Boosting the Impact of Social Sciences & Humanities

20 & 21 September 2017, Cardiff
National

How do national structures enable SSH research to have impact?

Wendy Naus
Wiljan van den Akker
Jack Spaapen
Tim Wilson
National

Wendy Naus

Executive Director, Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA), USA
III. Enabling Impact: 
Structural approaches (National)

*Boosting the Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities*

*Cardiff University, Wales*

*September 20, 2017*
Session’s Speakers

• **Wendy Naus**, Executive Director, Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA), USA

• **Wiljan van den Akker**, Director, Centre of Humanities, Utrecht University, Netherlands

• **Jack Spaapen**, Senior Policy Advisor, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, Netherlands

• **Tim Wilson**, Executive Director, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), Canada
About

AMERICAN ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
FOUNDED 1902

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH
AAPOR

AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION
AERA

AMERICAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

MIDWEST POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION

LAW AND SOCIETY ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

Linguistic Society of America

Association of American Law Schools

Society for Research in Child Development

Population Association of America

ASAS
**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  
American Psychosomatic Society  
Association for Asian Studies  
Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies  
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management  
Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations  
Association of Research Libraries  
Council on Social Work Education  
Economic History Association  
History of Science Society  
Midwest Sociological Society  
National Association of Social Workers  
National Council on Family Relations  
North American Regional Science Council  
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  
Society of Behavioral Medicine  
Southern Political Science Association  
Southern Sociological Society  
Southwestern Social Science Association

**U.S. Colleges & Universities**

Arizona State University  
Boston University  
Brown University  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Clark University  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Duke University  
Fielding Graduate University  
Florida State University  
George Mason University  
Georgetown University  
Harvard University  
Howard University  
Indiana University  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY  
Johns Hopkins University  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Michigan State University  
New York University  
North Carolina State University  
Northwestern University  
Pennsylvania State University  
Princeton University  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
Stanford University  
Texas A&M University  
The George Washington University  
The Ohio State University  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of Colorado, Boulder  
University of Chicago  
University of Georgia  
University of Illinois  
University of Iowa  
University of Maryland  
University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota  
University of Nebraska, Lincoln  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
University of Oklahoma  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Texas, Austin  
University of Texas, San Antonio  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Virginia Tech  
West Virginia University  
Yale University

**Centers & Institutes**

American Academy of Arts and Sciences  
American Academy of Political and Social Science  
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences  
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research  
Council of Colleges of Arts & Sciences  
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan  
Institute for Social Science Research, University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
NORC at the University of Chicago  
Owens Institute for Behavioral Research, University of Georgia  
RTI International  
Social Science Research Council
Social Science & Humanities in the United States of America

• COSSA speaks for the social and behavioral sciences, not humanities (National Humanities Alliance)

• While many social science fields have one foot in the humanities, humanities are handled separately inside our government
  • National Endowment for the Humanities – main funder of humanities scholarship
  • National Science Foundation – supports all STEM fields

• COSSA considers social science part of the “S” in STEM
“The Congress shall have power to promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries.”
“All four of them!”
Macro Challenges to Science

• “Mission” agencies vs. “Science” agencies – who do they serve?
• Members of Congress have little incentive to think/plan long-term.
  • 2-year-terms in House (endless election cycle)
  • Annual budgeting
  • Applied research tends to be valued over basic research
• When budgets are tight, programs with least “immediate payoff” are first to go.
• Science not a centerpiece of the current presidential administration.
  • Virtually no science infrastructure in the White House
  • General lack of understanding about basic research/peer review by politicians
Bottom Line

Flat funding for research is a win!
The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) is a private, non-profit society of distinguished scholars. Established by an Act of Congress, signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863, the NAS is charged with providing independent, objective advice to the nation on matters related to science and technology.
Recent NASFEM Efforts

The Value of Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences to National Priorities

A Report for THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

The Committee on the Value of Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences to National Priorities
Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education

A Condensed Study Report of
The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES PRESS
Washington, DC
www.nap.edu

Conclusion 1
Overall, the social, behavioral, and economic sciences produce a better understanding of the human aspects of the natural world, contributing knowledge, methods, and tools that further the mission of the National Science Foundation to advance health, prosperity and welfare, national defense, and progress in science.

Conclusion 2
The understanding, tools, and methods provided by the social, behavioral, and economic sciences—including research supported by the National Science Foundation—provide an essential foundation that helps other agencies achieve their missions.

Conclusion 3
The social, behavioral, and economic sciences have provided advances in understanding and tools and methods that have been applicable to business and industry and that enhanced the U.S. economy.
Recent NASEM Efforts

Matching Kidney Donors with Those Who Need Them—and Other Explorations in Economics

Eye on the Road: Researchers Explore Ways to Protect Drivers from The...
Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking

• Commission formed in 2016 – Make recommendations on how to strengthen the government’s evidence-building and policymaking efforts
• Worked for 15 months to craft a bipartisan report
• Includes 22 recommendations across three themes:
  • Improved access to data
  • Stronger privacy protections
  • Greater capacity
• Major recommendation: Create a National Secure Data Service
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Boosting the Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities

Room 0.04

20 & 21 september 2017, Cardiff

National

Wiljan van den Akker

Director for the Centre of Humanities, Utrecht University, co-author of LERU Impact report

&

Jack Spaapen

Senior Policy Advisor, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, co-author of LERU Impact report
Assessing Quality and Relevance of Humanities Research
Demanding Policy Context for Academic Research

- **2012: TOP SECTOR POLICY/NWO**: Stimulating collaboration in the golden triangle between science, industry, policy/society: Energy, high tech, water, agriculture and food, creative industry, …

- **2014: SCIENCE VISION**: International Excellence, Maximum Societal Impact, Cradle for talent

- **2015 NATIONAL SCIENCE AGENDA**: combining forces, strategic choices

- **EU HORIZON 2020; GRAND SOCIETAL CHALLENGES**: health, food, energy, climate, transport, secure and inclusive societies

- **UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**: poverty, hunger, clean water, inequality, responsible production and consumption, peace, …..

- **RRI**
Academic Research

Necessary Part of a Vital Knowledge Society

- driven by curiosity
- risk and (repeated) failure
- unpredictability / serendipity
- timespan – short / long
- conceptually identical for all disciplines
- range from fundamental to applied
Growing Influence of Civil Society

“a transparent, interactive process by which societal actors and innovators become mutually responsive to each other with a view on the (ethical) acceptability, sustainability and societal desirability of the Innovation process and its marketable products.” (von Schomberg 2011)
Academic Research at Crossroads

- research is part of larger innovation process, both technical and social

- operating at the cross roads of
  - excellence in (international) competition, fields / institutions
  - relevance for (democratic, sustainable) society, local, national
Dutch National Evaluation Protocol SEP 2015-2021

PEERS, OTHER EXPERTS and STAKEHOLDERS

EQUAL ATTENTION IN ASSESSMENT

INDICATORS

BOTTOM UP
## SEP Indicator Scheme

### Differences per Disciplines Allowed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Scientific quality</th>
<th>Relevance to society</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Demonstrable output</strong></td>
<td>• Sc. articles (refereed vs. non-refereed)</td>
<td>• (policy) reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Sc. Books, classification of publishers</td>
<td>• Articles in professional journals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Other research outputs (instruments, infrastructure, datasets, software tools, designs)</td>
<td>• Other output (instruments, infrastructure, datasets, software tools, designs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Dissertations</td>
<td>• Outreach-activities, public lectures, exhibitions,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Demonstrable use</strong></td>
<td>• Citations</td>
<td>• Patents/licences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Use of datasets, software tools, etc. by peers</td>
<td>• Use of research facilities by societal partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Use of research facilities by peers</td>
<td>• Projects with societal partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Reviews in scholarly journals</td>
<td>• Contract research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Demonstrable recognition</strong></td>
<td>• Scientific prizes</td>
<td>• Public prizes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Personal sc. subsidies</td>
<td>• Valorisation funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Invited lectures</td>
<td>• Positions paid for by public parties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Membership of sc. committees, editorial boards, etc.</td>
<td>• Memberships of public advisory bodies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comprehensive Assessment

- Focus on more than scientific quality/excellence
- Include methods to evaluate societal impact
- Involve Stakeholders – preferably in design
- Address wider interests
- Innovate!
Meaning for the Work Floor?

Local: Self evaluation report: includes SWOT, data for the indicators, and a perspective on the policy context: Top sectors, Strategic choices of the universities, H2020, contribution to technological and social innovation, National Research Agenda

National/field: Bottom up development of indicators, the research field / discipline decides which indicators represent best how work is done in the field, and how it is communicated, stakeholders can be included

→ Indicators for scientific quality, for societal relevance
NL Humanities Project

Focus on indicators, quantitative and qualitative, that fit humanities research

- Scientific quality: use of journals, books, publishers, in different fields
  language issues, databases (Google, Bing, Google Scholar, specialist databases (f.e. parliament, Nexis Lexis)

- Societal impact: audiences, products/output, patterns of communication; develop qualitative measurements (narratives, case studies)

• Guidelines and website: https://www.qrih.nl/nl/
Diversity in Communication Patterns

- Panels selected journals and publishers per (sub)domain and per type of audience:
  - Specialty
  - Discipline
  - Multi- or interdisciplinary
  - Hybrid (both scientific and societal communication combined)

- ±2000 journals put forward by 17 panels (VABB & CRISTin: each 10,000 journals)

- Diversity in subdivisions: from 0 to 18 specialties and subdomains
Test Profiles
## Hybrijd Publicaties in Several Domains

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Societal stakeholders</th>
<th>Scholar Cites per 8 sept 2016</th>
<th>Domain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>José van Dijck. (2013) The Culture of Connectivity, Oxford UP</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piet de Rooy, (2002) Republiek van rivaliteiten, Metz &amp; Schilt</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>Political History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frits van Oostrum, (2013) Het woord van eer</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marita Mathijsen (2002) De gemaskerde eeuw. Querido</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusions

- Be flexible, but firm
- Room for bottom up approach
- Within a mandatory framework for all
- Improve build up of systematic data
- Allow narratives, case studies
- Involve stakeholders, productive interactions!
Thank You For Your Attention
And thank you, Werner!
National

Tim Wilson

Executive Director, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), Canada
CONNECTING RESEARCH TO CANADIANS

RESEARCH IMPACT AND SSHRC PROGRAMMING

TIM WILSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESEARCH GRANTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

SEPTEMBER 2017
OUTLINE

- Canadian Context
- Mobilizing Research Results
- Demand-side in Current Research
- Future-orientation in Research
“Chase them! Chase them and beat the crap out of them! Stone them all! They deserve it all and more! They’ve insulted our gods!”
(Strepsiades’ last words after burning down Socrates’ “Thinkery” in Aristophanes’ *The Clouds*).

“Socrates was the first who brought down philosophy from the heavens, placed it in cities, introduced it into families, and obliged it to examine into life and morals, and good and evil”
(Cicero, *Tuscalan Disputations* V.4.10)
CANADIAN CONTEXT

Decentralized Research Ecosystem

SSHRC Mandate and Governance

Program Overview
Our mandate

- Promote and assist research and scholarship in the social sciences and humanities.
- Advise the Minister of Science.
The report provides a framework for long-term, globally competitive re-investment in Canada’s research environment.

Advisory Panel looked at the effectiveness and impact of the granting councils in Funding of Fundamental Research

36 recommendations
Research outcomes are shared with communities, businesses and governments, who use this new knowledge to innovate and improve people’s lives.

*$380.2 million for grants, fellowships and scholarships

$0.94 out of every allocated dollar goes directly to fund researchers, students

Over 13,000 funding applications received

More than 4,300 new grants, fellowships and scholarships awarded

4,300 volunteer external assessors support the review of funding applications
# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## TALENT
Building the next generation of leaders and equipping them for research-intensive careers across the economy and society

- Master’s Scholarships
- Doctoral Scholarships
- Postdoctoral Fellowships

## INSIGHT
Fostering research-based knowledge about people

- Insight Development Grants
- Insight Grants
- Support to institutions

## CONNECTION
Supporting the flow and exchange of that knowledge within and beyond academe.

- Connection Grants
- Support for Journals
- Knowledge Synthesis Grants

## PARTNERSHIPS
Within the academic community and between academe, industry, government, not-for-profits and communities

- Partnership Development Grants
- Partnership Grants
- Partnership Engage Grants
SSHRC’S COMMUNITY

Canada’s Social Sciences and Humanities Research Community

- **21,000** Doctoral students in SSH
- **48,000** Masters students in SSH
- **24,000** full-time SSH faculty teachers

**SSHRC Support (as of 2016-2017)**

- **9,600** Awards
- **18,600** Researchers Supported
  - **3,400** International Researchers
- **8,400** Students Supported
  - **4,700** Directly (scholarships)
  - **3,700** Indirectly (grants)
- **3,200** Partners
  - **330** Industry Partners
THE SYRIAN REFUGEE ARRIVAL
Resettlement and Integration Initiative – Partnership Development Grants - 2016

SSHRC and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada funded 27 short-term research projects addressing issues related to the resettlement process
PROJECT IMPACTS – EXAMPLE

• “The Impact of the Syrian Refugee Influx on Local Systems of Support”

• PI (Lead): DR. Rich Janzen, University of Waterloo
DEMAND-SIDE IN CURRENT RESEARCH

- Partnership Programs
- New Engage Grants
- Collaborative Initiatives
PARTNERSHIPS

SSHRC funds partnerships through Partnership and Partnership Development Grants to:

- conduct research;
- mobilize knowledge; and,
- train future researchers.

For 2016-17, 600 new Partners are expected to contribute $51.9 M over 7 years.

Between 2012 and 2016 SSHRC support facilitated...

- 360 formal partnership projects
- 3,100 partner organizations
- $227 M in partner contributions (cash and in-kind)

POST-SECONDARY | $21.3 M
GOVERNMENT      | $4.9 M
INDUSTRY        | $7.4 M
NOT-FOR-PROFIT  | $18.3 M
PARTNERSHIP ENGAGE GRANT

- New competitions for funding that will provide short-term and timely support to partnered research activities.
- Objective is to inform decision-making in an organization from the public, private or non-profit sectors.
- Valued between $7K and $25K over a year.
- Applications will be accepted quarterly.
- Launched in Summer 2017, with first application deadline September, 15th 2017.
CREATING RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES: COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES

Defense Research Initiative
(Insight, 2016-current)

Sport Participation Research Initiative
(Insight/Talent, 2005-current)

SSHRC-CIHR joint initiative: Healthy and Productive Work
(Partnership Development Grants 2015- Partnership Grants 2017)

Societal Implications of Genomics Research
(Insight/Partnership Development Grants/Connection/ KSG, 2015-current)
IMAGINING CANADA’S FUTURE
Canada in a Global Context

Governance & Institutions

Sustainable, Resilient Communities

Creativity, Innovation & Prosperity

Values, Cultures, Inclusion & Diversity

What might the implications of global peak population be for Canada?

What effects will the quest for energy and natural resources have on our society and our position on the world stage?

How are the experiences and aspirations of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada essential to building a successful shared future?

What new ways of learning, particularly in higher education, will Canadians need to thrive in an evolving society and labour market?

What knowledge will Canada need to thrive in an interconnected, evolving global landscape?

How can emerging technologies be leveraged to benefit Canadians?
Example of funded projects:

→ Drs. Stewart Elgie and Brendan Haley from the University of Ottawa looked at “Boosting clean innovation in natural resources through smart public policies”

→ Dr. Paule Halley from Université Laval studied how to score sustainability within the legislation of Canada’s forestry sector.
STAY CONNECTED WITH SSHRC

- Visit our website: www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca
- Subscribe to our eNewsletter: Dialogue.

@SSHRC_CRSH  FACEBOOK  YOUTUBE
National

*Chaired by:*

**Wendy Naus**

Executive Director, Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA), USA

How do national structures enable SSH research to have impact?

**Recommendation:**

Science for science’s sake – no (plumbing for plumbing’s sake?)

To gain trust, all research has to have a narrative – why do we do what we do?

Scientific quality and relevant to society – equal in national review processes?

Involve stakeholders
Next up

Now

Coffee break

15.45h

Strategic and institutional approaches to research impact & Panel discussion

20 & 21 september 2017, Cardiff