

the important role that social scientists can play in engineering products, designing marketing strategies, and analyzing data for a company or firm. Attendees also participated in advocacy training, learning strategies for effective meetings with congressional offices.

On March 16, APSA staff participated in the second annual COSSA Advocacy Day. Social science advocates from various disciplines visited a range of Capitol Hill offices to communicate the importance of social science and request increased funding for FY 2017. Meetings began by stressing the expansive role that social and behavioral science plays in our everyday lives, from improving election systems to reducing crime. Meetings also highlighted specific areas in which an office might have an interest in social science, and each meeting was tailored toward the district of the particular member of Congress.

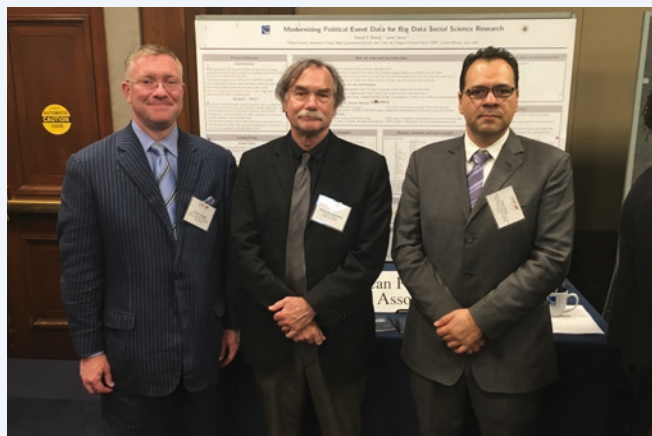
Overall, participants' appeal was for robust federal funding for social science in FY 2017 and beyond. As part of this request, advocates stressed the importance of strong funding for NSF that applies across all of its directorates. COSSA advocates also proposed specific topline appropriations figures for each federal agency that funds social and behavioral science, and offered to serve as a resource for congressional staff as the appropriations process continues.

CNSF EXHIBITION AND RECEPTION

On April 26, APSA participated in the Coalition for National Science Funding's 22nd Annual Exhibition and Reception in Washington, DC. The event, held in Rayburn House Office Building on Capitol Hill, featured research exhibits affiliated with 33 different organizations, from the American Astronomical Association to West Virginia University. The CNSF holds this event each year as a way to highlight the diverse array of research funded by the National Science Foundation and provide an opportunity for researchers to share their work with members of Congress, staffers, and other groups.

APSA hosted two political scientists at the event, Patrick Brandt (University of Texas at Dallas) and Javier Osorio (John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York), who are part of a research team using big data to develop a research platform for studying civil protest, civil unrest, and international conflict. Through a three-year NSF grant, the team of political scientists and computer scientists will code reports of conflict events worldwide, using reports in Spanish, Arabic, French, and English. The project informs data-driven decision-making connected to foreign policy, human rights, and prevention of civil war.

Attendees at the exhibition and reception included members of Congress, congressional staffers, government agency officials, and members of the academic community. Brandt and Osorio spoke with attendees about their research and the importance of NSF funding to their work. ■



Left to Right: Patrick Brandt (University of Texas at Dallas), Steven Rathgeb Smith (executive director, APSA), and Javier Osorio (John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York)

The Center Page

A LOOK AT THE CENTENNIAL CENTER FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAM CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Centennial Center's Visiting Scholar Program assists scholars from the United States and abroad whose research and teaching would benefit from a stay in Washington, DC, and access to the resources available in the nation's capital. The Center can host scholars for short periods to extended periods of time, ranging from weeks to months.

Located within the association's headquarters near Dupont Circle, the Centennial Center offers visiting scholars newly refurbished shared work space, telephone, personal computers, Internet connectivity, conference space, and a reference library.

Visiting scholars are encouraged to contribute to the intellectual life of the association during their stay, including brown bag seminars to discuss their research.

Your membership with APSA must be active in order to qualify for the Visiting Scholar Program. Senior or junior faculty members, post-doctoral fellows, and advanced graduate students are all strongly encouraged to apply. Participants in the Visiting Scholar Program are not required to pay rent to the association during their stay.

Applications to the Visiting Scholar Program are accepted on a rolling basis. More information about the Visiting Scholar Program is available at www.apsanet.org/centennial/visiting.

CENTENNIAL CENTER RESEARCH GRANTS

The Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs is providing more research assistance to APSA members than ever before. A grant from the Centennial Center's research grant program can be used to cover the costs of travel, interviews, access to archives, costs for a research assistant, or assistance in publishing research.

The typical Centennial Center grant for an individual scholar is between \$1,000 and \$2,500, but can reach a maximum size of \$10,000 for workshops, events, or projects in support of the profession.

Scholars at all professional levels with an active APSA membership are eligible to apply for a Centennial research grant. The Centennial Center will accept applications for the 2016–2017 grant cycle on three deadlines: December 1, 2016; March 1, 2017; and July 1, 2017. More information about Centennial Center research grants is available at www.apsanet.org/centennial/grants. ■