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Featured News

Biden Announces 2023 Class of the National Science Board

The Biden Administration has <u>announced</u> the appointment of the new class of members to the National Science Board (NSB). NSB is the policy-making body of the National Science Foundation (NSF) that also advises the President and Congress on federal science policy. The new members will each serve a six-year term.

The new members include:

- Deborah Loewenberg Ball, education researcher from the University of Michigan
- Vicki L. Chandler, Provost at Minerva University and a biological researcher
- Dorota A. Grejner-Brzezinska, professor and artificial intelligence researcher from Ohio State University
- Marvi Ann Matos Rodriguez, Director of Engineering at Boeing Company
- Keivan G. Stassun, chair in Physics and Astronomy from Vanderbilt University
- Merlin Theodore, a researcher from the Manufacturing Science Division at Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Wanda Elaine Ward, Executive Associate Chancellor for Administration and University Relations at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- Bevlee A. Watford, Associate Dean for Equity and Engagement and Professor of Engineering Education in the College of Engineering at Virginia Tech

With terms ending for departed NSB members Emilio Moran and Bob Groves, Deborah Ball and Wanda Ward will be the only two social and behavioral scientists serving on the

30-person Board. Ball previously served on the NSB during the Obama Administration and Ward was previously a staff member at NSF.

New from COSSA

Save the Date! Social Science Advocacy Day is on April 25

We are excited to invite social science advocates to COSSA's ninth annual Social Science Advocacy Day on April 25, 2023! Our signature, members-only event will bring together social scientists and other science advocates from across the country to engage with



policymakers in Washington, DC. Stay tuned for registration information and sponsorship opportunities coming soon!

Congressional News

118th Congress: Profile of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee

Now that the fight over who will serve as Speaker of the House has been settled, Congressional committees are starting to take shape, albeit later than originally planned.

Rep. Frank Lucas (R-OK) has been chosen to serve as chair of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee; Lucas served as Ranking Member in the last Congress. In a <u>press release</u>, Lucas stated his hope to continue working in a bipartisanship manner with Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), the <u>ranking Democrat</u>. Lofgren replaces Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) who retired at the end of the last Congress.

However, not all of Lucas' stated priorities for the Committee will gel with those of the Democrats. Among his priorities for this year are: "securing our supply chain for advanced technologies, renewing our leadership in space and aeronautics, researching ways to make American energy cleaner and more affordable, and combating the threats we face from the Chinese Communist Party." We also expect to see several hearings this year seeking to conduct oversight of science and technology investments made in recent years, such as implementation of the <u>CHIPS and Science Act</u> and the new <u>Technology</u>. Innovation and Partnerships Directorate at the National Science Foundation. According to the Lucas press release: "We will also conduct critical oversight on the billions and billions of dollars the Democratic-led Congress and Administration have poured into our agencies over the last two years, to hold them accountable and ensure taxpayer dollars are protected from waste, fraud, and abuse."

With the appointment of Chairman Lucas and Ranking Member Lofgren, other Members of Congress are being assigned to the committee. Some Republican members have been <u>named</u>, although there are still vacant seats to be filles. Democrats have not yet released their roster. Once the Committee is populated, hearings are expected to begin.

House Votes to Establish Select Committee on China

On January 10, the House of Representatives <u>established</u> a new Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party. The Committee, which will have bipartisan membership and will be chaired by Mike Gallagher (R-WI), is authorized to hold public hearings and "to investigate and submit policy recommendations on the status of the Chinese Communist Party's economic, technological, and security progress and its competition with the United States." However, the Committee will not have legislative authority, meaning it will not have the authority to develop or consider legislation.

The establishment of the Committee is another indication of the growing sentiment among

Members of Congress prioritizing strategic competition with the Chinese government as an extension of national security policy. This sentiment has welled over into the scientific community over the past few years – most notably, with the emphasis on research security and targeting conflicts of interest of scientists with ties to the Chinese government (<u>see previous COSSA coverage</u>), which is likely to continue as a priority for the Committee. It is also expected that the Republican members may use the Committee's jurisdiction to hold hearings to raise concerns about China's role in the COVID-19 pandemic in a public setting.

COSSA will continue to provide updates on the Committee actions impacting the scientific community as necessary.

Sen. Chuck Grassley Seeking Information on Science Fellows Serving in the Biden Administration

In December, <u>Politico reported</u> on what some view as a growing influence of Eric Schmidt, former Google CEO, in the Biden Administration. The article cited financial support provided by the Federation of American Scientists (FAS), which receives funding from Schmidt, for salaries of fellows serving in the Administration under the <u>Intergovernmental</u> <u>Personnel Act (IPA) Mobility Program</u>. The IPA program is widely used across the federal government to allow for the temporary placement of non-governmental employees to federal agency posts for a short period of time "when this movement serves a sound public purpose." The employees' salaries are paid by their sponsoring organization, not the federal government; however, there are limits on the types of organizations that can participate (i.e., for-profit organizations are prohibited).

In <u>letters to 10 federal departments, agencies and offices</u>, Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) has requested additional information on the IPA appointments made specifically through FAS's <u>Day One Project</u>. Given its ties to Schmidt, Grassley alleges that conflicts of interest may exist with the placement of the FAS fellows, specifically related to Administration actions on technology investments in areas like AI and quantum. Grassley has requested that each agency provide information on the assignees and their salary sources, employment agreements, and all other records referencing FAS, the Day One Project, and Schmidt's various activities, by January 24. Given that the Democrats still hold the majority in the Senate, it is unclear whether this probe will gain traction in Congress. However, COSSA will continue to closely monitor this and other oversight activities pertaining to science policy in the federal government.

Executive Branch News

OSTP Announces "Year of Open Science," Doubles Up with Scientific Integrity Policies

On January 11, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) released a fact sheet detailing several actions aiming to advance open science and research while dubbing this year the "Year of Open Science." The announcement comes in the wake of the recent guidance aiming to increase public access to federally funded research (see previous COSSA coverage). Some of the notable actions include developing an official definition of "open science," requiring federal agencies to update their public access plans, and publishing a new <u>online resource</u> for the public to learn about engaging in open science programs. A few key research agencies also developed agency-specific actions, including the National Institutes of Health (NIH) <u>updating</u> its Final Policy on Data Management and Sharing and the federal statistical system releasing a new Standard Application Process <u>portal</u> for researchers to access restricted data from federal datasets.

On January 12, OSTP also released the <u>Framework for Federal Scientific Integrity Policy</u> <u>and Practice</u>. The framework aims to build off of the findings of a 2022 report on scientific integrity (<u>see previous COSSA coverage</u>). According to the OSTP <u>announcement</u>, the framework is intended to set a consistent definition of scientific integrity for all federal agencies, develop a model scientific integrity policy to guide agencies as they develop their own policies, and share tools to help agencies assess their policies and practices. In addition, it also requires federal agencies to designate a scientific integrity official and directs the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) to establish a Subcommittee on Scientific Integrity.

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics to Release Biennial Diversity and STEM Report

The National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES), within the National Science Foundation (NSF), will release its biennial report, <u>Diversity and STEM: Women</u>, <u>Minorities and Persons with Disabilities</u>, on January 30. The report was last released in 2021 under the title, <u>Women</u>, <u>Minorities</u>, and <u>Persons with Disabilities in Science and</u> <u>Engineering</u> (WMPD), and provides statistical information on women, minorities, and persons with disabilities in science and engineering education and employment. NCSES will host an informational webinar on the results of the Diversity and STEM report on January 31. Register for the event <u>here</u>.

Science Community News

William T. Grant Foundation Seeking Applicants for Scholars Program

The William T. Grant Foundation has opened their online application for the <u>2023 Scholars</u> <u>Program</u>. The William T. Grant Foundation supports social, behavioral, and health science researchers through encouraging researchers to expand their focus areas. The program provides \$350,000 over a five-year period to develop a research plan to provide solutions for inequity and/or build strategies for improving the use of research evidence. Applicants require a nomination from their university to be eligible for the grant. The <u>2023 Scholars</u> <u>Program Application Guide</u> has been released to aid potential applicants. The deadline to apply is July 5, 2023.

Resources & Opportunities

Nomination Opportunities

• NEW: NASEM: Equitable and Effective Teaching in Undergraduate STEM Education: A Framework for Institutions, Educators and Disciplines (Closes: January 25, 2023)

Funding Opportunities

- NEW: HUD: <u>Hispanic Serving Institutions (HIS) Research Center of Excellence</u> (Closes: May 18, 2023)
- NSF: Expanding Al Innovation through Capacity Building and Partnerships (Closes: March 13, 2023)
- **NEW:** NSF: <u>Analytics for Equity Initiative: Solicitation for Phase 1 Proposals</u> (Closes: March 3, 2023)
- NSF: <u>Experiential Learning for Emerging and Novel Technologies (ExLENT)</u> (Closes: March 2, 2023)
- NIH: Administrative Supplements to Recognize Excellence in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Acessibility (DEIA) Mentorship (Closes: February 18, 2023)
- NIH: <u>HEAL Initiative: Preventing Opioid Misuse and Co-Occurring Conditions by</u> <u>Intervening on Social Determinants (R01 - Clinical Trials Optional)</u> (Closes: February 2, 2023)
- NSF/SBE: <u>Biological Anthropology Program Senior Research Awards</u> (Opens: January 16, 2023) (Closes: January 26, 2023)

Notices, Resources, & Reports

• NEW: OSTP/NSTC: <u>A Framework for Federal Scientific Integrity Policy and Practice</u>

Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities

• **NEW:** William T. Grant Foundation: <u>William T. Grant Scholars Program</u> (Closes: July 5, 2023)

Upcoming Events

- NSF Webinar: Diversity and STEM: New Data from NCSES, January 31, 2023
- <u>Population Association of America Applied Demography Conference</u>, February 7-9, 2023, Annapolis, MD
- <u>Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention</u>, February 23-25, 2023, Atlanta, GA
- <u>Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting</u>, March 14-18, 2023, National Harbor, MD
- <u>Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting</u>, March 23-25, 2023, Salt Lake City, UT
- Midwest Sociological Society Annual Meeting, March 23-26, 2023, Minneapolis, MN
- <u>Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Meeting</u>, March 30 April 1, 2023, Fort Worth, TX
- <u>Population Association of America Annual Meeting</u>, April 12-15, 2023, New Orleans, LA
- Midwest Political Science Association Conference, April 13-16, 2023, Chicago, IL
- <u>American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting</u>, April 13-16, 2023, Chicago, IL
- 2023 Social Science Advocacy Day, April 25, 2023, Washington, DC
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A list of COSSA members' annual meetings and other events can be found on the COSSA <u>events page</u>. 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 <u>bgoodrich@cossa.org</u>.

COSSA 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

Colleges and Universities

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 San Diego State University

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 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 Division for Research of the Council for **Exceptional Children Economic History Association** Midwest Sociological Society National Association of Social Workers National Council on Family Relations **Rural Sociological Society** Social Science History Association Society for Personality Assessment Society for Prevention Research Society for Research on Adolescence Society for Social Work and Research Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues Southern Political Science Association Southwestern Social Science Association

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SAGE Publishing Wiley

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Centers and Institutes

American Academy of Political and Social Science Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences 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

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 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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