In This Issue

FEATURED NEWS

President Appoints Five New Members of the National Science Board, Reappoints Two Members

COSSA IN ACTION

Letters & Statements

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

Democrats Take Control of the House in Midterm Elections; Congress Returns for Lame Duck Session

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

Comments Sought on Federal Data Strategy Best Practices

White House Science Council Seeks Feedback on Opioid R&D Roadmap

Funding Opportunities

Notices & Requests for Comment

Recent Reports

Open Positions

COMMUNITY NEWS & REPORTS

Notices & Requests for Comment

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

COSSA Welcome the University of Arizona

Fellowships & Professional Development

EVENTS CALENDAR

FEATURED NEWS

President Appoints Five New Members of the National Science Board, Reappoints Two Members

On November 5, President Trump announced his intent to make five appointments to the National Science Board (NSB), the governing body of the National Science Foundation (NSF). The selections include reappointments of former NSB chair Maria Zuber of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Geraldine Richmond of the University of Oregon. Two of the new appointees, Alan Stern and Stephen Willard, have backgrounds in the private sector. Dr. Stern is considered to be a champion of commercial space activities and has worked for Blue Origin and
Virgin Galactic. Mr. Willard is currently the CEO of a biotechnology firm after earlier careers in law and investment banking. The three other appointees will join the NSB from universities. Steven Leath is currently the President of Auburn University, after a career in agricultural research; Suresh Garimella is a professor of mechanical engineering and former vice president for research at Perdue University; and Maureen Condic is on faculty at the University of Utah and has focused her work on human neurological development, including testifying before congress on the ability of fetuses to experience pain during early stages of development and opposing research on embryonic stem cells.

Board members are nominated by the President to serve six-year terms, with the opportunity for renewal. In addition to Drs. Zuber and Richmond, the terms of six members of the NSB expired in May, meaning that education researcher Deborah Ball, internet founder Vinton Cerf, and four other NSB members were not selected for renewal. The NSB will hold its first meeting with the new appointees on November 28 and 29.

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**COSSA IN ACTION**

**Letters & Statements**

- 11/13/2018: Letter on [Realignment/Relocation of the Economic Research Service and National Institute of Food and Agriculture](#)

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**CONGRESSIONAL NEWS**

**Democrats Take Control of the House in Midterm Elections; Congress Returns for Lame Duck Session**

Congress returns to Washington this week for the first time since early October. Lawmakers are returning to what many expected to be the outcome of the midterm elections, with Democrats taking control of the House of Representatives and Republicans maintaining control of the Senate.

The Senate margin currently stands at 51 Republicans and 46 Democrats, with a run-off election scheduled in Mississippi, a recount of votes in Florida, and a race in Arizona still too close to call. The contests in Florida and Arizona are considered toss-ups while the Mississippi race is expected to stay in Republican hands. As many expected, the Democrats will have a strong majority in the House of Representatives come January with a current majority of 227 members to the Republican's 198, with nearly a dozen races still too close to call. At this time, the House Democrats have gained 32 seats and the House Republicans have lost the same amount.

Notable losses include several Republican members of the House Appropriations Committee, including Representative John Culberson (R-TX), Chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee for Commerce, Justice, and Science; Kevin Yoder (R-KS); David Young (R-IA); and Scott Taylor (R-VA). Several Republican members of the House Science Committee also lost their reelection bids, including Barbara Comstock (R-VA), Randy Hultgren (R-IL), Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA), and Steve Knight (R-CA). Taken with the retirement of Chair Lamar Smith (R-TX), this will result in an overhaul of the Republican roster on the Science Committee in the coming Congress. It will be some time before committee assignments for the 116th Congress will be made.

At the top of the agenda for the next few weeks is finalizing the remaining fiscal year (FY) 2019 spending bills. About half of the spending bills have been signed into law, but funding for the National Science Foundation, Census Bureau, Department of Agriculture, and many other agencies is still not complete. The current continuing resolution ends on December 7 with Republicans anxious to complete the spending bills before Democrats take control of the House. Read about the state of play for FY 2019 appropriations [here](#).
Comments Sought on Federal Data Strategy Best Practices

As recommended in the President's Management Agenda released back in March, the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has been leading the development of a government-wide Federal Data Strategy to better manage the government's data resources and improve the accessibility and usability of federal data for decision-making. The developers have finalized ten principles to guide the strategy across the themes of Ethical Governance, Conscious Design, and Learning Culture and are seeking comments on 47 aspirational best practices that are intended to "inform agency actions on a regular basis, to be continually relevant, and to be sufficiently general so as to broadly apply at all federal agencies and across all missions." The practices are grouped according to five broad objectives: Govern and Manage Data as a Strategic Asset, Protect and Secure Data, Promote Efficient Use of Data Assets, Build a Culture that Values Data as an Asset, and Honor Stakeholder Input and Leverage Partners. Comments on the draft practices are due by November 16, 2018. Instructions for submitting feedback and the complete list of practices are available on the Data Strategy website.

White House Science Council Seeks Feedback on Opioid R&D Roadmap

The White House National Science and Technology Council is accepting comments on a report, Health Research and Development to Stem the Opioid Crisis: A National Roadmap. The report was produced by the Opioid Fast Track Action Committee (FTAC), co-chaired by Fay Lomax Cook, former Assistant Director for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE) at the National Science Foundation (NSF), and Wilson M. Compton, Deputy Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The report is intended to support the federal response to the opioid crisis by identifying areas for research and development (R&D) to address knowledge gaps related to opioid use, abuse, and treatment as well as opportunities for improving coordination of related federal R&D efforts. The report describes seven overarching areas of R&D, including several with direct relevance to the social and behavioral sciences: Biology and Chemistry of Pain and Opioid Addiction, Non-Biological Contributors to Opioid Addiction, Pain Management, Prevention of Opioid Addiction, Treatment of Opioid Addiction and Withdrawal, Overdose Prevention and Recovery, and Community Consequences of Opioid Addiction. Comments are due by December 5, 2018. Instructions for responding are posted on the NIH website.

Funding Opportunities

- NSF: Dear Colleague Letter: NSF ENG, GEO, and SBE Directorates Accepting Proposals for Research Related to the 2018 Hurricane Season
- NSF: Navigating the New Arctic (NNA) (Closes: February 14, 2019)

Notices & Requests for Comment

- NEW: NIH: Revised NIH Grants Policy Statement for Fiscal Year 2019
- Census: Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; The American Community Survey (Closes: December 17, 2018)
- NSF: Dear Colleague Letter: Mid-Scale Research Infrastructure (Mid-scale RI) Opportunities
Recent Reports
- NEW: ICSP: Principles for Modernizing Production of Federal Statistics
- NEW: OHRP: Revised Common Rule Educational Materials

Open Positions
- NEW: NIH/NIDDK: Program Director for Diabetes Behavioral Science
- NIH: Deputy Director, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) (Closes: December 5, 2018)

COMMUNITY NEWS & REPORTS

Notices & Requests for Comment
- NASEM: Committee on Assessing the Minerva Research Initiative and the Contribution of Social Science to Addressing Security Concerns: Call for Public Comments

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

COSSA Welcome the University of Arizona

COSSA is pleased to welcome the University of Arizona as its newest member. Located in Tucson, the University of Arizona receives nearly $9 million in federal social and behavioral science funding annually. COSSA’s full membership list is available here. Information on how to join can be found on the COSSA website.

Fellowships & Professional Development
- APA: Congressional Fellowship, Jacquelin Goldman Congressional Fellowship, and Executive Branch Science Fellowship (Close: January 6, 2019)
- AERA: AERA Congressional Fellowship (Closes: December 15, 2018)
- SRCD: Federal and State Policy Fellowships (Close: December 14, 2018)

EVENTS CALENDAR
- American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, November 14-17, 2018, Atlanta, GA
- Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences Annual Meeting, November 14-17, 2018, Chicago, IL
- American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, November 14-18, 2018, San Jose, CA
- Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Annual Convention, November 15-18, 2018, Washington, DC
African Studies Association Annual Meeting, November 29-December 1, 2018, Atlanta, GA
Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, January 2-6, 2019, New Orleans, LA
American Historical Association Annual Meeting, January 3-6, 2019, Chicago, IL
Linguistic Society of America Annual Meeting, January 3-6, 2019, New York, NY
American Economic Association Annual Meeting, January 4-6, 2019, Atlanta, GA
Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, January 17-19, 2019, Austin, TX

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@cossa.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

COSssa 2019
Social Science Advocacy Day
April 30 – May 1, 2019 ★ Washington, DC

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
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
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 Arizona
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 Georgia

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 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
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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