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT), and the Board on Environmental Change and Society.

Lastly, COSSA staff attended the release of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences’ report, Heart of the Matter, from its Commission on the Humanities and Social Sciences.

COSSA maintained its active participation in a number of national coalitions, including:

- **Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF)** – COSSA co-sponsored the Annual CNSF Capitol Hill Exhibition and encouraged its members to participate. Through CNSF, COSSA continues to garner support for the social sciences at NSF.
- **Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research** – COSSA maintains its seat on the Ad Hoc steering committee.
- **Friends of NICHD** – The COSSA deputy director serves on the steering committees of the Friends of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute for Child Health and Human Development.
- **Friends of AHRQ**
- **CDC Coalition**
- **AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition**
- **Friends of NIA**
- **Friends of NCHS**
- **Friends of NIDA**
- **Friends of NIAAA**
- **Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition**
s of December 2013, COSSA membership included 17 Governing Members, 27 Member Organizations, 58 Universities, and 14 Centers and Institutes. We are pleased to announce that the American Anthropological Association will rejoin COSSA in 2014 as a Governing Member.

COSSA staff engages with the membership in a variety of ways throughout the year, by attending annual meetings, cosponsoring Congressional briefings, participating in joint meetings on Capitol Hill, and other means.

In particular, the executive director participated in the following meetings of COSSA Governing Members (among others):

- American Association for Public Opinion Research
- American Sociological Association
- American Political Science Association, where he received the Frank Goodnow award for lifetime service to the profession
- American Society of Criminology

COSSA continued to work with the Association of American Universities, the Association for Public and Land-Grant Universities, and individual university government relations’ representatives to respond to the congressional attacks on the SBE sciences.

In addition, COSSA staff seeks out opportunities to engage with representatives of COSSA’s Membership Organizations, Universities, and Centers and Institutes.
OSSA began in the late 1960s as an informal group of social science associations that met to exchange information and discuss common problems. In May 1981, the disciplinary associations, responding to disproportionately large budget cuts proposed by the new Reagan Administration for the social and behavioral sciences at the National Science Foundation (NSF), used the informal COSSA collaboration to establish a Washington-based advocacy effort. Successful in mitigating the budget cuts, COSSA was incorporated in 1982 as a 501(c)(6) organization by ten disciplinary-based social/behavioral science associations.

That same year, COSSA’s Founding Members invited other associations to become Affiliates of the organization, and universities and research institutes to become Contributors. In 2003, this nomenclature was changed to Governing Members, Membership Organizations, Universities, and Centers and Institutes. At the end of 2013, COSSA membership included 17 Governing Members, 27 Member Organizations, 58 Universities, and 14 Centers and Institutes.

COSSA’s Board of Directors consists of two representatives from each of the Governing Member associations and at-large members selected to represent other segments of the Consortium’s constituency. COSSA’s executive director serves as an ex-officio member of the Board. The Board meets annually, usually in the fall, to approve the COSSA budget and set policy. James S. Jackson, Director of the Institute of Social Research, University of Michigan, is COSSA’s current President (2013-2014).

The Executive Committee consists of the executive officers, or their designees, of the Member associations and COSSA’s executive director, ex-officio. The Committee meets quarterly to discuss issues of COSSA policy and priorities. Steve Breckler, Executive Director for Science at the American Psychological Association, is its chair (2013-2014).

As an advocacy group, COSSA must comply with the requirements under the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007. COSSA submits its lobbying forms four times a year and each COSSA staff member reports his/her political contributions twice a year. COSSA has determined that it spends about one-third of its funds lobbying. The Consortium’s budget for 2013 was approximately $560,000.
Wendy A. Naus, Executive Director, joined COSSA on January 1, 2014. For the past decade, Ms. Naus has represented the federal policy and research interests of national scientific associations and leading U.S. research universities. Prior to joining COSSA, she worked for Lewis-Burke Associates LLC, a Washington, D.C. lobbying firm. There she worked to promote federal policies and legislation important to social and behavioral scientists, advocated for sustained funding for social science research and training programs, and engaged with Congress, federal agencies, and the broader scientific community to promote the value of federally-funded social science. Ms. Naus is a native of Buffalo, New York and holds a B.A. in political science and urban studies from Canisius College, graduating magna cum laude.

Angela L. Sharpe, M.G., Deputy Director, joined the COSSA staff in 1995 and is responsible for lobbying members of Congress and their staff on health and behavior research and representing COSSA to executive branch agencies, particularly the Department of Health and Human Services. She co-chairs the Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Research, the Coalition to Promotes Research, and chairs the Collaborative to Enhance Diversity in Sciences. She previously served as a legislative assistant to former Rep. Carrie P. Meek (D-FL) and to the late Rep. R. Lawrence Coughlin (R-PA). She earned her Master in Government degree from The Johns Hopkins University. She received a B.S. in Industrial Relations and a B.S. in Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Julia Milton, Assistant Director for Public Affairs, assists with COSSA’s lobbying efforts and contributes to COSSA’s published materials. She previously served as a Research & Editorial Assistant at The George Washington University’s Institute for Communitarian Policy Studies. She holds a dual B.A. in Government and English from Wesleyan University.

Josh McCrain, M.A., Assistant Director for Government Affairs, assists with COSSA’s lobbying efforts and contributes to COSSA’s published materials. He comes to COSSA after serving as a communications specialist for the State Employees Association of North Carolina in Raleigh. Prior to that, Mr. McCrain completed internships at the National Democratic Institute in Washington, D.C. and on Capitol Hill in Congressman Mike McIntyre’s office. He holds an M.A. in Political Science with a focus on comparative politics, and a B.A. in Political Science and Contemporary European Studies, both from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
## 2013 Board of Directors

**American Association for Public Opinion Research**  
Rob Santos, Urban Institute  
Scott Keeter, Pew Research Center

**American Economic Association**  
Dan Newlon, AEA Government Relations  
Peter Rousseau, Executive Secretary

**American Educational Research Association**  
Kris Gutiérrez, University of Colorado  
Felice Levine, Executive Director

**American Historical Association**  
Peter Stearns, George Mason University  
James Grossman, Executive Director

**American Political Science Association**  
John Freeman, University of Minnesota  
Michael Brintnall, Executive Director

**American Psychological Association**  
Donald Bersoff, Drexel University  
Steven Breckler, Executive Director for Science

**American Society of Criminology**  
Charles Wellford, University of Maryland  
Steven Mastrofski, George Mason University

**American Sociological Association**  
Cecelia Ridgway, Stanford University  
Sally Hillsman, Executive Officer

**At-Large Members**  
Wendy Baldwin, Population Reference Bureau  
Charles A. Johnson, Texas A&M University  
Elizabeth Loftus, University of California, Irvine  
Yonette Thomas, Howard University  
Marta Tienda, Princeton University  
Ken Prewitt, Immediate Past President

**COSSA President**  
James Jackson, Director, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan

**American Statistical Association**  
James Chromy, RTI International  
Ron Wasserstein, Executive Director

**Association of American Geographers**  
Elizabeth Chacko, George Washington University  
Douglas Richardson, Executive Director

**Association of American Law Schools**  
Laura Padilla, California Western School of Law  
Susan Prager, Executive Director

**Law and Society Association**  
Richard Lempert, University of Michigan  
Susan Olson, Executive Director

**Linguistic Society of America**  
David Lightfoot, Georgetown University  
Alyson Reed, Executive Director

**Midwest Political Science Association**  
Bryan Jones, University of Texas, Austin  
William Morgan, Executive Director

**National Communication Association**  
Philip Glenn, Emerson College  
Nancy Kidd, Executive Director

**Population Association of America**  
Linda Jacobsen, Population Reference Bureau  
Mary Jo Hoeksema, Government Relations Consultant

**Society for Research in Child Development**  
Ann Masten, University of Minnesota  
Lonnie Sherrod, Executive Director