



# WASHINGTON UPDATE

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## FEATURED NEWS

### **Senate Committee Discusses U.S. Science Investments; COMPETES Bill Expected Soon**

On May 11, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation held a hearing entitled, "Leveraging the U.S. Science and Technology Enterprise." The Committee heard from a panel of experts in science and engineering representing the university and private sectors. The hearing was designed to inform the Committee's efforts as it works to reauthorize the *America COMPETES Act*, which is legislation originally enacted in 2007 to bolster U.S. investment in basic scientific research. The Committee has oversight jurisdiction for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and other basic science agencies.

[Read on](#) for full details and check out COSSA's [complete coverage](#) of COMPETES legislation in the House and Senate.

## FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

### **NIH Appoints Director of National Library of Medicine**

On May 11, National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Francis Collins announced the appointment of Patricia Flatly Brennan as the new director of the [National Library of Medicine](#) (NLM). The Lillian L. Moehlman Bascom Professor at the School of Nursing and College of Engineering, Brennan comes to the NIH from the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she leads the Living Environments Laboratory at the [Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery](#). A pioneer in the development of information systems for patients, she developed ComputerLink, "an electronic network designed to reduce isolation and improve self-care among home care patients." Brennan is expected to join the NIH in August. More about Brennan's appointment is available on the [NIH website](#).

## **NIJ Seeking Chief Research Advisor**

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is looking to hire a [Chief Research Advisor](#) tasked with leading the development and implementation of a new initiative that will "build in-house research capacity in law enforcement agencies." According to the listing, "NIJ is looking for a social science researcher with a commitment to partnering with law enforcement to produce applicable, impactful research and analysis that addresses the field's highest priority needs and advances policy and practice. The selected applicant will manage NIJ's newest effort to partner with interested law enforcement agencies to identify their in-house capacity for research and analysis, review data collection and availability, and work with research-minded officers to design quasi-experimental projects." The position is a two-year detail through the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA). Applications are accepted through June 3.

## **Office of AIDS Research Issues RFI on Trans-NIH Plan for HIV-Related Research**

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of AIDS Research (OAR) in the Division of Program Coordination, Planning and Strategic Initiatives (DPCPSI) recently issued a request-for-information (RFI) ([NOT-OD-16-089](#)) seeking input on the fiscal year (FY) 2018 Trans-NIH Plan for HIV-Related Research. The 2018 Plan is "designed to identify and articulate possible future directions to maximize benefits of investments in HIV/AIDS research." In August 2015, NIH issued "[new overarching priorities](#)" for the next three to five years for HIV/AIDS research in a Notice, *NIH HIV/AIDS Research Priorities and Guidelines for Determining AIDS Funding* ([NOT-OD-15-137](#)). The Notice also outlined guidelines the agency will use to determine AIDS funding (see Update, [September 4, 2015](#)). The RFI notes that the overarching high priority areas identified in the August 15 notice "will remain unchanged." Accordingly, OAR is seeking input on "those scientific and research opportunities that refine NIH HIV/AIDS research agenda and optimize the investment of HIV/AIDS research resources to search for critical strategies to prevent, treat, and cure AIDS." Comments are due by June 10, 2016.

## **NIMHD Accepting Applications for Health Disparities Research Institute**

The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is seeking applicants to its [Summer Institute on Health Disparities Science](#). The Institute which will be held on the NIH campus from August 15-19, 2016, is designed to "support the development of individual research projects by promising scientists early in their careers and ... stimulate research in the disciplines supported by science on minority health and health disparities." The course includes lectures, seminars, and small group discussions on research relevant to minority health and health disparities along with sessions by NIH scientific staff engaged

in related health disparities research across the various NIH Institutes and Centers. Early career researchers from diverse backgrounds, as well as individuals interested in research on minority health and health disparities within academic, community-based, nonprofit, and other non-academic settings are encouraged to apply. Applications are due June 1, 2016.

## **PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNITY EVENTS**

### **Mary Waters Delivers 2016 David Lecture**

On May 3, 2016, Mary C. Waters, M.E. Zukerman Professor and former chair of Sociology at Harvard University, delivered the Spring 2016 [Henry and Bryna David Lecture](#) at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. The David Lecture highlights innovative social and behavioral science research by inviting leading scholars to contribute an article to *Issues in Science and Technology* and present at the National Academies. Waters' talk, titled "[The War on Crime and The War on Immigrants: New Forms of Legal Exclusion and Discrimination in the U.S.](#)" drew from two major recent Academies reports, [The Growth of Incarceration in the United States](#) (2015) and [The Integration of Immigrants into American Society](#) (for which Waters chaired the study committee). Waters used the findings from the reports to draw parallels between undocumented immigrants and ex-felons, both populations whose legal status separates them from the general population and exposes them to certain types of legal discrimination (such as in housing, employment, or education). Waters described some of the lasting negative consequences this type of exclusion can have on the health and achievement of both the affected individuals and on their families. A recording of her lecture is available on the [Academies' website](#).

## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- NIFA: Effective Mitigation Strategies for Antimicrobial Resistance/5-Year Assessment of AFRI Food Safety Challenge Area (AFRI Food Safety Challenge Area) ([USDA-NIFA-AFRI-005802](#))
- NIFA: Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities (AFRI Foundational Program) ([USDA-NIFA-AFRI-005843](#))
- ED: [Investing in Innovation Fund: Validation Grants](#)
- ED: [Investing in Innovation Fund: Scale-up Grants](#)
- NIH: [Click here for a list of recent NIH funding opportunities.](#)

## **COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

### **SSRC Seeks Nominations for Hirschman Prize**

The Social Science Research Council, a COSSA member, is inviting nominations for its highest honor: the [Albert O. Hirschman Prize](#). The Hirschman Prize recognizes excellence in social science research, theory, and public communication. Nominations are requested by June 15 and should be submitted to [hirschmanprize@ssrc.org](mailto:hirschmanprize@ssrc.org) along with information on the nominator, a brief statement of commendation, and the nominee's curriculum vitae or links to the nominee's website.

## **EVENTS CALENDAR**

- [Law and Society Association Annual Meeting](#), New Orleans, LA, June 2-5, 2016

- [Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Annual Meeting](#), Minneapolis, MN, June 24-26, 2016
- [Joint Statistical Meetings](#), Chicago, IL, July 30-August 4, 2016
- [American Psychological Association Annual Convention](#), Denver, CO, August 4-7, 2016
- [Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), Toronto, Canada, August 16-19, 2016
- [American Sociological Association Annual Meeting](#), Seattle, WA, August 20-23, 2016

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

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](mailto:jmilton@cossa.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  
 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

### **Membership Organizations**

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences  
 American Association of Geographers  
 American Evaluation Association  
 American Historical Association  
 American Psychosomatic Society  
 Association for Asian Studies  
 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  
 Economic History Association  
 History of Science Society  
 Midwest Sociological Society  
 National Association of Social Workers  
 North American Regional Science Council  
 Rural Sociological Society  
 Social Science History Association  
 Society for Research on Adolescence  
 Society for Social Work and Research  
 Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues  
 Society of Behavioral Medicine

### **Colleges and Universities**

Arizona State University  
 Boston University  
 Brown University  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 Clark University  
 Columbia University  
 Cornell University  
 Duke University  
 Fielding Graduate University  
 George Mason University  
 Georgetown University  
 Harvard University  
 Howard University  
 Indiana University  
 John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY  
 Johns Hopkins University  
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
 Michigan State University  
 New York University  
 Northwestern University  
 Pennsylvania State University  
 Princeton University  
 Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey  
 Stanford University  
 Texas A&M University  
 The George Washington University  
 The Ohio State University  
 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 Illinois  
 University of Iowa  
 University of Maryland  
 University of Michigan  
 University of Minnesota  
 University of Missouri  
 University of Nebraska, Lincoln  
 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
 University of Oklahoma

Southern Political Science Association  
Southern Sociological Society  
Southwestern Social Science Association

University of Pennsylvania  
University of South Carolina  
University of Texas, Austin  
University of Texas, San Antonio  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Virginia Tech  
West Virginia University  
Yale University

## Centers and Institutes

American Academy of Arts and Sciences  
American Academy of Political and Social Science  
American Council of Learned Societies  
American Institutes for Research  
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences  
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research  
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan  
Institute for Social Science Research,  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
Institute for Women's Policy Research  
NORC at the University of Chicago  
Owens Institute for Behavioral Research, University of Georgia  
RTI International  
Social Science Research Council

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*The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to promote sustainable federal funding for social and behavioral science research and federal policies that positively impact the conduct of research.*

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