Protect Science Funding – Join the FABBS Action Alert E-List!

May 30, 2012,

Dear SIOP Members,

As your SIOP Scientific Affairs Committee, we are writing to enlist your help in protecting funding for science – particularly the science of I/O psychology. You can help by joining the action e-list for a major organization that represents your science to Congress and other branches of government, the Federation of Associations in the Behavioral and Brain Sciences (FABBS).

Action Item

We need to work together, while members of Congress debate government cuts to scientific research relevant to I/O psychology. We need to marshal ALL our resources and be ready to respond. To do this, we need you to register for FABBS Action Alerts.

We hope to have a significant representation of I/O psychologists in the FABBS Action Alert E-List database. Once registered, you will be e-mailed an alert if something occurs that generally is of importance to I/O psychologists concerned with scientific research. By responding to the alert, you will be directed to a specific message prepared by FABBS, and if you approve the message, an email will be sent to your member of Congress. It’s that easy!

Sign up now for FABBS Action Alert (“Action E-List”), and ask your colleagues to do the same: http://capwiz.com/fabbs/mlm/signup/. Please be sure to provide your home contact information so that your Congressional district will be registered correctly.

Background

In Washington, DC, and on the campaign trail, Republicans and Democrats alike are always talking about cuts to federal spending. The Budget Control Act agreed to by the White House and Congress in 2011 capped federal spending for 10 years, and set in play additional cuts of $1.2 trillion to domestic spending that are set to begin in January 2013 and run for another 8 years. Furthermore, NIH predicts that when the cuts scheduled to begin in Jan. 2013 are added to already stagnant funding levels, success rates will drop into the single digits, and there will be a loss of around 2300 research grants. NSF and other federal science agencies are likely to take similar hits.

Additionally, the value of federal funding for our sciences was recently called into question in a House subcommittee hearing, where one Senator specifically called for the elimination of the NSF Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate. Your understanding and involvement in these issues can help limit the damage to funding for scientific research relevant to I/O psychology.

Yours in support of organizational science,

The SIOP Scientific Affairs Committee

Pat Converse
Lillian Eby
Eden King
Lisa Leslie
Ron Landis
James LeBreton
Sam McAbee
Rustin Meyer

Chris Nye
Fred Oswald (Chair)
Steven Rogelberg (Research and Science Officer)
Kristen Shockley
Steve Stark
Ashley Walvoord
Liu-Qin Yang