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FEATURED NEWS

- President Biden Issues Executive Order on Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

- Newly Elected House Speaker Mike Johnson Releases Appropriations Schedule Amidst Risk Government Shutdown

EXECUTIVE BRANCH NEWS

- NIH Director Nomination Progresses
- NIH Releases RFI on Draft Scientific Integrity Policy
- HHS Requests Comments on Revision of Research Misconduct Policies
- OBSSR Launches Two Funding Opportunities focused on Intimate Partner Violence Research
- NSF Press Conference: A Stride Towards Pandemic Prediction and Prevention
- Biden Administration Designates Regional Innovation and Technology Hubs Program
- Office of Evaluation Sciences is Seeking a Division Director

SCIENCE COMMUNITY NEWS

- National Academies Hosting Workshop Encouraging Greater Science Accessibility
- NASEM Seeks Experts for the Executive Committee of the Societal Experts Action Network

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

- UCLA Psychologist Dr. Shelley E. Taylor Awarded National Medal of Science
- Register for the 2023 Sage-CASBS Award Lecture

RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES

- Funding Opportunities
- Requests for Comment & Calls for Papers
- Notices, Resources, & Reports
- Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities
- Upcoming Events

Featured News

President Biden Issues Executive Order on Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence

On October 10, President Biden unveiled a groundbreaking **Executive Order** (EO), setting the stage for the United States to lead in harnessing the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) while effectively managing its risks. This EO builds upon existing commitments from 15 major companies, showcasing a united front in the pursuit of safe and trustworthy AI development that addresses 8 critical areas:

- New Standards for AI Safety and Security
- Protecting Americans' Privacy

- Advancing Equity and Civil Rights
- Standing Up for Consumers, Patients, and Students
- Supporting Workers
- Promoting Innovation and Competition
- Advancing American Leadership Abroad
- Ensuring Responsible Government Use of AI

This EO represents a significant stride toward ensuring that AI development and use are safe, secure, and beneficial for all Americans. It addresses critical aspects ranging from safety and security to privacy, equity, and leadership on both domestic and international fronts.

Stay tuned to [COSSA](#) for continued updates.

Congressional News

Newly Elected House Speaker Mike Johnson Releases Appropriations Schedule Amidst Risk Government Shutdown

On October 25, Mike Johnson (R-LA) stepped into the pivotal role of Speaker of the House, a position that demands immediate attention to pressing challenges, including a potential government shutdown in the coming weeks, and crucial decisions regarding U.S. financial support for Ukraine and Israel.

Throughout his career, Johnson has been known for his strong conservative stances on social issues, particularly anti-abortion policies and restrictions on LGBTQ+ rights. As a staunch conservative, he has also been an active participant in the House's impeachment inquiry into President Biden.

What may further complicate funding agreements, President Biden has requested [\\$106 billion in supplemental foreign aid](#) and defense funding, including \$61.4 billion for Ukraine and \$14.3 billion for Israel, as well as an additional \$56 billion for domestic programs like child care and broadband internet access. Speaker Johnson has indicated his preference to split the funding for Israel and Ukraine, which could pose a hurdle for the Ukraine aid, given opposition from many House Republicans.

One of the pressing questions surrounding Speaker Johnson's tenure is whether he can find a way to compromise with Democrats, who hold control of the Senate. While he may garner support for Republican-approved legislation in the House, it still must pass a Democrat-controlled Senate, where aggressive spending cuts he has previously advocated for are unlikely to gain approval.

To navigate these challenges, Johnson has proposed an [appropriations schedule](#) that includes seeking consensus on the last two FY 2024 appropriations bills, creating a working group to address concerns with the Agriculture, Rural Development, and Food and Drug Administration appropriations bill, and working towards a stopgap measure that extend government funding beyond the November 17 deadline that instead would expire January 15 or April 15, if needed. In addition, he seeks to take up the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education appropriations bill on the House floor during the week of November 13.

The coming weeks will be a test of Speaker Mike Johnson's leadership and his ability to balance the demands of a divided Congress, to deliver on his proposed stopgap measure that he plans to negotiate to extend funding into 2024.

Stay tuned to [COSSA](#) for updates.

Executive Branch News

NIH Director Nomination Progresses

On October 25, the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) voted to advance Dr. Monica Bertagnolli's confirmation as the next Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) ([see previous COSSA coverage](#)). Six Senators voted against her confirmation, including the Chair of the HELP Committee Senator Bernie Sanders (D-VT), citing concerns about rising drug prices in the United States. If confirmed, Bertagnolli will replace the current Acting Director, Dr. Lawrence Tabak, [who has been serving since the departure of Francis Collins in 2021](#).

During her [nomination hearing](#), Bertagnolli spoke of the importance of the social and behavioral sciences stating, "We must interrogate the broad range of behavioral and social science challenges we face today while laying the foundation to address new issues that will arise in the future." Bertagnolli is the Director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and previously served as the Richard E. Wilson Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School and as a surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Bertagnolli holds a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from Princeton University and received her medical degree from the University of Utah.

Bertagnolli will require a full Senate vote prior to being confirmed as NIH Director. [Stay tuned for continued coverage](#) of the confirmation process.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS: NIH Releases RFI on Draft Scientific Integrity Policy

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has released a [request for information](#) (RFI) on the [draft of their new Scientific Integrity Policy](#). This policy is in response to the White House's Office of Science and Technology Policy's (OSTP) [memorandum](#) requiring federal agencies to develop scientific integrity policies to restore trust in science ([see previous COSSA coverage](#)). NIH expects the policy to ensure that research is trustworthy and available to the public, and that their policies and programs are transparent, and evidence based. The draft policy changes include a new definition of scientific integrity; roles and responsibilities of the new positions NIH Chief Scientist and NIH Scientific Integrity Official; and protections against potential political interference. NIH seeks to gain input from the public on these changes as well as any other comments the public may have.

Comments are requested by November 9 and can be submitted [here](#).

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS: HHS Requests Comments on Revision of Research Misconduct Policies

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has released a [request for information](#) (RFI) on a proposed revision of the Public Health Service (PHS) Policies on Research Misconduct within the Office of Research Integrity (ORI) in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH). This policy has not been updated since its creation in 2005 and HHS expects to update the policy to clarify confidentiality requirements and revise definitions of various terms that were not previously defined in the original policy.

Comments are requested by December 5 and can be submitted [here](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: OBSSR Launches Two Funding Opportunities focused on Intimate Partner Violence Research

On October 4, the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) announced two [Implementing a Maternal Health and Pregnancy Outcomes Visions for Everyone \(IMPROVE\) initiative](#) funding opportunities focused on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) research. NIH launched the IMPROVE initiative in 2019 to support research that aims to minimize preventable causes of maternal mortality and improve maternal health outcomes.

Within this initiative, the [Career Enhancement Award to Advance the Study of Intimate Partner Violence \(IPV\) in the Context of Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Research](#) invites experienced researchers in maternal morbidity and mortality to enhance their skills and knowledge in intimate partner violence (IPV). The program offers research training, career development, and a small-scale research project to help experienced investigators acquire the necessary skills to incorporate intimate partner violence (IPV) and related concepts into their ongoing research.

The second funding opportunity is the [R25 for Short Courses on Techniques for Measuring Intimate Partner Violence \(IPV\) in Different Populations](#), which aims to facilitate educational activities that enhance comprehension of biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research, as well as its implications.

Applications for both opportunities are due December 1 and you can find additional information [here](#).

EVENT: NSF Press Conference: A Stride Towards Pandemic Prediction and Prevention

In an upcoming press conference, the National Science Foundation (NSF) is set to unveil the Phase II Centers Program of the [Predictive Intelligence for Pandemic Prevention \(PIPP\)](#) initiative, marking a significant stride towards understanding, predicting, and preventing infectious disease pandemics.

This event will provide an overview of the PIPP Phase II Centers Program, discuss the roles of NSF Directorates, and highlight the necessity of broad expertise and collaboration across various research communities. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage with NSF representatives, ask questions, and gain a deeper understanding of the community's collective role in transforming society's ability to forecast, detect, and respond to pandemic-scale events.

Confirm your [attendance](#) by November 9.

Biden Administration Designates Regional Innovation and Technology Hubs Program

On October 23, [President Biden](#) announced the designation of the inaugural 31 [Tech Hubs program](#), as well as recipients of 29 Tech Hubs Strategy Development Grants.

As part of the *CHIPS and Science Act* ([see previous COSSA coverage](#)), this program aims to establish and support regional innovation centers, fostering growth and technological advancement across various regions. Each hub will utilize the unique strengths of its community and regional industry to build and scale their respective Innovation and Technology Hub.

Additionally, numerous organizations throughout the country will receive Strategy Development Grants to strengthen their capabilities, with potential for future hub designation. The program represents a comprehensive investment in regional economies, addressing the need for quality STEM education and investment in economically disadvantaged communities.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Office of Evaluation Sciences is Seeking a Division Director

The Office of Evaluation Sciences (OES) continues to expand their team. As [previously reported by COSSA](#), the OES is the recently established evaluations team within the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA).

Recently, the job posting for a Division Director has gone live and is officially taking applications through November 3. Learn more about the position and application

requirements [here](#).

Any potential applicants for future OES positions should prepare a [USAJOBS](#) profile and continue to monitor the [OES opportunities page](#) and the [OES LinkedIn](#) profile page for announcements.

Science Community News

EVENT: National Academies Hosting Workshop Encouraging Greater Science Accessibility

On November 30 through December 1, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine will be hosting a public workshop aiming to provide crucial insights and recommendations to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). This two-day event is set to address topics surrounding scholarly publications and key focus areas of the workshop include promoting equity in publication, enhancing accessibility, addressing publication and increasing transparency of research.

The National Academies invites all interested parties to participate and contribute to this vital conversation.

For more information and to register, please visit their [website](#).

CALL FOR EXPERTS: NASEM Seeks Experts for the Executive Committee of the Societal Experts Action Network

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's (NASEM) Societal Experts Action Network (SEAN) ([see previous coverage](#)) is seeking suggestions for experts to participate on their Executive Committee. SEAN is a network of leading individuals and institutions in the social, behavioral, and economic sciences that facilitates rapid responses to actionable questions from federal, state, and local decision makers.

The National Academies staff will be looking to fill open seats on the Executive Committee of approximately 12 total volunteer experts with expertise particularly in the following areas:

- Psychology
- Public Health
- Public Policy
- Mental Health
- Substance Use
- Climate Science
- Economics
- Communications
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Education

Submit nominations [here](#) by November 27. Follow COSSA's [continued coverage](#) on the SEAN initiative.

COSSA Member Spotlight

UCLA Psychologist Dr. Shelley E. Taylor Awarded National Medal of Science

On October 24, President Biden [announced](#) the recipients of the annual National Medal of Science and National Medal of Technology and Innovation, the nation's highest honors for discoveries and advancements in science and technology. Among the 2023 recipients is Dr. [Shelley E. Taylor](#) of the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), a COSSA university member, who received the National Medal of Science in Behavioral and Social Science. Taylor is a health and social psychologist, known best for her research in socioemotional resources and positive illusions.

The full list of award recipients can be found on the [White House website](#).

EVENT: Register for the 2023 Sage-CASBS Award Lecture

On November 16, the 2023 Sage and Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University (CASBS) Award Lecture will be taking place. Back in June, Sage and CASBS announced Elizabeth Anderson and Alondra Nelson as the winners of the 2023 Award ([see previous coverage](#)). Sage and CASBS are both COSSA members.

During the event, Elizabeth Anderson and Alondra Nelson will deliver their award talks, then join in a moderated conversation. The event will conclude with award presentations. Anyone interested in attending can watch the livestream [here](#) or register to attend in person [here](#).

The event will be streamed live online and filmed. The recording will be posted on [CASBS's website](#) and [YouTube channel](#) for later viewing.

Resources & Opportunities

Funding Opportunities

- NIH: Research on Biopsychosocial Factors of Social Connectedness and Isolation on Health, Wellbeing, Illness, and Recovery ([R01 BESH Required](#)) ([R01 Clinical Trials Not Allowed](#)) ([R01 Clinical Trial Required](#)) (Closes: June 22, 2024)
- NIH: [Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): Validation of Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence Tools for Improved Assessment in Epidemiological, Clinical, and Intervention Research](#) (Closes: March 9, 2024)
- **NEW:** NIH: [New IMPROVE Initiative Funding Opportunities focusing on Intimate Partner Violence \(IPV\) research](#) (Closes: December 2, 2023)
- NIH: [Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers \(MOSAIC\) Institutionally-Focused Research Education Award to Promote Diversity](#) (Closes: November 16, 2023)
- NSF: [Smart Health and Biomedical Research in the Era of Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Data Science Program](#) (Closes: November 9, 2023)
- NSF: [Growing Research Access for Nationally Transformative Equity and Diversity \(GRANTED\)](#) (Rolling Deadline)

Requests for Comment & Calls for Papers

- NIH: [Request for Information: Opportunities and Challenges for the Collection, Use, and Sharing of Real-World Data \(RWD\) Including Electronic Health Records](#) (Closes: December 14, 2023)
- NSF: [Request for Proposals: Predictive Intelligence for Pandemic Prevention \(PIPP\) Phase II Centers Program](#) (Closes: December 8, 2023)
- **NEW:** HHS: [Call for Comments: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking intending to revise the Public Health Service Policies on Research Misconduct](#) (Closes: December 5, 2023)
- MPSA: [Call for Subfields, Undergraduate Sections and Working Group proposals for the 81st Annual MPSA Conference](#) (Closes: December 4, 2023)
- **NEW:** [DBASSE - Societal Experts Action Network: Call for Experts](#) (Closes: November 27, 2023)

- **NEW:** [SRCD: Call for Submissions for the SRCD Summit](#) (Closes: November 16, 2023)
- [National Center for Education Research: Request for Information on Potential New Program](#) (Closes: November 13, 2023)
- **NEW:** [DBASSE - Federal Policy Impacts on Child Poverty: Call for Experts](#) (Closes: November 10, 2023)
- **NEW:** [DBASSE- Board on Human-Systems Integration: Call for Experts](#) (Closes: November 10, 2023)
- [T-AP call on Democracy, Governance and Trust](#) (Closes: November 6, 2023)
- **NEW:** [Call for Papers for the PAA Applied Demography Conference](#) (Closes: November 3, 2023)

Notices, Resources, & Reports

- **NEW:** [NASEM: A Roadmap for Disclosure Avoidance in the Survey of Income and Program Participation](#)

Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities

- [Fellowship at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences](#) (CASBS), Stanford University (Closes: November 3, 2023)

Upcoming Events

- [Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences Annual Meeting](#), November 1-4, 2023, San Diego, CA
- **NEW:** [Build and Broaden Workshop in the Directorate of Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences](#), November 2, 2023, Virtual
- **NEW:** [NASEM: Generative AI and the Implications for Science Communication Webinar](#), November 7, 2023, Virtual
- [National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference](#), November 8-11, Orlando, FL
- [Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference](#), November 9-11, 2023, Atlanta, GA
- **NEW:** [2023 Sage-CASBS Award Lecture](#), November 16, 2023, Stanford, CA or Virtual
- [American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting](#), November 15-18, 2023, Philadelphia, PA
- [American Anthropological Association/Canadian Anthropology Society Annual Meeting](#), November 15-19, 2023, Toronto, ON, CA
- [National Communication Association 109th Annual Convention](#), November 16-19, 2023, National Harbor, MD
- **NEW:** [Enhancing Public Access to the Results of Research Supported by the Department of Health and Human Services - A Workshop](#), November 30-December 1, 2023, Washington, DC or Virtual
- [2023 NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Festival](#), December 5, 2023, Virtual

COSSA members who have an upcoming event they would like to see listed should send an email to ebailey@coffa.org.

COSSA Members

Governing Associations

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

Colleges and Universities

Boston University
 Brown University
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Case Western Reserve University

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
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 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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University of Texas, Austin
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin, Madison
Virginia Tech
Yale University

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,

Our Team

Executive Director

Wendy A. Naus

Director of Public Affairs

Elyse Bailey

Assistant Director of Government

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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