



WASHINGTON UPDATE

May 3, 2016 Volume 35, Issue 9

[Subscribe to Update](#)

In This Issue

FEATURED NEWS

[Senate Bill Seeks Flat Funding for NSF, NIJ for FY 2017](#)

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

[Senate Health Committee Advances Biomedical Innovation Bills](#)

[NIH Appears Before Senate Appropriations Subcommittee](#)

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

[AHRQ Names New Director](#)

[NIH Director Fills Vacancies for PMI Cohort and ECHO Programs](#)

[NCHS Releases *Health, United States 2015*](#)

[NIJ Identifies Additional Topics for School Safety Research Initiative](#)

[BTS Issues Quarterly *National Transportation Statistics* Update](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

[COSSA Welcomes the Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

FEATURED NEWS

Senate Bill Seeks Flat Funding for NSF, NIJ for FY 2017

On April 21, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved the fiscal year (FY) 2017 Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies (CJS) Appropriations Bill. This bill serves as the vehicle for annual appropriations for the National Science Foundation (NSF), Census Bureau, National Institute of Justice (NIJ), Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), and countless other federal departments and agencies. The next step for the CJS bill is consideration on the Senate floor, which has not yet been scheduled.

FY 2017 APPROPRIATIONS SNAPSHOT

	Enacted FY 2016	President's Request ¹	House	Senate	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2017 vs. FY 2016
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE						
Economic Research Service	85.4	91.3	86.0			
National Agricultural Statistics Service	168.4	176.6	168.4			
National Institute of Food and Agriculture	1326.5	1374.0	1341.2			
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE						
Bureau of the Census	1370.0	1633.6		1518.3		
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION						
Institute of Education Sciences	618.0	693.8				
International Education and Foreign Language Studies	72.2	67.3				
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES						
National Institutes of Health	32311.3	31311.3				
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	334.0	363.7				
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	6270.7	6039.4				
National Center for Health Statistics	160.4	160.4				
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE						
Bureau of Justice Statistics	41.0	58.0		41.0		
National Institute of Justice	36.0	48.0		36.0		
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR						
Bureau of Labor Statistics	609.0	640.9				
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION						
Bureau of Transportation Statistics ²	26.0	26.0			26.0	0.0%
NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION						
	7463.5	7564.0		7509.8		

¹ Not including mandatory funding proposals
² Funding determined by authorizing committee

The bill would provide NSF with a total budget of \$7.5 billion in FY 2017, flat with the FY 2016 enacted level. Most notably the Senate bill does not include language singling out social science (or any other scientific disciplines) for cuts or preferential treatment, as we saw last year in the House bill. However, there is language calling on NSF to include criteria in its merit review process considering a project's potential for advancing U.S. "national security and economic interests." Further, NIJ and BJS would be held flat for another year at \$36 million and \$41 million, respectively. Finally, the Census Bureau would receive an increase, but not the amount requested by the Administration for the continued ramp up to the 2020 Decennial Census.

[Read on](#) for COSSA's full analysis.

You can keep up-to-date on the status of FY 2017 funding for social science research agencies on the COSSA [website](#).

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

Senate Health Committee Advances Biomedical Innovation Bills

On April 6, the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee held the [third](#) in a series of hearings ([March 16](#) and [March 9](#)) to complete its [work](#) on companion legislation to the

2015 House-passed *21st Century Cures Act*.

Opening the hearing, HELP Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-TN) noted that the committee has completed action on approximately 50 bipartisan proposals via 10 hearings and five staff working groups that held more than 100 meetings. The proposals resulting from these deliberations form the Senate's companion legislation to the *21st Century Cures Act*. The legislation also serves as the means of codifying the President's proposed Precision Medicine and Cancer Moonshot initiatives. The Chairman emphasized that the Senate's "Innovation or 'Cures' legislation...will be the most important new law enacted this year."

[Read on](#) for more details.

NIH Appears Before Senate Appropriations Subcommittee

On April 7, National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Francis Collins appeared before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (Labor-HHS), accompanied by five of the NIH's 27 institute and center directors and/or acting directors. Attending were: Richard Hodes, National Institute on Aging (NIA); Doug Lowy, National Cancer Institute (NCI); Nora Volkow, National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA); Walter Koroshetz, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS); and Christopher Austin, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS).

[Read on](#) for full details.

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

AHRQ Names New Director

[Andrew Bindman](#), a primary care physician and Professor of Medicine, Health Policy, Epidemiology, and Biostatistics at the University of California, San Francisco, has been named the new director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) effective May 2, 2016. His research interests focus on primary care and low-income individuals' access to and quality of health care. Bindman's previous federal experience includes a fellowship with the House Energy and Commerce Committee and several years as a senior advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) Office of Health Policy and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Bindman replaces Richard Kronick who left the agency in March after two and a half years as director.

NIH Director Fills Vacancies for PMI Cohort and ECHO Programs

National Institute of Health (NIH) Director Francis Collins recently announced the appointments of Eric Dishman as the Director of the Precision Medicine Initiative (PMI) Cohort Program and Matthew Gillman as the Program Director of the NIH Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO).

[Read on](#) for more details.

NCHS Releases *Health, United States 2015*

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) has released the most recent issue of one of its hallmark publications, [Health, United States](#). The 2015 edition compiles data on the health of the U.S. population, including on mortality and life expectancy, morbidity and risk factors, health insurance coverage, access to and utilization of health care, and health expenditures. This year's edition also includes a special feature on racial and ethnic health disparities. The full report can be accessed on the [NCHS website](#), as well as the shorter [Health, United States, 2015: In Brief](#).

NIJ Identifies Additional Topics for School Safety Research Initiative

National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Director Nancy Rodriguez issued a [Dear Colleague letter](#) last month identifying additional research topics as part of the agency's [Comprehensive School Safety Initiative](#) (CSSI). The additional guidance suggests topics of interest such as "understanding and reducing disparities in school discipline; involvement of local stakeholders and multiple disciplines; data systems for school behavior and discipline; inclusion of safety issues for Indian Country schools and students; event sequence and decision-making analysis; and instances where students are removed from the educational environment." The deadline for proposals is May 27.

BTS Issues Quarterly *National Transportation Statistics* Update

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) has issued its quarterly update of [National Transportation Statistics](#), its compilation of data on the U.S. transportation system. The April release updates 44 of the 260 data tables, which cover the impact of the transportation system on safety, the economy, and the environment.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- AHRQ: Pediatric Quality Measures Program (PQMP): Dissemination and Implementation of Child Health Quality Measures Cooperative Research Grants (U18) ([RFA-HS-16-002](#))
- AHRQ: Optimizing Care for People Living with Multiple Chronic Conditions through the Development of Enhanced Care Planning ([NOT-HS-16-013](#))
- AHRQ; Pediatric Quality Measures Program (PQMP): Dissemination and Implementation of Child Health Quality Measures Cooperative Research Grants (U18) ([RFA-HS-16-002](#))
- FDA: Collaborating Centers of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation (U01) ([RFA-FD-16-036](#))
- NIJ: [Additional Topics for School Safety Research Initiative](#)
- NIH: [click here for a list of recent NIH funding opportunities.](#)

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

COSSA Welcomes the Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences

COSSA is pleased to welcome the [Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences](#) (CCAS) as its newest member. As its name suggests, CCAS is the national association representing colleges of arts and sciences, with a membership that includes nearly 800 deans at 525 institutions across the U.S. and abroad. The Council exists to "provide professional-development programming to its member deans and to sustain the arts and



sciences as a leading influence in American higher education." Welcome CCAS!

COSSA's full membership list can be viewed [here](#). Information on how to join can be found [on the COSSA website](#).

EVENTS CALENDAR

- [Alcohol, Stress, and the Brain: Implications for Treatment and Recovery](#), Washington, DC, May 5, 2016
- [2016 Daniel Patrick Moynihan Lecture: Policy, Politics and Partisanship](#), Washington, DC, May 12, 2016
- [American Association for Public Opinion Research Annual Conference](#), Austin, TX, May 12-15, 2016
- [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@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
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

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

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
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
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

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
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

COSSA

Executive Director: Wendy A. Naus

Deputy Director: Angela L. Sharpe

Assistant Director for Public Affairs: Julia Milton

Address all inquiries to COSSA at newsletter@cossa.org. Telephone: (202) 842-3525

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.

ISSN 0749-4394.

Join Our Mailing List!