



WASHINGTON UPDATE

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FEATURED NEWS

May 1 Is Social Science Advocacy Day!

Tomorrow, May 1, is [Social Science Advocacy Day!](#) COSSA will be supporting about 75 advocates who will head to Capitol Hill to discuss the importance of social science research and funding

with policymakers. Watch COSSA's [Take Action page](#) for an action alert to be released tomorrow that will allow you to join in from anywhere by writing to your Congressional representatives in support of social science. Join the action on Twitter by using #COSSA2019 and #whysocialscience.

COSSA IN ACTION

COSSA Issues Statement Calling for Budget Deal

On April 25, COSSA issued a [statement](#) calling on Congress to reach a deal that will prevent the budget cuts scheduled to take effect during fiscal years (FY) 2020 and 2021. The statement highlights the potential impact of these cuts on federal research agencies, particularly those that fund social science research or produce data used by social scientists: "Almost every national priority-health, defense, agriculture and conservation, hazards and natural disasters-relies on science and engineering; the social and behavioral sciences play an important role in helping to address the complex human-centered challenges our nation faces. If America is to continue its global leadership in science and innovation and keep pace with other nations that are doubling-down on their investments in research, we cannot afford to let arbitrary, across-the-board cuts to science and research agencies-including the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and data-producing statistical agencies-hinder scientific progress." The full statement is available on [COSSA's website](#).

Development Scholar Joseph Assan Answers "Why Social Science?"



The latest *Why Social Science?* guest post comes from Joseph Assan, Assistant Professor of International Political Economy of Sustainable Development at Brandeis University, who writes about how insights from the social sciences can help to address sub-Saharan Africa's youth unemployment crisis. Read it [here](#) and [subscribe](#).

Letters & Statements

- 4/12/2019: [Letter on FY 2020 Budget Caps](#)

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

Congress Returns; Subcommittees Begin Marking Up Spending Legislation

After a two-week spring recess, Congress is back in session and is moving ahead on fiscal year (FY) 2020 spending. [As COSSA has reported](#), many agency leaders have already testified in front of appropriations subcommittees, with more expected in the coming weeks. Additionally, agency leaders important to the social and behavioral science enterprise, including leaders from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) are expected to testify in front of committees with authorization jurisdiction over their agencies in the next month.

Appropriations subcommittees are also moving quickly on drafting spending bills, with the

Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education bill scheduled to be considered in subcommittee on April 30. This bill, the largest of the non-defense appropriations bills, is responsible for funding the NIH, Department of Education, Bureau of Labor Statistics, among many other agencies. Less controversial bills, including those that fund the Legislative Branch and the Department of Veterans Affairs will be marked up soon after.

Although Congress is moving swiftly on FY 2020 funding, leaders have yet to reach a compromise on raising the discretionary spending caps put in place by the *Budget Control Act of 2011*. These spending caps must be raised before FY 2020 spending can be finalized.

COSSA has issued an [action alert](#) urging members to write to their Members of Congress to tell them to prioritize a budget deal that gives fair treatment to vital non-defense discretionary (NDD) programs-including science and research agencies-which have disproportionately borne the brunt of federal spending cuts over the past several years.

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

OBSSR Seeks Examples of Behavioral and Social Science Accomplishments

The Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is seeking contributions from the stakeholder community of examples of noteworthy advances in health that would not have been possible without the behavioral and social sciences. The project will be hosted on a crowdsourcing platform that will allow anyone to contribute an idea or vote on the best submissions. OBSSR is seeking as broad a list as possible-*achievements do not need to have been funded by NIH or represent recent advances*. More details are available in a [blog post](#) from OBSSR Director Bill Riley. Ideas can be submitted through the [IdeaScale platform](#) through July 31.

NSF Seeks Nominations for Advisory Committees

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has issued its [annual call for recommendations](#) for membership to its various advisory committees and technical boards. These committees advise NSF's offices and directorates on program management, research direction, and policies impacting the agency. Committees of particular interest to the COSSA community include the [Advisory Committee for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences](#) and the [Advisory Committee for Education and Human Resources](#). Guidelines for recommendations and committee contact information can be found [here](#). Recommendations for membership are maintained for 12 months.

Nomination Opportunities

- **NEW:** NSF: [Request for Recommendations for Membership on Directorate and Office Advisory Committees](#)
- AHRQ: [U.S. Preventive Services Task Force](#) (Closes: May 15, 2019)

Funding Opportunities

- NIH: Methodology and Measurement in the Behavioral and Social Sciences ([R21 Clinical Trial Optional](#)) (Closes: July 16, 2019); ([R01 Clinical Trial Optional](#)) (Closes: July 5, 2019)
- NIH: Improving Patient Adherence to Treatment and Prevention Regimens to Promote Health ([R21 Clinical Trial Optional](#)) (Closes: July 16, 2019); ([R01 Clinical Trial Optional](#)) (Closes: July 5, 2019)
- NIH: Population Health Interventions: Integrating Individual and Group Level Evidence (R21) ([Clinical Trial Not Allowed](#)), ([Clinical Trial Optional](#)) (Closes: July 5, 2019)

- **NEW:** BJS: [FY 2019 National Criminal History Improvement Program \(NCHIP\)](#) (Closes: June 3, 2019)
- **NEW:** BJS: [NICS Act Record Improvement Program \(NARIP\)](#) (Closes: June 3, 2019)
- BJS: [FY 2019 Survey of Campus Law Enforcement Agencies \(SCLEA\)](#) (Closes: May 28, 2019)
- BJS: [BJS Statistical Support Program](#) (Closes: May 28, 2019)
- BJS: [Survey of Public Defenders \(SPD\)](#) (Closes: May 28, 2019)
- NIH: [Predoctoral Training in Advanced Data Analytics for Behavioral and Social Sciences Research \(BSSR\) - Institutional Research Training Program \[T32\]](#) (Closes: May 25, 2019)
- BJS: [FY 2019 Graduate Research Fellowship Program for Criminal Justice Statistics](#) (Closes: May 21, 2019)
- NIH/NIGMS: [Graduate Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement \(G-RISE\) \[T32\]](#) (Closes: May 21, 2019)
- NSF: [Dear Colleague Letter: Research on Sexual Harassment and Other Forms of Harassment in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics \(STEM\) Contexts](#)
- NIJ: [Tribal-Researcher Capacity Building Grants](#) (Closes: May 13, 2019)
- NIJ: [Research and Evaluation on Promising Reentry Initiatives](#) (Closes: May 13, 2019)
- NIH: [Research Project Grant \(Parent R01 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required\)](#) (Opens: May 7, 2019)
- BJS: [Law Enforcement Core Statistics \(LECS\) Program FY 2019 Competitive Grant Solicitation](#) (Closes: May 6, 2019)
- NIJ: [Research and Evaluation on Drugs and Crime FY 2019](#) (Closes: May 6, 2019)

Notices & Requests for Comment

- **NEW:** NIH: [Accomplishments in Behavioral and Social Sciences Research](#) (Closes: July 31, 2019)
- OMB: [Statistical Policy Directive No. 3: Compilation, Release, and Evaluation of Principal Federal Economic Indicators. Timing of Public Comments by Employees of the Executive Branch](#) (Closes: June 10, 2019)
- NIH: [Request for Information \(RFI\) Seeking Stakeholder Input on the Need for an NIH Administrative Data Enclave](#) (Closes: May 30, 2019)
- IES: [Proposed Priorities for the Institute of Education Sciences and Request for Comment](#) (Closes: May 28, 2019)
- BJS: [Public comments requested on the proposed reinstatement and update of BJS's Identity Theft Supplement \(2020/2022\) to the National Crime Victimization Survey](#) (Closes: May 20, 2019)

Recent Reports

- **NEW:** GSA: [Federal Data Strategy Proof Points](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS & REPORTS

National Academies Seeking Community Input on First Phase of Alzheimer's Decadal Survey

The National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine released a [call for white papers](#) from the scientific and stakeholder communities on the first phase of a decadal survey focused on reducing the burden of Alzheimer's Disease (AD) and Alzheimer's Disease Related Dementias (ADRD). Individuals and organizations, especially those in the fields of behavioral and social science research and aging at large, are encouraged to submit white papers providing direct input into the initial work of the decadal. White paper submissions are due June 15, 2019. More information and submission guidelines can be found on the National Academies' [website](#).

The decadal survey on AD and ADRD is being led by the National Academies' Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (DBASSE) and is focused on assessing how research in the behavioral and social sciences can reduce the burden of individuals affected by AD and ADRD over the next decade. More information about the decadal survey can be found on the DBASSE [website](#).

Nomination Opportunities

- **NEW:** NASEM: [Call for Nominations: A Systems Approach to Reducing Consumer Food Waste](#) (Closes: April 30, 2019)

Funding Opportunities

- NASEM: [Building Capacity for Science Communication Partnership Awards: Request for Applications](#) (Closes: July 1, 2019)

Notices & Requests for Comment

- **NEW:** NASEM: [Call #1 for White Papers: Phase One of the Decadal Survey on Reducing the Burden of Alzheimer's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease-Related Dementias](#) (Closes: June 15, 2019)
- NASEM: [Stronger Food and Drug Regulatory Systems Abroad - Call for Comments](#) (Closes: June 14, 2019)

Fellowships & Professional Development

- **NEW:** ASCB: [Kavli Civic Science Fellowship](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

- [COSSA 2019 Social Science Advocacy Day](#), April 30-May 1, 2019, Washington, DC
- [CNSTAT: National Statistics for Public Policy: Linkages Among Federal, State and Local Data](#), May 10, 2019, Washington, DC
- [NIH Regional Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration](#), May 15-17, 2019, Baltimore, MD
- [COSSA Headlines | May Headlines & Deep Dive TBA](#), May 16, 2019, 2:00 pm
- [American Association for Public Opinion Research Annual Conference](#), May 16-19, 2019, Toronto, Canada
- [NSF Grants Conference](#), May 20-21, 2019, Los Angeles, CA
- [Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting](#), May 28-31, 2019, San Francisco, CA
- [Law and Society Association Annual Meeting](#), May 30-June 2, 2019, Washington, DC
- [COPAFS: Stats for America Conference](#), June 3, 2019, Washington, DC
- [CNSTAT: New Approaches for Protecting Privacy in Federal Statistical Programs](#), June 6-7, 2019, Washington, DC
- [COSSA Headlines | June Headlines & Deep Dive TBA](#), June 13, 2019, 2:00 pm
- [Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Summer Conference](#), June 21-23, 2019, San Diego, CA
- [History of Science Society Annual Meeting](#), July 23-27, 2019, Utrecht, Netherlands
- [AMSTAT: Joint Statistical Meeting](#), July 27-August 1, 2019, Denver, CO

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.

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
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
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 American Law Schools
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
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
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Institute for Social Science Research,
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
NORC at the University of Chicago

Colleges and Universities

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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
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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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