



# WASHINGTON UPDATE

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## FEATURED NEWS

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### Recordings of COVID-19-Related COSSA Headlines Webinars Now Available

In recognition of the severity of the current coronavirus crisis, COSSA has elected to make

recordings of its members-only Headlines webinars related to the pandemic available immediately, rather than waiting an additional month to release the recordings to non-members. Check out the [Headlines page](#) on the COSSA website for links to previous recordings, including our most recent [deep dive discussion with University of Florida epidemiologist Natalie Dean](#) who called for social scientists to weigh in on critical questions such as how best to facilitate contact tracing and providing insight into factors that could affect the public's reaction to a potential vaccine. Other Headlines discussions related to COVID-19 focused on [communication strategies in an emerging public health crisis](#) and [the role of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy in coordinating science agencies' response](#). COSSA members can [sign up for members-only emails](#) to receive information on how to join these webinars live.

## Census Releases First COVID-19 Household Data

The Census Bureau has [released the first data](#) from its new COVID-19 Household Pulse Survey, which asks over 50,000 Americans about their employment status, spending patterns, food security, housing, physical and mental health, access to health care, and educational disruption during the coronavirus pandemic (see [previous coverage](#)). The data, which covers April 23-May 5, was released as [tables](#) and through an [interactive dashboard](#). More information about the survey is available on the [Census Bureau website](#). Data will continue to be released on a weekly basis throughout the survey's 90-day duration. In addition, the Census Bureau has [released data](#) on the pandemic's impact on small businesses collected by its [Small Business Pulse Survey](#).

## National Academies Holds Webinar on COVID-19 and Extreme Environmental Events

The National Academies Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Board on Environmental Change and Society and Resilient America Roundtable convened a webinar on May 13 to discuss the social science aspects of potential emergencies that compound the current COVID-19 crisis with environmental hazards, such as fires, hurricanes, flooding, and heatwaves. The event featured experts from federal government agencies such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), as well as universities, and nonprofit and community organizations. Panelists discussed the challenges of responding to emergencies and natural disasters amidst a pandemic and the need for social science to shed more light on how individuals and communities are likely to respond to such situations. A recording of the event is available on the [NASEM website](#).

## Notable COVID-19 Resources

- **NEW:** [COSSA Headlines Webinar - May 2020, featuring University of Florida epidemiologist Natalie Dean](#), May 14, 2020
- **NEW:** Census Bureau: [Household Pulse Survey](#)
- **NEW:** Census Bureau: [Small Business Pulse Survey](#)
- **NEW:** U.K. Campaign for Social Science: [Social sciences responding to COVID-19](#)
- **NEW:** EBSCO: [COVID-19 Information](#)

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## COSSA IN ACTION

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### COSSA Submits Testimony in Support of FY 2021 Funding for Health, Education Agencies

Each year, COSSA submits outside witness testimony to the Congressional Appropriations subcommittees responsible for funding federal agencies important to the social sciences. Earlier this month, COSSA submitted [testimony](#) to the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies calling for robust funding for the

National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (including the National Center for Health Statistics), Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Institute of Education Sciences, and the Department of Education's International Education and Foreign Language programs. All of COSSA's FY 2021 testimony is posted on the [COSSA website](#).

## John Haaga Answers "Why Social Science?"

WHY  
SOCIAL  
SCIENCE?

The latest Why Social Science? post comes from Dr. John Haaga, who retired as Director of the National Institute on Aging's Division of Behavioral and Social Research in 2019. He writes about the light COVID-19 has shed on the work the U.S. needs to do in order for Americans' health outcomes to catch up to those in peer countries. Read it [here](#) and [subscribe](#).

## Letters & Statements

- 5/18/2020: Coalition for International Education Letter on FY 202 Funding for HEA-Title VI and Fulbright-Hays, [House/Senate](#)
- 5/14/2020: [Census Project letter on FY 2021 Funding for the Census Bureau](#)

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## Share Your Story with COSSA!

COSSA is always looking for tangible examples from the social and behavioral sciences to help make the case that federal investment in these sciences is not only a wise use of taxpayer dollars, but that this research yields results that make the nation and world healthier, safer, and more prosperous. If you have a social science story-- a research success, an example of how social science is being used effectively in your community, an educational experience or teacher who shaped the trajectory of your social science career, or any other experience or activity that showcases the many positive impacts the social and behavioral sciences make to all aspects of life-- share it with COSSA by filling out the [form on our website](#).



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## CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

### Lawmakers Break for Memorial Day Recess with Packed June Agenda in the Wings

When the Senate returns next week, lawmakers will look to move the fiscal year (FY) 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which, like annual appropriations bills, is seen as "must pass" legislation as it sets annual spending levels for the Department of Defense. The NDAA is an especially important piece of legislation to watch this year given that, as one of few annual "must pass" bills, it is viewed as a potential vehicle for other, sometimes unrelated policy proposals (see the article on the Endless Frontiers Act).

Work also continues on the FY 2021 appropriations bills. Despite the pandemic, lawmakers are hoping to introduce and possibly pass some of the bills out of Committee in June. However, with the next [COVID-19 emergency package](#) still in the mix, final enactment of FY 2021 appropriations bills appears a ways off. Still, COSSA and other advocates continue to press on Congress to

provide the highest possible funding levels for federal science agencies (see related article on FY 2021 testimony). You can follow COSSA's coverage off FY 2021 funding [here](#).

Also expected in the coming weeks is Senate consideration of Sethuraman Panchanathan to be the next Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF). Dr. Panchanathan, who was [nominated by President Trump](#) in December 2019, will be among several nominations before the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee on [June 3](#).

## **New Proposal Would Rename NSF, Create New Technology Directorate**

On May 21, Senators Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Todd Young (R-IN) introduced the [Endless Frontier Act](#) (S. 3832). A counterpart bill ([H.R. 6978](#)) was also introduced in the House by Reps. Ro Khanna (D-CA) and Mike Gallagher (R-W). The legislation proposes the establishment of a new Technology Directorate at the National Science Foundation (NSF), which would be renamed the National Science and Technology Foundation (NSTF). While housed within NSF/NSTF, a basic science agency, the overarching goal of the legislation is to infuse funding—\$100 billion over five years—specifically for research and development in 10 technology areas of global strategic significance. The 10 areas include: (1) artificial intelligence and machine learning (2) high performance computing, semiconductors, and advanced computer hardware (3) quantum computing and information systems (4) robotics, automation, and advanced manufacturing (5) natural or anthropogenic disaster prevention (6) advanced communications technology (7) biotechnology, genomics, and synthetic biology (8) cybersecurity, data storage and data management technologies (9) advanced energy (10) materials science, engineering, and exploration relevant to other key technology areas. The 10 areas would be revisited every 4 years.

Such a focus on technology transfer would be a major departure for NSF, which since its founding has focused on supporting fundamental research across all scientific disciplines and fields. The bill's sponsors contend that the agencies' other activities would be left untouched by the legislation. Still, considering the bill's authorization level for these new technology activities is nearly triple the NSF's current budget, one could surmise that the proposal would mark a major shift in priority for the 70-year-old agency.

While, as noted earlier, this and other legislation could be attached to this year's National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), the bill would first need to work its way through the Senate oversight committees as well as those in the House, which has been working to develop its own, yet-to-be-introduced NSF reauthorization legislation. COSSA will continue to report on this and other NSF authorizing bills in the months ahead.

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## **FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS**

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### **NIMH Announces New Strategic Plan, Approves Concept Clearances**

During a public meeting on May 19, the National Advisory Mental Health Council (NAMHC), the advisory body to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH), released a new [Strategic Plan for Research](#) for the Institute. The strategic plan outlines NIMH's research goals and intended priorities for the next five fiscal years, and cites four high-level goals to guide the Institute:

- Define the Brain Mechanisms Underlying Complex Behaviors
- Examine Mental Illness Trajectories Across the Lifespan
- Strive for Prevention and Cures
- Strengthen the Public Health Impact of NIMH-Supported Research

In addition to the strategic plan announcement, NAMHC heard and approved several [concept clearances](#) for potential new research, including some that would incorporate social and behavioral science. Summaries of these concept clearances and a recording of the NAMHC meeting will be available on the [NIH website](#) shortly.

## NIH to Host Matilda White Riley Honors Virtually on June 8

On June 8, the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will host the annual [Matilda White Riley Behavioral and Social Sciences Honors](#) in a virtual capacity. The public event will feature a lecture from the 2020 Matilda White Riley Honors awardee, Toni Antonucci, Program Director and Research Professor in the Life Course Development Program at the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. It will also recognize the accomplishments of several early stage investigators and their research in the behavioral and social sciences. This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of OBSSR and the first year the Matilda White Riley Honors will be hosted virtually.

Registration and more information about the Matilda White Riley Honors is available on the [OBSSR website](#).

## Funding Opportunities

- NIH/NIMHD: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Competitive and Administrative Supplements for the Impact of COVID-19 Outbreak on Minority Health and Health Disparities](#) (Closes: May 1, 2021)
- NIH/NIA: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): NIA Availability of Administrative Supplements and Revision Supplements on Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (Closes: May 1, 2021)
- NIH/NIMH: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Mental Health Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#) (Closes: April 16, 2021)
- NIH: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus and the Behavioral and Social Sciences](#) (Closes: April 1, 2021)
- NIH/NIDA: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#) (Closes: March 31, 2021)
- NIH/NIGMS: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) regarding the Availability of Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) and the Causative Virus SARS-CoV-2](#) (Closes: February 6, 2021)
- NIH/NCCIH: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Availability of Administrative Supplements and Urgent Competitive Revisions for Research on Stress Management in Relation to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (Closes: October 7, 2021)
- NIH/NHLBI: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Availability of Administrative Supplements and Revision Supplements on Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (Closes: October 6, 2020)
- NSF/SBE: [NSF Dynamic Language Infrastructure - NEH Documenting Endangered Languages \(DLI-DEL\)](#) (Closes: September 15, 2020)
- **NEW:** NIH/OBSSR: [Advancing Research to Develop Improved Measures and Methods for Understanding Multimorbidity \(R01 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Opens: September 5, 2020)
- ED/IES: [Statistical and Research Methodology in Education and Using Longitudinal Data To Support State Education Policymaking Grant Programs](#) (Closes: July 30, 2020)
- NSF: [Program on Fairness in Artificial Intelligence in Collaboration with Amazon](#) (Closes: July 13, 2020)
- **NEW:** HUD: [Estimating the Prevalence and Probability of Homeless Youth](#) (Closes: July 1, 2020)
- NIH/NCI: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): National Cancer Institute Announcement Regarding Availability of Urgent Competitive Revision and Administrative Supplements on Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) (Closes: June 26, 2020)

- **NEW:** NIH/OBSSR: [Notice of Special Interest: Administrative Supplements for NIH grants to Add or Expand Research Focused on Maternal Mortality](#) (Closes: June 23, 2020)
- USDA/AFRI: [Rapid Response to Novel Coronavirus \(SARS-CoV-2\) Impacts Across Food and Agricultural Systems](#) (Closes: June 4, 2020)
- BJS: [National Pretrial Reporting Program \(NPRP\) 2020](#) (Closes: June 2, 2020)
- NIH: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\) regarding the Availability of Administrative Supplements to Support Strategies to Reduce Stigma in Pain Management and Opioid Use Disorder \(OUD\) and Treatment](#) (Closes: May 30, 2020)

## Notices & Requests for Comment

- **NEW:** Census: [Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Small Business Pulse Survey](#) (Closes: July 20, 2020)
- **NEW:** Census: [Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Household Pulse Survey](#) (Closes: July 20, 2020)
- Census: [Comment Request; Supplemental Questions Related to the Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Businesses](#) (Closes: June 29, 2020)

## Recent Reports

- **NEW:** NIH/NIMH: [2020 Strategic Plan](#)

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## COMMUNITY NEWS & REPORTS

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### Nomination Opportunities

- AAAS: [Kavli Science Journalism Awards](#) (Closes: August 1, 2020)
- AAAS: [AAAS/Subaru SB&F Prize for Excellence in Science Books](#) (Closes: July 20, 2020)
- AAAS: [Award for Science Diplomacy](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [Award for Scientific Freedom and Responsibility](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [Early Career Award for Public Engagement with Science](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [Mani L. Bhaumik Award for Public Engagement with Science](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [Mentor Awards](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [Newcomb Cleveland Prize](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [John P. McGovern Award Lecture in the Behavioral Sciences](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)
- AAAS: [Philip Hauge Abelson Prize](#) (Closes: June 30, 2020)

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

- [Society for Prevention Research Annual Meeting](#), May 26-29, 2020, Washington, DC
- **VIRTUAL:** [When Schools Closes: Harnessing the Power of Summer for America's Young People](#), May 27, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [Law and Society Association Annual Meeting](#), May 28-31, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [NIH Matilda White Riley Behavioral and Social Science Honors](#), June 8, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [COSSA Headlines | June Headlines](#), June 11, 2020 2:00 pm
- **VIRTUAL:** [National Association of Social Workers National Conference](#), June 15-17, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [NASEM Webinar: Tackling Child Poverty in the Wake of COVID-19](#), June 18, 2020
- **CANCELLED:** [Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Summer Conference](#), June 26-28, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [COSSA Headlines | July Headlines](#), July 9, 2020, 2:00 pm
- **VIRTUAL:** [Join Statistical Meetings](#), August 1-6, 2020
- **VIRTUAL:** [American Psychological Association Annual Convention](#), August 6-9, 2020
- **CANCELLED:** [Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting](#), August 6-9, 2020



- **VIRTUAL: [American Sociological Association Annual Meeting](#)**, August 8-11, 2020
- **VIRTUAL: [COSSA Headlines | August](#)**, August 13, 2020, 2:00 pm

A list of COSSA members' annual meetings and other events can be found on the [COSSA events page](#). 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](mailto: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  
 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  
 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 American Law Schools  
 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

### Colleges and Universities

Arizona State University  
 Boston University  
 Brown University  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 Case Western Reserve University  
 Columbia University  
 Cornell University  
 Duke University  
 George Mason University  
 Georgetown University  
 Harvard University  
 Indiana University  
 Johns Hopkins University  
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
 Michigan State 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 Arkansas  
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 University of California, Santa Barbara  
 University of Chicago  
 University of Colorado, Boulder  
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 University of Iowa  
 University of Maryland  
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 University of Minnesota  
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**COSSA**

**Executive Director:** Wendy A. Naus  
**Director of Public Affairs:** Julia Milton  
**Staff Assistant:** Ben Goodrich

*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 and 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 vibrant social science research enterprise. The COSSA membership includes professional and disciplinary associations, scientific societies, research centers and institutes, and U.S. colleges and universities.*

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