



WASHINGTON UPDATE

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FEATURED NEWS

HOT TOPIC: Foreign Interference in the U.S. Research Enterprise & Policy Responses

COSSA has released the latest edition of our HOT TOPIC series, which are featured articles prepared by COSSA staff members offering insights into timely issues important to the social and behavioral science community. This edition, titled [Foreign Interference in the U.S. Research Enterprise & Policy Responses](#), was written by Ben Goodrich.

In recent years, United States federal research agencies have faced growing concerns of reports of U.S. research and intellectual property being stolen, illegally transferred, or tampered with by foreign governments, notably the Chinese government. These agencies have employed a variety of methods to protect research from foreign interference, including commissioning



reports for policy recommendations, requesting information from the research community on potential bad actors, issuing clarifying statements on the federal grant application process, and tightening regulations on various parts of the research infrastructure.

However, some of these policies-which affect universities and researchers from all disciplines-have been criticized both for creating a chilling effect on the open and collaborative nature of the research community and for unjustly singling out researchers of Chinese descent.

This analysis details the latest threats of foreign influence on the U.S. research enterprise as well as actions taken across the federal government to address them. As this is a developing story with agencies continuing to develop policies in response, COSSA will be closely monitoring efforts to harmonize agency policies, address concerns of racial bias against Chinese scientists, and protect the open nature of the U.S. research enterprise.

[Read on](#) for the full analysis.

COSSA IN ACTION

COSSA Sends Letter in Support of Panchanathan Nomination to Lead NSF

On January 21, COSSA [submitted a letter](#) to leaders of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee in support of the nomination of Sethuraman Panchanathan to be the next Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) (see [previous coverage](#)). [The letter](#) notes that "Dr. Panchanathan has a strong and clear vision on the role of research and innovation in ensuring our nation's leadership in the global economy, and we are pleased to lend our collective voices in support of his nomination."

Panchanathan was nominated in December for a six-year term following the upcoming retirement of current NSF Director France Cordova in March.

Share Your Story with COSSA!

COSSA is always looking for tangible examples from the social and behavioral sciences to help make the case that federal investment in these sciences is not only a wise use of taxpayer dollars, but that this research yields results that make the nation and world healthier, safer, and more prosperous. If you have a social science story-- a research success, an example of how social science is being used effectively in your community, an educational experience or teacher who shaped the trajectory of your social science career, or any other experience or activity that showcases the many positive impacts the social and behavioral sciences make to all aspects of life-- share it with COSSA by filling out the [form on our website](#).



CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

Impeachment, Natural Disasters, and Elections Signal Difficult Road Ahead for FY 2021 Appropriations

The second session of the 116th Congress kicked off earlier this month, and while the new year did not begin with a historically-long government shutdown as it did in 2019, Congress still faces a myriad of challenges to completing spending bills for the coming fiscal year. The Senate is expected to begin the impeachment trial of President Trump on January 21, which will fully occupy the Senate's time, leaving significant legislative debates until after the trial concludes, which could be several weeks. While the House has finished its impeachment business, a backlog of work remains for the lower chamber, including passing disaster funding for earthquake-stricken Puerto Rico.

Another hurdle to finishing spending decisions on time is the 2020 general election. The majorities in both the House and Senate are at stake and leadership in both chambers have included significant amounts of recess time into their 2020 schedules, ensuring facetime with constituents but leaving less time to legislate. Despite the many challenges that lie ahead, Congressional leaders have continued to express interest in completing fiscal year (FY) 2021 spending bills before the new fiscal year begins on October 1.

Continue to follow the COSSA Washington Update for [news on FY 2021](#). If you are a COSSA member, you can hear further analysis on what challenges and opportunities COSSA anticipates in the coming year in the recording of January's *COSSA Headlines*.

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

OSTP Requests Feedback on Data Repositories and Data Sharing

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) issued a [Request for Public Comment](#) on January 17 on *Draft Desirable Characteristics of Repositories for Managing and Sharing Data Resulting from Federally Funded Research*. The request, published in the [Federal Register](#), was issued on behalf of the multi-agency Subcommittee on Open Science of the National Science and Technology Council's Committee on Science. The proposed set of desirable characteristics are intended to improve the consistency of information that federal agencies provide to the scientific community about the long-term preservation of data resulting from federally funded research.

The Subcommittee on Open Science will use the feedback to develop a common set of characteristics that federal research funding agencies can use to improve the management and sharing of data from federally funded research. Comments are due by March 6, 2020. The full Request for Comment can be read in the [Federal Register](#).

2020 Census Count Begins in Rural Alaska

The U.S. Census Bureau starts counting the population of [rural Alaska](#) for the 2020 Census on January 21 in the remote Alaskan village of Toksook Bay. The decennial Census [traditionally](#) begins counting the populations in remote Alaskan villages much earlier than the official Census Day due to the hard-to-count nature of the region. The count of the rest of the U.S. population will officially start on Census Day, April 1. More information about the timeline of the 2020 Census can be found on the [2020 Census](#) website.

Funding Opportunities

- NSF/SBE: [NSF Dynamic Language Infrastructure - NEH Documenting Endangered Languages \(DLI-DEL\)](#) (Closes: September 15, 2020)
- NIH: Research on biopsychosocial factors of social connectedness and isolation on health, wellbeing, illness, and recovery ([R01 Clinical Trials Not Allowed](#)) ([R01 Basic experimental studies with humans \(BESH\) required](#)) (Opens: February 17, 2020; Closes: March 17, 2020)

- NSF/SBE: [Ethical and Responsible Research \(ER2\)](#) (Closes: February 24, 2020)
- NSF/SBE: [Human Networks and Data Science - Infrastructure \(HNDS-I\)](#) (Closes: February 24, 2020)
- ED: [Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad](#) (Closes: February 18, 2020)
- NIH/OBSSR: [Improving Patient Adherence to Treatment and Prevention Regimens to Promote Health \(R21 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: February 16, 2020)
- NSF: [Understanding the Rules of Life: Epigenetics](#) (Closes: February 6, 2020)
- NIH/OBSSR: [Improving Patient Adherence to Treatment and Prevention Regimens to Promote Health \(R01 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: February 5, 2020)
- NSF/SBE: [Science and Technology Studies \(STS\)](#) (Closes: February 3, 2020)
- NSF: [National Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) Research Institutes](#) (Closes: January 30, 2020)
- NIH/OBSSR: [Administrative Supplements to NIH-funded T32 and TL1 Training Grants to Better Integrate Behavioral and Social Sciences \(BSS\) with other Health-Related Sciences](#) (Closes: January 25, 2020)

Notices & Requests for Comment

- BEA: [Request for Comments on Developing State-Level Statistics for the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account](#) (Closes: March 31, 2020)
- **NEW:** HUD/PD&R: [Family Unification Program/Family Self-Sufficiency Demonstration Evaluation](#) (Closes: March 13, 2020)
- **NEW:** OSTP: [Request for Public Comment on Draft Desirable Characteristics of Repositories for Managing and Sharing Data Resulting From Federally Funded Research](#) (Closes: March 6, 2020)
- NIH: [Request for Information: Invitation to Comment on Inclusion Across the Lifespan II Workshop](#) (Closes: February 15, 2020)
- OSTP/JCORE: [Request for Information on the American Research Environment](#) (Closes: January 28, 2020)

Open Positions

- NIH/NCI: [Program Director, Health Communication and Informatics Research Branch](#)
- NIH/NCI: [Program Director, Cancer Survivorship](#)
- NIH/NCI: [Program Director, Tobacco Control Research Branch](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS & REPORTS

Funding Opportunities

- NASEM: [Healthy Longevity Global Competition](#) (Closes: February 24, 2020)
- NASEM: [Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research \(PEER\)](#) (Closes: February 10, 2020)
- [National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research](#) (LOI due: February 4, 2020)

Notices & Requests for Comment

- **NEW:** United Nations: [Call for Input: Draft General Comment on Science](#) (Closes: February 14, 2020)

Recent Reports

- NASEM: [Forced Migration Research](#)
- NASEM: [Promoting Positive Adolescent Health Behaviors and Outcomes](#)

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

SAGE Awards Inaugural Impact Writing Prize to Social and Behavioral Scientists

SAGE Publishing, a COSSA affiliate member, has announced the winners of its inaugural [Impact in Action Writing Prize](#). Administered through its online platform [Social Science Space](#), the award is given to researchers who effectively communicate through writing how social and behavioral science research leaves an impact in non-academic spaces.

The recipients of the 2019 Impact in Action Writing Prize are:

- Cheryl Durwin & Dina Moore from Southern Connecticut State University
- Lynn Thigpen from the Wisdom Project
- Maria Kreuzer from the International University of Monaco
- Ian Male & William Farr from the United Kingdom's National Health Service (NHS) Trust

Submissions for the award were judged on four criteria: the quality of the research, the impact of the research, the applicability of the research, and the writing quality of the submissions. The winners receive a cash prize and their submissions will be published on the Social Science Space website.

EVENTS CALENDAR

- [NASEM Webinar: The Promise of Adolescence: Realizing Opportunity for All Youth: Opportunities for the Justice Sector](#), January 29, 2020, 2:00 pm
- [COSSA Headlines | February Headlines](#), February 13, 2020, 2:00 pm
- [Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention](#), February 27-29, 2020, New Orleans, LA
- [American Psychosomatic Society Annual Scientific Meeting](#), March 11-14, 2020, Long Beach, CA
- [COSSA Headlines | March Headlines](#), March 12, 2020, 2:00 pm
- [Society for Research on Adolescence Biennial Meeting](#), March 19-21, 2020, San Diego, CA
- [Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting](#), March 24-28, 2020, San Antonio, TX
- [Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations Annual Meeting](#), March 26-28, 2020, Pullman, WA
- [COSSA 2020 Social Science Advocacy Day, March 30-31, 2020, Washington, DC](#)
- [Southern Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), April 1-4, 2020, Jacksonville, FL
- [Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting](#), April 1-4, 2020, San Francisco, CA
- [Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), April 2-5, 2020, Omaha, NE
- [American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting](#), April 6-10, 2020, Denver, CO
- [COSSA Headlines | April Headlines](#), April 9, 2020, 2:00 pm
- [Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference](#), April 16-19, 2020, Chicago, IL
- [American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting](#), April 17-21, 2020, San Francisco, CA
- [Population Association of America Annual Meeting](#), April 22-25, 2020, Washington, DC
- [American Council of Learned Societies Annual Meeting](#), April 30 - May 2, 2020, Baltimore, MD

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@cozza.org.

SAVE THE DATE!


CASSA 2020
SOCIAL SCIENCE ADVOCACY DAY
March 30-31, 2020 ★ 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
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
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

Colleges and Universities

Arizona State University
Boston University
Brown University
Carnegie Mellon University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
George Mason University
Georgetown University
Harvard University
Indiana University
Johns Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Michigan State 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 Arkansas
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 Minnesota
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
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University of Virginia
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Virginia Tech
West Virginia University
Yale University

Affiliates

SAGE Publishing

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
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University of Massachusetts, Amherst
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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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