



Population Association of America/Association of Population Centers

Office of Government and Public Affairs



The Association of Population Centers (APC)

The Association of Population Centers is an organization comprised of over 30 universities and research groups whose mission is to foster collaborative demographic research and data sharing, translate basic population research for policy makers, and provide educational and training opportunities in population studies.

www.popcenters.org

The Population Association of America (PAA)

The Population Association of America is a professional organization of over 3,000 individual members who conduct population research. PAA members include demographers, economists, health scientists, sociologists, and statisticians. PAA members are committed to studying and communicating the implications of population change. Their diverse interests include adolescent health; aging; childcare; family formation and dissolution; fertility; immigration and migration; minority health; morbidity and mortality; population forecasting; and retirement.

www.popassoc.org

Dr. Lingxin Hao, Johns Hopkins University, represented PAA and APC at the 13th Annual Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF) Capitol Exhibition in Washington, DC. The purpose of the event was to educate members of Congress, congressional staff, and other federal employees about the breadth and significance of scientific research supported by the National Science Foundation.



Informing Policymakers

The APC and PAA work together to educate policymakers about population research outcomes and the federal agencies that support population, or demographic, research. These objectives are achieved through the work of the APC/PAA Government and Public Affairs Committee (GPAC).

The committee's mission is to:

- » Formulate views of PAA/APC on issues before the legislative and executive branches of government.
- » Educate federal policymakers about the importance of demographic research as it relates to current public policy issues.
- » Inform board and members about the status of public policy issues.
- » Advise board, presidents, and members on how PAA and APC may respond to actions taken by Congress and the federal government.

Through the director and deputy director of Government and Public Affairs, GPAC accomplishes this mission by:

- » Participating in coalitions;
- » Organizing briefings and meetings with policymakers;
- » Developing briefing materials and communications for policymakers and staffs;
- » Participating in bi-weekly conference calls;
- » Reporting bi-annually to the PAA board and APC members;
- » Writing updates for the organizations' newsletters and home pages and issuing action alerts.



Dr. David Weir, University of Michigan (right), briefs analysts from the Congressional Research Service on the Health and Retirement Study.

PAA/APC Coalitions

APC and PAA collaborate with numerous scientific and policy organizations to advocate for behavioral and social science research and the federal agencies that support it.

- » Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research
- » Census Project
- » Coalition to Advance Health Through Behavioral Social Science Research (CAHT-BSSR)
- » Coalition for Health Funding
- » Coalition for National Science Funding
- » Coalition to Protect Research
- » Consortium of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics
- » Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)
- » Friends of National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)
- » Friends of NIA Executive Committee
- » Friends of NICHD Executive Committee
- » International Family Planning Coalition

Annual Visits to Washington

Every March, a delegation of select members from GPAC and invited members of PAA and APC visit key congressional staff and the directors of the National Institute on Aging, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research.

The purpose of these visits is to educate congressional staff and federal officials about the importance of funding demographic research and to discuss current issues facing the field.



Mary Jo Hoeksema, director, Government and Public Affairs, presents Dr. Duane Alexander, former director of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, with the 2010 Excellence in Public Service Award.

Interested in learning more? Visit www.popcenters.org or www.popassoc.org, email paaapc@crosslink.net, or call 202.939.5456.



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GPAC Members, 2010

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