



CONSORTIUM *of* SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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## ABOUT COSSA

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, as well as 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 robust social and behavioral science research enterprise. The COSSA membership includes professional and disciplinary associations, scientific societies, research centers and institutes, and U.S. colleges and universities.



## 2018 OFFICERS

*Chair, COSSA Board of Directors (2017-2018)* • **Felice J. Levine**, American Educational Research Association

*COSSA Treasurer (2017-2018)* • **Ronald Wasserstein**, American Statistical Association

*Executive Director and COSSA Secretary* • **Wendy A. Naus**, COSSA

## 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS *As of December 31, 2018*

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### **Society for Research in Child Development**

Laura Namy, Executive Director

## At-Large Directors

James Herbert Williams, Arizona State University  
(2016-2018)

Barbara Entwisle, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
(2017-2019)

Christine Bachrach, University of Maryland  
(2018-2020)

# From the Executive Director

## Our village is strong!

These last few years have proven that it really does take a village, especially when it comes to advocacy.

As the voice for social and behavioral science research in Washington, DC, COSSA serves as a conduit between our community and leaders on Capitol Hill, both in times of opportunity and challenge. Like any cause, though, there is no single voice, strategy, or tactic that will compel our elected officials to appreciate and, more importantly, act to ensure robust and sustained funding for our sciences. Instead, we must grow our village of social and behavioral scientists, supporters, stakeholders, and other enthusiasts within and outside the social science community to help us make our case.

Suffice it to say, the last year has been one of new challenges and abounding unknowns. Whether it was speaking out against the addition of an untested citizenship question to the 2020 Census, marshalling our community in opposition to proposals that would decimate social science funding, or proactively nurturing Congressional champions for social science, time and again we have seen that we are more powerful when we work together and that partnerships matter. No partnership is more important than between COSSA and its members. You and the research you conduct are the reasons COSSA exists.

For some, a primary deterrent to engaging in advocacy is uncertainty—how do you know your efforts are making a difference when there are so many competing interests and limited time and attention? Let me assure you: your contributions, large or small, have an impact. Here at COSSA we see it every day in the legislation that is introduced, in remarks that are made by policy-makers during hearings, and with the ever-increasing roster of social science champions turning to COSSA and our community for trusted expertise and advice. Progress can feel slow, but the impact is real.

As we close out another successful year and embark on a new one, we are sobered knowing that our work is far from done. Having ended 2018 amid a partial government shutdown affecting hundreds of thousands of federal employees, including at science agencies, it is clear that the road ahead is rocky at best. COSSA will continue to demand that our elected officials do right by science and enact funding and policy that value the role of social and behavioral science in making this a safer, healthier, and more prosperous world. We can't do it without your partnership.



I'll leave you with a quote from U.S. Representative Paul Tonko (NY-20) who put it best when addressing COSSA's advocates earlier this year:

***"I thank you—the many scientists and supporters—who are fighting for this critical life-saving research. We win when you win."***

(More on page 7)

Indeed, thank you for all you do to support social and behavioral science research! I invite you to read on and learn about the many ways COSSA is working for and with our community to create an even brighter future for social and behavioral science research.

To many more years of partnership and success,

WENDY A. NAUS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



# The COSSA Team



*The COSSA Team celebrates the Washington Capitals' Stanley Cup victory during a parade in Washington, DC.*

## COSSA Gives Back

On August 9, the COSSA team participated in its annual community service outing. This year, staff volunteered at DC Central Kitchen Nutrition Lab ([www.dccentralkitchen.org](http://www.dccentralkitchen.org)) in Northeast Washington preparing and packaging bag lunches for children attending DC public school summer camps. DC Central Kitchen provides several critical resources to DC communities, including meals for homeless shelters, farm-to-school meals for low-income schoolchildren, fresh produce to DC food deserts, and training of unemployed adults for culinary careers. COSSA initiated the service outing in 2015 as a way to give back to the local DC community.



### Wendy A. Naus Executive Director

Wendy Naus became the fourth Executive Director of COSSA in 2014 following a decade of lobbying for the federal research and policy interests of scientific societies and U.S. universities. Over her career, she has worked to shape legislation, programs, and regulations important to the research community and has advocated for increased research funding across federal agencies. In her role at COSSA, Wendy serves as the lead advocate for federal funding and policy that positively impact social and behavioral science research across the federal government, representing the breadth of the social science research enterprise. She is also responsible for the day to day operations of COSSA and member engagement. A native of Buffalo, New York, Wendy holds a B.A. in political science and urban studies from Canisius College, graduating magna cum laude from the All-College Honors Program.

### Julia Milton Director of Public Affairs

Julia Milton has been with COSSA since 2012 and is responsible for overseeing COSSA's communications with its members, stakeholders, policymakers, media, and the public. She is the editor of COSSA's biweekly newsletter and the *Why Social Science?* blog and manages COSSA's social media channels and website. In addition, Julia leads COSSA's lobbying and advocacy efforts related to the U.S. Census Bureau and other federal statistical agencies and the evidence-based policymaking movement. Before joining COSSA, Julia was a research and editorial assistant at the George Washington University and worked for a state-based workforce development initiative and a local women's magazine. She is originally from New Jersey and holds a B.A. from Wesleyan University.

### Camille Hosman Assistant Director of Government Relations

Camille Hosman joined COSSA in 2016. She manages the day-to-day execution of COSSA's legislative strategy and represents the COSSA constituency before Congress and among a variety of federal agencies. Additionally, she supports COSSA's communications efforts. Camille previously worked with the state and federal government relations offices for the University of Missouri System and helped promote policy in support of science and higher education. A Missouri native, Camille holds her B.A. in political science from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

**INTERNS WANTED!** COSSA is always looking for interns to join the team throughout the year, especially students from COSSA member institutions. We had the privilege of hosting three undergraduate interns in 2018:

**Spring:** Dakota Leonard, Arizona State University • **Summer:** Catherine Cox, University of Michigan • **Fall:** Victoria Deck, Emerson College

To inquire, email [jmilton@coffa.org](mailto:jmilton@coffa.org).

# Year in Review

## COSSA'S 2018 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Throughout 2018, the COSSA team worked to advance a multi-faceted legislative agenda ([www.bit.ly/2RAAsx5](http://www.bit.ly/2RAAsx5)).

Our efforts centered around four priorities. These priorities were shared with over 70 Congressional offices and were used as talking points for the social science advocates who took part in COSSA's fourth annual Social Science Advocacy Day.

- 1 Cancel harmful sequestration cuts** for fiscal year 2019 and protect nondefense discretionary spending.
- 2 Provide real growth in research funding**, including for basic research, across all areas of STEM.
- 3 Invest in and protect the federal statistical and data enterprise.**
- 4 Support the use of social science** research across federal agencies to ensure policies are based on sound evidence.



## POLICY

### Benefits of Social Science Highlighted throughout 115<sup>th</sup> Congress

Members of Congress took several opportunities to highlight the value of social science research throughout the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress. Most notably, Representatives Daniel Lipinski (IL-3), Paul Tonko (NY-20), and Suzanne Bonamici (OR-1) raised the importance of the social and behavioral sciences in hearings with leadership of the National Science Foundation (NSF), as well as in hearings on artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and sexual harassment. COSSA has been working in recent years to elevate the presence of social science research with Members of Congress and staff, including in these and other areas.

### COSSA Mobilizes Against Census Citizenship Question

In March, Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross directed the Census Bureau to include a question about respondents' citizenship in the 2020 Decennial Census, igniting concern in the scientific community about the potential impacts on the quality of the census count. In the immediate aftermath of the announcement, COSSA issued a statement and an action alert to object to the decision, worked with key Congressional offices to discuss legislative solutions, and offered advice and resources to concerned member organizations. COSSA endorsed the *2020 Census IDEA Act* introduced by Sen. Brian Schatz (HI) and Rep. Carolyn Maloney (NY-12), which would prohibit the addition of Census questions without a minimum period of research and testing. In addition, COSSA organized a community statement with

25 other science and research organizations to the Department of Commerce urging the question's removal. COSSA continues to work with stakeholders to draw attention to the negative impacts the question would have on research and advocate for its removal from the decennial census. More on COSSA's actions is at [www.bit.ly/2RWnV7r](http://www.bit.ly/2RWnV7r).





# Year in Review...continued

## COSSA Endorses Bill to Combat Sexual Harassment in Science

In October 2018, COSSA endorsed the *Combatting Sexual Harassment in Science Act of 2018*, as introduced by Representative Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX-30). The bill would provide funding to the National Science Foundation to establish a grant program to study the causes and consequences of sexual harassment in the scientific workforce, efficacy of interventions, and methods of remediating the negative impacts of sexual harassment. This legislation would also require data collection about sexual harassment in science and establish an inter-agency working group to address this important issue. COSSA issued a statement on the bill in October. More at <https://bit.ly/2Dz6DEk>.

## Evidence-Based Policymaking Legislation Enacted

After a wait of over a year, the *Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018* was passed by a lame-duck Congress in late 2018 and signed into law by the President. Championed by former House Speaker Paul Ryan (WI-1) and Sen. Patty Murray (WA), the legislation represents a bipartisan recognition of the importance of science and data in helping to design and improve policies. The bill instructs agencies to reframe their approach to evaluation and evidence-building from an ad hoc activity to an ongoing process integrated into the everyday operations of federal programs. This shift in thinking will provide more opportunities for social scientists from across the disciplines to contribute their expertise to improving the work of government. COSSA issued a statement ([www.bit.ly/2Bd76uB](http://www.bit.ly/2Bd76uB)) applauding the legislation's passage and plans to continue to monitor the bill's implementation and the progress of the evidence-based policymaking movement.

## Common Rule Modernizations Take Effect

Changes to the Common Rule, the set of regulations governing research involving human participants, were finalized and will take effect in January 2019, ending an eight-year revision period. The changes to the Common Rule, which was last updated in 1991, were intended to modernize the regulations and better tailor them to a wider variety of research areas and fields, including the social and behavioral sciences, among other goals. The revisions were originally scheduled to take effect in early 2018 but were delayed several times by the Trump Administration to allow time for additional comments and preparations. During the delay period, COSSA submitted a comment to the Department of Health and Human Services asking that the delays be minimized to avoid confusion among regulated entities. More at [www.bit.ly/2WxJWYI](http://www.bit.ly/2WxJWYI).



## NIH Clinical Trials Definition Impacts Social Science

COSSA has been working with its many partners within and outside the social and behavioral science research community to respond to and mitigate potential unintended consequences of a revised definition of the term “clinical trial” by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). NIH has been working for the last few years to enhance its stewardship of and increase transparency over the clinical trials it funds, resulting in several new registration and reporting policies and a new, broadened definition governing the kind of research classified as a clinical trial, which would include some areas of basic behavioral and social science research. COSSA mobilized its membership and coordinated with other basic science organizations in response to a request for information that was issued in 2018. COSSA continues to work with the agency and partners in the community to mitigate any adverse impacts to basic research studies that clearly should not be considered clinical trials. You can follow COSSA's efforts at [www.bit.ly/2HD2eVb](http://www.bit.ly/2HD2eVb).

### THOUGHT LEADER:

In a July interview with the British publication *Research Features*, COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus discussed the outlook for federal support of social and behavioral science in the U.S. and some of the challenges and opportunities facing advocates for this research. You can read the article at <https://bit.ly/2DIUVQV>.



## EVENTS

### *To Secure Knowledge* Social Science Research Council

On November 28, 2018 COSSA cosponsored a briefing in Washington on the Social Science Research Council's *To Secure Knowledge* Task Force Report (more at [www.bit.ly/2BbCOsb](http://www.bit.ly/2BbCOsb)). COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus joined Alondra Nelson, SSRC President, Rush Holt, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Arthur Lupia, National Science Foundation, and Kenneth Prewitt, American Academy of Political and Social Science in a panel discussion on the report's recommendations for ensuring the role of social science in informing policy and public debate.



### Congressional Briefing: Ask a Criminologist

COSSA and the Crime & Justice Research Alliance (CJRA) hosted their third in a series of "Ask a Criminologist" Congressional briefings on May 22, 2018. This interactive briefing explored key factors that led to an increase in homicide rates in communities across the United States in 2015 and 2016, including the opioid epidemic. Experts shared how criminologists have been using research and statistics to help policymakers identify and address such causes. The discussion was moderated by Nancy La Vigne of the Urban Institute, and featured presentations from Howard Spivak, National Institute of Justice; Richard Biehl, Chief of Police for the City of Dayton, Ohio; and Shytierra Gaston, Indiana University.

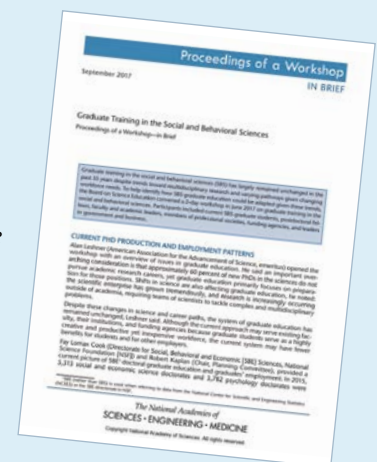


### Advancing and Evaluating the Societal Impact of Science

In June and October 2018, COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus participated in two international conferences exploring approaches for accelerating and promoting the impact of science. The annual **Impact of Science** ([www.aesisnet.com/event/ios18](http://www.aesisnet.com/event/ios18)) conference in Ottawa, Canada on June 14-15 brought together science leaders from across the globe to discuss ways to measure, evaluate and integrate scientific evidence so it may be used for effective policy-setting in service to society. A second conference on **Advancing the Impact Agenda for Social Sciences & Humanities** ([www.aesisnet.com/event/impact-ssh18](http://www.aesisnet.com/event/impact-ssh18)) in Copenhagen, Denmark on October 4-5 looked more closely at the contributions the social sciences and humanities make to addressing societal challenges. Naus participated in panel discussions at both conferences, offering the unique American perspectives on science impact. Both conferences are projects of the Network for Advancing and Evaluating the Societal Impact of Science (AESIS Network).

### Webinar: Graduate Training in the Social and Behavioral Sciences

On March 6, 2018 COSSA hosted a webinar on *Graduate Training in the Social and Behavioral Sciences*. Joined by leaders of the National Academy of Sciences' June 2017 *Workshop on Graduate Training in the Social and Behavioral Sciences*, the webinar facilitated community discussion on the direction of graduate training in the social and behavioral sciences and ways to best meet modern-day needs of students and employers. More at [www.cossa.org/resources/past-events/webinars](http://www.cossa.org/resources/past-events/webinars).





# COSSA Science Policy Conference and Social Science Advocacy Day 2018

April 30 – May 1, 2018 ★ Washington, DC

COSSA held its 2018 Science Policy Conference and Social Science Advocacy Day on April 30 and May 1, 2018 in Washington, DC. The annual event brings together COSSA members and other stakeholders for a day of discussion about federal policy impacting our sciences followed by the only annual, coordinated advocacy day in support of all of the social and behavioral sciences.

A full recap of the 2018 conference is available at <https://www.cossa.org/event/2018-science-policy-conference>.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Reestablishing Trust in Social Science & Data

A distinguished panel including Rush Holt, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS); Arthur Lupia, University of Michigan; Brian Nosek, Center for Open Science; and moderator Nancy Kidd, American Sociological Association, discussed the factors that contribute to mistrust of science and ways that scientists and the science enterprise can change. They also discussed the consequences of and potential remedies for some of today's common practices such as lack of transparency, unwillingness to share data, p-hacking, and strong incentives to publish notable findings coupled with weak incentives to explain how those discoveries emerged.



Credit: Liz Roll

### Me Too: Sexual Harassment in Science and in the Academy

Moderated by Felice Levine of the American Educational Research Association, a panel including Elizabeth Armstrong, University of Michigan; Rhonda Davis, National Science Foundation (NSF); and Shirley Malcom, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) addressed cultural change and the role of institutional leadership to address sexual harassment in science and in the academy. The panel agreed that more research on the topic of sexual harassment and misconduct is needed and that symbolic compliance and one-off trainings will not result in needed change.



Credit: Liz Roll

### Post Truth: Communicating Facts, Not Fiction

An expert panel with Cary Funk, Pew Research Center; Melanie Green, University at Buffalo, SUNY; William K. Hallman, Rutgers University; and moderator Trevor Parry-Giles, National Communication Association discussed the increasingly crowded communications space, including ways that political views intersect with other factors, such as religious ideology, demography, and other values. They also discussed pitfalls of correcting misinformation as well as talking about science in terms of “provisional facts” based on the best available information.



Credit: Liz Roll

Join Us for COSSA's 2019  
Social Science Advocacy Day  
April 30-May 1, 2019 • Washington, DC  
More at:  
[www.cossa.org/event/2019-advocacy-day](https://www.cossa.org/event/2019-advocacy-day)





*Social Science Advocacy Day Participants Credit: Liz Roll*

## Social Science Advocates Take to Capitol Hill

On May 1, 2018 about 70 advocates participated in the fourth annual *Social Science Advocacy Day*, meeting with House and Senate offices to discuss the value of social science research and the critical role the federal government plays in supporting it. Advocates received hands-on training prior to their meetings and were equipped with the necessary messages and materials to make strong arguments for social science research funding.

## COSSA Presents 2018 Distinguished Service Award to U.S. Representative Daniel Lipinski and NIH's William Riley

On April 30 as part of the 2018 COSSA Science Policy Conference and *Celebration of Social Science Reception*, COSSA presented the 2018 Distinguished Service Award to two individuals who exemplify leadership on behalf of the social and behavioral sciences. **U.S. Representative Daniel Lipinski (IL-3)**, a political scientist himself, is one of social science's most stalwart champions in Congress and is recognized for his dedication to scientific research at all levels and across all fields of study. He is credited with working productively on both sides of the aisle to enact legislation that strengthens the U.S. scientific enterprise and raise the profile of the social and behavioral sciences.



*Rep. Dan Lipinski (center right) and his staff accepting the COSSA Distinguished Service Award from members of the COSSA Board of Directors and representatives of COSSA governing associations.*

*Credit: Liz Roll*

The second honoree, **Dr. William Riley, Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR)**, has spent his career working to amplify the importance of social and behavioral science across the NIH and in biomedical research more generally. His leadership

has helped to ensure that our sciences can continue to generate vital insights into the ways behavioral and social factors shape our health. The COSSA Distinguished Service Award recognizes leaders who have gone above and beyond to promote, protect, and advance the social and behavioral science research enterprise.

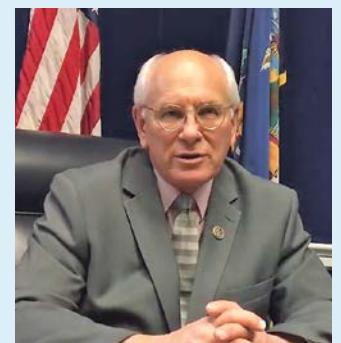


*William Riley accepting the 2018 COSSA Distinguished Service Award from COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus.*

*Credit: Liz Roll*

## Rep. Tonko Lauds COSSA Advocates

As COSSA's advocates prepared for their meetings on Capitol Hill on May 1, 2018, Rep. Paul Tonko (NY-20) offered a message of support and thanks. As Rep. Tonko stated, "Research in the social and behavioral sciences saves countless lives... So we must maintain our investments in [these] sciences." He used his



message of support to thank COSSA's 70 advocates for taking this message of "critical life-saving research" to Capitol Hill. See the Congressman's full message at <https://bit.ly/2sPNFTK>.

A special thank you to our  
2018 sponsors:



# COSSA Science Policy Conference and 2018 Social Science Advocacy Day April 30 – May 1, 2018 ★ Washington, DC





# COSSA Resources

Through its various activities and resources, COSSA works to engage its members, the broader scientific and higher education communities, and the general public in the promotion of social and behavioral science research. Several of these resources are reserved for members only. Check out our RESOURCES webpage for more at [www.cossa.org/resources](http://www.cossa.org/resources).

## Social Science Advocacy Day

In conjunction with the COSSA Science Policy Conference each spring, COSSA members from across the country are invited to come to Washington for Social Science Advocacy Day. Members who volunteer to participate are scheduled for meetings with their Congressional delegations to discuss the value of social science research and the importance of federal funding support. Members are provided all necessary materials, including handouts and talking points, and also receive hands-on advocacy training. This is the only coordinated cross-disciplinary advocacy day in support of social and behavioral science research. Check out more at [www.cossa.org/event/2019-advocacy-day](http://www.cossa.org/event/2019-advocacy-day).

**COSSA  
MEMBERS  
ONLY**

## Timely, In-depth Analysis & Policy Expertise

COSSA serves as a reliable resource for in-depth analysis of bills, proposed regulations, and other policy developments impacting social and behavioral science research. The team of policy experts boil down often-complicated topics into easy-to-digest briefs, articulating how the issue specifically impacts the social and behavioral science community. COSSA's Advocacy webpage ([www.cossa.org/advocacy](http://www.cossa.org/advocacy)) is an excellent source for statements, funding analysis, testimony, and other resources. In addition, COSSA's experts are on hand to answer questions and provide formal presentations to audiences of all sizes on the policy landscape, recent developments, and future outlook. Get in touch with the team at [www.cossa.org/about/staff](http://www.cossa.org/about/staff).

**COSSA  
MEMBERS  
ONLY**

## COSSA Washington Update

COSSA's most recognizable public resource is its biweekly newsletter, the *COSSA Washington Update*. A staple deliverable since COSSA's earliest days, *Update* provides members and the public with comprehensive, timely analysis of policy developments impacting social and behavioral science research. Check it out and subscribe for free online at [www.cossa.org/washington-update](http://www.cossa.org/washington-update).

## Annual University Social Science Rankings

COSSA's annual *College and University Rankings for Federal Social and Behavioral Science R&D* highlights the top university recipients of federal research dollars in the social and behavioral sciences. Based on federally collected data, the COSSA rankings use an inclusive selection of fields to calculate the total federal R&D funding received by universities in the social and behavioral sciences. The 2018 rankings reflect expenditures in fiscal year 2016. View the rankings at [www.cossa.org/resources/sbs-r-d-rankings](http://www.cossa.org/resources/sbs-r-d-rankings)



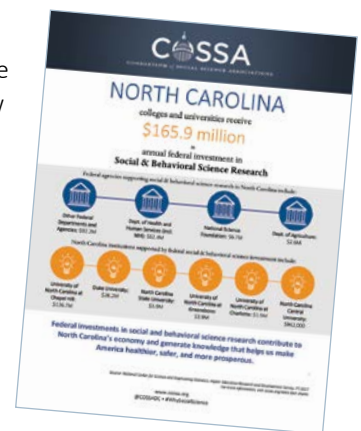
## Grassroots Action Alerts

COSSA issues alerts to members when action is needed on a federal policy issue. Our alert platform allows members to easily write to their elected officials in Congress and tailor the communication to highlight their own expertise and local impacts. COSSA members receive background information and talking points to help them craft their message to lawmakers. Check out COSSA's TAKE ACTION page at [www.cossa.org/advocacy/take-action](http://www.cossa.org/advocacy/take-action).

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## State Funding Fact Sheets

COSSA's state funding fact sheets use federally collected data to show how much federal social and behavioral science research funding is awarded to each state annually. The fact sheets also list the primary federal sources of this funding (e.g. NSF, NIH, DOD), as well as the leading institutional recipients of funding in your state. View the fact sheets online at



[www.cossa.org/resources/state-fact-sheets.](http://www.cossa.org/resources/state-fact-sheets)

## Advocacy Resources

The COSSA website houses several resources for members wishing to engage in advocacy. There you will find the *COSSA Advocacy Handbook*, funding- and policy-related talking points, and policy briefs on a variety of topics. You can also find links to Congressional and federal agency websites that are relevant to social science research. Find this and more at [www.cossa.org/resources](http://www.cossa.org/resources).



# COSSA HEADLINES

A monthly look at what's new and noteworthy in social science policy



In November 2018, COSSA launched a new members-only activity called *Headlines: A monthly look at what's new and noteworthy in social science policy*. *Headlines* is a series of monthly webinars featuring a recap of the most important social and behavioral science news from the past month followed by a “deep dive” discussion on timely topics. Special guests are regularly invited to discuss deep dive topics.

November's *Headlines* featured a deep dive breaking down the 2018 midterm election results and what they mean for the social science community. In December, William Riley of the National Institutes of Health Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research discussed the evolving NIH clinical trials policy and implications for the NIH grantee community.

The live events are reserved for COSSA members. Archived recordings and materials from past *Headlines* are available online at [www.cossa.org/resources/headlines](http://www.cossa.org/resources/headlines).

**COSSA  
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**Join us for *Headlines* in 2019!**

**November 8, 2018**

## 2018 Midterm Election Results: What's Next for Social Science Funding and Policy



- ☐ Who's coming, who's going
- ☐ What's left for FY 2019
- ☐ Looking Ahead – 116<sup>th</sup> Congress
- ☐ What you can do this month



Featuring Wendy Naus and Camille Hosman, COSSA

**December 13, 2018**

## NIH Clinical Trials Policy and Updates from the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research

**Today's Guest: Dr. William “Bill” Riley**  
NIH Associate Director for Behavioral and  
Social Sciences Research,  
and Director of the  
Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR)



Featuring William Riley, NIH

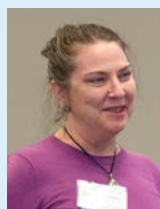
# WHY SOCIAL SCIENCE?

COSSA's **Why Social Science?** initiative continued in 2018 with regular blog posts from guest contributors. Why Social Science? aims to offer insights about the value of the social sciences to our everyday lives. In 2018, pieces highlighted the breadth of the social and behavioral sciences and the reach of our sciences in tackling a diversity of issues, from national security, to natural disasters, to the use of data for improving public services.

Read all the blog posts at  
[www.whysocialscience.com](http://www.whysocialscience.com)

## Because Social Science Research and Education Are Critical for National Security

Claudia Brugman, PhD,  
Research Scientist and  
Technical Director for  
Language in Social Systems,  
Center for Advanced Study  
of Language, University of  
Maryland



## Because It's Proliferating

Alondra Nelson, PhD,  
President, Social Science  
Research Council



## Because It Helps Us Identify and Combat Misinformation

Melanie C. Green, PhD,  
Associate Professor,  
Department of  
Communication, University  
at Buffalo



## Because It Is an Engine for Social Progress

Darla Spence Coffey, PhD,  
MSW, President and Chief  
Executive Officer of the  
Council on Social Work  
Education & James Herbert  
Williams, PhD, MSW,  
MPA, Arizona Centennial  
Professor of Social Welfare  
Services at Arizona State  
University



## Because Social Science Can Have an Impact on Public Policy

Peter B. Wood, PhD,  
Professor of Sociology and  
Criminology, Eastern  
Michigan University



## Because It Can Improve the Lives of City Residents

David Yokum, JD, PhD,  
Director, The Lab @ DC



## Because It Helps Build Resilience in the Face of Disasters

Brandi Gilbert, PhD,  
Research Associate,  
Urban Institute & Nnenia  
Campbell, PhD, Research  
Associate, Natural Hazards  
Center, University of  
Colorado, Boulder



## Because It Can Challenge Conventional Wisdom

Olugbenga Ajilore, PhD,  
Associate Professor of  
Economics, University of  
Toledo



## Because It Produces Essential Data for Our Democracy

Ronald L. Wasserstein,  
PhD, Executive Director,  
American Statistical  
Association



## Because It Adds Value, Even When You Don't See It

Wendy Naus, Executive  
Director, Consortium of  
Social Science Associations



Interested in contributing to  
**Why Social Science?**  
Contact [jmilton@coffa.org](mailto:jmilton@coffa.org)

# Members and Partners

## Membership

COSSA enjoys a robust and diverse membership—a community with a shared commitment to ensuring a secure future for federally-supported social and behavioral science research.

Membership in COSSA is institutional and comprised of professional associations, scientific societies, and colleges and university. A “fair share” principle is utilized for setting annual membership dues. Visit [www.cossa.org/members/join-cossa](http://www.cossa.org/members/join-cossa) for more information.

COSSA’s complete membership list can be found on the back cover of this report and is available online at [www.cossa.org/members](http://www.cossa.org/members).

COSSA member organizations receive a number of resources and benefits that are exclusive to membership. Anyone formally affiliated with a member organization may sign up to receive COSSA’s members-only resources (more in the *COSSA Resources* section).

**COSSA welcomed one new member in 2018:**



## Coalitions and Partners

COSSA works in coalitions and with the broader scientific and higher education communities on issues of common interest. Our many coalition and collaborative partnerships include:

- Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research\*
- CDC Coalition
- Census Project
- Coalition for National Science Funding
- Coalition for International Education
- Friends of Agricultural Statistics and Analysis
- Friends of AHRQ
- Friends of BLS
- Friends of IES
- Friends of NCHS\*
- Friends of NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research\*
- NDD United

\* COSSA serves on the executive or steering committees.





# Governance, Finances, and Lobbying Disclosure



## Governance

The COSSA Board of Directors oversees the operations and affairs of the organization. In 2014, the Board unanimously passed an amendment to the COSSA Bylaws creating a smaller, more effective governing board. The COSSA Bylaws can be viewed on the COSSA website at [www.cossa.org/about/bylaws](http://www.cossa.org/about/bylaws).

The COSSA Board of Directors meets quarterly in Washington, DC to discuss issues of COSSA policy and strategy. In 2018, Felice J. Levine, Executive Director of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), completed her second two-year term (2017-2018) as Board Chair. Ronald Wasserstein, Executive Director of the American Statistical Association (ASA), completed his second two-year term (2017-2018) as COSSA Treasurer.

See the inside cover of this report for the full roster of the 2018 Board of Directors.

## Finances

COSSA's operational budget in 2018 was approximately \$660,000. COSSA is required to file IRS Form 990, which is available for public review upon request. COSSA's finances are subject to an external audit each year in compliance with the COSSA Bylaws.

## Lobbying Disclosure

As a 501(c)(6) nonprofit advocacy organization, COSSA complies with the regulations set by the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, as amended (2 U.S.C. 1601 et. seq). COSSA files quarterly lobbying reports with the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate, and COSSA and each registered lobbyist on staff complete political contribution disclosure reports twice a year. COSSA has determined that it spends approximately one-quarter of its annual income on lobbying activities. COSSA does not make any political contributions. All disclosure reports are publicly available at [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov).

## GET ACTIVE!

Join COSSA today by visiting <http://www.cossa.org/members/join-cossa>

## Governing Members



## Affiliate Members

### 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 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

### RESEARCH CENTERS & 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  
Institute for Social Science Research, University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
NORC at the University of Chicago  
RTI International  
Social Science Research Council

### COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Arizona State University  
Boston University  
Brown University  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Duke University  
Fielding Graduate University  
George Mason University  
Georgetown University  
Harvard University  
Indiana University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Michigan State University  
New York 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 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 Oklahoma  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh  
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