

COSSA WASHINGTON UPDATE

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PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT STIRS CONCERN *SP/HS*

An amendment, sponsored by Sen. Charles Grassley (R-IA), to the "Goals 2000: Educate America Act" raised numerous concerns among social and behavioral scientists regarding its potential negative effect on school-based research funded by the federal government. Significant activity by COSSA and other allied organizations seemed to have mitigated the amendment's most disturbing provisions during consideration of the legislation in a House-Senate conference committee the week of March 14.

The amendment, similar but much broader than U.S. Department of Education regulations promulgated in 1984, had two basic sections. The first would require that "all instructional materials, including teacher's manuals, films, tapes, or other supplementary material which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis, or evaluation as part of any applicable program shall be available for inspection by the parents or guardians of the children."

The second, included an absolute rule requiring written parental consent before a student could participate in a survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning: 1) political affiliations; 2) mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or his family; 3) sexual behavior and attitudes; 4) illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating and demeaning behavior; 5) critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships; legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers; or 7) income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

COSSA, working in coalition with the American Sociological Association, the American Psychological Association, the Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences, the American Educational Research Association, the Society of Behavioral Medicine, the National Council on

Family Relations, and the Alan Guttmacher Institute, fought to get the amendment dropped completely which turned out to be unattainable, then to delete the word "written" in the informed consent clause.

The main concern of COSSA and the other groups centered around the inflexibility of the mandate insisting on obtaining written parental consent. The coalition argued that the amendment 1) imposed a simplistic standard; 2) mandated additional burdens on schools and parents; 3) diminished the significance of local Institutional Review Boards; 4) encouraged ad hoc solutions; and 5) produced a chilling effect for all school-based research.

The groups also asserted that federal guidelines for the protection of human subjects, issued by the Department of Health and Human Services and adopted government-wide in 1991, were far superior to the Grassley amendment, achieving a balance between providing protection for students and their families, and allowing school-based research to proceed without undue burdens. The Office for Protection of Human Subjects, which oversees these guidelines, assured Grassley that prior written consent was generally needed for research on minors, and unless very specific requirements were met, Institutional Review Boards could not issue waivers.

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Because the Senate adopted Grassley's amendment 93-0, and Senators Edward Kennedy (D-MA) and Nancy Kassebaum (R-KS) had already persuaded Grassley to reduce some of the harsher provisions of his original proposal (including a cut-off of federal funds to school districts), convincing the Iowa Senator to compromise further was an uphill struggle. However, the coalition succeeded in getting Senator Grassley's agreement to specify in the conference report that his amendment applied only to U.S. Department of Education programs, and that local school district's would have full discretion in deciding how to comply with the law.

MIKULSKI APPROPRIATIONS PANEL EXAMINES NSF AND OSTP; BOTH AGENCIES WELL RECEIVED *MS*

Noting that it was St. Patrick's Day, and that like St. Patrick who drove the snakes out of Ireland, she "hoped to drive the demons from the federal budget," Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) opened the Senate Appropriations Committee's hearings on the FY 1995 budgets of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

Mikulski stated at the beginning of the hearing that the budgetary fate of these two agencies rested largely on the allocation given to the VA, HUD, Independent Agencies Subcommittee she chairs. In a process known as the 602 (B) allocation, the funds Congress will appropriate for FY 1995 are divided (unequally) among the thirteen appropriations subcommittees.

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The Consortium of Social Science Associations represents more than 185,000 American scientists across the full range of the social and behavioral sciences, functioning as a bridge between the research world and the Washington community. Update is published fortnightly. Individual subscriptions are available from COSSA for \$60; institutional subscriptions, \$120, overseas mail, \$120. ISSN 0749-4394. Address all inquiries to COSSA, 1522 K Street, NW, Suite 836, Washington, D.C. 20005. Phone: (202) 842-3525, Fax: (202) 842-2788

Making his first appearance before an appropriations panel, NSF Director Neal Lane defended the requested \$3.2 billion budget, an increase of 6 percent. He cited NSF's approach "that places great emphasis on research and education that is relevant to national priorities," with 75 percent of the proposed increase slated for strategic areas such as Global Change, High Performance Computing and Communications (HPCC), Environmental Research, Civil Infrastructure Systems, Advanced Materials and Processing, Advanced Manufacturing and Technology and Science, Mathematics, Engineering and Technology Education.

Lane also asserted that despite the emphasis on research connected to national priorities, "we must continue to nurture areas that do not appear immediately relevant to specific goals, but that are scientifically important and always hold the potential for exciting future applications."

NSF Response to Mikulski Report

Mikulski admitted to Lane that the Subcommittee's FY 1994 report language on the future of NSF, "tossed you a series of rough pitches" and "raised hell" in the scientific community. Mikulski also cited her speech earlier this year to the Forum on Science, (see *Update*, February 14) as an attempt to clarify the committee's position. Lane recited a series of changes he proposed for NSF in reaction to the report that include: a new strategic plan including defined goals, closer ties to industry, performance measures, milestones for HPCC, a new data tracking scheme for projects, and a top-down management review. Mikulski seemed quite pleased, noting that these were "astounding accomplishments" and indicated that NSF had achieved what the committee intended.

The Chairman was not comfortable with the proposed reduction (from \$105 million to \$55 million) in the NSF budget for the Academic Facilities and Instrumentation program. Lane argued that the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) must discuss the enormous need for facilities modernization and produce a multi-agency solution. He also noted the reduction reflected NSF's priorities of putting people first. Mikulski expressed concern about the cuts' impact on smaller schools who were often "the incubators for future Ph.D.s"

"Pause" on Indirect Costs

James Duderstadt, chairman of the National Science Board and the President of the University of Michigan, also appeared before the Subcommittee to bolster the arguments for increased funding for NSF. This led Mikulski to discuss -- and oppose -- the administration's "pause" on indirect costs. Under the plan, universities would receive in FY 1995 the same amounts or lower that they received in FY 1994 for the indirect costs of research. Duderstadt argued that the research universities and the federal government had a mutually beneficial relationship and part of that relationship was a commitment by the government to pay for the full costs of research, a statement that appeared to sit well with Mikulski.

Citing the problem with un- and underemployed physics Ph.D.s, she challenged universities to become more concerned with workforce issues. She argued that the current situation caused a crisis leading to further alienation among young people, and that NSF must act as a change agent for universities. Duderstadt agreed, suggesting that universities clearly need to rethink the Ph.D. and provide much broader training in some areas. He proposed that support for graduate students should include more training grants.

Office of Science and Technology Policy

The appearance of Presidential Science adviser and OSTP director, Jack Gibbons, gave Mikulski a chance to discuss the changes in the federal government's approach to science policy. Although ostensibly before the Subcommittee to defend his FY 1995 budget, Gibbons discussed the creation of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) and its role as the strategic coordinator of science and technology programs.

The nine NSTC committees are working on a FY 1996 budget request (planning for which is currently underway) that "fully integrates the missions of the agencies and the overarching science and technology requirements of the Nation," according to Gibbons.

Mikulski clearly favored this approach, stating that OSTP must set the "national navigational chart" for science and technology by forcing "horizontal conversations" across agencies so that the nation avoids fragmentation of its effort. She pushed Gibbons to assert OSTP's authority to assure the full cooperation of the agencies and the Office of

Management and Budget. She frequently made comparisons to the role of the National Security Council in setting policy in that area.

VARMUS TESTIFIES BEFORE SENATE PANEL ON FY 1995 NIH BUDGET *SP*

On March 17 National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Harold Varmus presented the administration's FY 1995 budget request before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies. Varmus, confirmed by the Senate last fall, was making his maiden appropriations testimony.

Subcommittee chair Tom Harkin (D-IA) began the hearing presenting his views on the President's FY 1995 budget for NIH, citing improvement over the budget sent to Congress last year. The President's proposed budget will increase funding for the NIH by 4.7%, or \$517 million, with all institutes and centers receiving an increase, whereas the administration's budget last year would have cut funding for nine individual institutes resulting in a 2.3% reduction in non-targeted research. Congress increased NIH by 5.2% or \$629 million in FY 1994.

Given the budget restraints of last year's budget agreement limiting discretionary spending in order to reduce the deficit, NIH can no longer anticipate the usual increases in appropriations it has received in the past. Although Harkin was pleased that the FY 1995 budget proposal had improved over last year's, he still had concerns about it. He stated that of the \$517 million increase, the Administration has earmarked \$221 million for breast cancer, AIDS, minority and women's health, and high performance computing. He pointed out that those targeted increases reduce the growth for the rest of NIH to just 2.8%, which is significantly lower than the projected 4.1% inflation index for next year.

Harkin is also concerned about the President's NIH budget requests for \$121 million in delayed obligations, which will result in a \$54 million reduction in outlays (actual spending in a given year) for next year. A "pause" in indirect costs, whereby an institution's indirect cost total for FY 1995 shall not exceed its FY 1994 levels, was also cited as a gimmick to produce outlay savings. Together, the proposals to delay obligations and limit indirect costs would produce \$134 million in "savings," which equals more than 60% of NIH's proposed increase for FY 1995.

Harkin concluded his remarks with a pitch for his proposed Health Research Fund. Harkin, along with Senators Hatfield (R-OR), Kennedy (D-MA), and Kassebaum (R-KS), have introduced an amendment to health reform bills offered this year that would seek a 1 percent set-aside for each health insurance premium as well as the proceeds from a voluntary check-off on federal income tax forms to increase funding for NIH. Harkin estimates that the fund would increase resources for NIH by \$6 billion, a 50 percent increase in its current budget.

Behavioral and Social Science a Priority?

Varmus's statement before the panel focused entirely on the biological sciences, making no mention of the behavioral and social sciences. In his Senate confirmation testimony last year, he also made no mention of these disciplines. Yet when Harkin asked about the status of the Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research (OBSSR), Varmus stated that the "OBSSR was one of his major priorities, that it was in the process of obtaining its charter, that it will have a budget, and that representatives with interest in the office have met with Deputy Director, Ruth Kirschstein."

As NIH's top administrator, Varmus cited seven initiatives "directed to the goal of making the NIH more efficient and fair," including: improving the intramural research program; his new authorities to take decisive and timely action; upgrading peer review; improving communication with extramural scientists; formulating policy to confront ethical and legal issues such as human embryo research; making a strong commitment to diversity; and selecting new leadership at NIH.

To date, Varmus' appointments have included Ruth Kirschstein, Deputy Director of NIH; Wendy Baldwin, Deputy Director for Extramural Research; William Paul, Director of the Office of AIDS Research; John Gallin, Director of the Clinical Center; and Alan Leshner, Director of the National Institutes of Drug Abuse. Yet to be filled are the directorships for: the Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research (OBSSR); the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS); the National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR); the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), and the National Institute for Nursing Research (NINR). A permanent Deputy Director for Intramural Research is also needed.

Varmus' stated commitment to diversity is not yet visible among his five initial appointments, although appointing two women is notable. Of the 30 NIH officials accompanying Varmus to the hearing, including top administrators and institute directors, only 6 were women, and 2 were representative of minority populations. However, Ada Sue Hinshaw, Director NINR, will soon be leaving the NIH, and Patricia Grady is Acting Director of NINDS.

Senator Connie Mack (R-FL) asked Varmus' opinion on earmarking, and Varmus responded by saying that he preferred to call it "targeted or investment spending." He added that NIH works with the Department of Health and Human Services and the President to work out specific goals, and that he welcomes the interest and comments of concerned parties. According to Varmus, "the \$384 million targeted for breast cancer research would also bring dividends in other areas of research."

VARMUS MAKES TWO KEY APPOINTMENTS AT NIH *SP*

Harold Varmus, Director of the National Institutes of Health, (NIH) recently announced two appointments of interest to the behavioral and social science community. Wendy Baldwin will leave her position as Deputy Director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) to become NIH Deputy Director for Extramural Research. Alan Leshner, Deputy Director of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), will leave his position to become Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

In her new position, Baldwin will be responsible for guiding the development of policies for the extramural research and training programs that make up 80% of the total NIH budget. In recent months as Acting Director for Extramural Research, she has worked on the implementation of legislatively mandated revisions of the NIH policy for the inclusion of women and minorities in research, and has led the effort to evaluate and improve the peer review system. Her new responsibilities also include oversight for the NIH and Public Health Service (PHS) programs aimed at the protection of human subjects in research, as well as the proper care and use of laboratory animals in scientific studies.

Baldwin earned her Ph.D. in demography in 1973 from the University of Kentucky in Lexington. Over the past twenty years in her affiliation with the

NICHD, she has made significant scientific contributions, primarily in the areas of adolescent fertility, contraceptive practice, childbearing patterns, AIDS risk behaviors, and infant mortality.

Listed among Leshner's chief accomplishments is a major restructuring of NIMH priorities and programs to enhance treatment research. He also provided leadership in the development of the Human Brain Project, and served as Chair of the task force for reforming the national system of care for homeless persons suffering from severe mental illnesses and substance abuse.

Prior to coming to NIDA and NIMH, Leshner held a variety of positions at the National Science Foundation, including deputy to the NSF Assistant Director for Biological, Behavioral and Social Sciences.

Leshner received his Ph.D. in physiological psychology from Rutgers University. His research has focused on the biological bases of behavior. He is author of a text on the relationship between hormones and behavior, An Introduction to Behavioral Endocrinology, and has also published extensively in the areas of science and technology policy and education.

COSSA TESTIFIES ON BEHALF OF USDA RESEARCH AGENDA *MB*

Peter J. Barry, Professor of Agricultural Finance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and current president of the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA), testified on behalf of COSSA before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies.

Barry urged the panel, chaired by Rep. Richard Durbin (D-IL), to strongly support the research programs of the Cooperative State Research Service, in particular the National Research Initiative Competitive Grants program (NRI), other special grant programs, and the Economic Research Service (ERS).

Barry told the subcommittee that social scientists involved in agricultural research seek to understand and explain factors affecting the well-being of rural people and the services they provide to society, as well as provide information that will lead to improvements in private and public decision making.

The primary social science component of the NRI, the Markets, Trade and Rural Development program received \$4 million in Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993, and \$3.76 million in FY 1994. According to Barry, this has resulted in a funding success rate of only 19.4 percent, leaving many excellent proposals unfunded. Some of the funded research Barry cited include: impacts of NAFTA and GATT on agricultural trade, export potential for various commodities, consumer attitudes toward food, fiber, and forest products, food safety, fiscal management in rural areas, rural labor market skills, and infrastructure investment.

On behalf of COSSA, Barry recommended: \$144 million in funding for NRI; \$9 million for the Markets, Trade and Rural Development Program, and changing the name of the social science program of the NRI to Economic and Social Issues. He told the panel that changing the name would provide flexibility for social science research to respond to new issues and also achieve consistency among the six major research areas of the NRI and those of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC).

Barry endorsed the NASULGC recommendation for \$1 million in funding for the special research grant, Expanding Research to Maintain Capacity to Provide a Stable and Technically Competent Workforce. He said that the agricultural research establishment must have ready access to an accurate, current information base about communities and families from which it expects to draw a technically able workforce. He also backed a study aimed at alleviating rural poverty and community empowerment.

Barry cited the important functions of ERS: the ERS Situation and Outlook program on short and long run conditions affecting food and other resources; research and data programs; economic indicators of farm income, farm assets and debts, productivity and other measures; and ERS staff analysis on a range of policy and programmatic issues. In his testimony, Barry urged the subcommittee to reject the administration's request for another reduction for ERS in FY 1995, and to maintain at least the FY 1994 level.

Chairman Durbin followed Barry's prepared testimony with questions about the studies Barry had cited, and inquired how policymakers could stay better informed on research findings. Barry said he would provide the committee and its staff with copies of AAEA's publication, *Choices*.

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To obtain a copy of Barry's testimony, contact COSSA at (202) 842-3525.

STUDY SAYS RACIAL DISPARITIES *MB* AFFLICT FEDERAL DEATH SENTENCES

The federal "drug kingpin" death penalty adopted in 1988 has been applied disproportionately against African-American defendants, according to a staff report issued by Rep. Don Edwards (D-CA), chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights.

Analysis of prosecutions under the federal death penalty provisions of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 reveals that 89 percent of the defendants selected for capital prosecution have been either black or Hispanic. All ten of the federal capital prosecutions approved in the past year have been against blacks.

According to the study, three-quarters of those convicted in federal court of participating in drug trafficking enterprises have been white and only 24 percent have been black. However, of those chosen for death penalty prosecutions under the capital murder provisions of the same statute (for murders in the course of drug trafficking) just the opposite is true: 78 percent of the defendants have been black and only 11 percent have been white.

Edwards successfully inserted provisions into an anti-crime package approved last week by a House subcommittee that would allow death row inmates to use statistics to challenge their sentences as racially biased. To obtain a copy of the report, contact the Civil and Constitutional Rights Subcommittee at (202) 226-7680.

APA TO HOLD MULTIDISCIPLINARY *MB* CONFERENCE ON WOMEN'S HEALTH

The American Psychological Association (APA), along with eight co-sponsors, will hold the first national multidisciplinary conference on women's health in Washington, D.C., May 11-14, 1994.

The theme of the conference is "Psychosocial and Behavioral Factors in Women's Health: Creating an Agenda for the 21st Century." More

APPAM, ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE JOIN COSSA *MB*

COSSA is pleased to announce that two organizations have joined the Consortium; the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management as an Affiliate, and the Nelson Rockefeller Institute of Government as a Contributor. We look forward to working with both groups on issues of common concern.

than 500 psychologists, physicians, and nurses will present the latest research on women's health and address some the leading behavioral and psychosocial factors involved in the causes, treatments, and prevention of several major chronic diseases, such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, osteoporosis, AIDS, and arthritis.

For more information, contact APA at (202) 336-5500.

REPORT REVEALS CHARACTERISTICS OF LABOR MARKET FOR BUSINESS FACULTY IN THE YEAR 2000 *MB*

The spectacular growth of business programs in colleges and universities during the 1970s and 1980s has ended, with enrollments in business and management programs declining. The implications of this trend on business faculty members are discussed in a recently released report issued by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), *Preparing Business Faculty for a New Era: The Academic Labor Market and Beyond*.

The study was conducted by Jack H. Schuster, professor of education and public policy at the Claremont Graduate School, and covers demand for business faculty, as driven by enrollments and faculty replacement needs; the effect of corporate restructuring and retrenchment on management positions MBA graduates traditionally aspire to; the impact of corporate employers shying away from policies that reimbursed employees for expenses incurred to attend graduate business programs, and other issues. To obtain a copy of the report, contact AACSB at (314) 872-8507, extension 241 or 242.

HEALTH AND BEHAVIOR RESEARCH AT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH SP

Social and Behavioral Research at NIH has traditionally come under the rubric of "health and behavior." The following table indicates the amount each institute allocates for intramural and extramural research on the behavioral components of diseases and disorders. This table was not available at press time of the *Update's* FY 1995 Budget Analysis (March 7, 1994).

(dollars in millions)

	Actual FY 1991	Actual FY 1992	Actual FY 1993	Current FY 1994	Proposed FY 1995	Percent Change
NCI	71.2	80.2	118.9	131.0	144.0	+10%
NHLBI	54.7	67.9	79.2	83.4	86.5	+4%
NIDR	5.8	6.3	6.1	6.5	6.8	+4%
NIDDK	16.0	16.6	16.9	17.6	18.4	+5%
NINDS	34.6	40.4	34.4	35.9	37.3	+4%
NIAID	7.6	6.3	8.3	8.2	8.4	+3%
NIGMS	3.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	0%
NICHD	51.9	56.0	58.2	59.3	61.5	+4%
NEI	4.9	6.5	9.1	9.6	9.7	+4%
NIEHS	3.3	7.0	9.8	9.9	10.2	+3%
NIA	60.8	61.0	65.0	67.0	69.0	+3%
NIAMS	8.4	6.6	5.8	6.2	6.4	+4%
NIDCD	6.7	7.7	10.6	11.0	11.3	+3%
NIMH	157.0	163.4	156.6	167.8	176.0	+5%
NIAAAA	--	33.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	0%
NIDA	--	168.5	163.2	174.8	181.0	+4%
NCRR	26.8	23.0	24.0	24.9	26.0	+5%
NINR	17.8	20.4	21.4	22.5	23.4	+4%
FIC	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.9	+6%
NLM	2.4	2.7	6.6	6.3	6.5	+3%
TOTAL	533.7	778.4	833.2	881.2	922.0	+5%

Following is a list of the full names of the individual institutes (which are abbreviated in the table).

National Cancer Institute (NCI)
 National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI)
 National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR)
 National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)
 National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS):
 National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)
 National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)
 National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)
 National Eye Institute (NEI)
 National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)
 National Institute on Aging (NIA)
 National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS)
 National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD)
 National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)
 National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)
 National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
 National Center for Research Resources (NCRR)
 National Center for Nursing Research (NCNR)
 Fogarty International Center (FIC)
 National Library of Medicine (NLM)

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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
Law and Society Association
Linguistic Society of America

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North Central Sociological Association
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Population Association of America
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Society for Research on Adolescence

Society for Research in Child Development
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Society for the Scientific Study of Religion
Society for the Scientific Study of Sex
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