

# CONSORTIUM OF SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS

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TO: COSSA Members, Affiliates, Contributors and Friends

FROM: Roberta Balstad Miller, Executive Director

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COSSA LEGISLATIVE REPORT

August 31, 1982

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This Week ...

National Science Foundation

Good News from the Senate

No News from the House

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U.S. Information Agency Name Restored

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## National Science Foundation - Good News from the Senate

In its mark up of the National Science Foundation budget for FY 1983 on August 18, the Senate Appropriations Committee provided additional budget support for social and behavioral science research. The Appropriations Committee recommends reprogramming the NSF budget for Research and Related Directorates to permit the Foundation to spend an extra \$15.3 million on priority research. The Committee further specifies that these priorities should include the social and behavioral science research programs and the Foundation's Industry/University Cooperative Research Program (a part of the Directorate for Science, Technology and International Affairs). The \$15.3 million was obtained through the imposition of a cap on the Antarctic Program which is intended to preclude the use of NSF research funds for Antarctic support services. In previous administrations, support services for the Antarctic Program had been provided free of charge by the Coast Guard.

COSSA staff has worked closely with the staff of the Appropriations Subcommittee with jurisdiction over the NSF budget and is pleased with the Senate bill both because it provides additional funds for social and behavioral science research programs and because research funds were not taken from other scientific disciplines to accomplish this. A date has not been set for the Senate floor vote on this appropriation, but it certainly will not be scheduled until the House has passed its appropriation for NSF.

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American Anthropological Association • American Economic Association • American Historical Association • American Political Science Association

American Psychological Association • American Sociological Association • American Statistical Association

Association of American Geographers • Association of American Law Schools • Linguistic Society of America

### No News From the House

The appropriation for the National Science Foundation (which is part of the HUD-Independent Agencies Appropriation) did not come before the House of Representatives during the week of August 16 as scheduled. Instead, the President's tax bill occupied the time and energy of Members of Congress. A summary of the current status of the NSF authorization and appropriations legislation is included as Attachment 1.

### Conference Committee Meets on Employment and Training Legislation

Members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources and the House Committee on Education and Labor have begun meeting in conference to reconcile differences between the House and Senate employment and training legislation (S. 2036 and H.R. 5320). These bills contain the replacements for the CETA program in the Department of Labor (DOL). In the past, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has provided the bulk of the DOL budget for research, and each of the proposed new bills for employment and training provides for the support of research. The House version, however, is both broader and more specific in its research provisions.

COSSA is actively working to have the House version of the research provisions incorporated into the bill which emerges from the Conference Committee. The failure of the Labor Department to spend its appropriated research funds (see the article on DOL rescissions in the COSSA Legislative Report of July 30, 1982) makes it essential that Congress pass legislation that strengthens rather than weakens its hand in oversight of DOL research programs. The House version of the employment and training legislation facilitates oversight by providing DOL with the mandate to conduct specific types of research and by providing the agency with a general authorization to conduct research "utilizing the methods, techniques, and knowledge of the behavioral and social sciences." Although both versions provide for program evaluations, the House version stimulates greater awareness of the utility of social and behavioral science research by establishing a national clearinghouse "to disseminate materials and information gained from exemplary program experience which may be of use in the innovation of other programs."

Of particular interest is the provision in the two bills for labor market information. The Senate version, in accordance with its general "new federalism" tone, places a new and heavy emphasis on state labor market information programs. The House version retains the traditional Congressional emphasis on federal labor market information programs. Since most labor markets are regional, and thus not coterminous with state lines, the House version is likely to result in better information on labor markets and thus will also protect the large DOL data bases.

Conference Committee Meets on Employment and Training Legislation (cont.)

Staff from both Houses indicate that the Conference is likely to be stormy. The Administration is pressuring the Senate members not to make any significant compromises on the legislation, and at the same time House members feel they have already compromised as part of the process of building bipartisan support to pass the bill within the House of Representatives. The members of the Conference Committee are expected to deal with such issues as the role of the private sector and the states in training programs before they turn to the research provisions of the legislation. This gives social scientists approximately one month to make their views known. COSSA staff will be contacting members of the Conference Committee and asking that they support the House provisions for research in DOL. Our efforts will be helped if Senators and Representatives hear from their constituents on this issue as well. A list of members of the Conference Committee is given below. If you are in the state or congressional district of these members, please write them and urge that they support the House version of the research provisions in the employment and training legislation.

## Members of the Conference Committee

Senate

Dan Quayle (R-IN)  
 Paula Hawkins (R-FL)  
 Orrin Hatch (R-UT)  
 Edward Kennedy (D-MA)  
 Howard Metzenbaum (D-OH)

House

John Erlenborn (R-IL, 14)  
 James Jeffords (R-VT, AL)  
 Thomas Petri (R-WI, 6)  
 Millicent Fenwick (R-NJ, 5)  
 Lawrence DeNardis (R-CT, 3)  
 Carl Perkins (D-KY, 7)  
 Augustus Hawkins (D-CA, 29)  
 William Ford (D-MI, 15)  
 William Clay (D-MO, 1)  
 Mario Biaggi (D-NY, 10)  
 Paul Simon (D-IL, 24)  
 Ted Weiss (D-Lib-NY, 20)  
 Baltasar Corrada (D-PR)  
 Harold Washington (D-IL, 1)

Special House Committee on Children May Become Reality

A resolution in the House of Representatives to establish a Select Committee for Children, Youth and Families (H.Res. 421) is scheduled for hearings before the House Rules Committee on September 17. If the legislation is to come before the floor during this session of Congress, however, it is imperative that an additional 35 Members of Congress become co-sponsors of this legislation before that date.

### Special House Committee on Children May Become Reality (continued)

The establishment of this Select Committee, which has broad, bi-partisan support, would provide a centralized congressional forum in which the needs and status of children could be objectively considered and the programs that serve them evaluated. At present, congressional jurisdiction over children's programs is scattered among a variety of committees and subcommittees. Child nutrition, for example, is the responsibility of the Committee on Agriculture; child health is the responsibility of the Committee on Energy and Commerce; and education is under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Education and Labor. The establishment of a Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families would provide researchers in the social and behavioral sciences with a single integrated forum to discuss current research on children with Members of Congress and their staffs.

Although H.Res. 421 already has 185 co-sponsors, an additional 35 are needed. If a majority of Representatives become supporters, the resolution will be seen by the House leadership as non-controversial. The leadership of the House is understandably reluctant to schedule time-consuming, controversial issues for consideration this month because the Congress must consider 13 different appropriations bills before it adjourns at the beginning of October. An additional 40 co-sponsors would therefore increase the likelihood of the resolution's consideration before adjournment.

If you are concerned about this issue, call your Representative and ask whether he or she has already become a co-sponsor of H.Res. 421 and, if not, is willing to become one. For more information, call Helen Rauch at the COSSA office (202/234-5703).

### Supplemental Appropriation Vetoed by President

The supplemental appropriations bill that was vetoed by the President on August 27 would have provided \$10.3 million in initial funding for the Adolescent Family Life Act and \$10 million for ADAMHA, the bulk of which would have gone to NIMH. As we reported in the last COSSA Legislative Report, the Adolescent Family Life Act will provide support for social science research in the area of adolescent sexuality. The Congress is expected to attempt to override the President's veto when it resumes its deliberations after September 8.

U.S. Information Agency Name Restored

On August 24, President Reagan signed the authorization for the State Department and the International Communication Agency (ICA). In addition to authorizing the FY 1983 budget for ICA and the State Department, the bill (S. 1193) provides that the name of ICA will revert back to the U.S. Information Agency.

The FY 1983 appropriation for the Departments of State, Commerce, Justice, and the Judiciary (H.R. 6957), which includes what is now the U.S.I.A., will be brought to the floor of the House after September 8 when the Labor Day Recess ends.

Summer Reading

Enclosed as Attachment 2 is an article from the New York Times describing plans of the French government for future investments in research and development. The article points out how important the social sciences are to France's plans for scientific and technological expansion.

Congressional Recess

Because Members of Congress are in their home state districts for the Labor Day Congressional Recess, there will be no COSSA Legislative Report next week. The next issue of the Legislative Report will be sent to you on September 17.

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## CURRENT STATUS OF NSF LEGISLATION IN CONGRESS: A FACT SHEET

Authorization. The House authorization for the National Science Foundation, passed on May 19, 1982, adds \$17.6 million to the budget of NSF's Directorate for Biological, Behavioral and Social Sciences (BBS) in order to restore the budgets for the social and behavioral science programs to their FY 1980 level. In the Senate, the authorization for NSF has been marked up by both the Labor and Human Resources Committee under the chairmanship of Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and the Committee on Commerce, Science and Technology through its Subcommittee on Science, Technology and Space under the chairmanship of Harrison Schmitt (R-NM). But, because of a jurisdictional dispute between these two committees over the power to authorize expenditures for NSF, no authorization has been reported to the floor of the Senate, and it is not clear when the Senate will vote on an NSF authorization. Last year, because of this jurisdictional dispute, there was no Senate authorization for NSF and, as a consequence, the appropriation superseded the authorization.

Appropriation. The House appropriation for HUD-Independent Agencies, which includes the appropriation for the National Science Foundation, was scheduled for floor debate and vote in the House of Representatives on Tuesday, August 17. Because of the President's Tax Bill, however, consideration of this appropriation was postponed until after the Labor Day Congressional recess. A new date for the floor vote on this appropriation has not yet been set, but Appropriations Committee staff do not expect the vote before September 15. The proposed appropriation adds funding for the Science Education Directorate and also adds \$9 million to NSF's Research and Related Activities which is to be divided between the social and behavioral science programs in BBS and the Directorate for Science, Technology and International Affairs (STIA). The Senate appropriation for HUD-Independent Agencies was marked up by both the subcommittee and full Appropriations Committee during the week of August 16. The Senate appropriation does not add any funding to the NSF but does reallocate funding within Research and Related Activities. Specifically, the Senate appropriation would take \$15.3 million from NSF's Antarctic Program and allow the Foundation to use this amount in other research directorates. The Committee specified that this \$15.3 million should be used for BBS and the Industry-University Cooperative Program (a program within STIA), and other programs which the Foundation deems important. This bill will not be brought before the full Senate for debate and vote until the House has passed its appropriation.

What Can You Do? Social scientists who wish to help increase the Congressional support for research in the social and behavioral sciences are urged to contact their Representatives before September 15, and ask them to support the NSF appropriation as recommended by the House Appropriations Committee. It is likely that there will be an administration amendment to the appropriation that would remove the additional funds which the Appropriations Committee has added to the NSF budget for research and for science education. Representatives should be asked to vote against any amendment to the NSF appropriation. Attached is a set of suggestions on how to call your Congressman.

8/27/82

## Suggestions for Telephoning a Member of Congress

There is no need to feel intimidated about calling a Washington congressional office. Most are quite open and responsive to calls from constituents. The following guidelines offer suggestions for contacting your Senator or Representative by telephone:

- 1) Call 202/224-3121 and ask to be connected to your Representative's or Senator's office.
- 2) Once connected, ask to speak with "the staff person who handles science and technology issues for the Congressman (or Senator)."
- 3) If for some reason no one has been assigned to this issue, ask to speak with the Administrative Assistant.
- 4) Once connected to the right person, identify yourself first as a constituent, then as a professional. Try to say something positive about the Member or Senator before asking for his or her support on a specific issue.
- 5) Follow up your phone call with a short note to the staff member you spoke with, emphasizing both your original point and your appreciation of his or her attention to this issue.

# Seeking Technological Gains, The French Socialize Science

By WALTER SULLIVAN

PARIS — In a bid to make France Europe's technological leader and cope with a deep crisis that the country's Socialist leaders believe must inevitably affect all industrialized nations, the Government has mapped an ambitious program of reform and large-scale increases in research funding. It has recently announced that it will be spending the equivalent of hundreds of millions of dollars annually by mid-decade to develop biotechnologies and electronics. Other areas slated for special attention include robotics, renewable energy sources, energy conservation, improved employment and working conditions. Supporters and skeptics alike believe the goals can be achieved only by radical changes in research practices and the educational system.

The plan, according to Jean-Pierre Chevènement, the man responsible for its execution, is to raise France during the next decade "to the rank of third scientific power in the world" — outranked only by the United States and Japan. Mr. Chevènement is the Minister of Science, Technology and Industry. His already extensive lordship was recently expanded to include France's industrial establishment.

A law spelling out the goals was passed by the National Assembly on June 30. Funding of non-military research and development over the next five years is to increase annually at 17.8 percent in constant francs (taking inflation into account). Recruitment is to enlarge the research work force by 4.5 percent yearly. In the United States, Federal support of non-military R & D is currently decreasing in constant dollars.

Support for basic research would rise 13 percent annually, avoiding sudden fluctuations in funding such as those that have left some research projects in the United States high and dry. By 1985 total public and private support for all research and development would increase from 1.8 to 2.5 percent of the gross national product. Such a leap would bring France up from behind. In recent years comparable percentages in other countries have been 2.4 for the United States, 2.2 for Britain and West Germany, 2.0 for Japan and 0.8 for Italy. The American percentage has dropped considerably from 3.1 in 1964.

## Role for Social Sciences

In contrast to the United States, where Government support for the social and behavioral sciences is shrinking, the French program produces new emphasis. The Assembly called for the humanities and social sciences to play a role "in restoring the dialogue between science and society." In the view of Jacques Attali, special adviser to President François Mitterrand, industrial countries such as Japan and the United States will face intense economic and sociological problems as new technologies, such as those based on computers, robots and satellite communications, come into general use. Urban life, he says, will have to be reorganized.

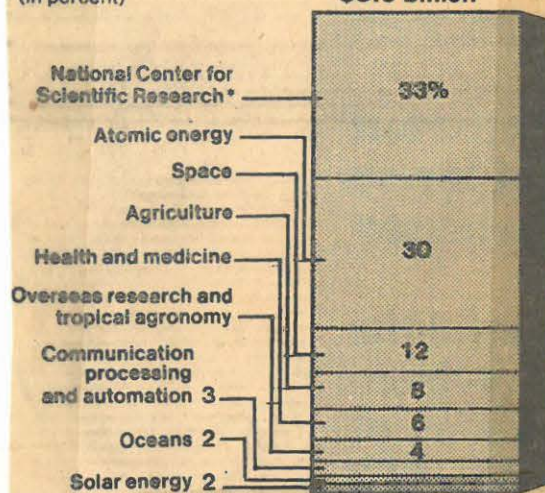
According to Jacques Robin, who heads the Center for Studies of Systems and Advanced Technologies set up by the Government this year to conduct technological forecasting, the use of robots and other forms of automation will lead to unemployment far greater than that of today, resulting in deep social unrest. He hopes France can devise the technological, educational and socio-political means to minimize the impact of such a crisis.

All agree that fulfillment of the Socialist program will be difficult. The plan calls for 10 percent annual rises in funding of research and development by nationalized industry as well as 8 percent rises in the private sector. The

## France's research priorities

Government spending on research and development in 1982  
(in percent)

Total spending =  
\$3.0 billion



\* conducts research in biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, engineering, social sciences and other fields.

Source: French Ministry of Research and Technology

Government, however, can only promote the latter with economic incentives.

As pointed out by Pierre Aigrain, minister of science under the previous Government, a number of large, Government-controlled industries are already making big investments in research. He is director of research at Thomson CSF, a conglomerate that controls enterprises as diverse as those of the Hughes Aircraft Company in the United States. The Government owns a small percentage of Thomson stock and many more shares are held by banks that have now been nationalized. Thomson, he says, yearly invests more than 4.5 billion francs in research and development. That is close to a billion dollars and almost double the figure for American Telephone and Telegraph.

A striking feature of the new government policy is its resemblance to that of Charles de Gaulle, whose political viewpoint was near the opposite end of the spectrum. In his wish to restore the "glory" of France, de Gaulle was relatively generous toward science — particularly regarding "show" projects such as the world's most powerful electron microscope in Toulouse and a giant solar furnace at Odeille. Between 1958 and his resignation in 1969, allocations for research and development leaped from 2.5 to 6.2 percent of the national budget.

After Georges Pompidou succeeded de Gaulle the research budget sagged. When Valéry Giscard d'Estaing became president in 1974, it rose slightly. Finally, in the 1980's, Mr. Aigrain persuaded the Government that France's future economic development depended on high technology. That, in turn, required intensive research.



## Democratization of Science

Of Mr. Chevènement's extension of this policy, Mr. Aigrain says: "To some extent he was my student." But he concedes — as do others — that Mr. Chevènement has a better chance of success: "He carries much more political weight than I do. I belong to no political party." Mr. Chevènement leads the left wing of the Socialist Party and, before his present assignment, was rapporteur of the parliamentary committee concerned with science and technology. Aged 43, he is considered a potential prime minister or president. His domain includes virtually all agencies dealing with science and technology, such as atomic energy, medicine, space and oceanography.

Despite resemblances of his program to that of de Gaulle there are basic differences. For example, it emphasizes "democratization" of scientific enterprises, with representatives of various elements of society, including labor, to be added to their administrative councils. It seeks "regionalization" — dispersal of research efforts now heavily concentrated in the Paris area.

At present, research in France tends to be compartmentalized in specialized institutes. An effort is being made to move closer to American practice, where researchers shuttle more freely between academic, industrial and government laboratories and innovative enterprises spring up more readily.

Another feature of the program is its demand that scientists return to the use of French. This led, in part, to the resignation of Charles Thiebault as director of the National Center for Scientific Research. The center, with a staff of 23,000, conducts 80 percent of France's basic research. A century ago French and German were largely the languages of science, but they have been replaced by English. Mr. Chevènement believes that in France this creates a barrier between science and the populace whereas Mr. Thiebault fears that a return to French would increase isolation from the mainstream of science.

France's educational system is a major impediment, it is widely agreed. At about the age of 14 students begin training for one of the baccalauréat exams that will determine their academic careers. Those admitted to the mathematics-science curriculum may try for admission to one of the "grandes écoles" that produce France's scientific and technological elite. Others may enter universities, where emphasis is on the humanities. Since the output of better-trained specialists from the grandes écoles is meager, the result is a severe shortage of high quality researchers.

The oft-stated goal of President Mitterrand is "To put science at the heart of democracy, to use change to invent the future." Before his Government's goals can be achieved, a number of deeply entrenched ways of doing things will have to be altered.