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FEATURED NEWS

Save the Date: 2018 COSSA Science Policy Conference and Social Science Advocacy Day -- April 30 & May 1

COSSA's 2018 Science Policy Conference and Social Science Advocacy Day will take place on April 30 and May 1, 2018 in Washington, DC. The Conference brings together COSSA members and other stakeholders for a day of discussion about federal policy impacting our science followed by the only annual, coordinated advocacy day in support of all of the social and behavioral sciences. Early bird registration will open later in December. More details will be posted on the Conference webpage as they are made available.

COSSA IN ACTION

SRCD Answers "Why Social Science?"
This week's Why Social Science? guest post comes from Martha Zaslow, Director for Policy and Communications at the Society for Research and Child Development, who writes about ways the social sciences can tell us how to "grow the roots" of STEM learning in children. Read it here and subscribe.

**CONGRESSIONAL NEWS**

**Budget Deal to Raise Spending Caps in Negotiation; Senate Releases Remaining Appropriations Bills**

Congressional leaders have indicated over the past few weeks that they plan to extend the current continuing resolution under which the government is operating past its December 8 expiration date. Extending the continuing resolution will give Congress more time to wrap up fiscal year (FY) 2018 appropriations and reach a deal to raise spending caps. According to the latest reports, Congressional Republicans are proposing an increase of $54 billion in defense spending and $37 billion in nondefense spending, which includes federal science agencies, for the 2018 and 2019 fiscal years.

While the House of Representatives completed its work on the FY 2018 appropriations in September, the Senate has moved more slowly; only eight of the twelve spending bills have passed the Appropriations Committee, and none have received a vote of the full Senate. The remaining four spending bills were released last week and will likely be considered by the Appropriations committee in the coming days. Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Senator Thad Cochran (R-MS) added in his statement regarding the FY 2018 appropriations outlook that the Committee needs a new budget deal to finish their work, as much of their proposed spending is higher than the statutory spending caps in the Budget Control Act.

**FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS**

**Administration Considering Controversial Pick for Census Deputy Director**

The Trump Administration is reportedly considering naming Thomas Brunell, a political science professor at the University of Texas, Dallas, as the next Deputy Director of the Census Bureau. The pick has raised concerns for Census stakeholder groups both because Brunell has no prior government experience and would be the top operations official overseeing the decennial census, the government's biggest non-wartime operation, and because his selection would appear to politicize what has historically been a non-political position. Brunell has testified on behalf of Republican redistricting efforts and is the author of a 2008 book called Redistricting and Representation: Why Competitive Elections Are Bad for America. Brunell was originally considered for the Census Director position (still vacant and without a nominee after the departure of John Thompson in June), but did not successfully complete the vetting process.

**Jeffrey H. Anderson Appointed BJS Director**

The Trump Administration has announced that it intends to appoint Jeffrey H. Anderson as director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), the principal statistical agency housed within the Department of Justice. Anderson most recently served as Director of the Department of
Health and Human Services' Office of Health Reform, after his appointment was announced in May 2017. He is a former Hudson Institute Senior Fellow and co-founder of the 2017 Project, a conservative policy organization. Anderson hold a Ph.D. in political science from Claremont Graduate University. The position of BJS Director does not require Senate confirmation, so Anderson can begin serving as soon as he is officially appointed. Jeri Mulrow is currently serving as the Bureau's Acting Director.

National Endowment for the Humanities Releases 2018 Summer Programs for Teachers

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has released information about its 2018 tuition-free summer programs, which it offers each year to provide an opportunity for K-12, college, and university educators to study a variety of humanities topics. These programs focus on specific topic, texts, and questions in the humanities and promote connections between teaching and research in the humanities. Additionally, the NEH offers stipends to help cover the cost of travel and living expenses for these one- to four-week programs. The applications for summer 2018 programs are due March 1, 2018. More information and a list of topics is available here.

PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

National Academies Requests Nominations for Study on the Well-Being of Military Families

The Board on Children, Youth, and Families of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine is requesting nominations for experts to serve on a new consensus committee to study the Well-Being of Military Families. The consensus study will examine the challenges and opportunities facing families of service members and identify effective strategies are already known for supporting and protecting military children and families. The Board seeks experts in military children and families, stress development and resilience, family interactions, mental and social support services, and military systems. Nominations are due by Friday, December 1, 2017. More information can be found here.

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

ASA Accepting Applications for Science Policy Fellowship

The American Statistical Association (ASA), a COSSA governing member, is accepting applications for its 2018 Science Policy Fellowship. The fellowship is a full-year postdoctoral-level position, renewable for a second year, that offers fellows the opportunity to work to advocate for statistics and experience first-hand how federal science policy is formed. More information is available on ASA’s website. Applications are requested by December 31.

EVENTS CALENDAR

- The Lunch @ DC: Race, Class, and Politics in the Cappuccino City, December 7, 2017, Washington, DC
- Annual NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Festival, December 8, 2017, Bethesda, MD
- The Lunch @ DC: Trust, Engagement, and Governance: Democracy from the Bottom-Up, December 14, 2017, Washington, DC
- Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, January 3-6, 2018, San Diego, CA
### Consortium of Social Science Associations

#### Members

**Governing Associations**
- American Anthropological Association
- American Association for Public Opinion Research
- American Economic Association
- American Educational Research Association
- 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

**Colleges and Universities**
- Arizona State University
- Boston University
- Brown University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Duke University
- Fielding Graduate University
- Florida State University
- George Mason University
- George Washington University
- 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
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- University of Georgia
- University of Illinois
- University of Iowa
- University of Maryland
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota
- University of Nebraska, Lincoln
- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- University of Oklahoma
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Pittsburgh
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- University of Texas, San Antonio
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- University of Wisconsin, Madison
- University of Wyoming

**Membership Organizations**
- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
- African Studies Association
- 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
- National Council on Family Relations
- North American Regional Science Council
- Rural Sociological Society
- Social Science History Association
- Society for Prevention Research
- Society for Research on Adolescence
- Society for Social Work and Research
- Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
- Southwestern Social Science Association
- Western Political Science Association
The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to promote sustainable federal funding for and widespread use of social and behavioral science research and federal policies that positively impact the conduct of research. COSSA serves as a united voice for a broad, diverse network of organizations, institutions, communities, and stakeholders who care about a successful and vibrant social science research enterprise. The COSSA membership includes professional and disciplinary associations, scientific societies, research centers and institutes, and U.S. colleges and universities.

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