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NEW FROM COSSA

- REGISTER NOW: Headlines Webinars continue December 5

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

- House LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee Holds NIH Budget Hearing
- FY 2025 Hangs in the Balance as Congress Begins Preparations for the 119th Session

EXECUTIVE BRANCH NEWS

- House Oversight Probes Biden-Harris Administration's Scientific Integrity Committees

SCIENCE COMMUNITY NEWS

- CNSF Celebrates Science Committee Chairman Lucas's Service
- NASEM Seeking Experts for Standing Committee on Advancing Science Communication

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

- COSSA Welcomes Child Trends as Newest Member!
- AERA Seeks Executive Director
- SSRC Opens Applications for Visual Sociology Prize

SOCIAL SCIENCE ADVOCACY DAY 2025 NEWS

RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES

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

New from COSSA

REGISTER NOW: Headlines Webinars continue December 5



Join COSSA on December 5 for an informal discussion on the results of the 2024 national elections and their implications for the social and behavioral sciences as we head into the new year.

Upcoming Webinars:

- December 5 will feature a discussion with the COSSA Staff on the results of the elections and their implications for the social and behavioral sciences as we head into the new year. [RSVP here](#).
- December 17 will feature a discussion with Kei Koizumi about the future of social and behavioral science in evidence-based policymaking. [RSVP here](#).

Watch for additional webinar announcements, and previous webinar recordings, on the COSSA [website](#). Headlines is a webinar series available to COSSA [member organizations](#).

Congressional News

House LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee Holds NIH Budget Hearing

On November 19, the House Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education (LHHS) Appropriations Subcommittee invited Dr. Monica Bertagnolli, Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to the Hill for a budget hearing. Normally, these hearings are scheduled prior to the appropriations bills being written—typically in the spring—but the House Appropriations Committee released their LHHS bill in July without holding a single hearing ([see COSSA's analysis here](#)). Despite the unusual sequence of events, Chairman Robert Aderholt (R-AL) and Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) were interested in the NIH's budget and investments, and how to restore trust in science.

Chairman Aderholt, having led efforts around NIH reform alongside Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) in the House Energy and Commerce Committee ([see previous COSSA coverage](#)), expressed disappointment in the results of a request for information that proposed to collapse the NIH institutes and centers from 27 to 15, indicating that the research community was resistant to change. In response to his concerns, Dr. Bertagnolli reiterated the importance of having institutes for a broad range of diseases and illnesses, indicating that it provides representation for communities affected. Further, Bertagnolli emphasized that cooperation between the institutes for cross-cutting research is a priority for the agency. To this end, Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) cited that “over 80% of Americans trust in basic science research,” and encouraged passing the final appropriations bills before the end of the year, indicating that she does not support reform of the NIH through the appropriations process.

Attention turned to the incoming Administration's plans, including remarks from Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI), about the effects of dismissing 600 NIH employees and halting disease research, as indicated by President-elect Trump's nominee for Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary, Robert F. Kenney Jr. Bertagnolli underscored the value of the NIH's workforce, not only in their knowledge of the medical disciplines but the industry, referring to their knowledge as “priceless” and indicating that the loss of staff would be detrimental to the agency. Further, when questioned about the Trump Administration's intent to halt all infectious disease research as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, she indicated that it would be harmful to the public and result in a great loss of life.

Finally, Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD) urged his colleagues to commit to holding more appropriations hearings for fiscal year (FY) 2026 following the lack of hearings held on the FY 2025 budget, including hearings with directors of individual NIH institutes and on topical issues, such as paylines for researchers. As for FY 2025, it remains unclear whether Congress will finish its work on the appropriations bills by the end of the year or extend the continuing resolution (CR) to March, which is being pushed by House Speaker Mike Johnson. Regardless, NIH is expected to be a topic of much discussion in the upcoming Administration and Congress.

A recording of the hearing can be found [here](#).

FY 2025 Hangs in the Balance as Congress Begins Preparations for the 119th Session

As the year nears its end, Congress is looking to pass either the fiscal year (FY) 2025 appropriations bills by December 20 or a continuing resolution (CR) that extends the deadline to March. As [previously reported by COSSA](#), House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) has indicated interest in the latter despite contention from Democrats and some Republicans advocating to complete the FY 2025 appropriations process so the new Congress can focus its attention on the FY 2026 appropriations process.

The 119th Congress, which will be sworn in on January 3, will look quite a bit different

from the outgoing Congress. The House will remain with a Republican majority but the Senate will shift from Democratic to Republican-control. This could very well impact the final FY 2025 appropriations bills if a CR pushes the deadline to March.

While many uncertainties remain, here's what we already know about the 119th Congress. In the House, both caucuses have already held elections for leadership positions with the Republicans unanimously reelecting Mike Johnson (R-LA) as House Speaker and Democrats reconfirming House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY). On the other side of the Capitol, Senate Republicans have elected John Thune (R-SD) as Senate Majority Leader, replacing Mitch McConnell (R-KY) who is stepping down from the position. Senate Democrats have yet to elect their Minority Leader, however, Charles Schumer (D-NY) currently serves as Majority Leader and would be the likely candidate. Frank Lucas (R-OK) is departing from his position as Chair of the House Science, Space, and Technology (SST) Committee, leaving a vacancy ([see related article](#)). While it's expected that Rep. Lucas will stay on as a committee member, rumors suggest that Brian Babin (R-TX) is a likely successor. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA) is expected to remain the Ranking Member of the committee.

The House Appropriations Committee is not expected to see major changes with Chairman Tom Cole (R-OK) and Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) expected to remain in their roles. Chairman Robert Aderholt (R-AL) and Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) are also expected to keep in their respective roles on the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education (LHHS) Subcommittee. Hal Rogers (R-KY) is expected to keep his chairmanship of the Commerce, Justice, and Science (CJS) Subcommittee, but the loss of Ranking Member Matt Cartwright (D-PA) leaves a vacancy on the Democratic side that is likely to pass to Grace Meng (D-NY).

In the Senate, there is unlikely to be any leadership changes in the Senate Appropriations Committee beyond the flip to a Republican majority. Jerry Moran (R-KS) is expected to chair the CJS Subcommittee and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) will move to Ranking Member. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) will move to Chair of the LHHS Subcommittee and Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) to Ranking Member. For the full Senate Appropriations Committee, Sens. Susan Collins (R-ME) and Patty Murray (D-WA) will swap positions to Chair and Ranking Member, respectively.

Official committee assignments are often made in the months following the beginning of the new session. Join COSSA on December 5 at 2:00pm EST for our [Post-Election Headlines](#) webinar to discuss the election results and their effect on the social and behavioral science research community.

Executive Branch News

House Oversight Probes Biden-Harris Administration's Scientific Integrity Committees

On November 14, House Committee on Oversight and Accountability Chairman James Comer (R-KY) [announced](#) an investigation into the Biden-Harris Administration's scientific integrity committees, including for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Comer cited concerns of interference of the "executive agency of future presidential administrations" through the Biden-Harris Administration's Presidential Memorandum directing the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) to develop a Task Force on Scientific Integrity and federal agencies to produce scientific integrity reports ([see previous COSSA coverage here](#)). In letters sent to the [EPA](#) and [HHS](#), Comer requested information on the agencies' development of scientific integrity councils, including the criteria for selecting members and the duties and authorities of the committee, as well as the status of scientific complaints filed against each agency and all internal and external communications regarding scientific integrity. This investigation comes as the House and Senate prepare for Republican-control chambers under the Trump Administration in 2025.

Science Community News

CNSF Celebrates Science Committee Chairman Lucas's Service



On October 19, the [Coalition for the National Science Funding](#) (CNSF), of which COSSA is a member, celebrated Representative Frank Lucas's (R-OK) service to the scientific community as Chair of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee. With remarks from Ranking Member Zoe Lofgren (D-CA), Brian Babin (R-TX), Haley Stevens (D-MI), Deborah Ross (D-NC), Jay Obernolte (R-CA), Stephanie Bice (R-OK), Tom Kean (R-NJ), and other members of Congress, CNSF applauded the bipartisan effort of the Committee under Chairman Lucas's leadership.

Image: Representative Frank Lucas at CNSF Celebration (Credit: [CNSF X](#)

[Account](#))

NASEM Seeking Experts for Standing Committee on Advancing Science Communication

The National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) has put out a call for experts to serve on the Standing Committee on Advancing Science Communication which seeks to engage all science communities in an equitable and evidence-based way. The Board of Science Education (BOSE) is looking for a diverse group of 4-5 people to serve on the committee with expertise in health/science communications, artificial intelligence (AI), psychology, sociology, and more. The announcement can be found [here](#) and the deadline to submit nominees is November 29.

This article was contributed by COSSA Intern Paige Kirkham.

COSSA Member Spotlight

COSSA Welcomes Child Trends as Newest Member!



COSSA is pleased to welcome [Child Trends](#) as its newest member! Child Trends is an independent research organization focused on improving life for children, youth, and families. According to Child Trends, "Our work explores how a child's environment shapes their life and the drivers of variance in their outcomes across individual, socioeconomic, and other characteristics."

Interested in joining COSSA? Find more information on the [COSSA website](#). COSSA's full membership list can be found [here](#).

AERA Seeks Executive Director

The [American Educational Research Association](#) (AERA) has begun the search for their new Executive Director. The Executive Director is responsible for ensuring that the organization contributes to building capacity for its members, fosters community and collective opportunities for collaboration, and supports the growth of a diverse and engaged membership. The Executive Director is also responsible for the fiscal well-being, financial management, and professional integrity of the association.

Learn more about the description and specifications [here](#). AERA is a COSSA governing member organization.

SSRC Opens Applications for Visual Sociology Prize

The [Social Science Research Council](#) (SSRC) is seeking applicants for the Rachel Tanur Memorial Prize for Visual Sociology. The prize recognizes students in the social sciences who incorporate visual analysis in their work and encourages students to work with photography as a visual medium in their study and understanding of social phenomena.

The contest is open worldwide to undergraduate and graduate students in the social sciences. Students must be enrolled in their undergraduate or graduate program at the time of application. The deadline for applications is February 4, 2025.

Learn more about the prize and the application process [here](#). SSRC is a COSSA member organization.

Social Science Advocacy Day 2025 News

COSSA's annual [Social Science Advocacy Day](#) will be taking place March 24-25, 2025 in Washington, DC! This signature, members-only event brings together social and behavioral science researchers, faculty, students, association professionals, and other advocates from across the country to meet with their elected officials in Congress to discuss the value of our sciences and the importance of federal funding.

Early bird registration will be here before you know it! Until then, mark your calendars and share this exciting opportunity with your colleagues.

Visit the [COSSA website](#) for the latest information on Social Science Advocacy Day.

Resources & Opportunities

COSSA Letters & Statements

- **NEW:** 11/22/2024: [Friends of IES Letter Urging Congress on FY 2025 Funding for the Institute of Education Sciences](#)
- **NEW:** 11/18/2024: [Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Letter to Congress on Finalizing FY 2025 Appropriations for NIH](#)

Nomination Opportunities

- NSF: [Advisory Panel Call for New Members](#) (Ongoing)
- **NEW:** SSRC: [Rachel Tanur Memorial Prize](#) (Closes: February 4, 2025)

Funding Opportunities

- NSF: [Growing Research Access for Nationally Transformative Equity and Diversity \(GRANTED\)](#) (Rolling Deadline)

Requests for Comment & Calls for Papers

- NIJ: [Request for Comment on NIJ's Draft Public Access Plan](#) (Closes: November 29, 2024)
- DOJ: [Seeking Comments on a "new national security regulatory program"](#) (Closes: November 29, 2024)
- **NEW:** NSF: [Comment Request: NSF Research Experience and Mentoring Survey](#) (Closes: December 13, 2024)
- NSF: [Request for Information on the Chips and Science Act Research Ethics](#) (Closes: December 13, 2024)

- FAS: [Day One Project Open Call for Ideas](#) (Ongoing)
- **NEW:** NIH: [Feedback on NIH public access compliance monitoring process for institutions](#) (Ongoing)
- **NEW:** University of Houston & Rice University Survey: [NSF's Research Security Training Modules](#) (Ongoing)

Notices, Resources, & Reports

- **NEW:** NASEM: [AI and the Future of Work](#)
- **NEW:** NASEM: [A Plan to Promote Defense Research at Minority-Serving Institutions](#)

Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities

- **NEW:** NASEM: [Call for Experts: Standing Committee on Advancing Science Communication](#) (Closes: November 29, 2024)
- STPI: [2025 Science Policy Fellowship](#) (Closes: January 6, 2025)
- SRCD: [Policy Fellowships](#) (Closes: January 6, 2025)
- **NEW:** AERA: [Executive Director](#) (Open until Filled)
- NSF: [Science Advisor for Public Access](#) (Open until Filled)
- [Program Director for the Social Psychology Program](#) within the SBE Directorate (Open until Filled)
- [Program Director for the Human Networks and Data Science \(HNDS\) Program](#) in the BCS Division within the SBE Directorate (Open until Filled)
- NASEM: [Board Director - Board on Environmental Change and Society](#) (Open until Filled)
- APSA: [Pracademic Fellowship](#) (Open until Filled)

Upcoming Events

- NIH: [Minority Health and Health Disparities Strategic Plan 2026-2030 Virtual Townhall](#), December 4, 2024, Virtual
- COSSA Headlines Webinar: [Election 2024: Implications for Social and Behavioral Science Research](#), December 5, 2024, Virtual
- **NEW DATE:** COSSA Headlines Webinar: [The Future of Social and Behavioral Science in Evidence-Based Policymaking](#), December 17, 2024, Virtual

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 ebailey@cossa.org.

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 Society of Criminology
 American Sociological Association
 American Statistical Association
 Law and Society Association
 Linguistic Society of America
 Midwest Political Science Association
 National Communication Association

Colleges and Universities

Boston University
 Brown University
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Case Western Reserve University
 Columbia University
 Cornell University
 CSUSB College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
 Duke University
 George Mason University
 Georgetown University
 Harvard University
 Indiana University
 Johns Hopkins University

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
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Behavioral Sciences
Child Trends
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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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