

# COSSA WASHINGTON UPDATE

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## NIH STRATEGIC PLAN RELEASED; INCLUDES SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL COMPONENT SA

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) recently released "Investment for Humanity," the final version of its strategic plan, its first ever overall priority-setting document. The plan, initiated by NIH Director Bernadine Healy over two years ago, had approximately 2,000 scientists across the nation contributing to its development. According to Healy, the plan provides a clear statement of NIH's mission and goals, and articulates why the NIH should continue to thrive.

The plan proposes six trans-NIH objectives to carry out its mission statement, "Science in pursuit of knowledge to improve health." Those objectives include:

- 1) **Critical Science and Technology:** To assure that critical science and technology in basic biology, with impacts on human health and the national economy, are advanced as priorities across the Nation's biomedical research enterprise.
- 2) **Critical Health Needs:** To strengthen the ability of the Nation's biomedical research enterprise to respond to current and emerging public health needs.
- 3) **Intellectual Capital:** To provide for the renewal and growth of the intellectual capital base essential to the Nation's biomedical research enterprise. Ensuring fairness and equality of opportunity is central to efforts to enhance the human resource base of biomedical research.
- 4) **Research Capacity:** To sustain and renew the capacity that is critical to advancing the Nation's ability to conduct health-related research.
- 5) **Stewardship of Public Resources:** To secure the maximal return on the public investment in biomedical research.
- 6) **Public Trust:** To earn continually the public's respect, trust, and confidence as NIH carries out its mission.

COSSA closely monitored NIH's efforts to develop the plan, and noted the omission of social and behavioral research in early drafts. COSSA also participated in meetings to refine the plan, which gradually came to include social and behavioral components. For example, the final document now includes a section under the second objective, **Critical Health Needs**, entitled "Behavior and Health," which emphasizes the link between individual behavior and disease. Of special interest to the social science community, the statement goes beyond the link between health, behavior and the individual, and declares that "in seeking information about how healthy behaviors are established and maintained, it is important to consider how individual, familial, social, and environmental contexts interact with relevant biological issues."

It is also noteworthy that the plan calls for attention to the social, legal, ethical, and economic issues in biomedical research. Under the sixth objective, **Public Trust**, a Science Policy Studies Center will be established to "identify, prioritize, and analyze social, legal, ethical economic and associated issues that arise from NIH-supported research." In addressing those issues, the plan states that NIH will consult with outside individuals and organizations. COSSA and its allies hope to be a part of that process.

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Healy recently discussed the document before the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Funding, a coalition in which COSSA participates. Because of past controversy surrounding the creation of a strategic plan for the NIH, she focused on four factors about the plan she felt were often misunderstood. First, she stated that the plan is "a celebration of creative investigator-initiated research, a hallmark of the NIH since the 1940's," and stressed that the plan is about macro, not micro, targets for health research. Second, she clarified that investigator-initiated research is the means, not the end, by which NIH carries out research. The end point is the ultimate responsiveness to public need with regard to health. Third, she also emphasized that the first objective of the plan is to recognize that basic science is critical to all areas of health research. Fourth, she expressed concern about the lack of funding for future scientists, and is hopeful that this document acknowledges their importance, and will inspire greater investment in the NIH and its training programs.

Members of the Coalition expressed concern about the reasons for eroding Congressional support for the FY 1993 and FY 1994 NIH budgets, and how that support might be strengthened. Healy responded by saying that the scientific community needed to articulate better the importance of the NIH to the public and Congress. In frank terms, she declared that a certain amount of hubris on the part of scientists, technical scientific jargon, competition among scientists, and the lack of a united voice from the scientific community, all contributed to Congress' lack of understanding of the importance of the NIH. She hopes that the new plan will do much to educate Congress about

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NIH's crucial contribution to the health of the nation.

In response to questions regarding the future of the plan and its implementation, Healy stated that many elements were already being implemented. She cited the Minority Health Initiative, the Human Genome Project, the Human Cell Initiative, the extramural portfolio relating the environment to genetics, and Junior RO1 grants in progress. However, as Healy is leaving the NIH by June 30, 1993 and a new director has not yet been announced, it is not known whether he/she will embrace the mission and six objectives of the plan. Implementation of the plan is estimated to cost \$1.5 billion over and above NIH's \$10 billion budget, another factor indicating an uncertain future for the plan.

#### NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD ISSUES STATEMENT ON BASIC RESEARCH *KS*

Responding to its Commission on the Future of the NSF and calls for more strategic research, the National Science Board (NSB), the 24 member policymaking body of the National Science Foundation, has issued a statement "In Support of Basic Research." In releasing the statement, the NSB's chairman, University of Michigan President James J. Duderstadt, noted that "The dividends paid by such previous investments [in basic research] are widely evident today and will only increase in prominence in coming years."

The Board clearly states that "Basic research is not intended --nor should it be expected--to advance short-term goals." It is, they contend, an investment that takes time to mature yet has tremendous practical payoffs in the long run. The Board also points out that "providing requisite support for this process is a matter of strategic national importance."

Attempting to blunt the recent rhetoric dichotomizing research into strategic vs. curiosity driven, the NSB statement notes: "Basic research can be conducted in many settings: by individual investigators in colleges and universities or by groups of researchers working in science and engineering centers; by those pursuing a particular national strategic research interest; and by those in corporate and Federal laboratories often in collaboration with academic scientists."

Furthermore, according to the Board, "Basic research is the foundation and essence" of both

research to achieve strategic ends and to increase the base of knowledge. Basic research also serves an educational purpose, since its problem solving approach in this age of technology "helps prepare minds for work in all walks of life."

The Board also connects improvements in the quality of life to the generation of new wealth through technical innovations "whose benefits are seen in economic growth, improved health care, and many other areas." "Basic research," the NSB asserts, "will play a vital role in this process." In addition, economic competitiveness remains a major justification for support of basic research, since "the ability to exploit scientific and technological advances" can give a nation a competitive advantage.

Reflecting the "partnerships" theme of recent National Science Foundation discourse, the NSB recommends expanding the "variety of institutional arrangements within which research takes place," and connecting basic research to applied research, technology transfer and development, innovation, and manufacturing.

## HODES APPOINTED NIA DIRECTOR

On May 27 Bernadine Healy, outgoing National Institutes of Health (NIH) director, appointed Dr. Richard J. Hodes as director of the National Institute on Aging (NIA). Congress established the NIA in 1974 to conduct and support biomedical, social, and behavioral research and training on the aging process. The NIA has a budget of nearly \$400 million, and focuses on the diseases, problems, and needs of older Americans, with an emphasis on quality of life.

Hodes received his B.A. in psychology from Yale University in 1965, and his medical training at Harvard University Medical School, graduating in 1971. Prior to attending medical school, Hodes was a research fellow at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden. His post-graduate training included internship and residency at the Massachusetts General Hospital's Department of Medicine. Since 1973, Hodes, an immunologist, has conducted immunology research at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Healy has stated that Hodes' expertise in molecular and cellular biology and immunology will greatly benefit the NIA in its pursuit of the fundamental biological mechanisms involved in aging. In 1977 he was the recipient of the Public Health Service (PHS) Commendation

Medal, and in 1988, the PHS Outstanding Service Medal.

Although Hodes' distinguished career in cancer research is commendable and will be of great value to the NIA, some have expressed concern about his interest in advancing behavioral and social science research at the NIA. In a recent meeting with Ron Abeles, Acting Associate Director for Behavioral and Social Research (BSR) at the NIA, Hodes expressed support for the BSR program, and also pointed out that his wife is a medical sociologist.

## ELLWOOD CONFIRMED AS HEAD OF ASPE

David T. Ellwood was sworn in as Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on May 28, 1993 after confirmation by the Senate that same day. He will serve as HHS Secretary Shalala's principal advisor for the formulation and analysis of policy, and will have a major role in devising the Clinton administration's overhaul of the nation's welfare system. ASPE's function is to oversee economic activity and policy analysis and evaluate the department's programs, with some of this done through extramural research grants. ASPE also expects to have a significant role in developing and evaluating health care reform.

Ellwood, a labor economist who specializes in the problems of the poor and disadvantaged, comes to the Department from Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government where he has been since 1980, and most recently was its Dean of the Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy and Malcolm Wiener Professor of Public Policy.

The new Assistant Secretary has written several books and numerous articles on welfare, teen-age unemployment and family poverty. His book Poor Support: Poverty and the American Family was cited by the New York Times Book Review as one of the most notable books of 1988. This book, written for a broad audience, explored the causes of poverty and the prospects for designing a support system to replace welfare. Often called a witness before Congressional committees, Ellwood has strongly argued for the notion of "making work pay" and for limiting the time people can be on welfare, while also providing training support and jobs.

Much of his writing and research has been done in collaboration with his former Harvard colleague, Mary Jo Bane, who has been nominated, but not yet confirmed, to head up HHS' Administration for Children and Families. Their work played an important role in the development of the Family Support Act of 1988, the report of the National Commission on Children, and much state welfare legislation.

Ellwood has served on the National Academy of Science's panel on Poverty and Family Assistance and its committee on the Status of Black Americans. He has also been a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). He has a B.A. and Ph.D. in economics from Harvard.

## STEGMAN TO LEAD HUD POLICY OFFICE

Michael A. Stegman, the Cary C. Boshamer Professor and Chairman of both the Department of City and Regional Planning and the Ph.D. curriculum in Public Policy Analysis at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was confirmed by the Senate on May 28 as the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Policy Development and Research (OPDR) at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

OPDR advises the Secretary on overall Department policy, program evaluation, and research. For the past few years its budget has been \$25 million and it has responsibility to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and equity in HUD programs through monitoring and evaluation of departmental activities. Congress, in recent years, has earmarked funds to OPDR for lead abatement research and technology.

At UNC Stegman conducted research and taught graduate courses in national housing policy and investment analysis for the past twenty-six years. He has written about the social and economic impacts of low income ownership; federal, state and local techniques for financing affordable housing; strategies to revitalize the low-rent public housing program; and the costs and benefits of privatizing public housing. His most recent books include: More Housing, More Fairly: The Limits of Privatization, A Report of the Twentieth Century Fund Task Force on Affordable Housing (1991); The Public Housing Homeownership Demonstration

Assessment (HUD 1990); and Non-Federal Housing Programs: How States and Localities Are Responding to Federal Cutbacks (The Urban Land Institute, 1987).

Stegman recently served on an Urban Land Institute advisory panel to help create a revitalization strategy for South Central Los Angeles. He is also President of the Triangle Housing Partnership, a regional non-profit housing organization that works to expand the supply of affordable housing in the Research Triangle area of North Carolina.

In a previous stint at HUD from 1979-81, Stegman served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Research. During this period, he chaired the President's Rural Housing Task Force and was a member of the White House Inter-Agency Working Group on the administration's Small Communities and Rural Development Policy.

A native of Brooklyn, NY, Stegman earned his B.A. in political science from Brooklyn College, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in city planning from the University of Pennsylvania.

## KATZEN CONFIRMED TO HEAD OIRA

On May 28 the Senate confirmed Washington lawyer Sally Katzen as the new Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). She will be the first confirmed OIRA administrator since 1989.

OIRA has responsibility for coordinating federal paperwork and information resources management under the Paperwork Reduction Act, the regulatory process under Executive Orders issued by the Reagan administration, and the federal statistical system through its Office of Statistical Policy directed by Katherine Wallman.

In recent years OIRA has been the center of controversy as attempts to reauthorize the Paperwork Reduction Act have failed because of conflicts between those concerned with the costs of the Act and those who argued the benefits of regulatory review, information collection, and information dissemination. Another reauthorization attempt will be made later this year.

(continued on page six)

## CLINTON NOMINEES FOR KEY SOCIAL SCIENCE POSITIONS

The following chart highlights key presidential appointments relevant to social and behavioral scientists. The nomination process has begun to speed up after a slow start, however key positions such as the Directorships of NSF and NIH remain unfilled. Future issues of *Update* will report any changes.

		explanation of status	
		5 - confirmed by Senate	4 - Senate committee approval
		2 - announced by White House	1 - mentioned in <u>Washington Post</u>
			3 - nomination received by Senate
			0 - no rumors
Agency	Position	Nominee	Status
National Science Foundation	Director		0
	Deputy Director		0
Office of Science and Technology Policy	Director	John Gibbons	5
Agriculture	Asst. Sec., Sci. and Educ.		0
Commerce	Director, Census Bureau	Leo Estrada	1
Council of Economic Advisers	Chair	Laura D'Andrea Tyson	5
	Members	Alan Blinder, Joseph Stiglitz	1
Education	Asst. Sec. for Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI)	Sharon Porter Robinson	3
	Asst. Sec., Post-Sec. Educ.	David Longanecker	4
	Under Secretary	Marshall (Mike) Smith	4
Health and Human Services	Director, National Institutes of Health		0
	Asst. Sec. for Health	Philip Lee	3
	Asst. Sec. for Planning and Evaluation	David Ellwood	5
Housing and Urban Development	Asst. Sec. for Policy Research and Development	Michael Stegman	5
Justice	Asst. AG for Justice Programs		0
	Dir., Natl. Inst. of Justice		0
	Dir., Bur. of Justice Statistics		0
	Dir., Office of Juvenile Justice		0
Labor	Commissioner of Labor Statistics	Katharine Abraham	1
	Asst. Sec., Empl. and Training	Doug Ross	3
	Asst. Sec. for Policy	Jack Donohue	3
Office of Management and Budget	Deputy Director	Alice Rivlin	5
	Deputy Director for Management Admin., Office of Information Regulatory Affairs	Phil Lader	5
		Sally Katzen	5
National Archives and Records Administration	Archivist of the United States	Stanley Katz	1
National Endowment for the Humanities	Chairman	Sheldon Hackney	2
United States Information Agency	Director	Joseph Duffey	5

(as of 6/11/93)

Controversy over regulatory review was further fueled by the Bush administration's creation of the Council of Competitiveness, headed by Vice President Dan Quayle. The Council was viewed with suspicion by advocates of a more open regulatory process, who charged that businesses could use the Council as a back-channel for special interest favors during the development of regulations. The Clinton Administration has abolished the Council, but OIRA still remains controversial.

During her confirmation hearing on May 19 Katzen promised to review the regulatory mechanisms of the Reagan-Bush years and pledged greater openness and accountability in the process. She has also expressed her belief that information collected by the government provides benefits to society as well as inflicting burdens on those who provide the information. This idea was not included in the now-expired authority of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Katzen comes to OIRA from a partnership at Wilmer, Cutler and Pickering, a major Washington law firm, where she specialized in administrative law. Her previous government experience was in the Carter White House where Katzen served as General Counsel (1979-80) and Deputy Director for Program Policy (1980-81) for the Council on Wage and Price Stability. She has been Chair of the Section on Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice of the American Bar Association, a Public and currently a Government Member of the Administrative Conference of the U.S., and taught law as an adjunct professor at the Georgetown Law Center. She has also served as President of the Women's Legal Defense Fund, and is a member of its Advisory Board. Katzen is a graduate of Smith College and earned her law degree at the University of Michigan.

## CONVERSE TO RETIRE AS DIRECTOR OF CENTER

Philip E. Converse, since 1989 the Director of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, has announced his intention to retire effective August 31, 1994. Prior to directing the Center, located at Stanford, California, Converse was Professor of Sociology and Political Science and Director of the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. He plans to return to research and writing.

A search committee of Center trustees, Stephen Stigler (professor of statistics, University of Chicago), William Julius Wilson (professor of sociology, University of Chicago and President of COSSA), Harriet Zuckerman (vice president, the Mellon Foundation), and Robert Solow (professor of economics, MIT and Chairman of the Board of Trustees) has been appointed. Robert Scott, Associate Director of the Center, will serve as secretary to the committee. The search committee will begin considering nominees on September 1, 1993.

Nominations for the position should be sent to: The Secretary to the Search Committee, Robert A. Scott, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, 202 Junipero Serra Boulevard, Stanford, CA 94305

The Center conducts a residential post-doctoral fellowship program for scientists and scholars, from the United States and other countries, who show exceptional promise or accomplishment in their respective fields.

## BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS RELEASES DRUG REPORT

The Bureau of Justice Statistics, the statistical arm of the Justice Department, recently released a comprehensive statistical description of drugs, crime, and drug control efforts.

The report, "Drugs, Crime, and the Justice System: A National Report," discusses the drug-crime link, the extent of drug use, illicit drug trafficking, the history of drug control, public opinion, testing, and drug control policy. It examines the justice system's role as an integral part of education, prevention, and treatment.

The study contains numerous statistics and research findings from federal, state, and private sources, including easily accessible data from many federal agencies, such as Health and Human Services, State, Treasury, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Marshals Service, and the Bureau of Prisons.

Copies of the report may be obtained from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20850. The telephone number is (800) 732-3277.

**SOURCES OF RESEARCH SUPPORT:  
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL & PREVENTION KC**

COSSA provides this information as a service and encourages readers to contact the agency for further information or application materials. Additional application guidelines and restrictions may apply.

**Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Research Centers**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of funds in fiscal year (FY) 1993 for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Research Centers cooperative agreements.

The purpose of this program is to support health promotion and disease prevention research focusing on the major causes of death and disability. Prevention Centers are to conduct research and demonstration projects to develop improved methods of appraising health hazards and risk factors, and to initiate research and demonstration projects to develop and test new and innovative public health practices to prevent disease and disability.

**Eligible Applicants:** Eligible applicants are academic health centers; defined as schools of public health, medicine, or osteopathy.

**Evaluation Criteria:** Applications may be evaluated through a dual review process. The first review will be a peer evaluation of the scientific and technical merit of the application conducted by the Prevention Centers Grant Review Committee. The second review will be conducted by senior Federal staff, who will consider the results of the first review together with program need and relevance. Awards will be made based on merit and priority score ranking by the peer review, program review by senior Federal staff, and the availability of funds.

**Availability of Funds:** Funds in the amount of approximately \$6,000,000 are available in FY 1993. Approximately \$5,000,000 is available to fund up to nine prevention center programs. The average award is expected to be \$555,000, (including both direct and indirect costs) and range from \$300,000 to \$700,000. In addition, approximately \$1,000,000 is available to fund up to eleven special interest research projects within the prevention centers. It is expected that the awards will begin on or about September 15, 1993, and are made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of up to 5 years.

**Deadlines:** Applicants should submit an original and five copies of Form PHS-398 to Henry S. Cassell, III, Grants Management Officer, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 255 East Paces Ferry Road, NE, Room 300, Mailstop E-13, Atlanta, GA 30305, on or before July 1, 1993.

**Contact:** Business management technical assistance may be obtained from Georgia L. Jang, Grants Management Specialist, Grants Management Branch, Procurement and Grants Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 255 East Paces Ferry Road, NE, room 300, Mailstop E-13, Atlanta, GA 30305, (404) 842-6814.

Programmatic technical assistance may be obtained from Diane H. Jones, Ph.D., Project Officer, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 4770 Buford Highway, NE, Mailstop K-41, Atlanta, GA 30341-3724, (404) 488-5395.

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Society for the Scientific Study of Religion  
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Southwestern Social Science Association  
Speech Communication Association  
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