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# WASHINGTON UPDATE

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## **In This Issue**

### **FEATURED NEWS**

[COSSA Endorses March for Science](#)

### **COSSA IN ACTION**

[The Society for Personality and Social Psychology Answers "Why Social Science?"](#)

[RSVP for COSSA's Celebration of Social Science Congressional Reception: March 29](#)

[COSSA Calls for Congress to Complete FY 2017 Appropriations Process](#)

[Archived Webinar Now Available: "Social Science in the Age of Trump: What We'd Like to See"](#)

### **CONGRESSIONAL NEWS**

[Bracing for a Tough Budget Cycle](#)

### **FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS**

[NIA Issues RFIs for Alzheimer's Disease Bypass Budget and on Enhancing Timely Sharing of Data](#)

[NIFA Introduces New Behavioral Science Grants Program](#)

[NIA Seeks Applicants for its 2017 Butler-Williams Scholars Program](#)

### **PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNITY EVENTS**

[National Academies to Launch Study on the Future of Food and Agriculture Research; Nominations Sought for Executive Committee](#)

[DBASSE Seeks Deputy Executive Director](#)

[National Academies Releases Report on Dual Language and English Learners](#)

[Academies Board on Environmental Change and Society Seeking New Members](#)

### **FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

[AAA&S Report Makes Recommendations for Improved U.S. Language Education](#)

[LSA Releases Annual Report on Linguistics in Higher Education](#)

### **EVENTS CALENDAR**

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## **FEATURED NEWS**

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# COSSA Endorses March for Science

COSSA has [announced](#) that it that it will be partnering with the [March for Science](#), joining more than 25 scientific societies and professional associations who have officially endorsed the March. We are excited to participate in the event in solidarity with other scientists and science enthusiasts as we showcase the important contributions that science, especially the social and behavioral sciences, make to our country and global community. The Washington, DC March is scheduled for April 22 and more than 300 [satellite marches](#) are planned in cities around the world.

Like science more generally, the March for Science is **nonpartisan**. It is not intended as a protest or demonstration against any one party or politician's position. Instead, the event will be a celebration of science, promoting positive messages about the ways scientific research serves humankind. Those interested in following COSSA's activities related to the March can [sign up](#) to receive periodic email updates.

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## COSSA IN ACTION

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### The Society for Personality and Social Psychology Answers "Why Social Science?"



This week's *Why Social Science?* guest post comes from Lisa Sage, contributing writer for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, with a profile of David Neal, a behavioral psychologist who has been working to improve health outcomes in the developing world. Read it [here](#) and [subscribe](#).

### RSVP for COSSA's Celebration of Social Science Congressional Reception: March 29

COSSA will be hosting a [Celebration of Social Science](#) reception on March 29 in conjunction with its [2017 Science Policy Conference](#). The reception will feature the presentation of the 2017 COSSA Distinguished Service Award to Senators Cory Gardner (R-CO) and Gary Peters (D-MI). The event will take place in the Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building, from 6:00-8:00 pm. Please [RSVP](#) by March 23.

### COSSA Calls for Congress to Complete FY 2017 Appropriations Process

In a letter to House and Senate appropriators on the Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Subcommittees, COSSA called for speedy completion of the FY 2017 appropriations process. The letter also urges strong appropriations for the National Science Foundation, National Institute of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, and Census Bureau. The letter is available on the [COSSA website](#).

### Archived Webinar Now Available: "Social Science in the Age of Trump: What We'd Like to See"

The archived video of a February 9 webinar, "Social Science in the Age of Trump: What We'd Like to See," hosted by SAGE Publishing is now available. The webinar featured COSSA Executive

Director Wendy Naus in a conversation with Michael Todd, editor of [Social Science Space](#), and touched on the current state of affairs related to the social and behavioral sciences, areas of concern under the Trump Administration, and how researchers and academics can get involved in advocating on behalf of the social sciences. The complete webinar is available to watch [here](#).

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## CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

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### Bracing for a Tough Budget Cycle

The fiscal year (FY) [2017 appropriations process](#) has yet to conclude, but interest is already turning to FY 2018. The Trump Administration has begun releasing limited details on what the President's FY 2018 budget request could contain when released later this spring. A so-called "skinny budget," or top-line, department-level outline, is expected to be released next week with full details provided in May.

The President has stated his intent to propose an additional \$54 billion in defense spending. Such an increase coupled with promises of middle class tax cuts, corporate tax cuts, a \$1 trillion infrastructure plan, and keeping Medicare and Social Security fully intact, leaves non-defense discretionary spending as the only logical target as an offset. Non-defense discretionary spending covers everything in the federal budget that is not defense-related or entitlement programs; it includes funding for scientific research at the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and dozens of other agencies across the federal government. While funding for science may not be a direct target for cuts by the Administration (it is too soon to tell), the U.S. scientific enterprise would still be significantly harmed by such reductions in non-defense discretionary spending.

[Read on](#) for more details.

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## FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

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### NIA Issues RFIs for Alzheimer's Disease Bypass Budget and on Enhancing Timely Sharing of Data

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has issued two requests for information (RFI). The first is a time-sensitive RFI, *Planning for NIA's FY 2019 Alzheimer's Disease Bypass Budget* ([NOT-AG-17-005](#)). The Institute is seeking comments and input for the Institute's use in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 NIH Alzheimer's Disease Bypass Budget (ADBB), particularly in identifying and establishing research priorities for the FY 2019 ADBB. The ADBB is congressionally mandated via the FY 2015 *Consolidated and Furthering Continuing Appropriations Act*. NIH is further mandated to update the ADBB annually through FY 2025. In addition to focusing on basic research on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD), the FY 2019 ADBB budget will also "propose support for clinical trials and other translational research, including research initiatives focusing on caregivers/caregiving to patients with AD and ADRD." NIA is further seeking recommendations for additional research areas of emphasis and emerging research needs and/or opportunities. **Comments are due March 27, 2017.** More information is available in the [notice](#).

The second RFI seeks input on *Enhancing Timely Data Sharing from NIA-Funded Studies* ([NOT-AG-17-001](#)) for comments and recommendations on "ways to enhance the timely sharing of high-quality data generated by NIA-funded studies." Specifically, the Institute is seeking views "on what, if any, unique considerations exist for sharing of data from NIA-funded research on aging," including perspectives on obstacles to sharing data experienced by investigators who collect data; successful data sharing; and investigators' experiences related to analyzing data collected in NIA grants. **Comments are due April 15, 2017.**

## **NIFA Introduces New Behavioral Science Grants Program**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) announced a new grant program, [Behavioral and Experimental Economic Applications for Agricultural Environmental Policy Design](#), within the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) [Foundational Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities program](#). The new program is jointly funded with the USDA's Economic Research Service. For its first round, the new program plans to offer two grants, totaling \$500,000 to help "pinpoint motivators that drive farmers to adopt conservation practices and identify the roadblocks that may get in the way."

## **NIA Seeks Applicants for its 2017 Butler-Williams Scholars Program**

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is [accepting applications](#) for its [2017 Butler-Williams Scholars Program](#). The Institute is particularly interested in receiving applications from emerging researchers, "including those who may have had limited previous involvement in research on aging." An activity within the NIA Office of Special Populations, the program emphasizes its interest in researchers involved and/or interested in health disparities research related to aging. Applications are due by **March 24th, 2017**.

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## **PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNITY EVENTS**

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### **National Academies to Launch Study on the Future of Food and Agriculture Research; Nominations Sought for Executive Committee**

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine announced a new study, *Science Breakthroughs 2030: A Strategy for Food and Agriculture Research*. The year-long study hopes to "identify ambitious scientific directions in food and agriculture made possible by incorporating knowledge and tools from across the science and engineering spectrum." The study is sponsored by the Supporters of Agriculture Research (SoAR) Foundation, Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR), and the Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).

Nominations are currently being sought for the study's executive committee, which will author the project's final consensus report, after seeking input from the broader community in the form of workshops, calls white papers, and online questionnaires. Candidates are being sought from all fields of science and engineering who are "big thinkers with the ability to envision the kind of breakthroughs made possible by interdisciplinary collaboration." Nominations are due by March 22 and may be submitted [here](#).

### **DBASSE Seeks Deputy Executive Director**

The [Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education](#) (DBASSE) of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine is seeking a new Deputy Executive Director. More information on the position and application instructions are available [here](#).

### **National Academies Releases Report on Dual Language and English Learners**

On February 28, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine released [Promoting the Educational Success of Children and Youth Learning English: Promising Futures](#), a report by the [Committee on Fostering School Success for English Learners](#). The report assesses

the current state of English language education in the United States and offers recommendations on how to improve learning outcomes for dual language learners (DLLs) and English learners (ELs). Under the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), states have a responsibility to address disparities in the educational outcomes of DLLs/ELs.

The report contains 14 recommendations designed to inform policy and offers a research agenda. The Committee recommends standardizing terminology across agencies, that state education agencies examine the relationships between students' characteristics and English ability, and that the Institute of Educational Sciences within the U.S. Department of Education encourage research on the effects of state ESSA variation on DLLs/ELs. The report also highlights research gaps in understanding DLLs/ELs with disabilities.

*This article was contributed by COSSA's spring intern, Laila Rosenthal of American University.*

## **Academies Board on Environmental Change and Society Seeking New Members**

The [Board on Environmental Change and Society](#) (BECS) of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine is accepting nominations for new members. BECS focuses on research on interactions between humans and their environment. While members represent disciplines across the social and natural sciences, the Board is particularly interested in candidates with expertise on human-environment interactions, adaptive management, transformative change, and methods for integration of social and natural sciences. More information and instructions on submitting nominations are available on the [National Academies website](#). Nominations are due by March 21.

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## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- DOD: Minerva Research Initiative ([WHS-AD-FOA-17-01](#))
- NIFA: [Behavioral and Experimental Economic Applications for Agri-Environmental Policy Design](#)
- NIFA: Children, Youth, and Families At Risk (CYFAR) Sustainable Community Projects ([USDA-NIFA-SLBCD-006244](#))
- NIH: [Click here for a list of recent NIH funding opportunities.](#)

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## **COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

### **AAA&S Report Makes Recommendations for Improved U.S. Language Education**

On February 28, [the American Academy of Arts and Sciences](#) (AAA&S), a COSSA member, released, [America's Languages: Investing in Language Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century](#), the final report of the Commission on Language Learning. A bipartisan group of U.S. Members of Congress requested that AAA&S establish the Commission in order "to examine the current state of U.S. language education, to project what the nation's education needs will be in the future, and to offer recommendations for ways to meet those needs."

[Read on](#) for more details.

### **LSA Releases Annual Report on Linguistics in Higher Education**

The Linguistic Society of America (LSA), a COSSA Governing Member, has issued its fourth [Annual Report on the State of Linguistics in Higher Education](#). The report shows a growing popularity of the linguistics major at four-year colleges and universities, as well as a number of

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

- [American Psychosomatic Society Annual Scientific Meeting](#), March 15-18, 2017, Seville, Spain
- [Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference](#), March 16-19, 2017, Toronto, Canada
- [Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting](#), March 21-25, 2017, Kansas City, MO
- [AERA Centennial Lecture: Charles Payne - The Limits of Schooling, the Power of Poverty](#), March 23, 2017, Detroit, MI
- [COSSA 2017 Science Policy Conference & Social Science Advocacy Day](#) March 29-30, 2017, Washington, DC
- [Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting](#), March 29-April 1, 2017, San Diego, CA
- [Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), March 29-April 1, 2017, Greenville, SC
- [Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), March 30-April 2, 2017, Milwaukee, WI
- [American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting](#), April 5-9, 2017, Boston, MA
- [Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference](#), April 6-9, 2017, Chicago, IL
- [Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting](#), April 6-8, 2017, Austin, TX
- [AERA Centennial Lecture: Russell Skiba - School Discipline: Issues of Equity and Effectiveness](#), April 12, 2017, Boston, MA
- [Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Meeting](#), April 12-15, 2017, Austin, TX
- [March for Science](#), April 22, 2017, Washington, DC
- [10th Matilda White Riley Behavioral and Social Sciences Honors](#), April 25, 2017, Bethesda, MD
- [American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting](#), April 27-May 1, 2017, San Antonio, TX
- [Population Association of America Annual Meeting](#), April 27-29, 2017, Chicago, IL
- [American Association for Public Opinion Research Annual Conference](#), May 18-21, 2017, New Orleans, LA

A list of COSSA members' annual meetings and other events can be found on the COSSA [events page](#).

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@coffa.org](mailto:jmilton@coffa.org).

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**REGISTER NOW!**



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### Consortium of Social Science Associations Members

#### Governing Associations

American Anthropological Association  
American Association for Public Opinion Research  
American Economic Association  
American Educational Research Association

#### Colleges and Universities

Arizona State University  
Boston University  
Brown University  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Clark University



American Political Science Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Society of Criminology  
American Sociological Association  
American Statistical Association  
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 Association of Geographers  
American Council of Learned Societies  
American Evaluation Association  
American Historical Association  
American Psychosomatic Society  
Association for Asian Studies  
Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies  
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management  
Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations  
Association of Research Libraries  
Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences  
Council on Social Work Education  
Economic History Association  
History of Science Society  
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

### Centers and Institutes

American Academy of Arts and Sciences  
American Academy of Political and Social Science  
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences  
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research  
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan  
Institute for Social Science Research,  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
NORC at the University of Chicago  
Owens Institute for Behavioral Research, University of Georgia  
RTI International  
Social Science Research Council

Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Duke University  
Fielding Graduate University  
George Mason University  
George Washington University, The  
Georgetown University  
Harvard University  
Howard University  
Indiana University  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY  
Johns Hopkins University  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Michigan State University  
New York University  
North Carolina State University  
Northwestern University  
Ohio State University, The  
Pennsylvania State University  
Princeton University  
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey  
Stanford University  
Texas A&M University  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of Chicago  
University of Colorado, Boulder  
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  
Virginia Tech  
West Virginia University  
Yale University

## COSSA

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**Deputy Director:** Angela L. Sharpe

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**Government Relations Associate:** Camille Hosman

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*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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