

# **UPDATE ON THE LATEST WHITE HOUSE AND CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS**

April 29, 2025

Stand by, we will begin momentarily.





## Membership Organizations

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences  
African Studies Association  
American Anthropological 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  
Linguistic Society of America  
Midwest Sociological Society  
National Council on Family Relations  
Social Science History Association  
Society for Prevention Research  
Society for Social Work and Research  
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues  
Southern Political Science Association  
Southwestern Social Science Association

## Colleges & Universities

Boston University  
Brown University  
California State University, San Bernardino  
College of Social & Behavioral Sciences  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Duke University  
George Mason University  
Georgetown University  
Harvard University  
Indiana University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Michigan State University  
North Carolina State University  
Northwestern University  
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  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Texas, Austin  
University of Virginia  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Virginia Tech  
Yale University

## Research Centers & 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

## Affiliates

SAGE Publishing





# TODAY'S DISCUSSION

- Budgets
  - Reconciliation
  - FY 2026 appropriations
- NSF Developments
- NIH Priorities
- Other Issues
- Take Action!

# BUDGET RECONCILIATION



## 1. BUDGET RESOLUTION

- House and Senate must adopt identical budget resolutions setting overall spending and revenue levels for a specific period (usually 10 years)
- Includes reconciliation instructions to committees with specific targets

## 2. COMMITTEE WORK

- Identified committees draft legislation based on reconciliation instructions
- House and Senate Budget Committees package their chambers' respective bills into an omnibus

## 3. FLOOR CONSIDERATION

- Each chamber considers its respective omnibus package
- A simple majority is needed to pass through the chamber

## 4. RESOLVE DIFFERENCES

- A conference committee works to reconcile differences between the two bills
- If agreement is reached, each chamber votes on the final package

## 5. SIGNED INTO LAW OR VETOED

- Once the House and Senate each pass an identical bill, it goes to the President for signature or veto.



# BUDGET RECONCILIATION

- This week: House Armed Services, Homeland Security, Education and Workforce, Judiciary, Financial Services, and Oversight and Gov't Reform Committees
- House Energy & Commerce Committee's bill may be released next week
- House passage target: Memorial Day
- Senate passage target: July 4
- Hard deadline: September 30

# FY 2026 APPROPRIATIONS

## Regular Order:



- FEB – President’s Budget Request released; Congressional Committees begin hearings
- APR – Congress adopts budget resolution
- MAY – Appropriations Committees set allocations for 12 subcommittees
- MAY-JUN – Subcommittees write and “mark up” bills
- JUN – Full Appropriations Committee considers/amends bills
- JUN/JUL – House/Senate floor debates/vote on each bill individually
- SEP – Differences negotiated (conference committee), each chamber votes on compromise
- BY SEP 30 – To the President to sign/veto
- OCT 1 – New fiscal year begins



# FY 2026 APPROPRIATIONS

- President's Budget Request – Any day now...
- Leaked HHS draft budget
  - NIH reorg - collapsing its 27 ICs into 8
  - 40% cut to the NIH budget, decreasing to \$27.3 billion
  - 44% cut to the CDC budget, decreasing to \$5.2 billion
  - Codify 15% NIH indirect cost rate
  - Administration for Community Living – Zeroed Out
  - Create new Administration for a Healthy America (AHA), which would absorb:
    - Maternal and Child Health
    - Mental Health
    - Environmental Health
    - HIV/AIDS

# FY 2026 APPROPRIATIONS

- What's Next:
  - Funding requests due to Appropriations Committees in May
  - Oversight hearings with Administration officials
  - Stay tuned – COSSA action alert on Dear Colleague letters



# FY 2026 APPROPRIATIONS

- What's Next:
  - Funding requests due to Appropriations Committees in May
  - Oversight hearings with Administration officials
  - Stay tuned – COSSA action alert on Dear Colleague letters



## Urge Congress to Prioritize Science Funding!

Congressional appropriators are preparing legislation that will determine funding for federal science and statistical agencies for the next year. With all the uncertainty in Washington these days, the stakes have never been higher. It is essential that our community fights for federal science funding and the scientific workforce. Now is the time to write to your Members of Congress to urge their support for research funding in FY 2026 and to end the political interference into the federal scientific enterprise!

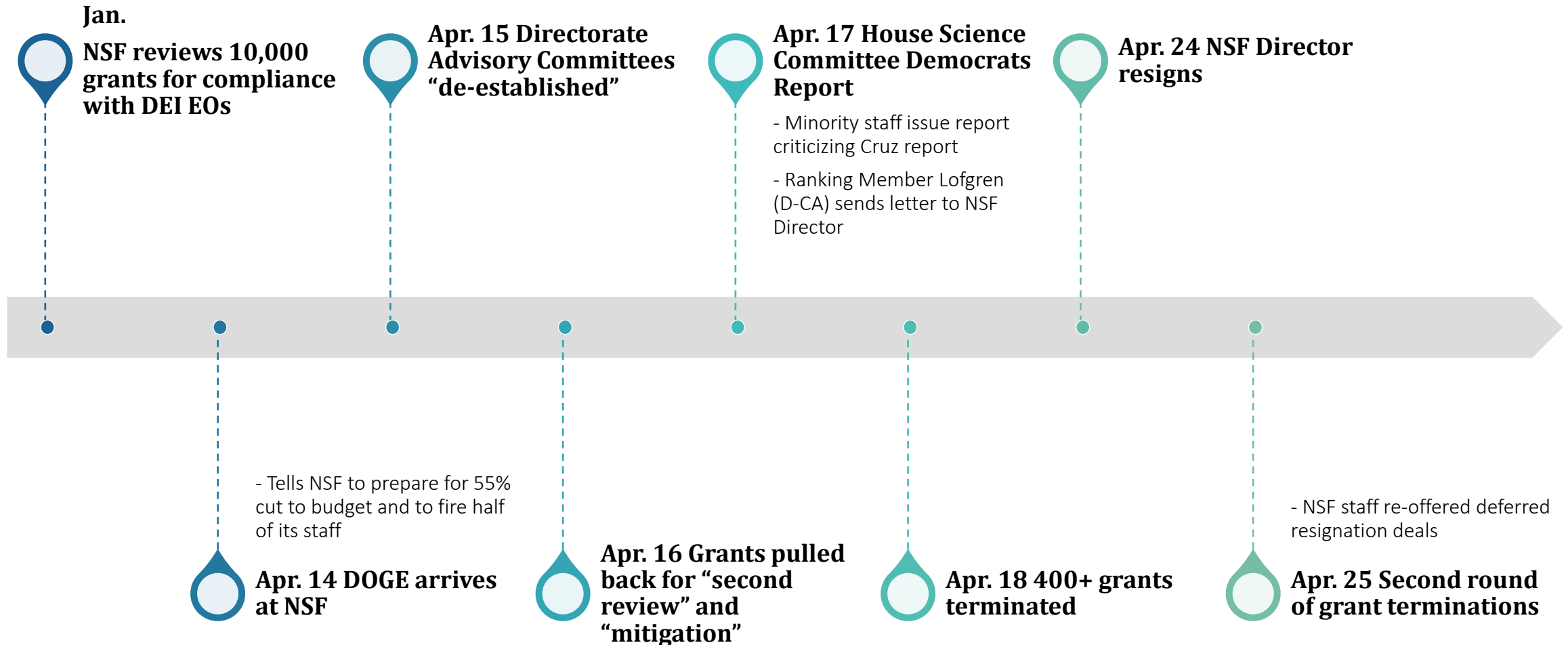
Write to your Members of Congress TODAY and tell them why it is critical that they prioritize funding in FY 2026 for the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, Institute of Education Sciences, National Institute of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, International Education and Foreign Language Programs, and the federal statistical system.

**Feel free to tailor the text below to offer additional examples or concerns.** Thank you for taking action on this critical issue!

TAKE ACTION



# NSF Developments





# “NO LONGER EFFECTUATES AGENCY PRIORITIES”

These efforts should not preference some groups at the expense of others, or directly/indirectly exclude individuals or groups. Research projects with more narrow impact limited to subgroups of people based on protected class or characteristics do not effectuate NSF priorities.

--Dr. Panchanathan, 4/18/25

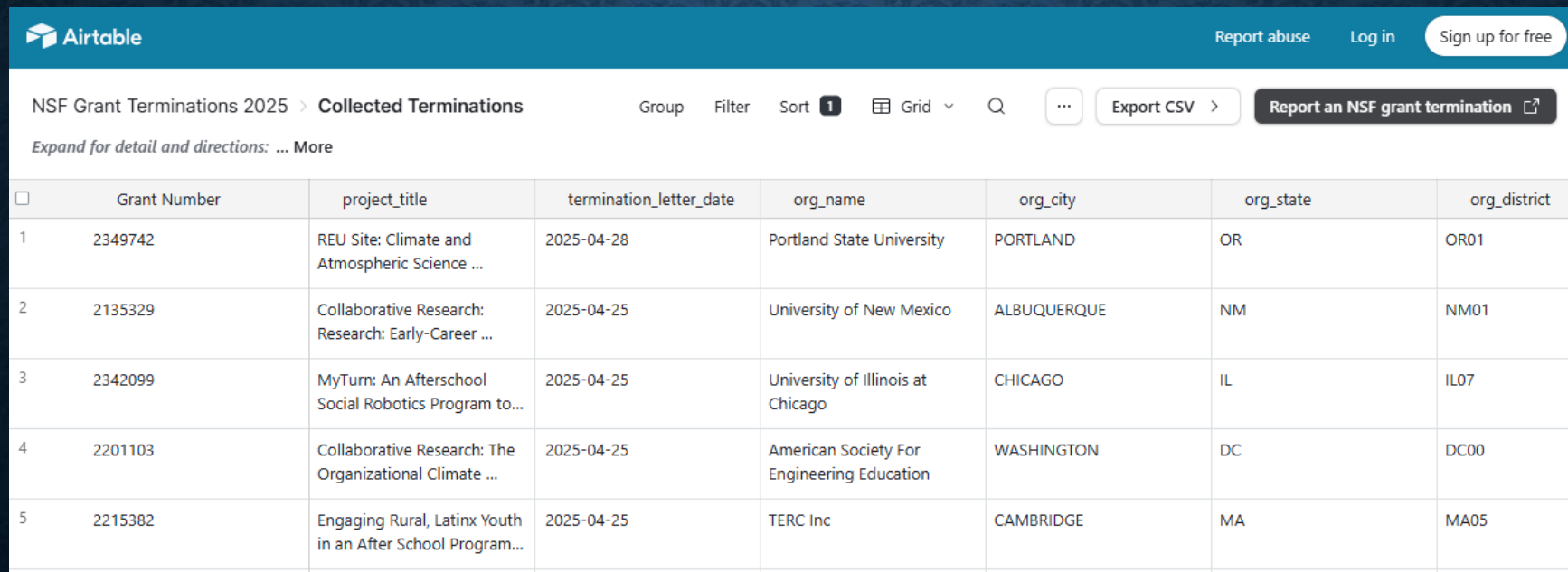
# RESPONSES

- Minority Staff Report released: *“Defending the Hidden Figures: A Rebuttal of Erroneous Attacks on Merit-Based, Fair, and Competitive STEM Grants”*
  - Cruz report contains a “slew of embarrassing mistakes.”
  - It disregards Congressional statutes, including broader impacts criterion.
  - “The authors lack a basic understanding of how [NSF] awards are selected, the scientific literacy to discern technical terms with multiple meanings, and an understanding of laws, even those supported by Sen. Cruz himself, that protect these activities.”
- Rep. Lofgren sends letter to NSF Director
- Requests more information on NSF’s process for reviewing grants for alignment with Trump values by April 24
  - Director resigns April 25



# RESPONSES

- Crowdsourced database of terminated NSF grants



The screenshot shows the Airtable interface for a database titled "NSF Grant Terminations 2025". The view is "Collected Terminations". The table has 8 columns: a checkbox for selection, "Grant Number", "project\_title", "termination\_letter\_date", "org\_name", "org\_city", "org\_state", and "org\_district". There are 5 rows of data displayed. The interface includes standard Airtable controls like "Group", "Filter", "Sort", "Grid" view, "Export CSV", and a "Report an NSF grant termination" button.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Number	project_title	termination_letter_date	org_name	org_city	org_state	org_district
1	2349742	REU Site: Climate and Atmospheric Science ...	2025-04-28	Portland State University	PORTLAND	OR	OR01
2	2135329	Collaborative Research: Research: Early-Career ...	2025-04-25	University of New Mexico	ALBUQUERQUE	NM	NM01
3	2342099	MyTurn: An Afterschool Social Robotics Program to...	2025-04-25	University of Illinois at Chicago	CHICAGO	IL	IL07
4	2201103	Collaborative Research: The Organizational Climate ...	2025-04-25	American Society For Engineering Education	WASHINGTON	DC	DC00
5	2215382	Engaging Rural, Latinx Youth in an After School Program...	2025-04-25	TERC Inc	CAMBRIDGE	MA	MA05

# RESPONSES

- Crowdsourced database of terminated grants
- American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Local 3403, AFL-CIO: *Letter to scientists and organizations whose progress depends on NSF*
  - Offers tips for NSF advocacy and messaging – contact local media outlets, contact Congress, post widely on social media, engage others in advocacy



# NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

- March 25 - NIH Director Jay Bhattacharya's first day
  - Removed 4 IC directors: NIAID, NICHD, NIMHD, NINR
- Last week – First public presentation & outlined priorities
  - New initiative on understanding autism
  - Ensure reliable results – reproducibility
  - Maintain safety and transparency – ethical standards in research
  - Encourage academic freedom – express disagreement respectfully

# OTHER UPDATES

- Schedule Policy/Career (formerly Schedule F) – Federal Workers
  - [Proposed rule](#) issued by OPM: *Improving Performance, Accountability and Responsiveness in the Civil Service*
  - Reclassify 50K federal employees into roles with fewer civil service protections
  - [Comments](#) due 5/23

## The Friends of the Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Schedule Policy/Career Rule is a Threat to Federal Statistical Agencies. Take Action Today.**

April 24, 2025

The Friends of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is very concerned about the potential impact on federal statistics of Schedule Policy/Career Rule, a proposed change to federal employment policy.



# OTHER UPDATES

- Student Visa Terminations Reversed
  - No students will have their SEVIS records terminated solely based on misdemeanor or dismissed charges
- AAC&U statement: *A Call for Constructive Engagement* – 200+ university presidents
  - Still open for signatures: <https://www.aacu.org/newsroom/a-call-for-constructive-engagement>

# WHAT YOU CAN DO



Share your Story



Respond to  
Action Alerts



Engage Others



Measure impact



# TELL YOUR STORY



## #DataMatters Storytelling Campaign

AAPOR is launching the #DataMatters campaign to highlight the importance of survey data in everyday society, such as informing policy decisions, marketing insights, and healthcare advancements. We would love to share your stories about how survey data and research made a difference in the lives of others. The stories, highlighting your work or the work of your peers, should be brief and easy for those outside of our field to understand. Our goal is to create a repository of these stories to share with governmental leaders, other like-minded organizations, and your peers. Please email [jweisman@aapor.org](mailto:jweisman@aapor.org) if you have any questions.



## Assessing the Impacts of Federal Policies on the U.S. STEMM Community

AAAS is gathering data and personal impact stories to better understand how recent policy changes are affecting our members. Your responses will help the AAAS Office of Government Relations team share real-world impacts (especially outside of Washington D.C.) with policymakers and also help share the impacts within our own community. Your participation will help AAAS to better advocate for and support our members as we respond to the challenges.

All responses will remain confidential and shared only in aggregate to illustrate broader impacts. If you'd like, you may also submit a personal impact story, which AAAS can share with your permission. At the end of the survey, you will have the option to provide your name and email. If you choose to do so, an AAAS staff member may follow up with you about your response(s) or impact story. You do not need to share your email or name to complete the survey.

## Share Your Story with COSSA

April 15, 2025 | Featured News, New from COSSA

Given current uncertainty about the future of the U.S. research enterprise, COSSA is [collecting stories](#) from the social and behavioral science community on how recent Executive Actions are affecting or have the potential to affect research and the scientific workforce. Your contributions will help the COSSA team as we share real-world, timely information with policymakers (e.g., Congress and federal agencies) about the impact these actions are having across the country.

Your responses will remain confidential, and any stories used by COSSA will be anonymized and used anecdotally. You may provide your name and contact information in the survey, which would only be used by COSSA staff to follow up with you about your story. You may also submit your story anonymously.

Submit your story [here](#).

## Share Your Story: Help ASA Demonstrate the Value of Sociology

Calling all sociologists! Across the nation, we are faced with political incursion into academic decisions. At the heart of these efforts is an attack on the subject matter sociologists teach and study, including inequality, race, gender, and sexuality. The current political movement against so-called "divisive concepts" is an existential threat to our discipline. The best way to fight this is to demonstrate to voters and policymakers the value of the work we do. Please help us in our effort to demonstrate the value of sociology.

What can you do? We've all done work that has made an impact. Impacts might include influencing policy change at local or broader levels or doing research that has raised awareness about current social problems, such as disparities in access to healthcare or affordable housing. Impacts might include applying research methods in new ways or giving a talk at your local library that provides members of the community with tools for better managing teen social media use. If you are a sociologist or a sociology doctoral student, please share one of your impact stories [here](#). Stories should describe, in 500 words or less, one way in which your work has had an impact. We ask you to be as specific as possible in describing what you have done and the impact it has had, including the resulting benefits and to whom or what entity(ies) those benefits accrued. We are hoping to collect hundreds of these stories that we can deploy for a wide range of advocacy efforts. Help us create a compelling group of narratives.

# SCIENCEHOMECOMING.COM

Support science across the country by writing opinion pieces in local papers.

[Intro](#) • [Write](#) • [Who](#) • [Editors](#) • [FAQ](#) • [Resources](#)

**S**cience is stitched into the fabric of every town, including mine and yours. Our goal is to encourage scientists to return to their hometowns by writing brief opinion pieces in their hometown newspaper, advocating for investment in American science, especially the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF).



American Science makes jobs, creates new medical treatments, invent new technologies, supports new businesses, and advances the nation's prosperity. Science is worth investing in. Our country's progress in science begins in every community, with anyone who's willing to wonder, question, and search for answers.



# Action Center

[Home](#) » [Action Center](#)

## Be a Social Science Advocate

Use your power as a constituent *and* a scientist

### Action Center

[Advocacy 101](#)[Take Action](#)[Stay Informed](#)[Constituent Toolkit](#)[Social Science](#)[Advocacy Day](#)

Did you know that when it comes to informing policy, you hold power as a constituent *and* as a scientist? Whether in local, state, or federal office, those serving in public office do so on behalf of the people they represent. They make decisions based on what they understand to be the concerns, priorities, and needs of their constituency. Unfortunately, far too few of us engage in the policymaking process outside of participating in elections. So how do those elected to represent us know what we care about? Even more, how do we know they are making *informed* decisions?

#### That's where YOU come in.

Envision a world where elected officials are not only receptive to hearing about the best available science informing an important issue, but also know where to find it. Regardless of whether you voted for the representative currently sitting in office, they are there to serve you. Further, as

# KEEP UP WITH COSSA

- **COSSA Washington Update:** [cossa.org/washington-update](https://cossa.org/washington-update)
- **Members-only Messages:** [cossa.org/members/mm-subscribe](https://cossa.org/members/mm-subscribe)



Twitter/X: <https://twitter.com/COSSADC>



Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cossa1981/>



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SocialScienceAssociations>



LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/cossadc/>



Bluesky: <https://bsky.app/profile/cossa.bsky.social>

Linktr.ee: <https://linktr.ee/cossadc>

Email: [wnaus@cossa.org](mailto:wnaus@cossa.org)

[www.cossa.org](https://www.cossa.org)

[Whysocialscience.com](https://Whysocialscience.com)





# COMING UP ON COSSA HEADLINES

- May Headlines – Date TBA
- Guest: Toby Smith, Association of American Universities



# QUESTION?

**Email:** [wnaus@cossa.org](mailto:wnaus@cossa.org)

**Membership:** [cossa.org/members](https://cossa.org/members)

**Join COSSA:** [cossa.org/join](https://cossa.org/join)

[www.cossa.org](https://www.cossa.org)

[www.whysocialscience.com](https://www.whysocialscience.com)

