



WASHINGTON UPDATE

July 26, 2016 Volume 35, Issue 15

[Subscribe to Update](#)

In This Issue

FEATURED NEWS

[State of Play: FY 2017 Funding for Social Science Research](#)

COSSA IN ACTION

[New COSSA Resource: Setting the Record Straight on "Wasteful Research"](#)

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

[NIFA Seeks Feedback on Childhood Obesity Prevention Scientific Priorities](#)

[National Institute of Justice Seeking Applications in Forensics and Violence Research](#)

[NIH Aging Institute Seeking to Fill Vacancies](#)

PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

[Nominations Open for New National Academy of Sciences Prize in Food and Agriculture Sciences](#)

[Congressional Briefing Highlights Research for Fighting the Opioid Epidemic](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

[CASBS Seeks Fellowship Applications](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

FEATURED NEWS

State of Play: FY 2017 Funding for Social Science Research

Congress has adjourned for a seven-week recess and will not be returning to work until after Labor Day. Despite promises for a return to "regular order" in the annual appropriations process, we find ourselves in familiar territory with none of the 12 annual spending bills expected to be enacted into law before the new fiscal year begins October 1. In fact, none of the bills that fund research agencies and programs (the *Commerce, Justice Science* bill and the *Labor, HHS, Education* bill) have yet to make it to the House or Senate floors for debate.

Upon returning to work in September, Congress will be faced with a full plate of must-pass legislation and a limited number of days before breaking again for the fall elections. Among the countless unknowns surrounding a possible endgame strategy for appropriations is one certainty - the need to pass a stopgap funding measure, known as a continuing resolution (CR), to avoid a government shutdown come October 1. The length of the impending CR, though, is still up for debate. Scenarios range from a CR of a couple of months with final action completed in the December timeframe (forcing a lame duck session of Congress after the November elections), to a six-month-long CR that would delay action until after the new Administration and Congress are sworn in, to possibly a year-long continuing resolution that would fund agencies at the FY 2016 level through the end of next fiscal year. These details will need to be sorted out over the next

several weeks, and consensus remains far-off. However, all parties appear equally committed to avoiding a government shutdown.

COSSA has been reporting on the status of the FY 2017 appropriations bills over the last several months. [Read on for a recap of progress made to date as it relates to social and behavioral science research](#). Congress will pick up where it left off when Members return to work in September. Full details on the various bills considered so far can be viewed on the [COSSA website](#).

COSSA IN ACTION

New COSSA Resource: Setting the Record Straight on "Wasteful Research"

Support for fundamental, basic research has been an essential function of the federal government for decades. The National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and other federal agencies invest in scientific research that has led to some of our country's most important innovations. Support for basic research has the potential to change the way we live, create new knowledge, solve societal challenges, and help us to better understand our world. Still, some policy makers routinely dismiss projects as "wasteful" without attempting to fully understand their potential benefits to society or the progress of science. In a new monthly series, *Setting the Record Straight on Wasteful Research*, COSSA is providing an opportunity for researchers to set the record straight about the value and potential of their work, and confronting misconceptions about social science research funded by the federal government.

The [first issue](#) features Stephanie Tong (Wayne State University), whose National Science Foundation-funded study on how online dating platforms affect perception was ridiculed in Jeff Flake's 2015 "The Farce Awakens" wastebook.

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

NIFA Seeks Feedback on Childhood Obesity Prevention Scientific Priorities

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is seeking stakeholder input on the scientific priorities for its *Integrated Approaches to Prevent Childhood Obesity* programs. NIFA's [current childhood obesity prevention RFA](#) is active and accepting applications through August 4. The feedback received will be considered as the agency develops future RFAs. The program's current priorities are to "Generate new knowledge of the behavioral (not metabolic), social, cultural, and/or environmental factors, including the food and physical activity environment, that influence childhood obesity and use this information to develop and implement effective family, peer, community, early care and education settings, and/or school-based interventions for preventing overweight and obesity and promoting healthy behaviors in children and adolescents (ages 2-19 years or any subset of this age range)." More information on the request and the form to submit comments is available on the [NIFA website](#). Feedback will be accepted until August 4.

National Institute of Justice Seeking Applications in Forensics and Violence Research

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is seeking social science researchers to fill two positions to support forensics and violence research in the Office of Research and Evaluation. Both positions are temporary, two-year details with the opportunity to extend for an additional year. [The first detail](#)

will coordinate intermural and extramural research projects on sexual assault and forensics. [The second detail](#) will conduct and support research and evaluation activities in the NIJ's violence against women research portfolio. Applications for both positions are due by July 28.

NIH Aging Institute Seeking to Fill Vacancies

The [National Institute on Aging](#) (NIA) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is seeking candidates for a number of job vacancies and has released pre-announcements for the positions. NIA's [Division of Behavioral and Social Research](#) (BSR) and its recently appointed director [John Haaga](#) are looking to fill the following positions:

- [Deputy Director](#)
- [Research Program Analysts](#) (2 positions)
- [Health Scientist Administrator for Alzheimer's Disease](#)
- [Chief of BSR's Population and Social Processes Branch](#)
- [Health Scientist Administrator](#)

The Institute is also seeking a [Public Affairs Specialist](#) in the Office of Communications and Public Liaison (OCPL), a [Program Analyst](#) in the Division of Neuroscience, a [Program Analyst](#) in the Division of Extramural Affairs, and a [Health Science Administrator](#) in the Division of Geriatrics and Clinical Gerontology. Formal position announcements for all of the positions are or will be posted on [usajobs.gov](#).

PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNITY EVENTS

Nominations Open for New National Academy of Sciences Prize in Food and Agriculture Sciences

The Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (a public-private venture created by the 2014 Farm Bill) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have endowed a \$100,000 [National Academy of Sciences Prize in Food and Agriculture Sciences](#). The annual prize will recognize an "extraordinary contribution to agriculture or to the understanding of the biology of a species fundamentally important to agriculture or food production." Potential recipients may represent any of the following fields: plant and animal sciences, microbiology, nutrition and food science, soil science, entomology, veterinary medicine, and agricultural economics. Nominations are being accepted through October 3, 2016. More information is available on the [Foundation website](#).

Congressional Briefing Highlights Research for Fighting the Opioid Epidemic

On June 24, the National Prevention Science Coalition (NPSC), [RTI International](#) (a COSSA member organization), and the [American Orthopsychiatry Association](#) sponsored a Congressional briefing, [Fighting the Opioid Epidemic on Multiple Fronts by Leveraging Empirical Evidence](#), to discuss "research-based evidence for strategies preventing, intervening, and maintaining abstinence from opiate addictions." The briefing's speakers included Scott Novak, RTI International; Terrence Walton, National Association of Drug Court Professionals; and Kenzie Preston, National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA).

[Read on](#) for more details.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- NIA: Predictors and Determinants of Age-Related Changes in Resiliencies to Physical Stressors in Humans (UH2/UH3) ([RFA-AG-17-014](#))
- NIA: T1 Translational Research on Aging: Small Business Innovation Awards (R43/R44) ([PAR-16-375](#))
- NIA: T2 Translational Research on Aging: Small Business Innovation Awards (R43/R44) ([PAR-16-376](#))
- NIDDK: Promoting Organ and Tissue Donation Among Diverse Populations (R01) ([RFA-DK-16-022](#))
- NIEHS: Revolutionizing Innovative, Visionary Environmental health Research (RIVER) (R35) ([RFA-ES-16-008](#))

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

CASBS Seeks Fellowship Applications

The Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS) at Stanford University, a COSSA member, is now accepting applications for its residential fellowships for the 2017- 2018 academic year. The CASBS fellowship provides an outstanding opportunity for scholars to pursue innovative research and expand their horizons while engaging with a diverse, interdisciplinary community. The fellowship has been considered a career milestone for any scholar, and most recipients report that the year had a transformative effect on their work. Online applications will be accepted at the Center's website through November 4, 2016 for the 2017-2018 fellowship year. For more information, guidelines, and application requirements, see CASBS' [website](#).

EVENTS CALENDAR

- [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
- [American Political Science Association Annual Meeting & Exhibition](#), Philadelphia, PA, September 1-4, 2016
- [Economic History Association Annual Meeting](#), Boulder, CO, September 16-18, 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.

SAVE THE DATE!

COSSA's 2017 Annual Meeting & Social Science Advocacy Day will take place
March 29-30, 2017 in Washington, DC

Consortium of Social Science Associations Members

Governing Associations

American Anthropological Association
American Association for Public Opinion Research
American Economic Association

Colleges and Universities

Arizona State University
Boston University

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
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

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
North Carolina State 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
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

Government Relations Associate: Camille Hosman

Address all inquiries to COSSA at newsletter@coffa.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!