

# C SSA

CONSORTIUM *of* SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS



2023 ANNUAL REPORT



## 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 sustained social and behavioral science research enterprise.

## Our MEMBERS

COSSA enjoys a robust and diverse membership—a community that shares a commitment to ensuring a secure future for federally-supported social and behavioral science research. Membership in COSSA is institutional and comprised of professional and disciplinary associations, scientific societies, research centers and institutes, U.S. colleges and universities, and private sector affiliates. COSSA’s complete membership list can be found on the back cover of this report and is available online at [cossa.org/members](https://cossa.org/members).

### Don’t see your organization on COSSA’s membership list?

Learn how to join at [cossa.org/join](https://cossa.org/join).

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### Are you subscribed to COSSA member-exclusive emails?

Did you know anyone affiliated with a member organization is eligible to receive COSSA’s members-only resources? That’s right! If you belong to one of COSSA’s member associations/ institutions, or work for/attend one of our member universities, YOU are a COSSA member. You can sign up to receive COSSA’s member benefits directly, including timely updates on policy and funding impacting social and behavioral science, invitations to members-only events, and action alerts when your voice is needed to effect change on Capitol Hill.

Sign up today at [cossa.org/members/mm-subscribe](https://cossa.org/members/mm-subscribe).



# Message from COSSA

## The more things change...

Dear Friends:

As I close out my tenth year as COSSA's Executive Director, I can't help but reflect on all that has happened over the last decade. We have successfully beaten back efforts to cut social and behavioral science funding and attacks on individual grants, welcomed more than 500 social and behavioral scientists to Washington to participate in Social Science Advocacy Day (created in 2015), developed and promoted detailed roadmaps for two incoming Presidential administrations, and created an Action Center on our website to help our members make their voices heard with their elected officials. Even COSSA itself has seen tremendous change these last ten years, from a full bylaws revision and new leadership structure, logo and website redesigns, and the launch of *Why Social Science?* (see later in this report for more). And of course, the COVID-19 pandemic and years that followed forced us all to rethink everything we thought we knew, personally and professionally.

However, when it comes to securing increased federal funding for research, many of the obstacles are perennial. Funding for federal agencies and programs that support social and behavioral science research is never guaranteed, and, unfortunately, there will always be elected officials who do not agree that social science research is a wise use of taxpayer dollars. As I said in my first COSSA Annual Report in 2014, "This must be an ongoing effort—unfortunately this marathon has no finish line." That's why organizations like COSSA play such an important role—to be a constant connection between the research community and policymakers.

Looking back on 2023, a new Congress was seated in January, and not without a considerable amount of drama surrounding who would serve as Speaker of the House. As you will read throughout this report, the 118th Congress has so far been marred by crippling gridlock and party



infighting. There are political and partisan forces at play that reach well beyond COSSA's influence. However, with a new Congress comes new opportunities to garner champions and educate lawmakers about all that social and behavioral science research has to offer.

One way we engaged with policymakers this year was with the return of our in-person Social Science Advocacy Day. After three years of Zoom meetings and virtual events, we were thrilled to welcome advocates back to Washington to engage directly with Congress. One of our advocates shared their experience this way: "I walked away from this event feeling increased confidence and efficacy in my work and in helping to use my research to inform policy. I also gained important experience that will help me in my future career search. I would recommend this to everyone!"

Heading into 2024 and the tough political fights that lie ahead, one thing is certain—cuts to science funding remains very much on the table. We must continue to push, to show up, and to have our voices heard. I hope you will join us and take advantage of all that COSSA has to offer. Whether you are new to advocacy or not, COSSA can help.

Thank you for all of the support these last 10 years. Let's make the next 10 even better!

With gratitude,

**Wendy Naus**  
*COSSA Executive Director*



# COSSA *Team*

## Wendy A. Naus

*Executive Director*

[wnaus@coffa.org](mailto:wnaus@coffa.org)

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 proud 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. Wendy is an inducted Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

## Ian Gaines

*Assistant Director of Government Relations*

[igaines@coffa.org](mailto:igaines@coffa.org)

Ian Gaines is a government relations professional with policy expertise that lays at the intersection of technology, justice, and social impact. At his previous role, Ian led the development of grassroots initiatives that taught digital financial literacy to communities in over 40 cities across the United States. This work led to further advocacy on Capitol Hill, where he educated policy-makers on the inclusive and empowerment utility of emerging technologies. At COSSA, Ian is responsible for expanding the organization's advocacy reach to critical emerging and innovative policy areas. He is also working to develop new partnerships that will help to advance the field of social and behavioral science in U.S. policy. Ian is a native of New Jersey and holds a B.A. in political science from the University of Chicago.

STAFF LIST AS OF 12/31/2023

## Elyse Bailey

*Director of Public Affairs*

[ebailey@coffa.org](mailto:ebailey@coffa.org)

Elyse Bailey joined the COSSA team as Director of Public Affairs in April 2023. Over the course of her career, Elyse has worked in communications roles throughout a wide variety of industries and comes to COSSA after three years with VisitBritain, the tourist board of Great Britain. In her role at COSSA, Elyse develops and executes key communications strategies and works to support additional advocacy and policy efforts to promote COSSA's mission in supporting social and behavioral science research. A native of Northern Virginia, Elyse holds a B.A. in Anthropology with a double minor in IT and Biology from George Mason University.

## Kenzie Shelstad

*Government Relations Associate*

[kshelstad@coffa.org](mailto:kshelstad@coffa.org)

Kenzie Shelstad joined the COSSA team in August 2022 as a Government Relations Associate after graduating from the University of Missouri with a B.A. in international studies. In her role at COSSA, Kenzie is responsible for monitoring and analyzing Congressional activities and legislation, observing research directions and policy changes of Federal agencies, and contributing to the production and distribution of COSSA's written and online products. Previously, Kenzie completed advocacy internships with Her Bold Move, a non-profit political organization focused on electing women into government positions, and Resilience, Inc., a non-profit dedicated to expanding social emotional learning access throughout the United States.



## *Interns* **WANTED!**

COSSA invites undergraduate interns to join the team throughout the year, especially students from COSSA member institutions. We had the privilege of hosting two interns virtually and in-person in 2023:

**SPRING:** Brenna Tosh, Cornell University\*

**FALL:** Blessing Agyare, Northwestern University\*

\*COSSA member institution

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



# COSSA News

## Danielle Staudt Elected COSSA Board Chair



The COSSA Board of Directors elected Danielle Staudt, Executive Director of the Population Association of America (PAA), as its next chair for the 2023–2024 term. Danielle is an association executive with over 20 years of experience and has served as the Executive Director for PAA—a COSSA Governing Member—since 2014. PAA is the home for population researchers and demographers, and its mission is to support and promote high-quality population research. “I am excited and honored to serve as COSSA’s chair,” says Staudt. “COSSA has been an invaluable resource to me and PAA; I’m grateful for the opportunity to give back to the organization and social and behavioral science community.” Staudt succeeds Edward Liebow, past Executive Director of the American Anthropological Association (AAA), who completed his second term as Board Chair at the end of 2022.

## Edward Liebow Receives COSSA’s 2023 Distinguished Service Award

COSSA awarded its 2023 Distinguished Service Award to Edward Liebow, then-Executive Director of the American Anthropological Association (AAA) and former Chair of COSSA’s Board of Directors. Liebow was recognized in Washington, DC on April 24 as part of COSSA’s 2023 Social Science Advocacy Day activities. “Ed has dedicated his career to the advancement of the social and behavioral sciences,” says Wendy Naus, COSSA’s Executive Director. “I, COSSA, and the research community writ large owe a debt of gratitude to Ed for his leadership, guidance, and friendship.” Liebow was elected Chair of COSSA’s Board of Directors in 2019 and served two full terms in the role, which included stewarding the organization through the COVID-19 pandemic.



## COSSA Executive Director Named AAAS Fellow

In early 2023 it was announced that COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus had been named to the 2022 Class of Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Naus, who has led COSSA since 2014, is recognized for “leadership in communicating to both Congress and the public the importance of the social and behavioral sciences, and for effective advocacy in support of these sciences.” She joins past COSSA Executive Directors Roberta Balstad (1997) and Howard Silver (1998). Election as a Fellow is a lifetime honor given to select AAAS members who have made significant contributions to the U.S. science and technology enterprise. Naus is among 505 scientists and leaders elected to the 2022 Class.



# COSSA Year in Review

2

New COSSA members in 2023



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
SAN BERNARDINO

53 State fact sheets on social and behavioral science Funding



46

Meetings with members of Congress and staff conducted on Social Science Advocacy Day, April 25, 2023



17

Guest contributors to

WHY?  
SOCIAL SCIENCE

213

Original articles published in the COSSA Washington Update

280

21

Email updates on timely policy developments sent exclusively to COSSA members

60

Pages of analysis & reporting on legislation and agency policies



50 In-Person Social Science Advocacy Day participants, April 25, 2023

50

4

COSSA-authored policy analyses on science and funding legislation

Participants in COSSA's Action Alerts

22

Intersociety & coalition letters joined

287

New subscribers to the COSSA Washington Update & exclusive member messages

Brought to you by

4

Full-Time Staff Members

&

Critical Support of

89

Member Organizations



# COSSA's 2023 *Social Science University Rankings*

COSSA released its 2023 College and University Rankings for Federal Social and Behavioral R&D in February, highlighting the top university recipients of federal research dollars in the social and behavioral sciences among more than 500 U.S. institutions. The COSSA rankings, which are based on the most recent available federal data, use an inclusive selection of fields representing the breadth of the social and behavioral sciences to calculate the total federal R&D funding received by universities in the social and behavioral sciences.

## Top 10 Social Science Funding Recipients for 2023:

1	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor* (MI)	\$94,689,000	(#1 in 2022)
2	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill* (NC)	\$77,911,000	(#2 in 2022)
3	University of Southern California (CA)	\$53,491,000	(#5 in 2022)
4	University of Maryland* (MD)	\$52,039,000	(#3 in 2022)
5	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (MN)	\$39,845,000	(#4 in 2022)
6	Pennsylvania State University*, University Park and Hershey Medical Center (PA)	\$38,676,000	(#6 in 2022)
7	Harvard University* (MA)	\$34,755,000	(#10 in 2022)
8	Arizona State University (AZ)	\$33,396,000	(#7 in 2022)
9	University of Wisconsin-Madison* (WI)	\$32,601,000	(#9 in 2022)
10	University of Washington, Seattle* (WA)	\$32,363,000	(#13 in 2022)

\* COSSA member

To see how your institution stacks up, check out the full rankings at [cossa.org/social-science](https://cossa.org/social-science).

## *New* MEMBERS

COSSA welcomed two new member organizations in 2023.



# Funding & Policy Highlights

## 2024 Science Funding Kicked to Next Year...

As 2023 drew to a close, Congress remained no closer to completing the fiscal year (FY) 2024 appropriations process, despite missing the October 1 deadline. Lawmakers averted a government shutdown over the holidays by enacting a continuing resolution into next year. However, given the crippling partisan gridlock plaguing the Congress, many agree that the FY 2024 appropriations process will be in roughly the same spot come January, with Senate Democrats looking to abide by a bipartisan budget deal struck earlier in the year and hardline Republicans in the House holding out for cuts beyond the agreed upon level (see table). COSSA produced in-depth analyses of the FY 2024 funding bills as they currently stand, which are available at [cossa.org/tag/fy-2024](https://cossa.org/tag/fy-2024).

## Congress in Brief



### 118th Congress Convenes Amid Historic Speaker Conflict

The 118th Congress got off to a slow start due

to a protracted fight within the Republican party over who was to serve as Speaker of the House. In order to secure the necessary votes, Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) agreed to a number of conditions, such as: (1) any Member of Congress can call for a vote to vacate the speakership; and (2) FY 2024 spending would be capped at the 2022 level, which would cut discretionary spending by at least 8 percent below current levels. The fractures in the Republican party and the razor thin majority in the House promised to make 2023 one of the most fraught in recent history. Tensions came to a head in the fall when Speaker McCarthy was ousted by his own party, leaving Congress without a Speaker for three weeks. Finally in late October, Rep. Mike Johnson (R-LA) was elected Speaker. As a largely unknown entity on the national stage Johnson's ascension to the Speakership leaves a lot of questions about the fate of science funding and other policy. More at [cossa.org/tag/118th-congress](https://cossa.org/tag/118th-congress).

(in millions)	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 Budget Request	FY 2024 Senate*	FY 2024 House†	House vs. FY 2023
National Science Foundation	9876.0	11354.7	9500.0	9630.1	-2.4%
National Institutes of Health	48959.0	50770.1	49224.0	45122.5	-7.8%
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	373.5	447.5	370.5	0.0	-100.0%
Bureau of the Census	1485.0	1606.0	1501.0	1354.0	-8.8%
Bureau of Economic Analysis	130.0	154.0	130.0	116.0	-10.8%
Bureau of Justice Statistics	42.0	78.0	42.5	35.0	-16.7%
Bureau of Labor Statistics	698.0	758.4	698.0	658.0	-5.7%
Centers for Disease Control	9217.6	11580.9	919.3	7591.6	-17.6%
International Education and Foreign Language Studies	85.7	85.7	85.6	35.0	-59.1%
Institute of Education Sciences	807.6	870.9	793.1	707.4	-12.4%
National Institute of Justice	35.0	63.0	35.5	25.0	-28.6%

\*The Senate bills were reported out of the Appropriations Committee; they have not been voted on by the full Senate.  
†The House bills bypassed the Appropriations Committee and were brought directly to the House floor; they have not yet passed the full House.

## CHIPS and Science Act Turns One

August 9 marked the one-year anniversary of enactment of the *CHIPS and Science Act of 2022* (P.L. 117-167), sweeping legislation aimed at reinvestment in and advancement of the U.S. scientific enterprise. Countless activities have ensued since passage of the landmark bill, such as the creation of the new Technology, Innovation and Partnerships (TIP) Directorate at the National Science Foundation, efforts to address research security, research integrity and broadening participation in science, and new federal investments in key technology areas, such as artificial intelligence.

Another feature of the law was the inclusion of ambitious funding targets for federal science agencies. However, as with all "authorization" bills, funding needs to be provided through the annual appropriations process in order for those funding targets to be realized. COSSA continues to work with partners across the scientific community to push for the funding levels envisioned in the law and urge policymakers to make science a priority this year and every year. More at [cossa.org/tag/chips-and-science-act](https://cossa.org/tag/chips-and-science-act).



### COSSA Mourns Passing of Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson

At the end of 2023 the scientific community

lost one of its most dedicated champions in Congress with the passing of former Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX). Congresswoman Johnson represented the Dallas area for 30 years, retiring at the end of 2022. Over those 15 terms, Johnson played important roles in the development of major science legislation throughout her tenure as a member of the Science Committee, including passage of the *America COMPETES Act of 2010* which paved the way for new investment in federal science funding and put a spotlight on the need to make science more inclusive by expanding opportunities for women and people of color.

More recently, Johnson is credited with leading efforts to enact the *CHIPS and Science Act in 2022*, sweeping legislation that included ambitious funding targets and other policy proposals for shoring up U.S. science agencies, including the National Science Foundation. COSSA awarded Johnson its Distinguished Service Award in 2016.

## What To Watch In 2024

### NIH Reform Legislation

In September, Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA) released a request for information (RFI) seeking ways to reform the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Cassidy is the ranking Republican on the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee. According to Cassidy, the RFI is intended to gain insight on ways to increase the pace of science and better organize the NIH, including ways to improve the federal research grant application process and improve collaboration and transparency within both academia and federal agencies. Interest is growing on Capitol Hill for NIH reauthorization legislation, especially among Republicans following the COVID pandemic. This is a developing story to watch in 2024. More at [cossa.org/tag/nih](https://cossa.org/tag/nih).

### Artificial Intelligence Takes Center Stage

Congressional interest in artificial intelligence (AI) exploded in 2023. Approximately 30 hearings were held and more than 160 bills introduced throughout the year addressing AI's relationship to a variety of issues, such as human rights, intellectual property, national defense, energy security, research competitiveness, health care, agriculture, housing, financial services, and the use of AI within the federal government itself. Lawmakers have yet to coalesce around strategies or goals regarding the emerging technology, but it is a topic sure to continue to be prioritized in 2024. More at [cossa.org/tag/artificial-intelligence](https://cossa.org/tag/artificial-intelligence).





# Biden Administration & Executive Agency Developments



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

In October, 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. The EO builds upon existing commitments from 15 major companies showcasing a united front in the pursuit of safe and trustworthy AI development. It directs federal agencies to take actions such as identifying and implementing standards for AI safety and security, protecting privacy, advancing equity and Civil Rights, promoting innovation and competition, and ensuring responsible use of AI within government, among others. More at [cossa.org/tag/artificial-intelligence](https://cossa.org/tag/artificial-intelligence).

### WATCH IN 2024

#### NSF's Merit Review Process to be Revisited

The National Science Board (NSB), the policy-making body of the National Science Foundation (NSF), has established a commission to review NSF's merit review process and criteria. The NSB-NSF Commission on Merit Review (MRX) was formally created in February in response to language included in the *CHIPS and Science Act* passed in 2022 that called on NSF to partner with an external organization to assess how NSF's Broader Impacts review criterion is applied across the agency and make recommendations for improving effectiveness. The NSB decided to broaden the scope of the Commission to include the entire merit review process, which has not been holistically reviewed in 11 years. The Board intends to release a preliminary set of recommendations for public comment with a final report and recommendations anticipated in 2024. More at [cossa.org/tag/peer-review](https://cossa.org/tag/peer-review).



#### BJS Celebrates 50 Years of National Crime and Victimization Survey

In September, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) within the Department of Justice (DOJ) hosted a public seminar celebrating 50 years of the National Crime and Victimization Survey (NCVS). The survey is the only crime and victimization instrument in the United States that addresses underreported crime through survey collection rather than police reporting. The NCVS is used to understand crime patterns and the impact of that crime in different households, recognizing victims that may have been indirectly affected by the crime. The seminar included panels that discussed the past, present, and future of the NCVS, including new tools BJS has developed to modernize the survey. More at [cossa.org/tag/bjs](https://cossa.org/tag/bjs).

### WATCH IN 2024

#### OSTP Investigates the Costs of Open Access Publishing

In November, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) published a report exploring the impact for covering the cost of openly publishing federally-funded research. The report outlines multiple challenges endured by federal grantees and intramural researchers but estimates that in 2021 the cost was roughly \$378 million. The report builds on an economic analysis OSTP released in August 2022 alongside a directive that requires federally funded research publications to be free to read immediately upon publication, starting in 2026. Congress requested the report through its appropriations legislation for fiscal year (FY) 2023, citing concerns that some open access publishing financing mechanisms, particularly total article processing fees (APCs) and transformative agreements, may "present growing barriers to knowledge generation and sharing." Congress asked OSTP to estimate how much of the costs of both APCs and transformative agreements were reinforced by federal grantees. More at [cossa.org/tag/public-access](https://cossa.org/tag/public-access).

#### Board of Education Sciences Returns After Six Years

In September, the Institute of Education Sciences' (IES) National Board of Education Sciences (NBES) met for the first time in six years. The Biden Administration appointed members to NBES in November 2022, allowing the board to resume its work with the institute to ensure their priorities are consistent with its mission. NBES is also responsible for strengthening procedures for technical and scientific peer review, presenting recommendations to improve education research, soliciting advice and information from the field, and ensuring IES is compliant with the *Education Sciences Reform Act*. More at [cossa.org/tag/ies](https://cossa.org/tag/ies).



# Biden Administration *Comings & Goings*



## Alondra Nelson Leaves OSTP Post

Dr. Alondra Nelson stepped down from her position as Deputy Director for Science and Society at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) in February. Nelson was

appointed to the newly-created position by then-President-elect Biden in January 2021. A large focus of her work has been on advancing equity in science and using science to inform more equitable policies for the public good. She also served as acting director of OSTP for several months, the first social scientist to do so. In her two years at OSTP, Nelson oversaw Administration efforts on research security, research integrity, ethical artificial intelligence, and greater transparency in science. She gained added attention last summer when OSTP released a memorandum directing federal agencies to eliminate the optional 12-month publication embargo period for federally funded peer reviewed research articles and to make data associated with peer reviewed research articles immediately available upon publication. More at [cossa.org/tag/ostp](https://cossa.org/tag/ostp).



## Mandy Cohen Named Next CDC Director

In July, Dr. Mandy Cohen was sworn in as Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), replacing Dr. Rochelle Walensky who served since 2020. In the release announcing the

appointment, President Biden stated, "Dr. Cohen is one of the nation's top physicians and health leaders with experience leading large and complex organizations, and a proven track-record protecting Americans' health and safety... Dr. Cohen has been recognized by leaders from both parties for her ability find common ground and put complex policy into action. I look forward to working with Dr. Cohen as she leads our nation's finest scientists and public health experts with integrity and transparency." Cohen previously served as the Director of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. She also served as Chief Operating Officer and Chief of Staff at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and as Acting-Director of the Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIO). More at [cossa.org/tag/cdc](https://cossa.org/tag/cdc).



## Jane M. Simoni Named NIH OBSSR Director

In July, Dr. Jane M. Simoni was named the next National Institutes of Health (NIH) Associate Director for Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, and Director of

the NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR). Simoni is a clinical psychologist with over 25 years of experience in research focused on health disparities and resilience among populations that have been socially marginalized. Simoni joins NIH from the University of Washington (UW) where she is Professor and Director of Clinical Training in the Department of Psychology. Simoni is the founding director of the UW Behavioral Research Center for HIV and co-directs the UW/Fred Hutch Center for AIDS Research, where she also is Associate Director of the Behavioral Science Core and Senior Advisor to the eHealth Scientific Working Group. More at [cossa.org/tag/obssr](https://cossa.org/tag/obssr).



## Piquero Departs BJS, Kevin Scott Steps in as Interim

Dr. Alexis R. Piquero, Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) within the Department of Justice stepped down from his position in August and returned to

academia. During his time at BJS, Piquero focused on disseminating justice statistics to the public in an easy-to-read and timely manner and developed *Just the Stats*, a report series for the public. Dr. Kevin M. Scott is serving as the Interim BJS Director. Scott has been with BJS since 2017 and has previously served as the Principal Deputy Director at the agency. Scott received his Ph.D. and M.A. in Political Science at The Ohio State University, and his B.A. in Political Science at the University of Oklahoma. More at [cossa.org/tag/bjs](https://cossa.org/tag/bjs).



## Remembering Dr. Kellina Craig-Henderson

The social, behavioral, and economic sciences lost one of its own on April 21 with the passing of Dr. Kellina (Kelli)

Craig-Henderson. Dr. Craig-Henderson most recently served as Assistant Director for the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate at the National Science Foundation (NSF), a post to which she was named in June 2022. Prior to that she served as Acting Assistant Director and Deputy Assistant Director in SBE, as well as various other roles during her 17 years with the agency.

"Kelli will be remembered for her passionate promotion of the social and behavioral sciences and as a scholar and champion for broadening participation of underrepresented groups in science," said COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus. "It has been an honor knowing her and having the opportunity to work with her over the years."





# COSSA ★ 2023

## SOCIAL SCIENCE ADVOCACY DAY

April 24-25, 2023

On April 24-25, more than 50 social and behavioral science researchers, students, and advocates from 11 states descended on Capitol Hill to discuss with Congress the importance of funding for federal agencies and programs that support social and behavioral science research. This was COSSA's first in-person Social Science Advocacy Day since 2019 and we were thrilled to welcome participants back to Washington!

More at [cossa.org/event/2023-social-science-advocacy-day](https://cossa.org/event/2023-social-science-advocacy-day).

### SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2023 SPONSORS:



"Our voice as social scientists can really make a difference in policy decisions - but we have to put ourselves out there and make our work known."  
- 2023 ADVOCATE

"So exciting to be in the Capitol and get an inside peek into how decisions are made. Your team is so wonderful and makes this such a great experience!"  
- 2023 ADVOCATE

"COSSA makes it really easy for us academics to get in the room with policy makers. I think more academics should be doing this."  
- 2023 ADVOCATE





## COSSA WEBINAR

### *FY 2024 Funding Outlook for Social & Behavioral Science*

In February, the COSSA team hosted a webinar on the Biden Administration’s budget request for fiscal year (FY) 2024. Staff provided in-depth analysis of the President’s proposals for federal science agencies and walked the audience through the outlook for research funding in the year ahead. More at [cossa.org/headlines](https://cossa.org/headlines).

## CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING

### *Crime and Justice Research and Statistics*

In July, COSSA partnered with the American Statistical Association, a COSSA governing member, on a virtual briefing for Congressional staff about the importance of research and statistics to inform crime and justice policy. The event featured Nancy La Vigne, Director of the National Institute of Justice, and Alex Piquero, Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, for a discussion about their priorities for advancing the use of science in crime and justice including in the areas of forensics and DNA, corrections and recidivism reduction, and the effectiveness of police body armor.



Credit: AERA

## Panel on Advocating for Education Research

In September, COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus participated in a panel discussion during the Consortium of University and Research Institutions (CURI) Fall Policy Meeting. CURI is an activity of the American Educational Research Association, a COSSA governing member, that brings together leaders from schools of education, research institutions, and scientific associations to discuss timely issues in the education research and policy space. Naus was joined by colleagues from AERA, the Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences, and the Knowledge Alliance.

## COSSA Featured in AmStat News

The American Statistical Association (ASA) featured an interview with COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus in the publication AmStat News, the membership magazine of ASA. The Q&A centered around the advocacy work of COSSA, the benefits of COSSA membership, and the various tools COSSA uses to advocate for the social and behavioral sciences. More at [magazine.amstat.org](https://magazine.amstat.org).



## COSSA Gives Back

On August 18, the COSSA team (pictured left with other volunteers) participated in its annual service outing. The staff volunteered at a Joyful Food Market, a service provided by Martha’s Table ([marthastable.org](https://marthastable.org)), distributing fresh fruits and vegetables at no cost to residents of Wards 7 and 8 in Washington, DC. These markets and other Martha’s Table programs aim to increase access to healthy, high quality foods in DC neighborhoods in most need and encourage healthy eating habits. COSSA initiated its annual service outing ten years ago as a way to give back to the DC community and identifies a different organization to support each year.



# WHY SOCIAL SCIENCE?

Launched in 2017, COSSA's Why Social Science? initiative shares stories about the many ways social and behavioral science helps us understand the world around us and the value it brings to our everyday lives. Check out our guest contributors in 2023.

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



## Because Gun Violence Requires Social Science Solutions

Jennifer Dineen (*University of Connecticut*), Kerri Raissian (*University of Connecticut*), and Cassandra Crifasi (*Johns Hopkins University*)



## Because Psychologically Healthy Workplaces Contribute to a Psychologically Healthy Population

Mark Chan and Dennis P. Stolle (*American Psychological Association*)



## Because Social Scientists Must Have a Seat at the Table: Reflections from COSSA's 2023 Social Science Advocacy Day

Deborah Carr (*Boston University*), Nicole R. Stokes (*Penn State University*) and Brenna Tosh (*Cornell University*)



## Because It Can Shed Light on Representation in the STEM Workforce

Amy Burke and Julia Milton (*National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Science Foundation*)



## Because It Can Explain How the Next Technological Revolution Impacts Our Lives and the Communities We Care About

Rayvon Fouché (*Northwestern University*)

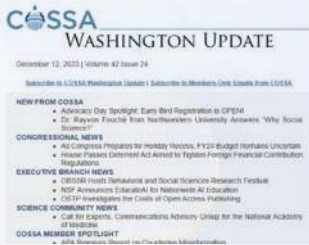
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## Timely Analysis & Policy Expertise

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 boils down often-complicated topics into easy-to-digest briefs, articulating how the issue specifically impacts the social and behavioral science community. COSSA's website is an excellent source for statements, funding analysis, testimony, and other resources. More at [cossa.org/policy](https://cossa.org/policy).



## Action Center

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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 coverage of policy developments impacting social and behavioral science research. Check it out and subscribe for free online. More at [cossa.org/washington-update](https://cossa.org/washington-update).



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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 collection of fields to calculate the total federal R&D funding received by universities in the social and behavioral sciences. The 2023 rankings reflect federal expenditures in fiscal year 2021, the most current available data. More at [cossa.org/social-science/rankings](https://cossa.org/social-science/rankings).



## 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. In addition to total dollars, the fact sheets list the primary federal sources of funding (e.g., NSF, NIH, DOD) as well as the leading university recipients in the state. More at [cossa.org/social-science](https://cossa.org/social-science).

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