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ANTHROPOLOGIST NAMED ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE AT OSTP ^{HS}

Joyce Bennett Justus has been named Assistant Director, Social and Behavioral Sciences at the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), a component of the Executive Office of the President. Justus, one of three Assistant Directors reporting to Associate Director for Science M.R.C. Greenwood, will be responsible for helping coordinate the administration's science policy agenda and injecting social and behavioral science perspectives into those policy debates. She will also play a role in the administration's science education initiatives.

Prior to her OSTP appointment, Justus, since 1989, has been the Assistant Vice President--Educational Relations in the Office of the President of the University of California. She has also served as special assistant on budget to Senior Vice President of the University Walter Massey, a former National Science Foundation Director.

Her major role in these positions has been to lead the University's relations with other education entities in the state including the Department of Education, the State University system, the independent colleges and universities, the community colleges and K-12 schools. She also serves as the Senior Principal Investigator for California's Subject Matter Projects, an \$8 million in-service development program for K-12 teachers that fosters discipline-focused professional development.

In the 1970s and early 1980s, Justus was with the University of California, San Diego where she served as Assistant Chancellor, managed the Faculty Affirmative Action program, chaired the Planning Committee for the Social Science Curriculum of Third College, and chaired the Department of Urban Studies. She is a five time winner of distinguished teaching awards and in 1981 received the UC Alumnae Professor of the Year prize.

As an anthropologist, Justus has analyzed the impact of migration on family structures and women's work, studied black female socialization,

researched teenage pregnancy in Jamaica, investigated problems of relocation adaptation in California for Vietnamese refugees, and examined problems of identity among West Indian immigrants in Los Angeles. She has specialized in urban anthropology, female sex-role socialization, social change and ethnographic methods. Justus earned her Ph.D., M.A. and B.A., all in anthropology, from UCLA.

The Assistant Director for Social Sciences position was created in 1991 after vigorous lobbying by COSSA and its allies. Pierre Perolle served in this capacity during the Bush Administration.

DOD UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CUT IN HALF BY HOUSE; EXCHANGE PROGRAM DEALT ANOTHER SETBACK ^{HS}

In a late night rush to adjourn for its July 4th recess, the House of Representatives passed the Department of Defense appropriations bill, legislation that sharply cut university research and dealt yet another setback to the National Security Education Program. In a widely rumored move, Rep. John Murtha (D-PA), chair of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, successfully recommended that the full House reduce funding for competitively reviewed university research projects from the administration's request of \$1.8 billion to \$900 million.

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Murtha and other Subcommittee members defended this action by arguing that the cuts were necessary to adequately support defense readiness programs. If the Senate and the House-Senate conference committee uphold this decision, major research universities would lose significant amounts of funds both in direct and research support costs. Although most of the funding supports research in the physical and natural sciences and engineering, a small amount finances research in the social and behavioral sciences.

Rep. George Brown (D-CA), chairman of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee, issued a statement deploring the cuts declaring "it would directly undermine the Department of Defense's Science and Technology strategy and the President's technology plan." Brown's statement also suggested that the reductions would not stand, and even Rep. Murtha has hinted that he may be willing to restore some, if not all, of the money later in the appropriations process.

There are those in the Washington and university community who believe the Subcommittee's action results from attacks by Brown and others on its practice of earmarking grants to specific universities. The Department of Defense appropriations bill has often been riddled with these earmarks (Brown identified thirteen in the current bill) and Chairman Murtha has been quite generous to colleges and universities near his district in western Pennsylvania.

Murtha has announced hearings on the issue of indirect, or research support, costs. He seems

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disturbed by the disparities in reimbursement rates among colleges and universities.

The DOD appropriations bill also contains a provision defunding the National Security Education program. The NSEP is denied authority to spend \$14.3 million previously appropriated. The program, which seeks to convert up to \$150 million in intelligence funds into a trust fund to support international exchanges and area studies, recently made its first awards after years of delay. (See *Update*, May 31) Much of this delay has been the result of congressional infighting over the program's existence. Sen. David Boren (D-OK) has been the program's champion in battles against the House, where NSEP has often had less support. Whether this will be a replay of last year when the House did not fund NSEP and the Senate saved it remains to be seen.

NIH AIDS PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE DISCUSSES FY 1996 RESEARCH PLAN *SP*

William Paul, Director of the Office of AIDS Research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), began the thirteenth meeting of the AIDS Program Advisory Committee (APAC) by describing the planning process for establishing the NIH AIDS research agenda for FY 1996. The initial version of a five-year plan for AIDS research was completed in September, 1993, and is updated annually. Regarding this year's update of the plan for FY 1996, Paul reported that "although we are not rubber-stamping things as they are, a wholesale shift is not in the making."

Paul was pleased with both the process and the plan, and stated that he hopes to "strike a balance between helping those who already have the disease and prevention." The plan has five areas of emphasis--Natural history and Epidemiology; Etiology and Pathogenesis; Therapeutics; Vaccines; and Behavioral Research. The plan contains a discussion of the current status of AIDS research, a statement of scientific issues and coordinating objectives which are prioritized, and a series of strategies which are not prioritized. Paul stressed that there must be a degree of flexibility in the plan for two reasons: 1) it is difficult to write objectives and strategies that will take effect eighteen months in the unpredictable future, and 2) the impact of the government budget process (not knowing for

certain what funds will be available) also makes it difficult to formulate a definitive plan.

While committee members appeared generally pleased with the process and plan, two criticisms were voiced. Margaret Johnston, Acting Deputy Director of the Division of AIDS, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said that the plan fails to address the necessary link between the science and clinicians. The issue of "technology transfer" or "research dissemination" is a common concern across all of the institutes. Ellen Stover, Director of the Office on AIDS, National Institute of Mental Health, concurred with Johnston's concern about translating what science knows to people and programs who will utilize that knowledge. In addition, Stover suggested a change in the process for subsequent deliberations. She advised members that there should be an opportunity for the five subcommittees (reflective of the areas of interest listed above) to meet as a larger group after writing their objectives and strategies, but before finalizing the plan. Stover felt this additional session, in which the subcommittees interact, might provide an even stronger analysis of the overall direction AIDS research should take.

Five research objectives for the behavioral and social science disciplines articulated by Stover, Chair of the Behavioral Research Subcommittee, included the need for:

- 1) multidisciplinary behavioral intervention strategies;
 - 2) basic behavioral and social research on principles of behavior and behavior change;
 - 3) strategies to prevent or minimize negative consequences of infection;
 - 4) strategies to provide researchers and communities access to state-of-the-art information;
 - 5) behavioral and social science research infrastructure, including multidisciplinary collaborators and training facilities
- Stover reported that her subcommittee's top two research priorities are prevention and efforts to reduce negative consequences of the infection.

In closed session, APAC decided which research initiatives would receive funding from the OAR discretionary fund--a fund totaling approximately \$8.8 million for FY 1994. The behavioral and social sciences were awarded a significant amount of the total--approximately \$2 million.

Further APAC deliberations are uncertain due to the NIH Reauthorization Act of 1993 which requires that the Office of AIDS Research (OAR)

PETERSEN CONFIRMED AS NSF DEPUTY DIRECTOR *AS*

On July 1 the Senate confirmed Anne Petersen as the new Deputy Director of the National Science Foundation. Petersen is expected to take up her duties on July 18 after concluding her activities as Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Minnesota. She was nominated by President Clinton in April (see *Update*, April 18) and approved by both the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee and the full Senate without discussion.

establish an advisory council. An OAR Advisory Council would supersede APAC, according to Wendy Wertheimer, Special Expert with the OAR. Currently, the charter to establish the OAR Advisory Council awaits the approval of Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala. A slate of nominees for council membership will be submitted to Shalala, who will make the final decision regarding council appointments.

NIH CONTEMPLATES REFORM OF PEER REVIEW SYSTEM *SP*

In response to Vice President Al Gore's reinventing government initiative, The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has undertaken several experiments to refine its peer review system. Under Gore's plan, NIH has been designated as a "Reinventing Government Laboratory" which, according to Wendy Baldwin, NIH Deputy Director of Extramural Research, is a "window of opportunity for NIH" to improve the process. Baldwin is directing committees reviewing structural changes of the system, which reviews over 30,000 grant applications annually. Under NIH's current budget, approximately one-fifth of these applications are funded.

According to Baldwin, new concepts being tested for improving peer review include:

"Triage": Because the number of grant applications received at NIH so greatly exceeds the number awarded, reviewers in some study sections are being asked to identify 30-50 percent of their applications as noncompetitive in the initial stages of review. The intent is to allow more time to review the truly competitive applications. Those

applications judged "noncompetitive" would still receive a critique, but would not have the benefit of a full discussion at study section meetings. However, any member of the review section could request a full discussion of an application rated "noncompetitive."

"Just in Time": Since some information and documentation an applicant currently must submit is not needed until an award is imminent, NIH is requesting that for selected RFA's (Requests for Applications) certain information, such as a detailed budget and precise sources and amounts of other support, not be submitted until later in the process. NIH anticipates this change will reduce administrative costs and will facilitate the application process for both applicants and reviewers.

"High Risk/High Impact Research": Division of Research Grants (DRG) study section members will provide summary statements identifying applications proposing high-risk, high-impact research. NIH is sometimes criticized for its conservatism in making funding decisions. NIH will then evaluate the value and utility of this information to determine whether the statements should become a permanent part of the evaluation process.

NIH is considering other suggestions for improving the peer review system that will be tested in the future. Researchers may send their comments to or request further information from Wendy Baldwin, Deputy Director of Extramural Research, National Institutes of Health, 9000 Rockville Pike, Building 1 Room 144, Bethesda, MD 20892.

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

As policymakers seek ways to prevent domestic violence, social and behavioral science can provide valuable insights into the nature of the problem and possible solutions. Reports issued in early July by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and the American Psychological Association (APA) and recent congressional testimony by criminologist Lawrence Sherman have brought the findings of research to bear on these efforts to fight crime.

Sherman Outlines Research before House Panel

University of Maryland criminologist Lawrence Sherman testified before a highly publicized June 30

hearing held by the House Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, chaired by Rep. Charles Schumer (D-NY). Sherman outlined the findings of his National Institute of Justice-funded research on whether mandatory arrest would be an effective strategy for controlling domestic violence.

In his research, Sherman used a randomized control trial to show cause and effect in studying domestic violence in Minneapolis. While his study found that arrest was substantially more effective in reducing repeat violence than other alternatives, such as ordering the suspect to leave the premises or attempting to restore the peace, Sherman urged greater research to examine the effects of such a policy in different cities and on different kinds of people.

Sherman told the panel that similar experiments conducted more broadly in six cities showed mixed results. He said that arrest deters employed suspects, but not unemployed suspects, who he said appear to have less to lose. Moreover, in communities with high unemployment rates, arrest increases domestic violence, while it reduces violence in areas with lower unemployment.

Sherman concluded by saying that research findings suggest "a nationwide, top-down, Washington-directed domestic violence arrest policy would be a grave mistake" that would violate the premises of community policing. He recommended that local police departments should look at the findings of federally-supported research and decide what approach works best for them. For more information, contact the University of Maryland at (301) 405-4699.

BJS Study Says Wives Most Frequent Victims

Wives are the most frequent victims of fatal family violence, according to a study of family murder released by the Justice Department. In a study of more than 8,000 homicides in large urban counties, BJS said 16 percent involved murder inside the family. In 40 percent of these homicides a spouse killed a spouse. Offspring were killed by their parents at twice the rate that offspring killed their parents.

A male was the assailant in about two-thirds of family murders. However, among black marital partners, wives killed their husbands at about the same rate as husbands killed their wives -- 47 percent of the black spouse victims were husbands and 53 percent were wives. Among white victims

murdered by their spouses, 38 percent of the victims were husbands and 62 percent were wives.

For more information on the study, *Murder in Families*, contact BJS at (202) 307-0784.

APA Looks at Violence Against Women

A new study by the American Psychological Association (APA) examines violent acts or threats of violence against women at home, work, school, or in the community. The report, *No Safe Haven*, says that a woman's greatest risk for assault is from her male nonmarried partner. According to APA, it has been estimated that at least two million women are severely assaulted by male partners each year in the United States and approximately 30 percent of all women will be physically assaulted by a man they intimately know sometime during their adult lives.

According to the report, there is no one characteristic that defines who will be violent towards a spouse except that a majority of them are male. The studies demonstrate that witnessing parental violence as a child, being sexually aggressive toward one's wife and perpetrating violence toward children were risk factors that separate violent from non-violent husbands. Other clinically based research on partner violence found that men's need to control or dominate women and/or their lack of ability to empathize with others made them more likely to use violence.

No Safe Haven, the final report of the APA's Task Force on Male Violence Against Women provides a comprehensive examination of recent research on the prevalence, causes and effects of physical assault against women by male partners, sexual harassment in work and educational settings and rape and other forms of sexual violence. To obtain a copy of the report, contact APA at (202) 336-5700.

REPORTS OFFER NEW STRATEGIES FOR RESEARCH LIBRARIES HS

The Association of Research Libraries has published the Reports of the Association of American Universities Task Forces that examined the changing nature of scholarly communications, including the cost of managing research library collections, and the deployment of new technologies in support of scholarship. The AAU Research Libraries Project sponsored the work.

The specific issues addressed by the task forces included: 1) acquisition and distribution of foreign language and area studies materials; 2) managing scientific and technological information; and 3) intellectual property rights in an electronic environment.

Principal recommendations directed at the major research universities and their libraries include:

1) Develop a program sharing responsibility for acquiring, organizing, and facilitating access to foreign acquisitions that would include the Library of Congress and foreign national and research libraries. Begin implementation of this recommendation through three demonstration projects.

2) Plan and fund the electronic infrastructure necessary to encourage scholars and faculty to move away from local and toward remote access. This would allow an individual institution's library to develop in-depth collections in a few selected areas, but provide remote access to many more in-depth collections.

3) Recognize the need to address issues related to managing intellectual property rights, acknowledging that copyright laws differ substantially throughout the world.

Copies of the reports are available from the Association of Research Libraries, Publications Department, 21 Dupont Circle, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20073-0692. Fax 202/872-0884. Copies are \$12 each, with discounts for bulk orders.

NCGIA: ADVANCING GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH HS

The National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCGIA) is a National Science Foundation sponsored center whose main mission is the advancement of geographic research of lasting and fundamental significance. The NCGIA, a consortium of the University of California at Santa Barbara, the State University of New York at Buffalo, and the University of Maine, began operation in 1988 and recently had its funding renewed until 1996. The Center has been the focus of research that has helped nourish the \$1.8 billion Geographic Information Systems (GIS) industry that has transformed urban and rural

planning, both in the U.S. and in other industrialized countries.

The Center's goals are to: 1) advance the theory, methods, techniques and applications of geographic analysis based on GIS in the many disciplines and professions involved in geographic research; 2) augment the nation's supply of experts in GIS in participating disciplines; 3) promote the diffusion of analysis based on GIS throughout the scientific community and provide a conduit for disseminating information regarding GIS research, teaching, and applications; and 4) interact with individual researchers and organizations on a national and international basis.

NCGIA Director Michael Goodchild, in a series of talks recently at the National Science Foundation, discussed the role of the NCGIA in a new National Spatial Data Infrastructure, the expanded role for geographic information systems and the social sciences, and the Center's efforts to bring GIS to K-12 education.

National Spatial Data Infrastructure

The Mapping Science Committee of the National Research Council, which published its report *Towards a Coordinated Spatial Data Infrastructure for the Nation* in 1993, defined the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) as "the means to assemble geographic information that describes the arrangement and attributes of features and phenomena on the Earth. The infrastructure includes the materials, technology, and people necessary to acquire, process, store, and distribute such information to meet a wide variety of needs." Vice President Gore's National Performance Review, *Reinventing Government*, commits the Clinton administration to building the NSDI. The Federal Geographic Data Committee, chaired by the U.S. Geological Survey, serves as the inter-agency coordinating agency for NSDI.

The Center seeks to establish a university consortium to help build the NSDI's research and education infrastructure. To make the NSDI work, data users will need improved ways of learning about data quality, and its implications for their analyses, models and decisions. Facilitating data transfer between systems and providing users greater understanding of the data they receive generates another goal for the NSDI. In addition, the system faces the whole complexity of institutional barriers to data sharing -- pricing of data, protection of

intellectual property and personal privacy, legal liability, and equity of access.

NCGIA's recent attempts to explore the role of GIS in K-12 curriculum centered around a recent conference of educators, teachers and GIS specialists. Although individual teachers have managed to achieve success in their own classrooms, often with limited facilities, there is much to be done. Difficulties still remain ascertaining the ability of GIS to teach basic concepts of space. Yet, the conference discussions suggested that using GIS in elementary and secondary schools has a pedagogic value that goes beyond the teaching of geography and the introduction of GIS technology. Students do learn problem solving and other life skills. The NCGIA publications office (phone 805/893-8224; fax 805-893-8617) has resource packets available on GIS in the schools.

At the postsecondary level, NCGIA has also distributed teaching materials known as the Core Curriculum focusing on the theoretical relationship between real phenomena and a database representing them, and the value of GIS as a scientific tool for advancing spatial research and analysis. More information on this is also available from NCGIA Publications.

Research Initiatives

The Center's major activities continue within a framework of research initiatives. One initiative currently active examines institutions sharing geographic information. The focus of this initiative attempts to expand the knowledge base of institutional, organizational, and behavioral issues which will allow the development of models and strategies to share data.

A second initiative, Multiple Roles for GIS in U.S. Global Change Research, examines how GIS could better support regional and global change research to enhance models of Earth system occurrences operating at a variety of spatial and temporal scales across local, regional and global landscapes. It also seeks improvements in the capacity to assess the effect of global change on biophysical systems over a range of spatial and temporal scales.

Another initiative examines law and public policy with respect to spatial database environments. The goal is to develop a body of legal and public policy knowledge that government, private industry,

and other institutions, will find valuable as they cope with the legal and social ramifications of GIS.

The NCGIA has recently adopted several new programs that will provide opportunities for those U.S. scientists not associated with one of the center's three universities to propose and co-lead research initiatives, to become visiting fellows at the center sites, and to participate in specific collaborative projects.

For further information on these new programs and other NCGIA activities contact Dr. Michael Goodchild, Director, NCGIA, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106.

CLARIFICATION

The chart printed on page 3 of the June 27 issue of *Update* provides figures for the appropriation for the entire agency, not just its social and behavioral science research component as the title of the chart may suggest.

SOURCES OF RESEARCH SUPPORT: NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

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

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

The Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) invite applications investigating the interrelationship between population change and the environment. The goal is to establish a broad foundation of research in a variety of physical settings worldwide. The program will support the following types of studies:

- 1) the effect of population change on the environment;
- 2) the effect of environmental change on factors such as fertility, mortality, migration and distribution which determine population change;
- 3) the reciprocal influences of population and environmental change.

Closing Date: November 17, 1994

Budget: NICHD has set aside \$1.0 million for direct costs for the first year of support. It is anticipated that five to ten awards will be made. NIEHS has set aside \$250,000 of total cost support for the first year of the program, and these funds may be used to fund additional projects or co-fund projects with NICHD.

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