



WASHINGTON UPDATE

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FEATURED NEWS

White House Issues Ban on Entry of Skilled Foreign Workers

On June 22, President Trump issued a [proclamation](#) further extending restrictions on foreign travel to the United States in order to reduce the competitiveness of the U.S. labor market. The proclamation argues that due to the economic downturn and resulting unemployment caused by

the coronavirus pandemic, foreign workers "pose an unusual threat to the employment of American workers." The proclamation prohibits the entry of foreign workers under several visa categories commonly used by science and academic institutions to hire employees with unique skills and specialized training, including H-1B and H-4 visas, for skilled workers and their spouses respectively; J-1 visas, for scholarly and other cultural exchanges; most H-2B visas, for nonagricultural workers; and L-1 visas, for foreign employees of companies to transfer to U.S. locations. The proclamation takes effect on June 24 and will remain in effect through the end of 2020.

Many scientific and higher education organizations, including the [American Association for the Advancement of Science](#) (AAAS), the [Association of American Universities](#) (AAU), and the [Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities](#) (APLU), have issued statements criticizing the proclamation, arguing that preventing the entry of skilled workers to the U.S. will reduce the competitiveness of American industry and stifle scientific progress.

Notable COVID-19 Resources

- Chronicle of Higher Education: [Colleges' Plans for Reopening in the Fall](#)
- SEAN: [Evaluating Data Types: A Guide for Decision Makers using Data to Understand the Extent and Spread of COVID-19](#)

COSSA IN ACTION

Letters & Statements

- 6/15/2020: [CNSF Letter in Support of the Nomination of Sethuraman Panchanathan as Director of the National Science Foundation](#)

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

Policing Research Bill Introduced as Congress Continues Focus on Police Reform

In the wake of mass protests against police violence throughout the country, Congress has been active in introducing several bills addressing systemic racism and police violence, including a bill for more social and behavioral science research on these issues. On June 18, Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), Chair of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology (SST), introduced the [Promoting Fair and Effective Policing Through Research Act](#), a bill that mandates that the National Science Foundation (NSF) fund social and behavioral science research on policing practices and the mitigation of police violence. It also directs the National

Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to establish a program to study potential bias in policing tools and technology, and directs the Science & Technology Directorate (S&T) at the Department of Homeland Security to establish a program to support the reduction of police violence. More information can be found on the [SST website](#).

In the meantime, Congress remains fixated on broader policing reform legislation. In the Senate, Tim Scott (R-SC) has introduced the *JUSTICE Act* ([S. 3985](#)), a bill that Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) has indicated will be considered by the full Senate. The bill requires police departments to implement de-escalation training and report the use of force and prevents police from using chokeholds in most situations. In the House, Democrats have coalesced around the *George Floyd Justice in Policing Act* ([H.R. 7120](#)) introduced by Karen Bass (D-CA) and endorsed by the Congressional Black Caucus. The bill mandates much more substantial reforms to policing, including labelling chokeholds as a potential civil rights violation, denying grants to some police jurisdictions, and making it easier to sue individual police for civil rights violations. COSSA will be monitoring these bills and providing updates when available.

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

Sethuraman Panchanathan Confirmed as Next NSF Director

On June 18, the Senate [confirmed](#) Sethuraman Panchanathan to be the 15th Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF), an agency that had been without a Senate-confirmed director since France Córdova's term [expired](#) in March. Panchanathan, who was [nominated](#) to lead the agency in January, holds a doctorate in electrical and computer engineering and serves as the Executive Vice President of Knowledge Enterprise Development and as Chief Research and Innovation Officer at Arizona State University. He has also served on the National Science Board since 2014.

The timeline for the Senate to consider Panchanathan's nomination was delayed significantly by the transition away from in-person hearings caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the interim, Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) Kelvin Droegemeier served as Acting Director of NSF until Panchanathan was confirmed (see [previous COSSA coverage](#) for more details). More information on Panchanathan's confirmation is available on the [Senate website](#).

Nomination Opportunities

- Census: [Request for Nominations of Members To Serve on the Census Scientific Advisory Committee](#) (Closes: August 1, 2020)
- Census: [Request for Nominations of Members To Serve on the National Advisory Committee on Racial, Ethnic, and Other Populations](#) (Closes: August 1, 2020)

Funding Opportunities

- NIH/NCCIH: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on Stress Management in Relation to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (Closes: October 7, 2021)
- NIH/NIMHD: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Competitive and Administrative Supplements for the Impact of COVID-19 Outbreak on Minority Health and Health Disparities](#) (Closes: May 1, 2021)
- NIH/NIA: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): NIA Availability of Administrative Supplements and Revision Supplements on Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (Closes: May 1, 2021)
- NIH/NIMH: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Mental Health Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#) (Closes: April 16, 2021)

- NIH: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus and the Behavioral and Social Sciences](#) (Closes: April 1, 2021)
- NIH/NIDA: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#) (Closes: March 31, 2021)
- **NEW:** NIH: [Mid-Career Enhancement Awards to Integrate Basic Behavioral, Biomedical, and/or Social Scientific Processes \(K18 No Independent Clinical Trials\)](#) (Opens: February 16, 2021) (Closes: March 17, 2021)
- **NEW:** NIH: [Mid-Career Enhancement Awards to Integrate Basic Behavioral, Biomedical, and/or Social Scientific Processes \(K18 Basic Experimental Studies with Humans Required\)](#) (Opens: February 16, 2021) (Closes: March 17, 2021)
- NIH/NIGMS: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) regarding the Availability of Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) and the Causative Virus SARS-CoV-2](#) (Closes: February 6, 2021)
- NIH: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Competitive and Administrative Supplements for Community Interventions to Reduce the Impact of COVID-19 on Health Disparity and Other Vulnerable Populations](#) (Closes: December 30, 2020)
- NIH/NHLBI: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Availability of Administrative Supplements and Revision Supplements on Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (Closes: October 6, 2020)
- **NEW:** NIH: [NIH Director's Emergency Transformative Research Awards \(R01 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: September 30, 2020)
- NSF/SBE: [NSF Dynamic Language Infrastructure - NEH Documenting Endangered Languages \(DLI-DEL\)](#) (Closes: September 15, 2020)
- **NEW:** NIH/NIMHD: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Emergency Competitive Revisions for Social, Ethical, and Behavioral Implications \(SEBI\) Research on COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and/or Vulnerable Populations](#) (Closes: September 9, 2020)
- **NEW:** NIH/NIMHD: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Emergency Competitive Revisions for Community-Engaged Research on COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and/or Vulnerable Populations](#) (Closes: September 9, 2020)
- NIH/OBSSR: [Advancing Research to Develop Improved Measures and Methods for Understanding Multimorbidity \(R01 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Opens: September 5, 2020)
- **NEW:** NIH: [NIH Director's Emergency Early Independence Awards \(DP5 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: September 4, 2020)
- **NEW:** NIH: [NIH Director's Early Independence Awards \(DP5 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: September 4, 2020)
- ED/IES: [Education Research \(FY 2021\)](#) (Closes: August 20, 2020)
- ED/IES: [Research Training Programs in the Education Sciences \(FY 2021\)](#) (Closes: August 20, 2020)
- ED/IES: [Education Research and Development Centers \(FY 2021\)](#) (Closes: August 20, 2020)
- ED/IES: [Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication \(FY 2021\)](#) (Closes: August 20, 2020)
- ED/IES: [Special Education Research \(FY 2021\)](#) (Closes: August 20, 2020)
- ED/IES: [Research Training Programs in Special Education \(FY 2021\)](#) (Closes: August 20, 2020)
- ED/IES: [Research Grants Focused on NAEP Process Data for Learners with Disabilities](#) (Closes: August 20, 2020)
- ED/IES: [Research Grants Focused on Systematic Replication in Special Education \(FY 2021\)](#) (Closes: August 20, 2020)
- **NEW:** NIH/NIMHD: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Limited Competition for Emergency Competitive Revisions for Community-Engaged Research on COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and/or Vulnerable Populations](#) (Closes: August 9, 2020)
- **NEW:** NIH: [Emergency Awards: RADx-UP Coordination and Data Collection Center \(CDCC\) \(U24 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: August 7, 2020)
- HUD/PD&R: [Impact of RAD on Children in HUD Assisted Households](#) (Closes: July 30, 2020)
- ED/IES: [Statistical and Research Methodology in Education and Using Longitudinal Data To](#)

- [Support State Education Policymaking Grant Programs](#) (Closes: July 30, 2020)
- NIH: [Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement for Community Interventions to Address the Consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic for Health Disparity and Vulnerable Populations \(R01- Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: July 22, 2020)
- NSF: [Program on Fairness in Artificial Intelligence in Collaboration with Amazon](#) (Closes: July 13, 2020)
- NSF/SBE: [The Science of Learning and Augmented Intelligence Program \(SL\)](#) (Closes: July 8, 2020)
- ODNI/IARPA: [COVID-19 Seedling Research Topics](#) (Closes: July 7, 2020)
- HUD: [Estimating the Prevalence and Probability of Homeless Youth](#) (Closes: July 1, 2020)
- NIH/NCI: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): National Cancer Institute Announcement Regarding Availability of Urgent Competitive Revision and Administrative Supplements on Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (Closes: June 26, 2020)

Notices & Requests for Comment

- Census: [Comment Request; Generic Clearance for Internet Panel Pretesting and Qualitative Survey Methods Testing](#) (Closes: August 3, 2020)
- Census: [Submission to the Office of Management and Budget \(OMB\) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Household Pulse Survey](#) (Closes: August 3, 2020)
- Census: [Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Small Business Pulse Survey](#) (Closes: July 20, 2020)
- Census: [Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Household Pulse Survey](#) (Closes: July 20, 2020)
- Census: [Comment Request; Supplemental Questions Related to the Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Businesses](#) (Closes: June 29, 2020)

Recent Reports

- **NEW:** NIH/NIDDK: [2020-2030 Strategic Plan for NIH Nutrition Research](#)

Open Positions

- OMB: [Chief Statistician/Statistical Policy and Science Branch](#) (Closes: June 29, 2020)

COMMUNITY NEWS & REPORTS

SEAN Releases Rapid Consultation on Evaluating Types of COVID-19 Data

The Societal Experts Action Network (SEAN), a collaboration between the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and the National Science Foundation (NSF) (see [previous coverage](#)), has released its first rapid expert consultation in response to COVID-19. The report, [Evaluating Data Types: A Guide for Decision Makers using Data to Understand the Extent and Spread of COVID-19](#), is intended to assist leaders in understanding the spread of COVID-19 in their communities. It was released alongside an [interactive tool](#) to help policymakers explore the information in more detail. The consultation summarizes the benefits and drawbacks of seven specific COVID-19 measurements that decision-makers can consider as they use these measurements to respond to the outbreak: (1) confirmed cases, (2) hospitalizations, (3) emergency department visits, (4) reported confirmed COVID-19 deaths, (5) excess deaths, (6) fraction of viral tests that are positive, and (7) representative prevalence surveys. It also outlines five criteria decisionmakers can use in evaluating such data: representativeness, potential for systematic under- or over-estimation, uncertainty, time range, and geographical area. More

about SEAN is available [here](#).

Scientific Community Responds to Racism and Police Violence through #ShutDownSTEM Campaign

On June 10, several academic and scientific organizations participated in the Shut Down STEM campaign, forgoing business as usual to instead reflect upon racism and police violence and its effect on science and research. Participants in #ShutDownSTEM took action in several ways, including the cancelling meetings, classes, and research activities, discussing potential methods to improve the research climate for Black researchers, and participating in a broader social media campaign using the hashtags #ShutDownSTEM and #ShutDownAcademia. More information can be found on shutdownstem.com.

Nomination Opportunities

- AAAS: [Kavli Science Journalism Awards](#) (Closes: August 1, 2020)
- AAAS: [AAAS/Subaru SB&F Prize for Excellence in Science Books](#) (Closes: July 20, 2020)
- AAAS: [Award for Science Diplomacy](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [Award for Scientific Freedom and Responsibility](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [Early Career Award for Public Engagement with Science](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [Mani L. Bhaumik Award for Public Engagement with Science](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [Mentor Awards](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [Newcomb Cleveland Prize](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [John P. McGovern Award Lecture in the Behavioral Sciences](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [Philip Hauge Abelson Prize](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

SPSP Names New Executive Director

The Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), a COSSA [governing member](#), has [announced](#) the selection of Rachel Puffer as its next Executive Director effective July 7. Puffer currently serves as the Vice President for Membership and Meetings at the Gerontological Society of America. Brian Riddleberger, SPSP's Chief Operating Officer, has been serving as Interim Executive Director during the search and will return to his COO role. COSSA congratulates Puffer on her appointment and looks forward to continuing to work with SPSP to advance the social and behavioral sciences.

EVENTS CALENDAR

- **CANCELLED:** [Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Summer Conference](#), June 26-28, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [COSSA Headlines | July Headlines](#), July 9, 2020, 2:00 pm
- **VIRTUAL:** [Child Health Webinar from the NIH ECHO Program](#), July 30, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [Join Statistical Meetings](#), August 1-6, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [American Psychological Association Annual Convention](#), August 6-9, 2020
- **CANCELLED:** [Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), August 6-9, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [American Sociological Association Annual Meeting](#), August 8-11, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [COSSA Headlines | August](#), August 13, 2020, 2:00 pm
- **VIRTUAL:** [American Political Science Association Annual Meeting & Exhibition](#), September 10-13, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [Economic History Association Annual Meeting](#), September 10-13, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [COSSA Headlines | September](#), September 10, 2020, 2:00 pm

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

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
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan

Colleges and Universities

Arizona State University
Boston University
Brown University
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve 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
University of Colorado, Boulder
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 Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Texas, Austin
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Virginia Tech
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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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