



COSSA

Washington UPDATE



May 13, 2013 Volume 32, Issue 8



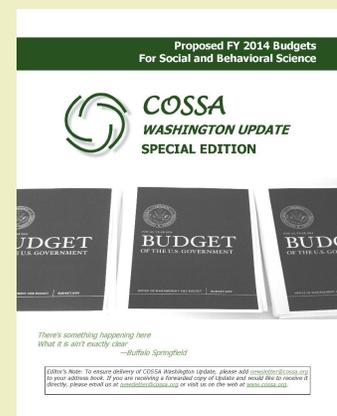
In This Issue

Proposed FY 2014 Budgets

***"There's something happening here,
What it is ain't exactly clear"***

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Reflecting Steven Stills' great song, the budget process continues to be as clear as mud! For what it's worth, according to the Budget and Control Act of 1974, the President is supposed to reveal his spending plan for the following fiscal year on the first Monday in February. Although previous presidents have ignored this deadline, particularly at the start of a term, President Obama waited until April 10 to release his proposals for FY 2014. Part of the delay could be attributed to the fact that the FY 2013 appropriations process did not finish until the end of March 2013, six months into the fiscal year. In the meantime, both the House and Senate budget committees passed FY 2014 budget resolutions in mid-March. The problem is that the House set overall discretionary spending at \$967 billion and the Senate at \$1.053 trillion. Attempts to reconcile this difference have not yielded any results so far. While all this has been going on, the agencies are still reeling from the imposition of the across-the-board cuts known as sequestration, as well as some policy riders attached to the final FY 2013 appropriations bill.



The President's proposed FY 2014 budget requests \$3.778 trillion in spending, which includes the mandatory programs such as Medicare, Social Security, Medicaid, and others not subject to the annual appropriations process, interest on the very large national debt, and discretionary spending. Under the President's proposal non-defense discretionary spending would be at its lowest level as a percent of GDP since the Eisenhower era in the 1950s. The Administration expects the annual deficit to decline significantly to 4.4 percent of GDP. Early indications from the Treasury Department suggest that the FY 2013 deficit may also see a reduction due to increased revenues from the tax increase enacted at the end of 2012. The President also declared that the sequester

scheduled for FY 2014 would not occur under his proposed budget.

At the same time, over the past year and now into 2013, threats to programs important to the social, behavioral and economic sciences (SBE) community have proliferated. For example:

1. In 2012, the Flake Amendment to eliminate funding for political science at the National Science Foundation (NSF) passes the House; it is not included in the FY 2013 NSF appropriations bill enacted at the end of March 2013. Instead we got...
2. An Amendment sponsored by Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK) that restricts NSF funding of political science to projects that are certified by the Director as "promoting national security and the economic interests of the United States." NSF is still contemplating what this means for its political science program.
3. The House Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations Subcommittee proposes restrictions on National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding of economics research in its markup of the FY 2013 appropriations bill. This is also not included in the final FY 2013 appropriations bill, but NIH Director Francis Collins interprets this as a threat to NIH and begins to question why the agency should continue funding health economics research. The House Subcommittee also votes to eliminate the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.
4. In April 2013, a bill is introduced by Rep. Gregg Harper (R-MS) to eliminate support for health economics research at NIH. On May 8, NIH announces it is undertaking a "productivity review" on the contributions of NIH-supported SBE science as well as cell biology.
5. In 2012, the House passes an amendment sponsored by Rep. Daniel Webster (R-FL) to abolish the American Community Survey. It does not become law, as the Senate ignores it. In April 2013, Rep. Jeff Duncan (R-SC) introduces legislation to abolish all surveys at the Census Bureau, including the American Community Survey, except the decennial. That survey is only allowed to ask questions directly related to apportionment. The bill also includes the abolition of the Census of Agriculture.
6. House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-VA) tells an audience at the American Enterprise Institute in February: "Funds currently spent by the government on social science-- including on politics of all things-- would be better spent helping find cures to diseases."
7. House Science, Space, and Technology Committee Chairman Lamar Smith (R-TX) echoes Cantor in a meeting with the Task Force on American Innovation. He also questions NSF support for SBE in other venues as the Committee prepares to reauthorize the American COMPETES law, which includes NSF.
8. Rep. Smith prepares a discussion draft bill, the High Quality Research Act (HRQA) which is perceived by the scientific community and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) as congressional intrusion into NSF's merit review process. Smith claims he is only after more accountability for NSF since it funds "questionable" research projects, particularly in the SBE sciences. Ranking Democrat Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) sends a strongly-worded letter to Smith decrying the HRQA and strongly defends NSF's support for ALL the sciences.
9. Rep. Smith also sends a letter to NSF requesting explanations and reviews for five "questionable" grants in the SBE sciences.

Science and Technology in the FY 2014 Budget

On April 24, President Obama addressed the National Academy of Sciences for its 150th anniversary. He told the distinguished audience at that gathering: "And more important than any single study or report, the members of this institution embody what is so necessary for us to continue our scientific advance and to maintain our cutting-edge, and that's restless curiosity and boundless hope, but also a fidelity to facts and truth, and a willingness to follow where the evidence leads."

He also strongly defended the rigorous peer review system and pronounced, "I will keep working to make sure that our scientific research does not fall victim to political maneuvers or agendas that in some ways would impact on the integrity of the scientific process. That's what's going to maintain our standards of scientific excellence for years to come."

Finally, he declared the importance of "promoting the integrity of our scientific process; that not just in the physical and life sciences, but also in fields like psychology and anthropology and economics and political science -- all of which are sciences because scholars develop and test hypotheses and subject them to peer review -- but in all the sciences, we've got to make sure that we are supporting the idea that they're not subject to politics."

To back all this up the President proposes \$142.8 billion for "federal investment in research and development (R&D)." This funding is divided between \$69.6 billion for non-defense R&D and \$73.2 billion for defense R&D. The non-defense portion is a 9.2 percent increase over FY 2012 actual and the defense part is a decrease of 5.2 percent for the comparable period. For Basic Research, the President requests \$33.1 billion. The Applied Research request is almost \$35 billion. The Development portion of the budget is \$71.5 billion, a decrease of 5 percent from FY 2012.

The major thrusts of the budget request include: renewed commitment to NSF, the Office of Energy Sciences, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology; make America a magnet for manufacturing; advance clean, American energy; improve our understanding of the threat of global climate change; support medical research; and educate our children in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

For STEM education, the Administration, following the advice of the Government Accountability Office, is reorganizing its programs so that the Department of Education will have primary responsibility for K-12 programs, the NSF will have primary responsibility for Undergraduate and Graduate STEM programs, and the Smithsonian Institution will take over the informal science education and outreach programs. So far, this proposal has raised the hackles of some agencies cut out of the STEM Ed game, like NASA. The Administration is also requesting an increase to \$3.1 billion for these programs.

In addition, the President revealed a BRAIN (Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies) initiative that would involve the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency (DARPA), the NIH, and the NSF as well as private foundations. The federal funding contribution would be \$110 million.

The U.S. Global Change Research Program has a FY 2014 request of \$2.7 billion, a six percent increase over FY 2012, to support research across 13 agencies, with NASA, NSF, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as the major players. The focus on mitigation and adaptation strategies continues, as well as on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through the development of clean energy sources.

National Science Foundation

With the departure of Subra Suresh as director in late March, Cora Marrett is now serving her second stint as Acting Director. Marrett has previously been Deputy Director and the Assistant Director for the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) and Education and Human Resources (EHR) directorates. In another personnel move, Myron Gutmann, who has led the SBE directorate since 2009 will leave NSF at the end of August 2013.

The Congress provided NSF with an increase for its FY 2013 budget before it was wiped out by an across-the-board cut followed by sequestration. The FY 2014 budget again requests a significant boost for the Foundation. As of this writing, we do not know how the FY 2013 budget was distributed among the directorates, so it is difficult to ascertain the increases at that level.

On the political front, NSF has been hit with an amendment to its FY 2013 appropriations restricting its political science program to projects certified by the director as "promoting the national security and economic interests of the U.S." In the early months of 2013, House Majority Leader Rep. Eric Cantor (R-VA) and House Science Committee Chairman Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX) have publicly questioned NSF funding of the SBE sciences.

For FY 2014, NSF gets to expand its support for neuroscience and cognitive science as part of the President's BRAIN initiative, while continuing a number of priorities from former years. These include Science and Engineering and Education for Sustainability (SEES), advanced manufacturing and robotics, enhanced cyberinfrastructure, the Innovation (I) Corps, and research at the interface of biology, mathematics, and the physical sciences.

NSF will also expand its Graduate Fellowship program as part of the STEM education consolidation proposed by the President. NSF now has a greater role in undergraduate and graduate STEM education.

The SBE directorate will continue its implementation of its SBE 2020 initiative that grew from the *Rebuilding the Mosaic* report. Again, SBE will highlight interdisciplinary research as well as cross-directorate programs that support studies of major societal problems, such as disasters, both natural and man-made. SBE is phasing out its Science of Learning Centers and will hear a report on the future of support in this important area as its Advisory Committee meeting in late May.

EHR continues its focus on research and evaluation of STEM education programs and a major cross-NSF effort to broaden participation in science among underrepresented groups.

The National Institutes of Health and Other Health Agencies

Despite questions from the Congress and the Office of the Director, which threaten support for economics research and other social and behavioral activities, in reviewing the proposed FY 2014 budget, it is the astonishing how well the social and behavioral sciences are thriving at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Almost every Institute and Center funds significant research on the role of social and behavioral factors in health. The Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) under Robert Kaplan continues to coordinate some of these efforts while supporting others with its own funds.

All across NIH, social and behavioral researchers are examining disease prevention strategies for cancer, heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, kidney problems, dental problems, HIV and AIDS, other infectious diseases, mental health, substance abuse, deafness, obesity, stroke, and arthritis.

Social and behavioral research at NIH is studying how we age and what the impacts are on our health system and our economy. Research on caregivers is another important contribution to how our health system is working. The impact of social and economic status and minority status on health are other topics where social and behavioral researchers supported by NIH provide value to understanding our health system.

The National Children's Study, which in FY 2014 will begin its main research, will provide interdisciplinary studies of how our child development health system works, again with social and behavioral researchers as important players in this initiative.

So despite the questioning, it is important how much NIH-- which is the National Institutes of HEALTH-- supports research not just focused on curing diseases, but studies on coping with them and preventing them in the first place, where behavioral factors are often of paramount importance.

NIH's budget has remained relatively stagnant over the past few years, as Congress has seen many of NIH's former champions depart. In addition, a discordant note has come into play. As noted in the descriptions of the Institutes and Centers budget in the document, all of them support a basic behavioral and social science research program called OppNet. It is now uncertain whether that will continue in FY 2014, since NIH director Francis Collins has decided that the Institutes and Centers no longer have to provide contributions to the initiative.

The President's Executive Order has allowed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to

resume its support for gun research and treat gun violence as a public health problem. The Agency for Health Care Quality and Research (AHRQ), which was threatened with defunding in FY 2013, resumes its major role in comparative effectiveness research to help implement the Affordable Care Act.

Research and Data in the Departments

Since the FY 2013 appropriation for many departments was a Continuing Resolution that prevented the start of any new programs, many of the new initiatives from the FY 2013 budget request are back again in FY 2014.

At the Department of Agriculture, the President has asked once more for a significant increase for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), the department's major competitive grant program. With the demise of earmarks, funding for AFRI has crept up in recent years, but not at the great leaps the administration had sought. Congress gave the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) sufficient funds in the FY 2013 appropriation to complete the Census of Agriculture. However, in early 2013, Rep. Jeff Duncan (R-SC) introduced a bill to eliminate this Census. The Economic Research Service will continue its effort to strengthen the use of behavioral economics research and the statistical use of administrative data.

With proposed legislation once again threatening the future of the American Community Survey and other surveys too, the U.S. Census Bureau maintains its focus on preparing for the 2020 count. Using the ACS as part of its research and testing platform, the FY 2014 budget proposal hopes to help complete this phase of the preparation. In the meantime, it also awaits a new director, for the first five-year term appointment under the new law passed in 2012. The Bureau of Economic Analysis has a significant proposed increase to begin a focus on the smallest businesses as well as another attempt to develop a new survey of foreign direct investment in the U.S., a proposal Congress has thwarted in recent years.

Another year has gone by without congressional reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, so the Administration continues to try and maintain its K-12 school improvement efforts through the appropriations process, as well as by using the power of the executive branch. The focus in FY 2014 includes consolidating K-12 STEM education programs in the Department, investing in pre-school for all, redesigning high school education, and maintaining the Race to the Top program. In addition, the Higher Education Act reauthorization now looms on the near horizon.

The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) remains a player in the Administration's emphasis on evidence-based programs. The FY 2014 budget proposal has increases for research, development, and dissemination, data collection, and analysis by the National Center for Education Statistics, and enhanced efforts to create statewide data systems on individual students and schools.

The Department's new stress on Global Competence for All dominates the strategy for international education and foreign language education. The Title VI and Fulbright-Hays programs have an increase, but not a restoration of the 40 percent of its funding lost in FY 2011. Once again, the Administration will be trying to sell its *First in the World* initiative as a replacement for the previous programs supported by the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE). FY 2014 has continued funding for those social scientists funded by the Javits Fellowship program, now-subsumed under the Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need program.

At the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the University Programs' fellowship and scholarship program has left the Department as part of the STEM education consolidation. University Programs loses some funding for the Centers of Excellence account in the requested budget. The FY 2014 proposal continues to seek restoration of funding to the Research, Development and Innovation account, which provides some research support to social and behavioral scientists studying improving behavioral screening techniques and understanding the economic incentives for cybersecurity breaches.

At the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Office of Policy Development and Research has a proposed increase. It will also receive funds from the continuing Transformation Initiative, which sets aside program funds for a variety of departmental-wide initiatives including research and data collection. It is hoping these funds will allow it to redesign and reinvigorate the American Housing Survey.

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) at the Department of Justice has a recently confirmed new Assistant Attorney General, Karol Mason. Both the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) lost their leaders at the end of 2012 and now have Acting Directors. Both have proposed increases in their FY 2014 budget proposals, although the Administration did not ask for funds for domestic radicalization research, which the Congress has inserted into the NIJ appropriation the past two years. The President did ask for a continuation of the two percent set-aside for research, evaluation, and statistics with a proposed expansion through a similar setting aside of the very large Victims of Crime fund for these purposes. BJS will continue its revitalization of the National Crime Victimization Survey, while NIJ will maintain its focus on translational research to bring evidence-based crime deterrence solutions to law enforcement practitioners throughout the country.

The Department of Labor has again proposed for its Employment and Training Administration a set-aside of program funds for research, demonstrations, pilots and evaluations. After a long delay between her nomination and confirmation, Erica Groshen has become the Commissioner of Labor Statistics. Because of the sequestration cuts, the National Longitudinal Surveys are under threat again, despite elongating the conduct of the surveys already in place.

Funding for the exchange programs at the Department of State has a decrease, but for the most part the appropriations for these efforts have leveled off after significant increases during the Bush Administration. The Fulbright program has a large increase as a result of the renewed proposal to absorb the Regional Graduate Fellowships program. There will be a continued emphasis on the "Frontline States," Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

The Department of Transportation once again proposes to move the Research and Innovation Transportation Administration (RITA), which houses the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, into a new office of Assistant Secretary for Research and Statistics. As Congress only extended the major transportation law for two years without increased funding, BTS, which gets its funding from the Highway Trust Fund, has static funding for FY 2014.

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) proposed funding declines slightly in the FY 2014 request, some of which results from the reduction in funding for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. NARA continues its major efforts in collecting and cataloguing the huge amount of electronic records now generated by the government, including the White House.

The National Endowment for the Humanities has a slight increase. The Administration again proposes an initiative called *Bridging Cultures*, which encourages projects that explore the ways in which cultures from around the globe, as well as the myriad subcultures within America's borders, have influenced American society. In the meantime, this Administration once again asks Congress to defund the last Administration's big initiative; *We the People*. Congress has not cooperated.

As noted earlier, the coming FY 2014 appropriations process starts out with the House and Senate using different caps and different assumptions. It is unclear whether these can be reconciled; many people have their doubts. Sequestration looms again, and although everybody suspected it was just a bargaining ploy in FY 2013, it did occur. Those hoping for the "grand bargain" on the budget may still have another long wait. If the economy keeps improving and the deficit maintains its downward path, some pressure may get removed. The renewed fight on extending the debt limit, first anticipated for the late spring, has now been postponed until the fall. Although the President's budget tries to restore some of the funding wiped out in the FY 2013 sequester, the Congress, especially the House Republicans, may have different ideas. As with most years in the budget

game, clarity is never a given and timely completion of the process has become rare. Another Continuing Resolution solution for FY 2014 would perpetuate items from FY 2013 such as the Coburn Amendment restricting political science projects at NSF. There is something happening here, but the whats, whens, and whys remain murky.

Howard J. Silver
Executive Director
May 2013

FY 2014 SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE BUDGETS BY DEPARTMENT

Department of Agriculture

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
Economic Research Service
National Agricultural Statistical Service

Department of Commerce

Census Bureau
Bureau of Economic Analysis

Department of Education

Institute of Education Sciences
International and Foreign Language Education
Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education
Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need

Department of Health and Human Services

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
Agency for Health Care Research and Quality
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institutes of Health
Office of the Director
Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives
Office of AIDS Research
Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research
Office of Disease Prevention
Office of Research on Women's Health
Common Fund/Office of Strategic Coordination
Office of Science Education
John E. Fogarty International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences
National Cancer Institute
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences
National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine
National Eye Institute
National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute
National Human Genome Research Institute
National Institute on Aging
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
National Institute of General Medical Sciences
National Institute of Mental Health
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
National Institute of Nursing Research
National Library of Medicine

Department of Homeland Security

Science and Technology Directorate

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Office of Policy Development and Research

Department of Justice

Bureau of Justice Statistics

National Institute of Justice

Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Department of State

Education and Cultural Exchanges

Department of Transportation

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Independent Agencies

National Archives and Records Administration

National Endowment for the Humanities

National Science Foundation

United States Institute of Peace

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

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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

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

Society for Research in Child Development

Membership Organizations

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
American Finance 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
Social Science Research Council
Vera Institute of Justice

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
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Washington University in St. Louis
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UPDATE is published 22 times per year. ISSN 0749-4394.



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