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## New from COSSA

### Ronald Wasserstein Elected COSSA Board Chair



The [COSSA Board of Directors](#) has elected Ronald Wasserstein, Executive Director of the American Statistical Association ([ASA](#)), as its next chair. His two-year term began January 1, 2025.

Ron has led the ASA since 2007 and prior to that served as a faculty member and administrator at Washburn University in Kansas for more than two decades. The American Statistical Association is one of 10 founding organizations of COSSA. "I am honored to serve as chair of the COSSA Board of

Directors at this pivotal time for the social sciences," said Wasserstein. "With our robust network of member organizations and partners, COSSA is uniquely positioned to help advance social science research and ensure its vital contributions inform policy and practice. Together, we will address the complex challenges ahead while amplifying the

essential role of social science in understanding and improving our world.”

Ron succeeds Danielle Staudt, former Executive Director of the Population Association of America. “COSSA has greatly benefited from Danielle’s extensive experience as an association executive during her time serving on and leading the COSSA Board of Directors,” said COSSA Executive Director Wendy Naus. “We will miss Danielle around the Board table, but I am excited to be working with Ron in this new capacity and to further the connections between statistics and social and behavioral science.”

## Register Now: Headlines Webinars continue January 30

Earlier this month, the [119th Congress was sworn in at the Capitol](#). On January 30, join COSSA for an overview on the new Congress and what this means for the social and behavioral sciences community.



The webinar will be taking place on **January 30 at 1pm EST**. [Register here](#).

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

## EARLY BIRD PRICING: Social Science Advocacy Day 2025



The stakes for research funding have never been higher as we enter a particularly challenging political and budgetary environment. Social Science Advocacy Day is a must for all stakeholders who care about the fate of federal funding for social and behavioral science research and who believe this research should be used to inform sound public policy.

Early bird registration for COSSA’s annual [Social Science Advocacy Day](#) is officially OPEN! The event will be taking place March 24-25, 2025 in Washington, DC. **Take advantage of early bird pricing** and register [here](#).

If your organization is interested in becoming a sponsor for Social Science Advocacy Day, find all of our sponsorship opportunities available [here](#).

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

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## Congressional News

### 119th Congressional Committee Assignments and Presidential Nomination Hearings Begin

[As previously reported by COSSA](#), the 119th Congress was sworn in early January and has since begun announcing committee assignments, including key committees for the social and behavioral science research community. This includes the House Science and Technology Committee, which has [appointed](#) Representative Brian Babin (R-TX) as Chairman, replacing Frank Lucas (R-OK) ([see previous COSSA coverage](#)). Ranking

Member Zoe Lofgren (D-CA) will remain in her role as expected.

On the House Appropriations Committee, Chairman Tom Cole (R-OK) will remain in his role, as will Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (D-CT). On January 15, Chairman Cole [released](#) the Republican roster while Ranking Member DeLauro [released](#) the Democratic roster for the appropriations subcommittees. Chairman Hal Rogers (R-KY) on the Commerce, Justice, and Science Subcommittee, which funds the National Science Foundation, Department of Justice, and Census Bureau, among other agencies, will remain in his role while Grace Meng (D-NY) was appointed Ranking Member. On the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education (LHHS) Subcommittee, which funds the National Institutes of Health, Department of Education, and several other agencies of interest to the science community, Chairman Aderholt (R-AL) and Ranking Member DeLauro (D-CT) will remain in their respective roles. House Republicans have also begun working on legislative priorities, including discussions of extending the debt ceiling and drafting legislation to reform immigration policies.

On the other side of the Capitol, the Senate has started holding confirmation hearings for the incoming Trump Administration's Cabinet, including hearings for the nominees of Secretary of State, [Marco Rubio](#), who was sworn in January 21, and Secretary of Defense, Pete Hegseth. As the Republican-controlled Senate seeks to confirm the Trump Administration's nominations quickly, it is likely that we will continue to see hearings scheduled for nominations that are important to the social and behavioral science community in the coming weeks ([see previous COSSA coverage](#)).

Stay tuned to [COSSA's coverage](#) for all the details as the new Administration and Congress takes shape over the coming weeks.

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## Executive Branch News

### President Trump Executive Actions

Trump Administration Actions (all actions available [here](#)):

- [Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing](#) (1/20/25)
- [Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Trust to the Federal Government](#) (1/20/25)
- [Establishing and Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency"](#) (1/20/25)
- [Restoring Accountability to Policy-Influencing Positions within the Federal Workforce](#) (1/20/25) – Reinstates Trump Administration's 2020 EO creating a new Schedule F in the Federal Excepted Service
- [Withdrawing the U.S. from the WHO](#) (1/20/25)
- [Putting America First in International Environmental Agreements](#) (1/20/25) – Withdraws the U.S. from the Paris Climate Accord, among other actions.
- [Hiring Freeze](#) (1/20/25)
- [Return to In-Person Work](#) (1/20/25)
- [Restoring Freedom of Speech and Ending Federal Censorship](#) (1/20/25)
- [Initial Rescissions of Harmful Executive Orders and Actions](#) (1/20/25) – Rescinds dozens of Biden Administration Executive Orders

### Call for Nominations: Nominations Open for Distinguished Lecturer at the 18th Matilda White Riley Honors

The Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is accepting nominations for an outstanding social-behavioral scientist as candidates for Distinguished Lecturer at the 18th Matilda White Riley Honors.

The Matilda White Riley Honors are an annual event recognizing transformative work in the fields of social and behavioral science along with early-career researchers. Nominees should have a research career that has "advanced behavioral and social scientific knowledge in areas within NIH's mission and that expands upon Dr. White Riley's work."

Nominees need not have NIH funding. More information is available on the [OBSSR website](#).

Nominee information should be saved as a PDF file and sent to [Erica Spotts](#) by **February 10**. Nominee information should include:

- Nominees' full contact information and professional webpage(s)
- A one-page statement demonstrating how the nominee's research results and practice correspond with Dr. White Riley's vision
- Nominees' CV and/or NIH bio sketch

## President Trump Signs First-Day Executive Orders to End Work from Home Policies and Freeze Hiring for Federal Work Force

On January 20, President Trump, in a series of first-day executive actions, signed an Executive Order (EO) titled "[Return to In-Person Work](#)" that requires all federal workers to return to in-person work "as soon as practicable". This decision comes after the House Oversight Committee held a hearing on [The Stay-at-Home Federal Workforce: Another Biden-Harris Legacy](#) on January 15 to investigate the implications of the federal work from home policy. During the hearing, Republican members of the committee expressed concerns that federal policies like the work from home policy were infringing on the power of the Presidential Administration, a concern that has been previously expressed by other committees ([see previous COSSA coverage](#)).

In addition, Trump signed a [Hiring Freeze](#) into effect, restricting the ability of federal agencies to fill existing vacancies or create new positions. This freeze further directed the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) alongside the Administrator of the [United States DOGE Service](#) (USDS) to submit a plan within 90 days to reduce the size of the Federal Government's workforce. However, Trump has included exceptions, citing, "this memorandum does not prohibit making reallocations to meet the highest priority needs, maintain essential services, and protect national security, homeland security, and public safety." This exception is not likely to affect the key agencies for the social and behavioral science research communities. It also does not affect positions requiring Presidential appointment or Senate confirmation.

Stay tuned to [COSSA's coverage](#) for all the details as the new Administration takes shape over the coming weeks.

## OSTP Issues Anti-Harassment Guidelines for Federal Agencies

In the final days of the Biden Administration, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) released [Guidelines for Federal Research Agencies to Reduce Sex-Based and Sexual Harassment Involving Award Personnel](#) in response to the *Chips and Science Act of 2022* ([see previous COSSA coverage](#)). These guidelines include identifying and removing gaps in current sexual harassment policies, improving consistency of policies across federal agencies, and promoting data transparency to support evidence-based policies. In addition to the guidelines presented, the report recommends that legislation be passed to support anti-harassment objectives, including authority for federal agencies to develop a consistent definition of harassment, a mandatory notification process, to modify existing regulations, as well as additional appropriations to support research on harassment reduction and prevention methods.

## White House Awards National Medal of Science to Political Scientist

At the beginning of January, President Biden announced the latest recipients of the National Medal of Science and the National Medal of Technology and Innovation, the nation's highest honors in science, engineering, and technology. Both awards were presented at a joint ceremony.

Among the recipients of the National Medal of Science was [Political Scientist Dr. Martin](#)

[Larry Bartels](#), “for thought leadership that promotes democracy around the world,” according to his award citation. Bartels, Princeton’s Donald E. Stokes Professor in Public and International Affairs, Emeritus, and an emeritus professor of politics, was on the Princeton faculty from 1991 to 2011. He then transferred to emeritus status and joined the Department of Political Science at Vanderbilt University. Bartels was the founding director of Princeton’s Center for the Study of Democratic Politics at the School of Public and International Affairs.

Princeton University is a [COSSA member organization](#). See the full announcement and list of award recipients [here](#).

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## Science Community News

### DBASSE to Host Webinar Series on Assessing and Communicating the Quality of National Statistics

The Committee on National Statistics, housed within the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (DBASSE) at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NAEM), is hosting a three-part series to “discuss approaches to characterizing and communicating the quality of national statistics and statistical data”. As federal statistical agencies work to develop methods to more efficiently release statistical data, the committee will examine ways to communicate federal statistics as well as the quality and recommended uses of federal statistical data with the public as the use of fast response platforms and non-survey data sources grows.

The sessions will take place on Wednesday, January 29, from 11:00 am – 3:00pm ET, Monday, February 3, from 1:00 – 5:00 pm ET, and Thursday, February 20, from 1:00 – 5:00 pm ET. Register [here](#).

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## COSSA Member Spotlight

### Call for Nominations: 2025 AAPOR Award Nominations are Open

The [American Association for Public Opinion Research](#) (AAPOR) announced that nominations are open for their portfolio of awards to recognize distinguished work in the profession, as well as to further the education of students and early career researchers. AAPOR welcomes and encourages diversity in all aspects of the research profession, including their award nominees.

Read more about each award and the submission guidelines on the [AAPOR website](#). Submissions are due February 21, 2025.

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## 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 is officially OPEN! [Register now](#) and take advantage of our early bird rates (these won't last long).

Visit the [COSSA website](#) for the latest information on Social Science Advocacy Day and share with your colleagues.

## COSSA Letters & Statements

- 11/22/2024: [Friends of IES Letter Urging Congress on FY 2025 Funding for the Institute of Education Sciences](#)

## Nomination Opportunities

- NASEM Call for Experts: [On Being A Scientist: An Updated and Online Guide to the Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research](#) (Closes: January 24, 2025)
- SSRC: [Rachel Tanur Memorial Prize](#) (Closes: February 4, 2025)
- **NEW:** NIH: [18th NIH Matilda White Riley Distinguished Lecturer](#) (February 10, 2025)
- **NEW:** [AAPOR Awards](#) (February 21, 2025)

## Funding Opportunities

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

## Requests for Comment & Calls for Papers

- NIH: [Plan to Increase Findability and Transparency of Research Results Through the Use of Metadata and Persistent Identifiers](#) (Closes: February 21, 2025)
- NIH: [NIH Public Access Compliance Monitoring Survey](#) (Ongoing)

## Notices, Resources, & Reports

- **NEW:** GAO: [Report on Population Estimates and Challenge Programs](#)
- Congressional Report: [Bipartisan House Task Force on Artificial Intelligence](#)
- NASEM: [Understanding and Addressing Misinformation About Science](#)

## Open Positions, Fellowships, & Professional Development Opportunities

- NIH: [Science of Science Scholars Program](#) (Closes: January 31, 2025)
- NIH: [All of Us Research Program Chief Engagement Officer](#) (Closes: January 31, 2025)
- OBSSR: [2025 NIH Summer Institute on Behavioral Clinical Trials](#) (Closes: January 31, 2025)
- **NEW:** NIJ: [FY25 Graduate Research Fellowship](#) (Closes: April 22, 2025)
- AERA: [Executive Director](#) (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)
- APSA: [Pracademic Fellowship](#) (Open until Filled)

## Upcoming Events

- **NEW:** DBASSE Committee on Population: [Women's Empowerment, Population Dynamics, and Socioeconomic Development Public Webinar](#), January 22, 2025, Virtual
- **NEW:** SPSSI: [Modern-Day Slavery: Psychological Impact of Human Trafficking](#), January 23, 2025, Virtual
- **NEW:** DBASSE Committee on National Statistics: [Approaches for Assessing and Communicating the Quality of National Statistics: A Workshop - Session 1](#), January

- 29, 2025, Virtual
- **NEW:** COSSA Headlines Webinar: [119th Congress: What Does that Mean for Us?](#), January 30, 2025, Virtual
- **NEW:** DBASSE Committee on National Statistics: [Approaches for Assessing and Communicating the Quality of National Statistics: A Workshop - Session 2](#), February 3, 2025, Virtual
- U.S. Census Bureau: [2025 Indigenous Data Sovereignty Symposium](#), February 12, 2025, Suitland, MD
- **NEW:** NIJ: [FY25 Graduate Research Fellowships Webinar](#), February 13, 2025, Virtual
- [AAAS Annual Meeting](#), February 13-15, 2025, Boston, MA
- **NEW:** DBASSE Committee on National Statistics: [Approaches for Assessing and Communicating the Quality of National Statistics: A Workshop - Session 3](#), February 20, 2025, 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@coossa.org](mailto:ebailey@coossa.org).

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## 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  
 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

### 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  
 Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
 Michigan State University  
 North Carolina State University  
 Northwestern University  
 Pennsylvania State University  
 Princeton University  
 Stanford University  
 University of Arizona  
 University of California, Berkeley  
 University of California, Irvine  
 University of California, Los Angeles  
 University of California, Riverside  
 University of California, Santa Barbara  
 University of Colorado, Boulder  
 University of Georgia  
 University of Illinois  
 University of Maryland  
 University of Michigan  
 University of Nebraska, Lincoln  
 University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
 University of Pennsylvania  
 University of Pittsburgh  
 University of Texas, Austin  
 University of Virginia

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

### Affiliates

SAGE Publishing

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  
Child Trends  
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

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### 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.*

### Our Team

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Wendy A. Naus

#### Director of Public Affairs

Elyse Bailey

#### Government Relations Associate

Kenzie Shelstad

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