FEATURED NEWS

COSSA Annual Meeting & Advocacy Day, March 9-10 - Still Time to Register!

COSSA’s Analysis for the President’s FY 2016 Budget Request

COSSA IN ACTION

COSSA Develops State by State Funding Fact Sheets

COSSA & NDD Partners Call for End to Sequester

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

Congress Introduces Flurry of “Health” Bills

Senators Release Innovation for Healthier Americans Report, Request Feedback

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FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

New NIJ Director Sworn In

NSF Releases Report on Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering

NCHS Seeks Health Statistics Service Fellow

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

COSSA Welcomes Fielding Graduate University

ACJS Introduces Policy Notes

EVENTS CALENDAR

FEATURED NEWS

The 2015 COSSA Annual Meeting and Social and Behavioral Science Advocacy Day is fast approaching. Join us on March 9-10, 2015 in Washington, DC for a day of discussion on federal issues impacting social and behavioral science research. The preliminary program is available here. Visit the COSSA Annual Meeting page for full details.

COSSA's Analysis for the President's FY 2016 Budget Request
President Obama released his fiscal year (FY) 2016 budget request to Congress on February 2, officially kicking off the FY 2016 appropriations process. COSSA has released its analysis of the President's budget request. The 62-page report provides funding details for all federal departments, agencies, and programs important to social and behavioral science research. It outlines the President's funding proposals as they compare to current (FY 2015) levels. In addition, the document serves as a helpful catalog of social science programs and initiatives across the federal government.

COSSA IN ACTION

COSSA Develops State-by-State Funding Fact Sheets

COSSA has developed a series of fact sheets describing the amount of federal funding for social and behavioral science that is provided to each state. These fact sheets are intended to illustrate the economic impact of federal investment in social and behavioral science research, including as a driver for innovation at universities across the country. While federal investment in social science research is significant ($921 million), it pales in comparison to the total amount of annual federal funding for all of science and engineering ($40.1 billion).

COSSA & NDD Partners Call for End to Sequester

On February 18, COSSA joined more than 2,100 organizations on a letter to Congress calling for an end to sequestration in fiscal year (FY) 2016 and protection of nondefense discretionary (NDD) spending from additional cuts. The letter was organized by NDD United, a broad coalition of organizations that have banded together to combat cuts to NDD funding. Participants represent sectors from science and health to environment, justice, and civil rights.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

Congress Introduces Flurry of "Health" Bills

Over the last few months, a number of bills in support the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have been introduced by members of the 114th Congress. These authorizing bills would address various aspects of NIH, including increasing the amount of funding that can be appropriated to it.

Read on for details on the follow bills:

- 21st Century Cures Act Discussion Draft
- Accelerating Biomedical Research Act
- American Cures Act
- Medical Innovation Act

Senators Release Innovation for Healthier Americans Report, Request Feedback
On January 29, Senators Lamar Alexander (R-TN.), Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, and Richard Burr (R-NC) released *Innovation for Healthier Americans: Identifying Opportunities for Meaningful Reform to Our Nation's Medical Product Discovery and Development*. The report addresses challenges to getting safe treatments, devices, and cures to patients more quickly and effectively, looking specifically at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Read on for details.

HELP Committee Approves *Strengthening Education through Research Act*

On January 28, the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee passed the *Strengthening Education through Research Act* (S. 227). The bill reauthorizes the *Education Sciences Reform Act* (ESRA). ESRA authorizes funding for the research activities of the U.S. Department of Education, including the Institute for Education Sciences (IES). The legislation would authorize an appropriation of $612 million for fiscal year (FY) 2016 and $3.2 billion between 2016-2020 to support federal educational research, statistical analysis, and other activities.

Read on for details.

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

New NIJ Director Sworn In

On February 9, Dr. Nancy Rodriguez (Arizona State University) was sworn in as director of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). Rodriguez's research expertise includes topics such as collateral consequences of imprisonment; issues pertaining to race, ethnicity, crime, and justice; and longitudinal studies of families affected by maternal/paternal incarceration. She was appointed by President Obama in October 2014.

NSF Releases Report on Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering

The National Science Foundation (NSF) National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) has released its biennial report, *Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering*. Mandated by the *Science and Engineering Equal Opportunities Act*, the report details the participation of these underrepresented groups in science and engineering. The data is organized by enrollment, field of degree, occupation, employment status, and academic employment. More information, including downloads of the report digest and data, are available on the NCSES website.

NCHS Seeks Health Statistics Service Fellow

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) is accepting applications for a Service Fellowship in the Analytic Studies Branch of the Office of Analysis and Epidemiology. The Fellow will be primarily responsible for preparing and disseminating *Health, United States*, NCHS' flagship report. Qualified applicants will have graduate degrees in the social sciences, health sciences, statistics, public health, or a related field (e.g., demography, public policy, or epidemiology). More information on
the fellowship and application process is on the [NCHS website](#). Applications are due March 31, 2015.

**COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

**COSSA Welcomes Fielding Graduate University**

COSSA is thrilled to welcome [Fielding Graduate University](#) as its newest university member. Located in Santa Barbara, CA, Fielding boasts scholarship and practice in fields such as clinical psychology and media psychology, human and organizational development, and educational leadership and change.

COSSA's full membership list can be viewed [here](#).

**ACJS Introduces Policy Notes**

The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS), a leading authority on criminal justice education, research, and policy analysis, has announced the creation of *Policy Notes*, a new series of free online, policy-focused abstract summaries that highlight the findings and implications of leading peer-reviewed research from ACJS' flagship publication *Justice Quarterly*. The first *Policy Notes* looks at what the latest research on residence restrictions for sex offenders mean for future housing policy and is available [here](#).

**EVENTS CALENDAR**

- **[Congressional Briefing - NIH 101: Peer Review & Priority Setting](#)**, Washington, DC, February 27, 2015
- **[Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting](#)**, Orlando, FL, March 3-7, 2015
- **[Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations Annual Meeting](#)**, New Brunswick, NJ, March 5-7, 2015
- **[American Psychosomatic Society Annual Scientific Meeting](#)**, Savannah, GA, March 18-21, 2015
- **[Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference](#)**, Chicago, IL, March 26-29, 2015
- **[Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#)**, Kansas City, MO, March 26-29, 2015
A list of COSSA members' annual meetings and other events can be found on the COSSA webpage.

COSSA members who have an upcoming event they would like to see listed in the Events Calendar and on our website should send an email to jmilton@cossa.org.

**Consortium of Social Science Associations**

**Members**

**Governing Members**

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

**Membership Organizations**

- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
- American Evaluation Association
- 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
- Rural Sociological Society
- Social Science History Association
- Society for Research on Adolescence
- Society for Social Work and Research
- Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
- Society of Behavioral Medicine
- Southern Political Science Association
- Southern Sociological Society
- Southwestern Social Science Association

**Colleges and Universities**

- Arizona State University
- Boston University
- Brown University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Clark University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Duke University
- Fielding Graduate University
- George Mason University
- Georgetown University
- Harvard University
- Indiana University
- John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
- Johns Hopkins University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Michigan State University
- New York University
- Northwestern University
- Pennsylvania State University
- Princeton University
- Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
- Stanford University
- Stony Brook University, SUNY
- Texas A&M University
- The George Washington University
- The Ohio State University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Irvine
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of California, San Diego
- University of California, Santa Barbara
- University of Chicago
- University of Illinois
- University of Iowa
- University of Maryland
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota
- University of Missouri
- University of Nebraska, Lincoln
- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- University of Oklahoma
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of South Carolina
- University of Texas, Austin
- University of Texas, San Antonio
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- University of Wisconsin, Madison
- Washington University in St. Louis
The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to promote sustainable federal funding for social and behavioral science research and federal policies that positively impact the conduct of research.

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