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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD**

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**EXHIBITS 206 THROUGH 212 TO THE  
DECLARATION OF SHARON ALSTON**

# **Sharon Alston Declaration**

## **Exhibit 206**

# AMERICAN

Magazine of American University

Summer 2008

## AU NEWSMAKERS



**SONYA GAVANKAR**  
SOC/BA '99  
>>P9 10



**MARVIN ZELEN**  
CAS/PHD '57  
>>P9 17



**MARLENE BOURNE**  
SIS/MA '90  
>>P9 22



D.C.'S NEWSEUM > WORLD NEWS EXHIBIT

AU059862

AU-DC024697



The Newsroom, which opened on Pennsylvania Avenue in April, has ties to AU students, faculty, and alumni that span many years. See story p. 10.

Cover photo of Newsroom's World News exhibit, Jeff Watts  
Cover design, Maria Jackson

# AMERICAN

Magazine of American University Volume 39 No. 2

**I0** LIGHTS, CAMERA, INTERACTION  
AU's signature is writ large at the newest, coolest Newsroom in town.

**I4** TRANSITIONS: FROM NEWSMAN TO NEWSMAKER  
Nicholas Schmide, SIS '05, is an adventurer by any account. He was booted from Pakistan when his *New York Times* magazine story revealed a resurgent Taliban.

**I7** THANK GOD FOR MARVIN ZELEN!  
Meet the modest man and CAS alumnus who devised the statistical methods that underlie clinical cancer trials.

**20** MASTER MIND  
When crisis strikes, companies—and even countries—turn to Richard Levick, WCL '87.

**22** TOUR GUIDE TO THE FUTURE  
Marlene Bourne, SIS '90, can see the future, and it's as small as an ant's wrist.

**26** A CAPITAL PRESENCE  
Peacemakers from AU take aim at global conflicts.

**28** AMERICA'S MOST SUCCESSFUL CHEAPSKATE!  
Atlanta native Clark Howard, SPA '76, built a mini-media empire by pinching pennies one at a time.

• • •

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[www.american.edu/magazine](http://www.american.edu/magazine)

# AMERICAN

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from the EDITOR

## Meet the Newsmakers

There's no missing this summer's front page news: the newspaper is in trouble, readers the fact is obvious: go online, you're likely to find whatever information you want.

University magazines are different. Not that we're not also rethinking our role in your lives, but we generally don't break news. Rather, we try to create a reason for you to stop and 'smell the roses.' We share stories about people and places, ideas and ideal projects and programs with readers who have a common thread—for you, our 90,000 plus alumni—that's your American University experience.

So, I asked myself, what is that AU experience?

Most of you launched your adult life here where you studied and lived, where you worked and played, and where (as class notes would attest) quite a few of you found love. We're pretty sure you also left 'another little piece of your heart' in this great city, Washington, D.C., where AU is rooted and which AU serves.

So, as I thought about the changing news scene, ah sweet irony, the stories that bubbled up were AU's connections to the news—beginning with SOC's many partnerships with Washington's newest museum, the Newsroom, and ending with a charming story of students who were featured in the June 10, 1946 issue of *Life* magazine. And now—if I may introduce them—meet the newsmakers.

- Marvin Zelen is a modest man by all accounts and a man who has saved countless lives. This Harvard biostatistician may yet save your life because he revolutionized cancer clinical trials. He earned an AU PhD in 1957.
- Clark Howard is an extrovert times ten. He's a generous cheapskate, a beloved Atlanta media icon, an educator who wants to help you save money, and he's thinking about running for mayor of Atlanta. He earned a BA from SPA in 1976.
- Marlene Bourne may well be the most articulate spokesperson for nanotechnology on the planet. Why should you care? It's your future. She earned a master's in international affairs from SIS in 1990.
- In this issue you can also read about AU-educated peacemakers who fan across the city, the man who the world calls to get into or out of the news, the adventurous freelance journalist who the Pakistan government threw out of country when his writing got close to the truth about the Taliban, and many more AU newsmakers.

Enjoy. I hope you'll revel in reading about these people of AU, and if you have a minute, write and tell me what stories you loved and what else you'd like to read about the AU experience.

Linda McHugh  
Executive Editor  
lmchugh@american.edu

# on the QUAD

## New provost joins AU

As AU's new provost, Scott Bass intends to do a lot of listening. It's a model of leadership that he pursued with notable success during his 12 years at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County (UMBC), where he served as vice president for Research and dean of the Graduate School.

"Input is critical. You have to understand the culture, the setting, the leadership, the faculty," says Bass, who at UMBC oversaw the doubling of external funding, launched recruitment strategies that boosted graduate enrollment by 70 percent, and placed a high priority on attracting women and minorities in fields where they're underrepresented.

A distinguished professor of sociology at UMBC and a nationally known scholar in gerontology, Bass has written or edited eight books, authored numerous papers, and served as coeditor of the journal *Aging and Social Policy*.

Bass holds a combined doctorate in psychology and education from the University of Michigan and began his career as a professor at the University of Massachusetts-Boston, where he became director of the Gerontology Institute, graduate program director of the PhD program in gerontology, and head of the Gerontology Center prior to his post at UMBC.

The international atmosphere at AU suits him well. His scholarly work took him overseas on numerous occasions, including a memorable time in Japan for a Fulbright Research Scholarship.

Bass's appointment was announced in May after a national search. "I am thrilled to join the AU community and become part of a dynamic leadership team forging an ambitious plan for the university's future," he said. ■



Scott Bass

## AU signs on to climate neutrality

AU joined forces with more than 500 universities across the country when President Neil Kerwin signed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, which addresses the threats posed by global warming. "Our challenge will be to reach ambitious goals for the future of the university with heightened attention on how our practices as a community affect the environment," said Kerwin.

"I am confident that we can meet the expectation to educate our students and entire university community on global warming, create institutional responses, and embrace the commitment that AU continue its leadership role as a socially responsible university with strong values and actionable ideals," said Kerwin. ■



With Kerwin's signature, AU pledges to inventory all its greenhouse gas emissions, including emissions from electricity, heating, commuting, and air travel.



## 2008 was a very good year

AU students are on a winning streak. They landed national scholarships in striking numbers this year, making AU one of the nation's biggest winners of such prestigious prizes as Presidential Management Fellowships.

Week after week, the announcements flowed in: Harry S. Truman scholarships, Morris K. Udall scholarships, even a Jack Kent Cooke scholarship that brought a startling \$300,000 for graduate study.

What's striking isn't just the number of awards, but the fact that all these awards are for students



whose leadership potential shines so brightly they're being tapped as future leaders.

Take **Christina Arnold, SPA/BA '04**. Growing up overseas, she was so moved by glimpses of children in the sex trade that she started a nonprofit, Prevent Human Trafficking. She has founded a home for street children, spoken at embassies, and been invited to the White

Molly Kenney '09, James Valvo '09

House.

Yet she knew she had a lot to learn if she wanted to make an even greater difference in the world. Arnold will use her \$300,000 Cooke scholarship to pursue a master's in public administration at AU's School of Public Affairs, followed by law school. She is AU's fourth Cooke scholar, and the first since the formerly regional scholarship became a national competition.

Then there's the **Harry S. Truman scholarship**, named for the president who famously said, "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen." But **James Valvo '09** got out of the kitchen



Left: Carrie Johnson '08, Casey Roe '09, and Drew Veysey '10 are this year's winners of Morris K. Udall Foundation scholarships.

schools achieved that distinction this year. But for AU, it was a repeat. This was the second year in a row that three AU students

in pursuit of an even hotter, more high-pressure career.

Valvo, 29, was a chef at a four-star Detroit restaurant when he left to attend the School of Public Affairs. Now he works with a grassroots nonprofit organization on tax policy and plans to pursue a law degree. One day, he would like to affect policy as a congressional staff member on Capitol Hill.

**Molly Kenney '09**, a law and society major in SPA, is another winner of a \$3,000 Truman award. Her impressive record includes a semester at the London School of Economics, student leadership, and a top internship.

AU has produced **15 Truman Scholars**, including eight in the past eight years. This year the university is one of just nine schools to have two winners among the 65 selected nationally.

Public service is also the career goal of **36 students** who landed one of the most coveted awards in the country for men and women seeking to enter federal service: a **Presidential Management Fellowship**.

The 36 finalists made AU the university with the third most winners in the country.

There was also a magic number when it came to **Morris K. Udall scholarships**. For a university to have three winners is impressive; only three

captured the coveted \$5,000 awards for sophomores and juniors committed to careers in the environment or Native American health care and tribal public policy.

**Casey Roe '09**, a junior in Environmental Science, College of Arts and Sciences, landed the honor a second time. As policy director for Eco-Sense, a student environmental club, she was instrumental in the university's clean transportation initiative.

Another winning environmentalist is **Drew Veysey '10**. The fly-fishing sophomore from Ames, Iowa, has worked with his state's Department of Natural Resources, is active with Eco-Sense, and hopes to return to Iowa in an environmental policy role.

Leadership in Native American issues is what made **Carrie Johnson '08** a standout. A native South Dakotan with Native American relatives and a family active in the Indian Health Service, she's worked to share her awareness of the challenges faced by many Native Americans with her fellow students through alternative breaks, advocacy, and research.

AU's scholarship winners have different passions. But they're all leaders on their way to an exciting future. ■

## Alternative Breaks support ongoing activities

It wasn't exactly spring break on the beach.

The scores of students who participated in AU's Alternative Breaks this spring learned about homelessness in Washington, D.C., the slow recovery of New Orleans in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, and the challenges of Native American life on a reservation along the U.S.-Mexico border. They traveled to Brazil to learn about the Afro-Brazilian community, and to Mexico to meet with gay rights leaders.

One group donned gas masks and scraped mold off the walls of houses where the flood line was still visible in the rafters more than two years after Katrina.

Another group spent the night in the cold of Washington, D.C.'s streets or stayed warm on buses in a quest to understand homelessness. Many hope to translate what they learned into ongoing community service and activism. ■



From top: Students on a spring trip to New Orleans took a break from working on flood-damaged homes to watch a community parade with 47 floats carrying riders tossing cabbages along with beads, flowers, and other vegetables. (Photo by Hannah Hanson)

One group traveled to Arizona's Tohono O'odham reservation.

Students learned from community members in Mexico City and Brazil.

## May I Have the Envelope, Please

**And the Emmy Goes to . . .** Twenty-two School of Communication (SOC) students earned more than a grade for their work on the PBS documentary *EcoView: The Chesapeake Bay*, a 30-minute production, that aired on Maryland Public Television in April 2007. The student filmmakers also snagged a Student Emmy for the documentary that includes public service announcements and segments on the Anacostia



River and the Mattaponi Indian Tribe.

In June, the students received Emmy certificates and SOC took home an Emmy plaque from the awards ceremony hosted by Barry Levinson '67 and Tony Perkins '81. The award-winning production began in fall 2006, when both undergraduate and graduate students in Sandy Cannon-Brown's Environmental and Wildlife Production class pitched and produced four six-minute segments on topics that included the Chesapeake Bay's oyster population and a program that teaches children about the bay's ecosystem. Simultaneously, the undergrads in Brigid Maher's Motion Graphics course created opening and closing titles and four



animated public service announcements to run between the longer documentary segments created by Cannon-Brown's class.

### And the Oscar goes to . . .

Laura Waters Hinson, SOC/MFA '07, was one of 11 students from eight colleges and universities who were named winners in the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' 35th Annual Student Academy Awards competition. At the June ceremony at the academy's Samuel Goldwyn Theater, Hinson received the gold medal and prize of \$5,000. Her documentary, *As We Forgive*, is about reconciliation among survivors of the Rwandan genocide. Mia Farrow narrates the film, which has been screened several times in Washington and is being shown in churches, schools, and theatres across the country. ■

## Women's History Headlines Inaugural Clendenen Conference

**W**hen Kathy Peiss was preparing for her oral boards as a doctoral student at Brown University in the late '70s, her reading list included every book written on women's history.

"And that was the last time I could honestly say that I had read everything," laughed Peiss, a leading scholar of women's history at the University of Pennsylvania.

Since then, the field of women's and gender history has flourished, said Peiss, who delivered the keynote address at the Department of History's inaugural Patrick Clendenen (grandfather of early donor Mary Graydon) Conference in April.

Researchers covered topics ranging from Jewish women in postwar suburbia to the diaries of nineteenth-century farm women in New England.

**Cindy Gueil**, an adjunct professor at AU, discussed the place of "government girls" in World War II Washington. This "lipstick brigade" was primarily single, white women in their early 20s with a sense of patriotic duty and a thirst for adventure. At the height of the war, Gueil said, these women made up 40 percent of the government work force in Washington. Though many Washingtonians "weren't so sure what to make of the government girls," the military men who found themselves in D.C. on leave were simply in heaven.

Although the majority of government girls returned home after the war, Gueil said they "opened a space in Washington for the career woman." ■



Kathy Peiss, a leading scholar of women's history at the University of Pennsylvania, delivered the Clendenen Conference's keynote address.

## Bluegrass host marks 60 years on air

**R**ay Davis has been on the radio about as long as bluegrass itself. WAMU's legendary bluegrass host, who launched his career at the age of 15, celebrated 60 years on the air in May.

Anyone who loves bluegrass in Washington, D.C., and many who tune in to WAMU's *Bluegrass*



*Country* from around the world at [bluegrasscountry.org](http://bluegrasscountry.org), know the avuncular voice of Davis almost as well as the mandolin of Bill Monroe or the banjo of Earl Scruggs.

Davis joined WAMU 88.5 in 1985 to host Saturday Bluegrass and currently hosts three live hours of traditional bluegrass music on *The Ray Davis Show*. Along with the music, he shares his encyclopedic knowledge of the prison songs, "plum pitiful" tunes, and tearjerkers of the American art form.

"Ray Davis is a legend in music broadcasting. He has helped define bluegrass music on-air since its earliest days as a discrete genre," said Caryn Mathes, WAMU 88.5's general manager. *The Ray Davis Show* can be heard at 3 p.m., weekdays, and 10 a.m., Sundays, on WAMU's *Bluegrass Country*, heard in Washington, D.C., in HD radio at 88.5, Channel 2. ■

**WAMU 88.5 FM**  
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY RADIO

## IN PRINT

### Books by and about Alumni

■ In the children's book *Keena Ford and the Second Grade Mix-Up*, **Melissa Thomson, CAS/MAT '05**, lets Keena tell her story through her journal, where she describes life at home with her mother and brother, weekends with her father, and days in second-grade at the beginning of the school year. Keena chronicles with great candor her emotional ups and downs, her problems with her best friend, and the "mix-ups" that often result in spending part of her day in Mr. Lemon's Time-Out class. (Dial Books for Young Readers, 2008)

■ *Forgive Us Our Debts: The Intergenerational Dangers of Fiscal Irresponsibility* by **Andrew Yarrow, adjunct professor of history, CAS**, explains why the federal debt is increasing, how it will affect us if it continues to grow, why the U. S. government borrows, and what it will take to pay it back.

Even though the United States will soon be \$10 trillion in debt, Yarrow writes this need not be a doomsday scenario. Immediate bipartisan, fiscally responsible action can avert a future where we leave the next generation with IOUs for trillions of dollars. (Yale University Press, 2008)

■ *The Delivery Man* by **Joe McGinnis Jr., SPA/MPP '99**, takes his readers deep into the seamy underbelly of Las Vegas, where corruption and prostitution flourish below the glitter and alluring promises of the country's fastest growing city. Here, the readers descend into a world where prostitution rings are staffed by teenagers and where young people have new ways to get into trouble through social networking sites, text messaging, and webcams. (Black Cat, 2008)

■ In *City Dog* by **Alison Pace, CAS/BA '93**, Amy Dodge thought that after her divorce she would write the next great American novel. Instead, she finds she's the author of a bestselling children's book series, *Run, Carlie, Run!* Her spirited West Highland white terrier Carlie is the star of the series along with the dashing (if fictional) Scottish explorer Robert Maguire. When Carlie's fame leads to her own television show, and Amy can't get the image of her fictional creation out of her head, life in her beloved New York City begins to lose its appeal until Amy figures out how to make everything change.





## Athletics sends three to Beijing

The 2008 U.S. Olympic team has a decidedly American feel. Three members of AU's athletic department are in Beijing this month to participate in the games of the XXIX Olympiad. While each will play a different role, when **Steve Jennings** roams the sideline, **Brad Vering** takes to the mat, and **David Higgins** tends to the athletes, they all will be filled with an overwhelming sense of pride and patriotism.

"Being involved in the Olympic team is such a tremendous honor—definitely a peak life experience that is hard to put into words," said Jennings, head coach of AU's women's field hockey team and an assistant coach on the U.S. women's national team. "In the end it means getting a chance to see if you can be the absolute best and the power of being surrounded by people who have given literally everything they have to be there."

Jennings participated in the 1996 Atlanta Games, where he served as vice captain of the men's field hockey team. He's been a coach with the women's national team since 2001.

A volunteer assistant coach for the AU wrestling team, **Brad Vering** won the 185-pound weight class at Jane's U.S. Olympic Trials in Las Vegas to earn a spot as a member of the Greco-Roman wrestling team.

"It's an unbelievable experience wrestling in the Olympics, especially because the competition is so deep," said Vering, who also wrestled in the 2004 Athens Games. "It's an honor, there's no other way to put it." Vering credits much of his development as a wrestler to AU head coach Mark Cody. It was Cody who asked

Vering to help out with the Eagles, and for the past two years he's been flying from Colorado Springs, where he trains virtually year round at the U.S. Olympic Training Facility, to Washington for a week or so each month to work with the likes of former AU national champion Josh Glenn.

"No doubt about it, it's helped a lot," Vering said of his AU coaching experience. "Changing up the monotony of the training has been huge. I come out to American and I'm working Josh and those guys, and those guys are tough."

Vering is a serious medal contender in Beijing. At last summer's world championships he took home the silver medal, and he won the 2007 Pan-American Games.

"I'm just going to go out and try to win every situation that I'm in," he said. "Your head kind of gets floating around because it's such a big stage, so I'm going to keep myself low key, even keel, and enjoy every second. I know I can beat anyone in the world."

The third member of AU's Olympic contingent is **team physician Dr. David Higgins**, who will work with the field hockey and fencing teams. Higgins has been the AU

team physician since 1996, when he also served as the U.S. softball team's doctor at the Atlanta games.

"It really does give you a sense of patriotism," said Higgins, a former Navy physician. "It's quite an experience to watch because they're not doing it for money. It's really something to watch them compete."

Higgins, an orthopedic surgeon, will be in China for a full month, preparing athletes for competition and dealing with any medical issues that may arise.

For all three Eagles, representing America and American University in China is a monumental life experience.

"I am looking forward to the team having a peak performance on the world's biggest athletic stage," Jennings said. "It is really exciting to be in another culture and to experience firsthand the Chinese people. There is nothing like being surrounded by 5,000 of the world's best athletes from all disciplines . . . it is an incredibly powerful and inspirational environment." —MU



Steve Jennings, Brad Vering (in blue), and physician David Higgins are in Beijing with the U.S. Olympic team.

Photo: Courtesy of Athletics

## QUOTABLES

Speakers at AU's 2008 commencement ceremonies encouraged the graduates, who find themselves at a critical juncture in history, to work for a better America and a better world and to find opportunities in crisis.

### SPA and Kogod

"Do not succumb to the prophecies of doom and gloom. Be aware of them. But do not succumb. Recognize that crises are a part of the cycle of history. Whether economic, such as the Great Depression, or social, such as the crisis of the civil rights movement of the '60s, they are a test of a nation's ingenuity and character."

—Vernon Jordan, prominent attorney and businessman



### CAS

"It's your job more than any previous generation to hold the planet on a steady course . . . You have a chance to put humankind on a path to an enduring future, as never before."

—Sylvia Earle, oceanographer and National Geographic explorer in residence



### SIS and SOC

"Whether you end up as a journalist or judge, a diplomat or a director, politician or poet, editor or envoy, please pursue those dreams with passion and a commitment to doing the right thing every single day."

—Kenneth Paulson, editor of USA Today



### WCL

Be "ambitious for yourselves, ambitious for your profession, ambitious for the communities in which you live, and ambitious for the country of which you are a citizen, and ambitious for the law, as it spreads throughout the world."

—Stephen Breyer, Supreme Court Justice





# Lights, Camera, Interaction

Newseum is newest, coolest place in town

BY SALLY ACHARYA • PHOTOS BY JEFF WATTS

It sounded like an impossible challenge. How can a museum capture the buzz of a newsroom? The drama of chasing a story. The thunder of the presses. The rush to get a story online, where it will zap around the world at the speed of electrons.

News is about change. It can't be dug up, labeled, and put on display like the bones of a dinosaur. So when the Newseum began to go up on Pennsylvania Avenue as Washington, D.C.'s newest museum, it was clear that the \$450 million

building with its seven levels of galleries would have to offer something unique.

It would have to be exciting. It would have to be cutting edge. It would have to show why the news matters.

That's where the people of AU came in. The museum that opened in April in the heart of the nation's capitol took six years of hard-driving work to create. It's the most interactive museum in the world, a place where exhibits on abstract concepts like the First Amendment come to life for the twenty-first century.

To get a sense of what that means, take a trip to the Newseum. There are several things you can't miss about the place. One is the First Amendment. You don't even need to enter the 250,000-square-foot museum to get a visual wallop from the first part of the Bill of Rights, engraved on the museum's facade and looming over Pennsylvania Avenue.

At six stories tall, it's as tall as the museum itself. It will dwarf the next president as he motorcades past it in the inaugural parade in 2009. It is visible from the Capitol building.

As statements go, it's a big one. There's another statement, too, that the Newseum is making. It has to do with the way that the core values of journalism—the same values that motivated the Founding Fathers to pen the Bill of Rights—continue to drive journalists as they work in an environment that is evolving dramatically.



ummi Helping to bring the excitement of the newsroom to the Newseum include, from left, Jessica Hall '00, Anna Fruh '07, media assets coordinator Katie Walker '05, and Jerry Grossman '88.



A NEWS CHOPPER swings in the Newseum lobby as if it's checking the traffic. Other dramatic exhibits: a piece of the Berlin Wall and an antenna tower from the World Trade Center.

But this is a very abstract notion. To see how it plays out at the Newseum, take a look into the interactive newsroom where two boys are at a console with a quiz game called Run for Your Rights. It's a race pitting two cartoon characters against each other.

Every time players answer a question about their rights correctly, hero Bill O'Rights leaps a hurdle and the villain drops back. One of the boys laughs at the villain's name and leans over to repeat it to his friend. "Dick Tator!" Then he says, "This is the most fun museum ever."

The laughter is part of what multimedia producer Jessica Hall, SOC/BA '00, and Sonya Gavankar, SOC/BA '99, one of the game's writers, were striving for when their team created that game and others like it.

"We started with a unique challenge. How do we make the First Amendment fun and engaging? You can sit in there and your eyes glaze over," says Hall.

The creative team talked for days. Maybe there should be monkeys blocking their eyes, as in "see no evil"? Nah. Too obvious.

Finally, Hall says, "the animator had this idea for a race. Why don't we have each bundle be a freedom?" After all, this is a museum dedicated not just to showing the history of news, but how much fun it is to be part of it.

But isn't there a limit to fun? Ethics, for instance, is not usually a barrel of laughs. "Ethics is another of those subjects that's very academic," Hall says.

Yet it's integral to journalism. Part of what the museum aims to communicate is the real-life, split-second decision-making process of everyday journalism and the way that ethical choices are woven into every aspect of newsroom life.

Hall waves her arm over a disc-shaped table that could have come from *Star Trek*. It's not a touch screen; the players' shadows are what cause questions to pop on the translucent surface.

If the son of a rival paper's editor was arrested for drunk driving, would you report it? Yes or no? Touch the right answer with your shadow, quickly, and reach for another question. This is the Ethics Table, an interactive game where players compete to be fastest at making ethical choices.

Hall was the game's team leader. Many of the questions were written by longtime TV news producer Jerry Grossman, SOC/MA '68, who spent nearly three decades at Washington's WUSA-TV (Channel 9) before becoming a Newseum producer, working on videos whose subjects range from John F. Kennedy to sports history.

Such intersections are common around the Newseum. "We have a little AU family

here," says administrative assistant Anna Frueh, SOC-SIS/BA '07, who learned of a job opening during class and now often meets her former SOC professor, W. Joseph Campbell, in the museum's halls.

Stand in front of a camera as a TV reporter in the Interactive Newsroom. Click on the names of fallen journalists at the interactive memorial wall. Alumni and faculty worked on all of these.

The Newseum aims to immerse visitors in the behind-the-scenes drama of the news business. To make that happen, it needed to find people with a flair for



Sonya Gavankar: '02 holds the Newseum's unique interactive games, appearing on video and as the animated alter ego, "Rita Labovitz." She's online, too, at [www.newseum.org/ten\\_games](http://www.newseum.org/ten_games).



thinking outside the box and skills that range across the media landscape. "I can shoot and edit video, because I did a lot of that at AU," says Hall. "If I need to write a story for the Web site, I can do that. If I need to produce video, I can do that."

Technically the Newseum opening was a reopening, since the institution was a popular feature of Rosslyn, Virginia, just across the Potomac, between the time it was launched in 1997 by Gannett founder Al Neuharth's Freedom Forum and the time it closed to the public in 2002 to prepare its new incarnation.

Hall first worked at the Rosslyn site as an intern clipping newspapers. Other AU alums arrived with fresh degrees, eager to do anything and sometimes steered there by faculty like Campbell, who has been involved in the action for years. His ties go back to the Newseum's old site, which opened around the time

Campbell, a veteran reporter and foreign correspondent, started his career as an AU professor.

Campbell's touch is all around at the new Newseum. He wrote explanatory labels for historic newspapers, the digital Great Books display, and the magazine collection, and wrote first drafts for the labels of the exhibit that features part of the Berlin Wall.

He conducted research into war correspondents named on the Journalists Memorial, tracked down the word for "news" in some 50 languages for a display called News in 100 Languages, and wrote much of the international database for the digital kiosks in the World News gallery.

Exhibits change at a breakneck pace to keep up with the news. "Museums generally work on things for two years," says Hall, who has also been a Smithsonian fellow in museum practice. "This place really operates more like a news organization. It's really a living, breathing, active, hyperactive place."

And Hall is one of many AU people who are making sure visitors are part of the excitement. "If they're interacting and engaged, then I'm a happy camper." ■

## News Partners

The opening of the Newseum in 1997 was the start of a long relationship with AU's School of Communication (SOC). Almost as soon as it opened its first site in Rosslyn, Virginia, the museum of the news attracted the talents of SOC professor W. Joseph Campbell, who would work over the years on projects ranging from international reporting to underground journalism to news history. Even during the years it was closed to the public and preparing its new home, the Newseum was filled with people from SOC and collaborated on SOC projects.

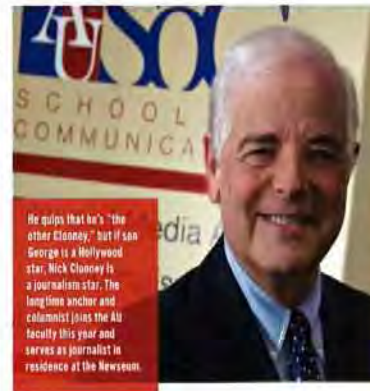
A few examples of what's new, and what's continuing, in the world of SOC-Newseum collaborations:

- Veteran journalist **Nick Clooney** will join the SOC faculty and also serve as journalist in residence at the Newseum. Clooney has been a broadcast journalist, newspaper columnist, producer, author, human rights activist, and documentary filmmaker with his son, Academy Award-winning actor George Clooney. The longtime newsman will teach courses on opinion writing and film and host SOC's annual Reel Journalism Film Festival.

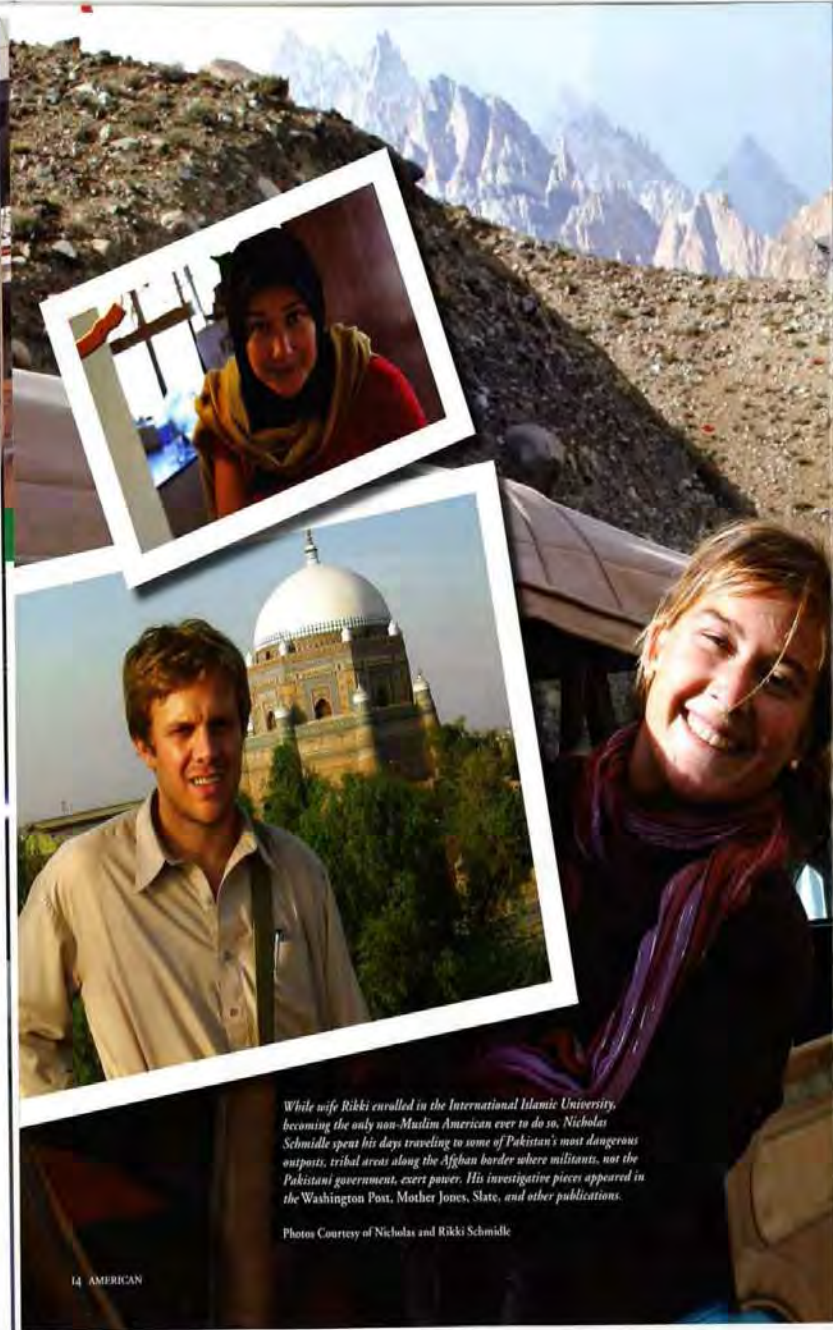
- SOC and the Newseum have coproduced the Reel Journalism Film Festival for the last five years, showcasing films about journalism and providing a platform to discuss and debate the social role of journalism with leading directors, actors, producers, and activists.

- Since 2003, the Newseum has cosponsored SOC's summer high school program, which last year attracted 480 students from 35 states.

- The Newseum will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the film *Broadcast News* in December with a special tribute to CBS News executive producer and SOC Dean's Advisory Council member **Susan Zirinsky, SOC/BA '74**, the model for the high-energy lead played by Holly Hunter in the 1987 film.



He gulps that he's "the other Clooney," but if son George is a Hollywood star, Nick Clooney is a journalism star. The longtime anchor and columnist joins the AU faculty this year and serves as journalist in residence at the Newseum.



*While wife Rikki enrolled in the International Islamic University, becoming the only non-Muslim American ever to do so, Nicholas Schmidle spent his days traveling to some of Pakistan's most dangerous outposts, tribal areas along the Afghan border where militants, not the Pakistani government, exert power. His investigative pieces appeared in the Washington Post, Mother Jones, Slate, and other publications.*

Photos Courtesy of Nicholas and Rikki Schmidle

# Transitions

*From newsman to newsmaker*

By Adrienne Frank

The police came for them on a cold, Tuesday night in January. "We have orders to take you to the airport tonight," the officers said. "You have one hour."

The knock on Nicholas Schmidle's door came less than 48 hours after the Pakistan-based journalist, 29, published an article in the *New York Times Magazine*, detailing the activities of a new generation of Taliban. Suddenly, Schmidle, SIS/MA '05—who'd spent two years venturing to some of the country's most dangerous outposts, interviewing militants and jihadis—had gone from covering the news to making headlines himself.

A call to an influential friend bought Schmidle and his wife, Rikki, a few days to sell their belongings, give away the cat Rikki had adopted after arriving in Islamabad in spring 2006, and bid farewell to their Pakistani friends, who had become like family.

With heavy hearts, the Schmidles boarded a plane Friday morning bound for Washington. As Pakistan's snow-capped mountains faded into the distance, Schmidle exhaled, a sense of relief finally washing over him.

Despite Pakistan's reputation as being hostile to Americans in general and journalists in particular, Schmidle says he never feared for his safety—until he was handed the deportation notice that rainy January evening in Islamabad.

Those last two days were certainly the scariest time because I realized that we were, in fact,

living in Pakistan illegally—and what do you do with illegal aliens? I knew I would be back, but at that moment, I was relieved to have gotten out safely," he recalls.

## A working honeymoon

When Schmidle landed a fellowship from the Institute of Current World Affairs in early 2006, his only reservation was that "it sounded too good to be true."

"They said, 'your only obligation is to write a newsletter every month, and we're going to pick up the tab.' I kept waiting for the catch," he laughs.

While Schmidle, who'd always aspired to be a foreign correspondent, was immediately sold on the opportunity, his new wife, Rikki, needed a bit more convincing. "We had been married just three months; I convinced her that two

years in Pakistan would be like a honeymoon that just wouldn't stop," he wrote in the *Washington Post*.

So, on Valentine's Day 2006, Schmidle shipped off for Pakistan; two months later, Rikki, a nutritionist, followed.

Though it took time to adjust to their new surroundings, the newlyweds soon embraced Pakistani customs and culture, and began building a life there. They both learned to speak Urdu and, after several months, Schmidle no longer needed a translator.

"The mainstream media paints Pakistan as a very scary place, but, in fact, people in that part of the world are incredibly hospitable," he says. "I kind of sought out the more negative elements, but my wife, for the most part, led a perfectly normal life."

With Schmidle on the road half of the time, Rikki began painting.

She also took a job as a dietician and enrolled at the International Islamic University, becoming the school's first non-Muslim American student.

"She really took the place by storm," recalls Schmidle. "At first, she said, 'Why are you taking me to this godforsaken place?' But in the end, she didn't want to leave."

#### Beyond deadlines

While Rikki was throwing herself into work and her studies, Schmidle was traversing the country, penning pieces on the intersection of culture, religion,

on their hospitality," recalls Schmidle.

"After prayers, they marched people onto a platform and lashed them. It was a frightening scene; I thought, 'holy mackerel, the Taliban are running the show here.' That was a bit unnerving," he continues.

During his time in-country, Schmidle also struck up an unlikely friendship with the late Abdul Rashid Ghazi, a pro-Taliban cleric in charge of the "Red

His status as a foreign journalist without any affiliation, along with his reporting in the Swat Valley, is what finally caught the Pakistani government's attention.

"I don't think it ever made sense to them that a foreigner would have two years of funding for himself and his wife," says Schmidle, who discovered his cell phone had been tapped in the weeks

"We had been married just three months; I convinced her that two years in Pakistan would be like a honeymoon that just wouldn't stop."  
—Nicholas Schmidle



The Schmidles spoke at SIS in February. Photo by Jeff Warr

Mosque" in Islamabad. The two would chat for hours over tea, discussing everything from the Islamic revolution to English literature. Ghazi also passed along his connections, scribbling names and numbers on scraps of paper before Schmidle headed out of

town for a story.

"I would say, 'I'm going to this city tomorrow. Do you know anyone there?' It was kind of like a golden ticket," recalls Schmidle. "That was the benefit of the fellowship: I was in no rush. I had the time to cultivate relationships and build trust with these people."

#### Street credentials

Though Schmidle relished not having an editor breathing down his back, there was a downside to working as a fellow rather than as an affiliated journalist.

"When you don't work for a major media outlet, there's always a suspicion that you're the next 007," he explains. "You could be there for 30 years, and the more you adopt the local customs and clothing, the more people are convinced you're carrying on a charade. 'I'm not sure I ever cleared that hurdle.'"

before his deportation, "I think that sense must have been there all along."

Now back in Washington as a fellow at the New America Foundation, Schmidle is working on a book chronicling his experiences in Pakistan, which he says were invaluable, personally and professionally.

"Street credibility is everything in the field of international correspondence. As a journalist in Pakistan, you get stories that you wouldn't if you were sitting at a desk in Washington," he says.

"All of a sudden, people are listening to me," continues Schmidle, who expects to be back in Pakistan by August. "It's very empowering—and it's something I want to sustain."

And while Pakistan remains the most unlikely of honeymoon destinations, Schmidle says his experiences there with Rikki strengthened their bond.

"It was such a significant time for my wife and me to be there," he says. "Pakistan is a rocky and unpredictable place to start a marriage. But, despite the fact that it was 120 degrees, that nothing worked, nothing was on time, nothing was easy, there was really something to cherish about our time there." ■

**As a boy, Marvin Zelen made the best egg cream in the Bronx . . . as a man, he set the nation's data standard for clinical cancer trials . . .**

# 'THANK GOD FOR MARVIN ZELEN!'

BY DAVID REICH

*Garbage in, garbage out*—the Harvard biostatistician Marvin Zelen, CAS/PhD '57, probably didn't invent the saying, but to judge from the fruits of his long career, it represents one of his key beliefs. Zelen built his reputation in part by devising the statistical methods that underlie clinical cancer trials, in which experimental drugs are tested for toxicity, effectiveness, and proper dosage. But equally important, if not more so, he put in place dramatic measures to assure that data from the trials are

untainted by errors and biases, measures that have since become standard practice in the field. "It became very clear early on," says Zelen, who first got involved in medical research in the early 1960s, "that there was no point in analyzing worthless data."

*Garbage in, garbage out*, in other words. Marvin Zelen, the son of immigrants, was born and raised in New York City, where he spent his nonschool hours playing games of chance and working in his father's candy store. "I made the best egg cream in the Bronx," claims Zelen, who has thick arms and mournful eyes, and speaks in a soft voice that descends to a near-whisper at the end of some of his sentences.

Hoping to escape the drudgery of the candy store, Zelen attended New York's City College, where he took a lively interest in



Photo Courtesy of Harvard School of Public Health

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**"It became very clear early on, that there was no point in analyzing worthless data."  
— Marvin Zelen**

statistics and probability. It was the only subject he encountered that connected with his outside life, he says, alluding to his boyhood gambling. After college and a master's degree, he worked at the mathematics lab of the National Bureau of Standards in Washington, D.C.

Sitting in his utilitarian office in Boston's Longwood Medical Area, a workspace that features scattered papers, bookcases filled with professional journals, and a white board covered with equations in bright green ink, Zelen says the lab was part of a federal government push, after World War II, to apply mathematics to practical problems. "They recruited famous mathematicians from all over the world," he says, adding that at age 24 he was the lab's youngest staffer, and the only one without a doctorate.

## AU Credential

At the lab, he crunched physical science data and also started making a name for himself, publishing in professional journals and getting an offer to join the faculty at Berkeley, an offer rescinded when the department chair learned that Zelen lacked the PhD. By then, in addition to his day job, he was teaching part time at American University, and he entered the doctoral program there, finishing in two years while still working full time. The day of his last qualifying exam, typically a three- or four-hour ordeal, Zelen had a funeral to attend. Not wanting to wait another year for the degree, he whipped through the test, which he passed, in 15 minutes.

Zelen moved from the mathematics lab to the University of Wisconsin. He stayed just two years ("I hated the cold weather"), but they were crucial ones. It was at Wisconsin that Zelen first worked with cancer researchers. The researchers

approached him, worried that their studies' integrity might be compromised because patient volunteers were coming in at many different stages of the disease. Zelen sat down and worked out a procedure for dealing with the problem. More important for his future, he learned that clinical cancer research presented lots of interesting statistical problems.

His next job was a stint at the National Cancer Institute. Then, in 1967, wanting to return to academia, he joined the biostatistics department at the State University of New York in Buffalo—admittedly, another cold-weather spot, but by then he had a wife and children, and the school had made a decent salary offer.

## Experimental Therapies

At Buffalo, Zelen began a 19-year connection with the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG), which had been set up to test experimental cancer therapies. At the time, ECOG was running seven studies, all of them "terrible," Zelen says with a thin smile. "They were poorly thought out; the data was wrong; they had poor quality control, not enough patients—everything you can think of that was antiscientific." One study, he recalls, was attempting to test a single drug against cancers of the breast, lung, and digestive system, a monumental waste of time and money, given that, as was widely known, each of the cancers has its own unique natural history.

At an early meeting with the group, Zelen mentioned these and other problems to the physicians in charge of the ongoing studies, suggesting that the studies be terminated and restarted from scratch. The physicians agreed without

protest, he says, and soon Zelen and a growing corps of statisticians had taken charge of ECOG's studies, inventing numerous new procedures to clean up methodology.

Take randomization. To avoid physician biases, today's clinical trials assign patients at random to an experimental drug or to the standard treatment for their disease. Few of ECOG's early studies used this methodology. In those that did use it, drug assignments arrived in sealed envelopes, but doctors figured out how to get around the method—saving up four or five envelopes, for instance, opening them all at once, and then giving each assignment to a patient for whom it seemed appropriate. (Usually the more promising drug went to the patients with the more promising prognoses.) The practice ended in the first days of the Zelen regime, after which drugs were assigned centrally using randomization software.

Another widespread problem with the early studies boiled down to sloppy data management by the doctors and their helpers. "They'd report somebody dead," says Zelen, "and two months later, they'd report that the person was taking therapy." Zelen and colleagues wrote checking procedures into their database software to flag this kind of error. They also took the job of processing data away from secretaries, who had done it as a sideline, and gave it to trained data managers. They even designed a custom data form for every study, replacing the

error-prone, one-size-fits-all form that had been in use.

All the while, Zelen was devising new statistical techniques for use in ECOG's research and in clinical practice. His inventions include, among many others, the so-called semi-Markov process, which helps clinicians determine how long to keep a patient on a treatment that has yielded no results to date, and the permuted block algorithm, a sophisticated randomization procedure.

## A Civil Action

When he moved on to Harvard in 1977, Zelen brought ECOG along with him, as well as much of his department at Buffalo. Harvard hired a dozen faculty members away from Buffalo, he explains, as a condition of Zelen's accepting the job.

In the mid-1980s, a few years into his time at Harvard, Zelen, whose renown hadn't spread too far beyond his profession, came briefly to the notice of a broader public, when he became involved

Zelen's study drew fire from the chairman of Harvard's own department of epidemiology, who argued that the volunteer data collectors, some 250 Woburn residents, had a personal stake in the study's outcome. Zelen rejects the criticism, pointing out that he and his fellow biostatisticians backed up their findings with hospital records. He also notes that his critic was a paid consultant to a chemical industry trade organization.

Zelen unveiled his study results at a meeting in a Woburn church, an event treated in detail in *A Civil Action*. According to the book, after Zelen's talk, someone in the room called out, "Thank God for Marvin Zelen!" and the crowd broke into cheers.

Such dramatic moments have been rare in Marvin Zelen's life, yet his work has dramatically affected the world. From a group that once comprised a handful of doctors who knew little of the fine points of experimental science, ECOG, thanks to Zelen's innovations, has evolved into a national

research center that's currently running 90 trials simultaneously. Among other accomplishments, ECOG's studies have resulted in new treatments for leukemia and lung cancer. And Zelen's methods, pioneered at ECOG, have gotten "widespread acceptance," not only in clinical cancer trials but in clinical research

**In the 1980s Zelen became involved in the legal case that formed the basis of the best-selling book *A Civil Action*. When he unveiled his study someone in the room called out, "Thank God for Marvin Zelen," and the crowd broke into cheers.**

generally, says John Bennett, a hematologist and leukemia researcher at the University of Rochester. "His work has served as a model for AIDS clinical trials," adds Elizabeth Malloy, professor of mathematics and statistics at AU.

## Frontier Science

Zelen long ago moved on from ECOG, but he still does biostatistical research. His main interest these days is in public health programs that screen for common cancers, such as those of the breast, lung, prostate, and colon. His recent papers use statistical models to derive the optimal intervals and starting ages for the screening tests, results that will help the government squeeze maximum benefit from the public health dollar.

He also continues teaching at Harvard, and he's president of Frontier Science, a nonprofit he founded to take over support functions, such as database building and quality control, from ECOG, which was starting to run out of space at Harvard. Zelen's wife, Thelma, serves as the nonprofit's unpaid COO.

As to retirement, it's not in the cards, says Zelen, who turned 81 in June. "They'll have to carry me out. I wouldn't know what to do," says the one-time soda fountain jockey. "My wife and I—I think they're going to put us in the Smithsonian as the world's oldest full-time working couple."



# MASTER MIND

by Mike Unger

**T**wo buttons sit prominently inside a black box on the right side of Leveck Strategic Communications' home page, each offering a deceptively simple solution to vastly different problems.

"Get me into the news," one reads.

"Get me out of the news," states the other.

The company, founded by Richard Leveck, WCL/JD '87, a decade ago, has established itself as an industry leader in each and is one of the world's top firms to which corporations and even countries turn when crisis strikes.

"Being a protagonist in history, rather than a spectator, is a pretty exciting life," Leveck says.

Much like a firefighter, when a crisis erupts Leveck runs into the blaze while others drift away. The figurative fires he extinguishes are critically important to his high-powered clients squirming uncomfortably under the white hot glare of the media spotlight, clients whose fates often rest in his hands.

"All crisis communication is ultimately a Shakespearean tragedy," he says. "You have to have your hero, and you have to have your villain. Those are the only two roles."



Congressional testimony

spinach recall



stock market prices

Guantanamo Bay



You need to get your message out fast, Leveck stresses; "those who wait become the villain."

As CEO and president of the company he built from the ground up, Leveck travels the world (he's banked more than 1 million frequent flyer miles) working on issues as sensitive as the U.S. treatment of enemy combatants and the scandal surrounding the Catholic church and pedophilia. He is charged with altering the arc of the media's storyline in the midst of a crisis to favor his clients' interests.

"Trust is critical," he says. "You have to know your clients, and they have to know and trust you. You need to be able to tell them what's going to come next. During a crisis you're emotionally exhausted. You're prone to make incorrect decisions. You have to take action. You have to make go-no-go decisions without enough information."

Leveck has represented half of the nation's and a third of the world's

largest law firms and their clients. His company helped the spinach industry when an outbreak of E. coli hit and worked with a Middle Eastern government friendly to the United States that objected to the manner in which prisoners were dealt with at Guantanamo Bay.

"We were the first firm to be involved in the Guantanamo crisis," Leveck says. "Very few Americans were concerned about the civil rights of [purported] terrorists. It's the same issue today, but the concern has increased about people not getting due process. The story changed."

Leveck, 50, hoped to influence the course of events since his childhood in suburban Washington. He majored in urban studies as an undergraduate and eyed a political career. While working for a public interest group in Michigan, however, he became intrigued with the communications field's ability to control messages.

"I organized a press conference at the capitol [in Lansing]," he recalls. "Here I am, 23, 24 years old, and it was packed. All the TV networks from Detroit were there, and the governor ended up having to do a 180. It took my breath away and gave me an extensive sense of what you can control through communications."

With a new professional focus, Leveck set his sights on returning home. "I always felt Washington was the seat of power," he says. "I wanted to come back, and AU became my first choice. The great thing about crisis communications is it's not just about the media. You have to learn business, politics, the law. It's critical to have a varied and deep background."

After earning his JD from WCL, Leveck founded his first firm, sold it to a partner, then

ran the communications department at another. Eventually, Leveck Strategic Communications was born.



Richard Leveck '87

**All crisis communication is ultimately a Shakespearean tragedy. You have to have your hero, and you have to have your villain.**

"He is a very well educated, very smart, very analytical guy who has a sense about him of how you should present things," says Larry English, a former Leveck client. "Part of it comes from experience, and part of it comes from instinct."

English tapped Leveck twice, once to get his company into the news, once to get it out. As a board member of Curative Health Services in 2002, English employed Leveck to help the company deal with the firing of its CEO.

"It was a very awkward situation because the company stock price had run up in the months preceding this," English says. "We had a major crisis communication issue on our hands. We hired Leveck to show us through this process, and we got through it without any lawsuits, and the stock prices eventually recovered."

A few years later, English had moved on to become chairman and CEO of QuadraMed Corporation, which was poised to go public.

"Our shares were about to be listed on the American Stock Exchange, and we wanted to tell the world, our customers, our employees, our shareholders, that QuadraMed was healthy," he says. "I wanted—and got—a lot of local and national media coverage. They did a great job of orchestrating that event."

Leveck approaches crisis communications in a multifaceted manner. In the Guantanamo matter, not only did his firm lobby editorial boards at major newspapers, but it created a Web site (structuring it to ensure it was among the top selections of search

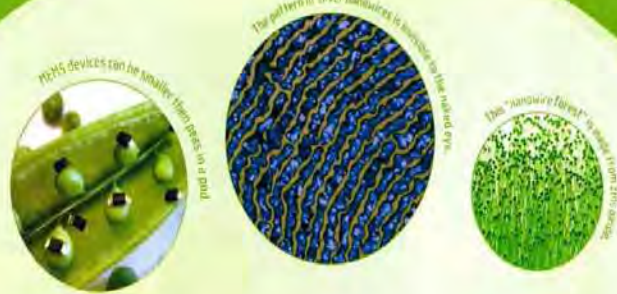
engines) and helped organize a protest rally in London, pictures from which were beamed around the world.

"They're very strong on full

disclosure, getting all the facts out, don't lie to anybody," English says. "You get in denial when stuff happens, you want to hide things. It's hard to describe unless you've been in a crisis. Your whole life is unraveling around you, and they get you back on track."

In the end, Leveck says, the objective is quite simple—to win.

"All clients deserve representation, and our job is to get them out of trouble," he says. "If you're not going to communicate, you better make sure you can withstand being thought in the marketplace as guilty." ■



# Tour Guide by Sally Acharya to the Future >>>

A nanometer is so small that if it were the size of a quarter, you'd have to drive from Washington, D.C., to Boston to travel an inch. In the vast spaces of this invisible realm, properties behave differently. Water can act like molasses. Electrons can pass through an insulator without ever being inside it, almost as if they're teleporting.

Photo Courtesy of Intel Corporation. Wood Lapeere and Henrikah Jangic, University of Chicago. Frank Kluge, Oxford University.



## Marlene Bourne

explores this world for a living. In fact, she takes others along. You could call her a tour guide for the world of nanotechnology.

Bourne, SiS/MA '90, is a futurist who analyzes the impact of today's technology on tomorrow's world. Her radio broadcasts, books, podcasts, and reports tell nonscientists, from Wall Street executives to D.C. area middle schoolers, what scientists and engineers are doing in the Lilliputian universe where the world of the twenty-first century is being built.

“When I was growing up, I wanted to live like the Jetsons,” says Bourne. “It’s kind of disappointing we don’t have our jet packs. But we have everything else. Big screen TVs. Video phones.” And a lot of other things that Bourne knows are on the way from the labs of scientists and engineers to our closets, desks, and doctor’s offices.

Socks that don’t smell.

A computer mouse that doesn’t get grubby with germs.

A tiny shell that coats cancer tumors, destroys them with infrared light, and makes chemotherapy obsolete.

The mouse and the socks are on the market now. The cancer treatment is still in the lab. But they’re all made by working on a level so infinitesimal that until recently it couldn’t even be seen, let alone turned into a workshop for the future.

Every day Bourne, working from her home in Scottsdale, Arizona, scans university publications and scientific news sites and talks with experts to give a heads up to listeners of the *Bourne Report*, whose tag line is “Next generation science. Cool technologies. Real products.”

She has made a career of explaining not only what these things are, but how they work.

“It’s fun to get people to think about this a little more,” she says. “I think people are smarter than we give them credit for, and naturally curious about the way things work.”

The notion that people could work on a very, very small scale is not new. In 1959, before Bourne was born, a famed physicist named Richard Feynman speculated in a talk called “There’s Plenty of Room at the Bottom,” that it would be possible someday to manipulate individual atoms.

He imagined the possibility of a tiny robot cruising through the blood stream. It’s a sci-fi image that Bourne would, in time, come to dread. It would capture the popular imagination in ways that weren’t, she thought, always helpful to understanding what nanotechnology is really about.

For years, it was all speculation. When Bourne was growing up in Minneapolis, no one could know much about the world, nano scale, much less work in it, because no one could see it. It wasn’t until the invention of the scanning tunneling microscope in 1981 and the atomic force microscope in 1986 that the invisible was made visible.

Once scientists got a look at this world, it turned out that materials often behaved quite a bit differently than they do in their larger, more familiar forms. Water and oil, for instance, don’t mix in the world as we know it, but on a nano scale, they mix better and stay mixed longer.

The discovery was both a revelation and a revolution.

Not that Bourne was a scientist when the potential of nanotechnology began to be revealed. A high school career test had predicted she’d make a great engineer, but she’d been set on a career in fashion design until she finished all the interesting course work—in her view, those were things like textile chemistry—and took some finance courses that intrigued her.

She switched her undergraduate major to business and went on to AU to earn a master’s in international business and economics at the School of International Service. But she graduated into a recession, and instead of landing a job at a Fortune 500 company, had been doing everything from copy writing to freelance marketing when she was asked to update a



"When I was growing up, I wanted to live like the Jetsons," says Bourne.

report on something called micro-electro-mechanical systems.

"That was the first I'd ever even heard about it," she says.

She was intrigued. It was almost like being back at AU. "I was one of those students who silently cheered for joy when a research paper was assigned, because I loved the process," she says.

When she turned her inquisitive mind to figuring out what was meant by the tongue-twisting term "micro-electro-mechanical systems," she learned that MEMS are tiny machines whose parts might be only one micrometer in size.

Yet things this small are commonly manufactured. Nor were these the smallest things being made, by a long shot. While a micrometer is a millionth of a meter, a nanometer is a billionth of a meter. Atoms are about half a nanometer.

She was fascinated. The high school test had been right about her. Bourne did think like an engineer. But with her background in finance, she saw the extraordinary implications all this had for business.

She started to write for research firms, mainly about MEMS devices and material science. Sometimes she'd also write or edit a report about medical research, which is how she encountered nanotechnology. "That was the early stages of nanotechnology-based products. Nanotechnology is really just material science," she says.

For Bourne, the topic was "addictive." As she delved into it, she developed a reputation as an industry analyst who could write and talk about complex topics in a clear, conversational, and scientifically accurate way.

Back at AU, she'd been a bit of a maverick, avoiding jargon and "isms" and writing papers in a conversational tone. She'd always been surprised when the professors enjoyed her unique style. Now she was writing about scientific topics in the same way, and it soon won her a national following.

People have been taking advantage of products on the nano scale for thousands of years. The Kohl eyeliner used in the time of Nefertiti was made from a soot with some particles only 10 nanometers in diameter.

Two thousand years later, cathedrals were built with stained glass windows that included a brilliant red. "It turns out these are nano particles of gold," Bourne says.

And when the knights who worshiped in those cathedrals went on Crusades, they were often bested by warriors wielding a super-weapon, a sword of Damascus steel. Yet even when the Crusaders captured a Damascus sword, they couldn't replicate it. The secret wasn't the shape of the sword. The steel bound for Damascus swordsmiths was forged in India from an ore that, as it happened, included nano particles.

It couldn't be replicated, because no one knew why it worked. That was the key. Once science figured it out, the world began to change. But the changes, like the nano world itself, arrived all around without being noticed.

The future Bourne began to write about isn't a future that flashes, blinks, and travels at warp speed. It's a future that is already here in bottles of sun block, cans of house paint, and jars of car wax.

To see it, just go to the beach.

"Those of us of a certain age are familiar with lifeguards on the beach back in the '70s, with big white noses and white lips," she says. "That's because they were putting zinc oxide on to protect against the sun. It's white. It's opaque.

"If you take zinc oxide and manufacture the actual particles of powder at a nano scale, they're actually clear. That's why suddenly sun screen today, instead of white and opaque, is clear."

Of course, technology seldom arrives without a disturbing flip side to raise questions about whether it's worth it. Antibacterial sprays are a case in point. Viruses are

adapting to these products, which is a potential disaster of a global scale.

Nanotechnology may offer an alternative, though it, too, could have its consequences. Silver has natural antibacterial properties and is being added in nano form to paint and sprays and products. Silver is being embedded in Band-Aids, and doors and countertops can be made antibacterial with nano-scale silver.

Yet there are still many questions. Take antibacterial clothing. "If all these clothes are releasing silver into the environment just by washing, that's a concern," Bourne says. "At some point in time, if all clothes are embedded with silver or other nano particles that are burned or thrown away, what are the potential long-term impacts, environmentally?"

But the thing also to keep in mind is there's more clothing using silver as antibacterial, but the quantity is so minute. "What's the tipping point between the impact of throwing clothes in a landfill and throwing a silver dollar in the landfill? And then again, what is the impact of all those antibacterial sprays and detergents?"

Bourne, on balance, is a believer in the potential of nanotechnology, particularly in medicine. "I think ultimately the most promising uses are in medicine. One category I think is really, really cool is what's called a 'lab on a chip.' It's revolutionizing emergency room care. It's a chip the size of a finger that can take a blood test in less than 15 minutes.

"A lot of people go to the hospital for chest pains, and this test is looking for proteins released as the heart is damaged. So it tests if they're really having a heart attack. If they actually are, it improves the chances of survival."

Last year, Bourne authored two award-winning books, *A Consumer's Guide to MEMS and Nanotechnology* and *MEMS and Nanotechnology for Kids*, which is being adopted this year by the Fairfax County, Virginia, school district for use with gifted middle schoolers. Her third book, *The Future of Healthcare: BioMEMS and Nanomedicine*, will be published this year.

Her Phoenix-based radio show has found its biggest audience online, where its reach is global. It has been downloaded from such unusual locations as Honduras, Iran, and Tanzania. One of the first users to sign up for her e-newsletter was a middle school student from South Africa. Teachers in Wisconsin have used her podcast for middle school science.

Photo Courtesy of Madia D'Amico, PhotoGraphics.com  
Kathleen George Romanus and Jeff Garcia, Getty's



Advanced MEMS devices can be helpful in medicine.



The MEMS in which MEMS devices are used.



MEMS devices are used in many applications.

Ironically, the futurist who creates

weekly podcasts does not, herself, have an iPod. Nor has she learned to text message. "I'm not an early adapter. I shouldn't admit it," she laughs, "but it's true."

She does have the nano-socks, though. The socks that don't smell, because their fabric is embedded with antibacterial silver.

"I'd love to buy a car that had MEMS-based tire pressure sensing or uses a nano clear coat so it doesn't chip or scratch. But those are big ticket items right now.

"I know about things like next generation TVs and clothing and cool stuff that probably won't be on the market for the next 10, 15 years. But by the time it's on the market," she says, "I'm looking further out." ■



**Peacebuilding and Development Institute,  
School of International Service (SIS)  
4400 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.**

Every summer, AU becomes a gathering spot for people with painful stories, powerful dreams, and a global impact.

There are activists like Franca Akello, who is scarred with bullets from a childhood in Uganda's war zone and who now, at 29, represents voters from refugee camps in parliament.

Or relief workers like Maha Sherri, who has faced down gunmen to do her job for the United Nations in Darfur.

Or AU alumni like **Toyanath Bhattarai**, who never imagined, when he was studying public policy at the School of Public Affairs (SPA) as a **1994-95 Humphrey Fellow**, that he'd be helping to oversee disarmament initiatives in his country of Nepal.

Aid workers, government officials, political leaders, and AU graduate students preparing to work in conflict zones learn from each other and some of Washington's top practitioners at the **Peacebuilding and Development Institute**.

It's part of a program whose very existence was once a maverick idea. In the 1980s, before "peace studies" had widespread acceptance, AU faculty members were teaching courses on peace and conflict resolution to packed classrooms, and students were calling for more.

So in 1995, SIS launched a master's degree in international peace and conflict resolution, which now draws around 60 graduate students a year and has awarded some 400 master's degrees.

It also draws peacemakers and rising leaders to Washington, D.C., from around the world and arms them with new ideas for making peace a reality. [www.american.edu/SIS/peacebuilding](http://www.american.edu/SIS/peacebuilding)—SA



Serge Adjevi of Togo, an SIS graduate student in international peace and conflict resolution, talks with fellow participants at this summer's Peacebuilding and Development Institute.

**United States Institute of Peace**

1200 17th Street, N.W.

A dozen AU alumni are helping build peace around the world—and on the National Mall.

Earlier this summer, the **United States Institute of Peace (USIP)**, which counts 12 alumni among its 70 educators, analysts, and policy practitioners, broke ground on its new headquarters and public education center, nestled near the Lincoln and Vietnam Veterans Memorials.

The ceremony drew President George W. Bush, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, and other luminaries from the peace-building and foreign affairs communities—a testament to the institute's 24-year commitment to building a more peaceful world.

**Susan Douglas, CAS/BA '78**, says that when completed in 2010, the new building will help "increase awareness of the importance of peace building and of the role each of us can and should play as a peacemaker in the twenty-first century."

"At a time when the United States faces such monumental challenges to world peace, it's important for more people to be aware of the significant contributions the institute is making," she says.

**David Smith, SPA/BA '82**, helps head up one of USIP's key initiatives, the domestic education and training center, which brings courses on conflict resolution and capacity building to colleges and universities across the country.

"I enjoy my work most when students 'get it' [and] come to appreciate and connect with those who live in conflict," says Smith. "This frequently leads to students taking some sort of action... to alleviate the consequences of violence in other parts of the world." [www.usip.org/index.html](http://www.usip.org/index.html) —AF



Alumni at USIP: back row, from left, Susan Douglas '78, graduate student Maria Jessop, Shira Lovinger '05, Elizabeth Dietwiler '07, Charles Martin-Sheilds '05, and front row, Ian Larson and David Smith '82

# A CAPITAL PRESENCE

Peace studies were a pioneering idea when they were first taught at AU in the 1980s. A quarter century later, alumni have fanned around the globe to work for peace. Home base for many, though, is Washington, D.C., in the trailblazing nonprofits headquartered here. Other peacemakers come to D.C. from the world's conflict zones to hone their skills at AU workshops. Peace isn't just a dream for these alumni; it's their life's work.

**The Fund for Peace**

1701 K Street, N.W.

The **Fund for Peace** is a small organization with a big reputation. And four of its eleven staff members are AU alumni.

Its 50-year record for advancing peace and security through scholarship and civic education has earned the fund renown in the international community.

Over the last two years, one of those AU-educated staffers, senior associate **Patricia Taft, SIS/MA '03**, has traveled around the world bringing the Fund for Peace's mission of "testing theories, engaging civil society, and promoting solutions" to 50 countries.

"At AU, I learned that you can't just sit back in your ivory tower," she says. "You have to go out into the world and test your ideas, get your hands dirty."

A second graduate, **Nate Haken, SIS/MA '06**, helps analysts and policy makers forecast conflict in weak and failing states, while a third, **Joelle Burbank, SIS/BA '06**, works on conflict assessment projects, including the annual Failed States Index.

**Will Ferroggiaro, SIS/MA '04**, who joined the organization in April, leads the Project on the Use and Purpose of American Power, a new initiative that aims to spark conversations about America's purpose in the world.

Ferroggiaro recalls being drawn to the political buzz while a student in AU's **Washington Semester** program in the mid-80s. "I remember we met with Oliver North. I challenged him, and he couldn't answer my question," says Ferroggiaro. "And that was it, I had caught the Washington bug."

Twenty years later, Ferroggiaro is still posing difficult questions.

"At the Fund for Peace, it's our job to stimulate the debate on foreign affairs," he says. "I'm proud to be a part of that." [www.fundforpeace.org](http://www.fundforpeace.org) —AF



From left, alumni Nate Haken '06, Joelle Burbank '06, and Will Ferroggiaro '04 at the Fund for Peace's K Street headquarters. (Not pictured Patricia Taft '03)

**If you have a Capital Presence story,  
e-mail [lmchugh@american.edu](mailto:lmchugh@american.edu).**



AMERICA'S  
MOST SUCCESSFUL

# CHEAPSKATE

BY MIKE UNGER

**C**Clark Howard is rummaging through the top drawer of his desk looking for subway tokens. His brother, Gary, is wrapping up a visit from Arizona, and it will gnaw at Howard all day if his older bro has to pay the regular \$1.75 fare to take Atlanta's MARTA to the airport. Clark buys the tokens in bulk, 20 for \$30 (\$1.50 each).

Never mind that a cameraman and producer are standing by waiting patiently for Howard to film some short teasers for the consumer affairs television segment he hosts on Atlanta's local news—it will kill him if Gary overpays. A quarter is a quarter.

Meet **Clark Howard, SPA/BA '76**, lovingly described by one of his producers as "America's most famous cheapskate." From his cherished hometown of Atlanta he's built a mini-media empire by preaching pinching pennies one at a time. For Howard, frugality has proven mighty lucrative. His syndicated radio show is heard on 227 stations nationwide, and his 3.25 million listeners give him the eighth largest audience in the country, according to *Talkers* magazine. He's written eight books, appeared on local TV for 17 years, and become a one-man brand in Atlanta and beyond.

"I'm cheap and I'm proud of it," Howard, 53, says. "To me it's all about the teaching. This is the way I communicate to people the beliefs I have, but the fact that it's radio or TV has no

magic to me. I want to empower the audience."

After finally shooting the TV segments at his home in one of Atlanta's most prestigious neighborhoods, Howard jumps into his natural gas-fueled Honda Civic for the short ride to the radio station. Parked next to it in the garage is one of his wife Lane's multiple Jaguars.

"My wife doesn't have the same attitude as me," he jokes. "I grew up two miles from where we're sitting right now. I was on the full silver spoon plan. This is the wealthiest part of Atlanta. I went to private schools all the way through. I don't know why, but in high school I started getting into bargains. It was almost like a game."

One he's thoroughly mastered. After a quick stop for lunch—a burrito for less than six bucks—Howard arrives at the second-story office suite that houses Team Clark: 13 paid professionals who work on the radio show and ClarkHoward.com, plus more than 150 volunteers who dish out off-air advice in his Consumer Action Center. Following a staff meeting, he records a few video spots for the Web site and a quick travel segment with executive producer Christa DiBiase.

"I feel like this job has been beyond a graduate degree for me," says DiBiase,

who's worked for Howard for eight years. "I learn something every single day. I've always been really bad with money. There's some things he's really helped me with, like saving for retirement. But there are some things where I'm a work in progress. He will drive out of his way to save money on stuff. It pains him to see someone spend too much money."

A few minutes later Howard takes his spot behind the microphone in the main studio, and the "On Air" sign lights up red.

"Welcome to the *Clark Howard Show*. This is your show, and I'm here to serve you with advice and information you can put to work in your wallet each and every day so that you can save more, spend less, and avoid getting ripped off."

## SAVE MORE

Howard has been buzzing all day over a new deal from Virgin Mobile, unlimited calling for \$79 a month. The other major carriers' unlimited plans are \$99, and worse, require a contract, which Virgin does not. Howard calls cell phone contracts "lousy, stinking, and rotten," and the companies that inflict them on their customers "cowardly."

That's about as salty as his language



A quarter is . . .  
a quarter.



MIKE UNDER

**"I AM CHEAP** and I'm proud of it. To me it's all about the teaching . . . I want to empower the audience."

gets. Howard, who routinely uses terms like "phony baloney" and "fuddy duddy," might strike some as hokery if he wasn't so gosh darn genuine.

As a teenager he coveted a career in politics, so he headed to American University to study urban affairs.

"It was a fantastic degree because it was so multidisciplinary," he says. "I had to take real estate courses in the business school, administrative justice, I had to student teach one semester. It was the greatest preparation for the rest of my life."

Following his freshman year at AU, his father, Bernie, was muscled out of the family business, forcing Clark to hankroll the rest of his education. He got a job working for the Air Force and went to school at night year-round, graduating in three years to reduce room and board expenses.

In 1981 at the age of 25, sensing airline deregulation would create a boon in the travel industry, Howard opened an agency. Six years later the business had grown to five offices and attracted the attention of investors, who made him an offer he considered too good to refuse.

At 31, Howard was semiretired.

"I left Atlanta and moved to the east coast of Florida and became a beach bum," he says. "I would still be one today except for family reasons I had to come back to Atlanta. I was set for a while, not for life. It was enough that if I didn't want to work for probably 10 years, I didn't have to."

Out of seemingly nowhere, Howard got a call from a local radio station that asked him to be a guest on its Sunday travel program.

"Life has such unusual twists and turns," he says. "Everything that's happened to me since happened because of one guest appearance. I never studied for it, never even took a course in communications or journalism. It's not the normal path."

It's led to this moment, where Howard, standing behind the mic and sucking down a Coke Zero, is positively giddy about the Virgin Mobile deal.

"It might be over between Sprint and me."

## SPEND LESS

Doubt Howard's sincerity?

"If you're interested in one of my books, there are four that are currently published," he tells the audience. "The books at GetClarkSmart.com all come signed. You know that I would rather you not overpay, so shop our book prices against other sources, and look for my books used on Craigslist or eBay. And at the library books are absolutely free to read."

The man undersells himself!

"I think the reason initially I was successful was that on advice shows people almost always have a hidden agenda," he says. "I had nothing I was trying to sell them, and people could feel the excitement in me, the enthusiasm."

Eric Seidel could sense it too. After Howard took over the weekend travel show on which he once was a guest, it was Seidel, general manager of WGST at the time, who gave him a daily time slot.

"I had a consumer show on Monday through Friday which was not good at

all," Seidel says. "The only thing clever about it was its name, *Cover Your Assen*." I said, "Clark, I really need somebody who has encyclopedic knowledge of consumer issues," and he answered, "I do." I took a chance on him, and it was well worth it. The beauty of Clark is what you hear is genuine. He not only talks the talk, he walks the walk."

A year later the show's ratings had quadrupled, and Howard was immersed in a new career. As his audience has grown, his philosophy has remained unchanged.

"If you don't give the viewer [or listener] a way to act on the information, you haven't given them anything," he says. "You have to connect the dots."

"Working for Clark has been like getting a huge raise," says one of his producers, Patri DiVincenzo. "I've cut my grocery bill in half. I'm now out of credit card debt. People know Clark, and they trust him. Even if it's a story that everyone else has done, everyone wants to know what Clark thinks, because it's him."

## DON'T GET RIPPED OFF

"More and more of us are getting spam text messages on our cell phones, and to add insult to injury, we might be getting BILLED for them," Howard declares.

He's incredulous (and rightly so), but while most of us usually just leave it at that, Howard is determined to push back.

"Verizon and AT&T have ways to opt out, but they don't want you to know about them," he says.

Howard directs his listeners to his Web site, which has a link to a *New York Times* story detailing the procedure.

"He's loaded, but it really hurts him to spend money," DiBiase says. "But at the same time he has such a big heart. One thing the listeners probably don't know is that he's incredibly generous at the same time he's so cheap. He bought us our king size mattress because he found a great deal at Sam's Club. It was on my lawn when I came home one day."

Howard has personally paid for 23 Habitat for Humanity houses, at up to \$175,000 each, according to *Atlanta* magazine, and yet, he thinks nothing of buying used shoes or sitting in the bloodiest of nose bleed seats at an Atlanta Falcons football game (his season tickets are "as far away from the field as they can be").

When it comes time for vacation, he lets the deal determine the destination. One of Howard's many catchphrases—otherwise known as Clark Speak—is "Buy the deal, then figure out why you

want to go there." This year Howard's taking his wife, daughters Rebecca, 19, Stephanie, 9, and son Grant, 2, to Scandinavia, because Continental Airlines put Copenhagen on sale.

Every year Howard treats his staff to an all-expenses-paid trip somewhere in the world. They know the dates well in advance but not the place, because the best deals don't present themselves until two weeks before takeoff, he explains. Past spots have included Tokyo (\$410 airfare round-trip), Madrid (\$259), Prague (\$295), and Hawaii (\$322).

One thing Howard did pay a "king's ransom" for was his own show, which he purchased from Cox Communications in 2001. He didn't start making money on it until 2004, but it now generates revenue "well into seven figures."

It's clearly good to be King Clark, which makes the monumental decision he's now contemplating that much more difficult. Howard has harbored political ambitions his entire life and must decide by September whether to throw his hat

Howard always encourages his listeners to shop around for the best deal—even if they're buying one of the eight books he's written.



into Atlanta's 2009 mayoral race. A poll reported in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* last summer showed him leading with 36 percent support.

"If you asked me a year ago it was probably 80 or 90 percent," he says. "But over time the reality of what's involved in being in office and the changes that would bring to my life has pulled me further and further away." He now puts his odds of running at 25 percent.

But that's a decision for a coming day, and there's still plenty of life to savor—and money to save—during this one. The show over, he drops off a visitor at the train station, kicking himself for being without those discounted subway tokens.

As the man climbs out and turns to shut the car door, Howard leans over and says, "Remember, you can fly standby on *AirTran* for free."

# 5 TIPS FOR CHEAP LIVING according to Clark Howard

**1. When it comes to travel, always let the deal determine the destination.** "My catchphrase is 'Buy the deal, then figure out why you want to go there.'"

**2. Be very, very careful with everyday purchases.** "A lot of us spend money without thinking. I don't deny myself, instead I deviate for a deal."

**3. Look repeatedly at monthly expenses.** "It's an area you can free up lots of money in your life. Someone who's on an old phone plan, know this: companies always treat

existing customers worse than new customers. You want to check out what they're offering newbies or what you might be able to get from a competitor."

**4. Always buy used cars.** "Cars lose the lion's share of their value in the first 30 to 36 months. So if you buy a used car you have one that still has 80 percent of its useful life but less than half its price."

**5. Buy less house than you can afford.** "People always think you should stretch. The reality is you want to do the opposite."

Donors Make a

# Difference



Amy and Kathleen Teso

"It is all about giving back and saying thank you," says Kathleen Teso, parent of American University graduate Amy Teso, SIS/BA '89.

In 1985, Amy was preparing to graduate from high school and begin her undergraduate studies at AU. Having been accepted early decision, Amy had planned to attend the School of International Service with the financial assistance of an exchange program made available to families of employees of AU and the University of Hartford, where Amy's father, the late William Teso, served on Hartford's engineering faculty. But Amy's hopes appeared shattered when she learned the exchange program had been suspended. Kathleen Teso appealed to AU, shared her daughter's passion for international studies and excitement at coming here to study, and asked for reconsideration. The response was swift, "Fair is fair," the letter read. "We hope Amy will enjoy her studies at AU."

"American University has had a lasting impact on Amy and our family," says Kathleen Teso. "My late husband and I were so proud of her accomplishments. We were delighted Amy was able to study at AU, and it is now my pleasure to include provisions in my estate plan to establish the Teso Family Scholarship."

Kathleen has named AU among the beneficiaries of her Individual Retirement Account (IRA) as she has done with the University of Hartford and her alma mater, Duke University. "Education is the key to advancement," Kathleen shares. "My means may be modest, but leaving a legacy that will benefit others is a priority."

AU is deeply grateful to be the beneficiary of Kathleen Teso's benevolence, and we salute the philanthropic example she sets for the greater community of AU alumni, parents, and friends.

## AnewAU

For information on the benefits you, loved ones, and American University can receive through charitable estate planning, contact Seth Speyer, director of planned giving, at 202-885-5914, [speyer@american.edu](mailto:speyer@american.edu), or visit [www.american.edu/plannedgiving](http://www.american.edu/plannedgiving).

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[www.american.edu/magazine](http://www.american.edu/magazine)

# Alumni News

More than 100 staff who are also alumni turned out for an opportunity to show their AU pride during the Staff Appreciation Day picnic in May.

Want to see who's who—or make sure we have the right name matched to the right face?

Visit [american.edu/magazine](http://american.edu/magazine) to see our growing list of names matched to faces, and e-mail [aualum@american.edu](mailto:aualum@american.edu) with your first and last name and the number that corresponds to you in the photo. We'll keep updating the list of names 'til it's complete.



SUMMER 2008 31

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# Class NOTABLES

SO YOU CAN CATCH UP WITH PEOPLE YOU KNEW AT AU

## Verne Newton, SPA/BA '67

Verne Newton was hitchhiking through Africa on 50 cents a day when he ran into a U.S. senator. It was the mid-1960s, and Newton had left college to see the world from London to Capetown. But after he met the senator, he saw something else: an image of himself back in the United States, on Capitol Hill. It didn't seem so unreachable.

"I'll go back," he thought, "go to school in Washington because that's the capital for politics, and I'll soak that up and eventually return to Iowa and run for office."

Like most youthful plans, things didn't quite turn out that way. Instead, the push and pull between scholarship and politics became a kind of cyclical rhythm that shaped Newton's life.

"I've really had multiple careers," says Newton, who has worked for several presidents, won regard as a Roosevelt scholar, headed a top Africa post at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), served as director of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Presidential Library, and is now director of the library at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York.

The goal he set for himself as a young traveler in Africa brought him to AU, where he started working, as planned, on Capitol Hill. But his philosophy and history courses drew him to the library and the prospect of a scholarly life. In 1967 he headed to Syracuse University for a doctorate in European intellectual history.

This, though, was the late 1960s. Even in the calm of the library he heard the call of politics. Newton shelved the doctorate. By 1976 he was back in Washington with the Carter administration, working for USAID and serving on several presidential delegations. His career trajectory began to seem clear. His interest in politics had melded with his interest in the world.

But take a closer look at an old snapshot of the young backpacker—he's toting a biography of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Newton's fascination with FDR's era drew him once again away from government and back to the library.

This time, too, AU played a role. He plunged into a career as a scholar and writer who could often be found at AU's library researching a book on spy Kim Philby (*Cambridge Spies*). It would be followed by an award-winning PBS documentary on Roosevelt confidant Harry Hopkins (*Harry Hopkins: At FDR's Side*) narrated by Walter Cronkite. By 1991, Newton was named director of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Presidential Library, editing another book (*FDR and the Holocaust*), teaching as an adjunct history professor, and creating one of the nation's first digital libraries.

So he had come full circle. Was he finally settled into a scholar's life? Well, not quite. Politics reached him even in the tranquility of Hyde Park. Newton often found himself in the midst of world leaders gathered in the bucolic setting of



Verne Newton

the library for meetings and conferences, including the 1995 Clinton-Yeltsin Summit on Bosnia. Then, in 1998, he was drawn back to the Washington maelstrom for a senior position in USAID's Africa bureau.

These days, he's combining scholarship and politics in the quiet of the Hudson Valley. Since 2003, Newton has been director of the Marist College Library, located near the FDR library, where he explores his fascination with politics through his scholarship. He's currently writing a book on Roosevelt, Churchill, Stalin and the war on the Eastern Front. "What I want to do now," he says, "is write books and spend the rest of my life in my beloved libraries."

—SALLY ACHARYA

## Patricia Harrison, CAS/BA '68

The career of the woman who occupies public broadcasting's top office was hatched four decades ago on the campus of the university that changed her life.

Patricia Harrison, president of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), started in the business as an intern at WAMU, writing copy and learning about marketing. Her professional voyage took her into the world of public relations and government, but in 2005 she found her way back home.

"Public television and radio is the only place where you really can find programming that is not selling the viewer or listener something," she says. "It provides the time to focus on an issue in depth. We're very proud to be associated with such a powerful force of democracy."

Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, Harrison boldly ventured away from the Big Apple borough and headed south for college.

"It caused a minor controversy in my family, because 'Why would anyone ever leave New York?' she recalls the family asking. "But you really felt connected to something very different at AU."

In Harrison's case, that connection lasted for quite some time. While in Washington she married and had a child, which slowed her studies. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in English in 1968, 10 years after first setting foot on campus.



Patricia Harrison

From that point on, Harrison hardly took her foot off the gas pedal. She started a public affairs firm with her husband, Bruce, which was ranked among the country's top-10 firms of its kind prior to its sale in 1996. In 2000, President Bush appointed her assistant secretary of state for educational and cultural affairs, a post in which she served until CPB came calling five years later.

"I found a great similarity between what I was doing in educational and cultural affairs and the mission of public broadcasting, which is to bring people together through content that elevates and doesn't denigrate," she says. "It's news beyond a sound bite."

Under Harrison's leadership, National Public Radio and public television are collaborating for the first time on coverage of the Republican and Democratic conventions.

"We will be using multiple channels, multiple platforms, new media," she says. "We want to make sure we are reaching everyone who wants to know about the political process."

Despite the changing media landscape, Harrison believes the future is bright for public broadcasting, which she feels is a unique American entity.

"PBS is still ranked as one of the most trusted institutions in America," she says. "I want to see public television and radio utilized across all platforms and to be more participatory toward people formerly known as the audience. They want to create content and be part of the process. It's a whole new exciting age made possible by technology that's getting cheaper. I'm looking forward to nurturing a whole new generation of filmmakers and broadcasters."

—MIKE UNGER

## Jack Goldenberg, SPA/BA '69

Jack Goldenberg has great timing. The former poli-sci major turned entrepreneur met in May with two curators from the Smithsonian Museum of American History to present them with three of his popular Barack Obama wristwatches to add to their collection of U.S. election memorabilia.

"I've got a good track record for being at the right place at the right time," says the marketing maverick whose past efforts have influenced the successes behind such popular product promotions as McDonald's first Happy Meal, Pop Rocks, and Cabbage Patch Kids, to name only a few.

The key to 'viral marketing' is word of mouth, says Goldenberg, who started honing his skills long before the term was coined, and who currently employs his talents full time as a senior copywriter at Bristol-Myers Squibb. "Cabbage Patch was a viral product because you couldn't turn around without seeing

one," he says. "I convinced Coleco it was a viable product." Pop Rocks were a natural word-of-mouth winner because people put the candy into their mouths and showed others, he says. "Mikey never died," notes Goldenberg of the urban legend that the child actor in the Life cereal commercials met his demise by mixing Pop Rocks with soda.

Whether it's Pop Rocks or pop culture, Goldenberg says he's much more strategic than people think. "Everyone thinks I'm so creative, which I appreciate," he says. "I may have my head in the clouds, but my feet are on the ground. My dad had a chain of stores when I was growing up, and I learned the nuts and bolts of how to market things from him."

Of the three Obama watches selected by the Smithsonian, Goldenberg's "Love Your Mama, Vote Obama" wristwatch, which depicts a basic blue and green earth image, is his favorite. He's donating 10 percent of the profits from this model to an organization called Hire Heroes USA, which helps veterans with disabilities find jobs.

The "Time for a Change We Can Believe in" watch that



started it all and bears a smiling Obama face sold out earlier this summer, but don't worry, Goldenberg just keeps placing more orders. The "Fired Up! Ready to Go!" model, which depicts an enthusiastic Obama pointing toward you in an Uncle Sam-like pose, rounds out Goldenberg's latest Smithsonian set. But Barack Obama watches aren't the first of Goldenberg's ideas to



Jack Goldenberg and Barack Obama wristwatches

make it into the Smithsonian. He made Gore for President watches for the 2000 election. "He was such a boring candidate I made Bush for President watches, too," he says with a laugh, though not entirely joking. "They were both so boring I sold four times as many 'Anybody Else for President' watches."

Another popular favorite that year: a Gore-Lieberman watch with 5761, the Jewish year equivalent of 2000. The Smithsonian has those, too, says Goldenberg.

At the end of the day, no matter how many watches he's sold, Goldenberg says he's really rich thanks to his wife of 34 years, Peggy, and their daughter Jessica. "I get a lot of happiness from my work, but family is the most important thing."

—MELISSA BRICHLEY

## Grace Killelea, Kogod/MS '00

Grace Killelea has always challenged herself to "defy gravity."

Though she had 20 years of business experience under her belt, Killelea was several credits shy of a bachelor's degree—something she says held her down in corporate America.

"I used to hate to check that box on job applications that said 'high school,'" recalls Killelea, who began her career in human resources in 1979 at Price Club.

So, when Killelea, then vice president of Cable TV Montgomery, was recruited to join Kogod's new master's of human resources program in the late '90s, she jumped at the opportunity.

"I had three years of college, so AU gave me work-life credit and enrolled me in the master's program," recalls Killelea, who returned to the classroom in her early 40s. "They looked at my résumé and said, 'We believe this adds up to a bachelor's degree.' I'm incredibly grateful they took a chance on me."

And while it wasn't always easy balancing exams, group projects, and the demands of a full-time job, Killelea completed the executive program in 22 months, making the Dean's List each semester. "I'm especially proud of that," she says.

In February, Killelea was named vice president of talent and leadership initiatives at cable giant Comcast. In her new position, Killelea, who joined the company in 2003, identifies and develops future top executives among Comcast's 100,000 employees.

"There is no average day," says the Philadelphia resident. "Tactically, it's about providing opportunities for people to advance in the company."

In addition to cultivating the next generation of leaders within Comcast, Killelea is also passionate about helping women and minorities break into the business. She oversees Comcast's Emma L. Bowen Foundation internship program, which



Grace Killelea

provides minority students with a five-year internship in media and communications and helps fund their college education.

Under Killelea's careful guidance, Comcast has more than quadrupled the number of interns to 100, making it the largest employer of Emma Bowen students nationwide.

"Someone just needed

to water the program and let it grow," she says. "It's just amazing to see someone who's bright and capable given a platform and an opportunity."

"AU opened a door for me. Without the degree, I would've had an OK career, but, instead,

it's been a rocket ship," continues Killelea. "I'm thrilled to be in a position now to help others launch their careers."

—ADRIENNE FRANK

**"AU OPENED A DOOR FOR ME. WITHOUT THE DEGREE, I WOULD'VE HAD AN OK CAREER, BUT, INSTEAD, IT'S BEEN A ROCKET SHIP."**

— Grace Killelea

# A new AU

The School of International Service (SIS) is known worldwide as a place that cultivates its students to seek success in the rigorous conditions of an increasingly interconnected and complex world. The largest school of its kind in the country, SIS, and the greater AU and worldwide community now await its next milestone: the new, state-of-the-art, LEED-certified, green building to reflect its mission of creating a more peaceful, sustainable world. Construction on the new home for SIS is expected to be completed in 2010. ■



1. The new SIS building will include 70,000 square feet of environmentally friendly classrooms and meeting space. As SIS celebrates its 50th year of educating students interested in creating a more socially just, sustainable world, the new building has been designed to reduce energy consumption and minimize construction waste, and the architects have fashioned spaces to protect public health by using natural lighting, nontoxic materials, and climate controls that ensure the quality of indoor air.

2. Rebecca DeWinter receives her PhD hood this May from Dean Louis Goodman, who has led SIS since 1986.

To support the School of International Service with a gift, visit [www.giving-american.edu](http://www.giving-american.edu) or contact Morris Jackson, director of Development, at 202-885-1631 or [mjacks@american.edu](mailto:mjacks@american.edu).

To see more detailed building designs, go to: <http://american.edu/sis/campaignforms>.



3. From October '06 through June '09, crews will pour thousands of pounds of concrete and erect tons of steel to form the building's structure. In summer '09, the building will get its skin; its interior will be completed in spring 2010.



6. Distinguished foreign policy professor Philip Brenner, above, with his wife, Betsy Vieth, and daughter Liliana Martinez, was named AU's Outstanding Teacher in a Full-Time Appointment for 2008.



4. In February 2008, SIS hosted a speed-mentoring event in which SIS juniors and seniors spoke with alumni working in a variety of fields.



5. Faculty icon Abdul Aziz Said, SIS/BS '54, SIS/MA '55, SIS/PhD '57, began and built his impressive career at AU over more than 50 years. This favorite professor's titles include founder and director of AU's Center for Global Peace and Mohammed Said Farsi Chair of Islamic Peace.



7. Political geographer and SIS professor Carolyn Gallaher won the 2008 Morton Bender Prize.



8. Members of the AU community filled the tent to standing-room-only capacity for the November 2007 groundbreaking for the new SIS building.



# Class NOTES

Thanks for sending your news. In honor of the AmnAU campaign, we have highlighted all alumni who sent in a class note and made a gift of any size since May 2002 through May 2008. E-mail your latest news to [classes@american.edu](mailto:classes@american.edu).

—Mikaela Rishley, Class Notes Editor

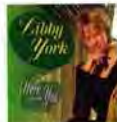
**1948** Paul Scrimshaw, CAS/BS, is a retired captain of the Navy Medical Corps, which he joined after graduating from AU. He was trained as an aviation physiologist and rose through the ranks to head the Aviation Physiology Branch in the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. His wife, Esther, a registered nurse, worked in the dispensary at AU.

**1961** Richard Thieke, Kogod/BS, retired as a managing director of Deutsche Bank in December 2004. He now lives in Rhode Island, where he is actively involved in conservation causes. He serves on the Charlestown Conservation Commission, the board of the South County Conservancy, the Friends of National Wildlife Refuges in R.L., and the board of the Bagby Foundation for the Musical Arts in New York City. *Donor to: KSB Dean's Discretionary Fund*

**1966** David Brown, SIS/BA, was honored by faculty, staff, and college and university affiliates for his vision, leadership, and dedication to American University's Washington Semester Program. He has led the program for 35 years. *dabrown@american.edu Donor to: WAMU*

Barbara Rein, CAS/BA, retired from the University of Maryland and lives with her husband, Jeffrey, in Sun City Center, Fla. Their son, Matthew, recently received his MD degree from the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, N.Y. Matthew will be relocating to Durham, N.C., to perform his residency at Duke University.

Libby York, SPA/BA, is a jazz singer whose new CD, *Here with You*, received rave reviews from the *New York Times* and many jazz publications. She was invited to perform at the opening of the



Libby York '84

Katzen Arts Center. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence, Reunion/Homescoming*

**1967** Lee Kenworthy, CAS/BA, was honored by the National Federation of State High School Associations for his 25-year contribution to the sport of soccer in Florida. *Donor to: University Library, Men's Soccer*

**1967** Jack Berenzweig, WCL/JD, was named an "Illinois Super Lawyer" of 2008. He is a lawyer for Brink's Hotel Gilson and Liono, based in Chicago. *Donor to: WCL Capital Campaign, WCL Dean's Discretionary Fund, WCL Scholarship Fund*

James Russell, SOC/BA, spent the majority of his 40-year career in public broadcasting, developing such programs as *Marketplace*. Now a consultant known as "The Program Doctor," he helps producers create programs and fixes broken ones.

Kenneth Simon, Kogod/BS, is a principal of Lerner Heidenberg Simon Properties. In 2007, he was chair of the International Council of Shopper Centers (ICSC) and the National Idea Exchange and Deal Making Event in New York City. *Donor to: Zeta Beta Tau/Donald Brenner Endowed Scholarship, Philadelphia Alumni Chapter, Men's Basketball*

**1969** Margaret "Peggy" Palm, CAS/BA, CAS/MFA '73, received a Medallion Award for leaders of distinction in the area of science and health care from the University of Notre Dame. These awards applaud the leadership contributions of residents and former residents of New England who have a connection to the Notre Dame community and commend these individuals as examples for future generations.

Rene Sacazan, SGPA/BA, was appointed director of real estate programs at the University of Miami. Sacazan is also a professor and chair of business law who will now lead all real estate initiatives for the School of Business. *Donor to: SPA Leadership Fund, AU Fund for Excellence*

**1971** Vicki Valacchi, SIS/BA, is the principal of V V Resources (management consultants) and a fellow



Vicki Valacchi '71

of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (FCIPD). She graduated with a BEA (first class) degree from the University of Central England. Happily married, she lives in Birmingham, U.K., and has a farmhouse in northern France.

**1972** James Winkler, SOC/BA, is the communications manager in the University Communications Office at the University of Toledo (UT). He was also the chief writer-editor of UT's NCAA certification self-study report. Winkler, a native of Mansfield, Ohio, held a number of public relations administrative posts at the former Medical College of Ohio in Toledo for more than 30 years before its merger in 2006 with the University of Toledo. He earned a law degree from the UT College of Law in 1986. *Donor to: University Library*

**1973** Michael Wager, SGPA/BA, was elected chair of the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority on March 13, 2008. He will help implement the port's recently adopted strategic plan during his term, which expires in January 2011. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence, SPA Leadership Fund*

Jessica Schiffman, CAS/BA, and fellow editors published the second edition of *Gender Violence: Interdisciplinary Perspectives* (New York University Press). *Donor to: CAS Dean's Discretionary Fund, Women and Gender Studies, CAS Scholarship*

**1975** Gary Shankman, CAS/MFA, held three solo art exhibitions this year, entitled *Paint the Town*, *Scenic Views of Albany*, *The Food Show*, and *Sunlight and Shadow*.

**1977** Russell Wild, Kogod/BSBA, is the principal of Global Portfolio, a fee-only investment management firm based in Allentown, Pa. He is the author of *Exchange Traded Funds for Dummies* and *Bond Investing for Dummies*, and he is now writing *Index Investing for Dummies*, to be published in January 2009.



Russell Wild '77

**1978** Henry Campen Jr., SGPA/MPA, was elected to the board of directors for Parker, Poe, Adams, and Bernstein. He is the managing director of the firm's Raleigh, N.C., office. He represents developers in land-use and zoning matters and also provides regulatory counsel to telecommunications companies and other utilities. He also serves on several boards of advisors and directors within the community. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence, University Library*

Scott Faulkner, SGPA/MPA, released his latest book, *Naked Emperors: The Failure of the Republican Revolution*, with publisher Rowman and Littlefield. The book chronicles his time as chief administrative officer for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Nanci Hoffman, SON/BS, is the president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Delaware. She and her husband, Kirk Hoffman, CAS/BA '80, have been married for 28 years. They have two sons, ages 21 and 25. *Donor to: University Library*

**1979** Jeffrey Bast, SOC/BA, was named director of communications for the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania.



Jeffrey Bast '79

Mark Ludder, SOC/BA, is the director of business development for Dataway Corporation, which specializes in providing network security solutions to businesses. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence, KSB Dean's Discretionary Fund, Reunion/Homescoming*

Beth Morgan, SIS/BA, was recently promoted to senior VP at Terremark Worldwide, a leading provider of managed IT services. She and her husband, Andrew, are in the process of adopting their third child from the Florida foster care system. They live in Key Biscayne, Fla., with their children, Mariah, 6; Jeremiah, 5; and Michael, 2. *Donor to: SIS Building Fund, SIS Dean's Discretionary Fund*



Beth Morgan '75

**1980** David O'Donnell, SIS/BA, is a partner in the law firm of Clayton O'Donnell in Oxford, Miss. He was a contributing author in a recently released American Bar Association publication, *America Votes! A Guide to Modern Election Law and Voting Rights*, and was selected by his peers for inclusion in "The Best Lawyers in America." He is also the attorney for the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors and is a member of the University of Mississippi School of Law adjunct faculty.

**1983** Peter Rosen, SOC/BA, won the Special Award for Reporting in the

National Press Photographers Association's 2008 Best of Photography contest. He is a feature reporter at KUTV in Salt Lake City and has won several Emmy Awards from the NATAS Rocky Mountain Southwest Chapter.

**1984** Stephen Fakan, SIS/BA, works for the Department of State as a diplomatic security officer. He is on assignment with an embedded provincial reconstruction team in Fallajah, Iraq.

**1985** Daniel Adcock, SPA/MA, was promoted in June 2008 to legislative director at the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association. He lives in Silver Spring, Md., with his wife, Pam Wasserman, and son, Sammy. *Donor to: WAMU membership*

Patrick Small, SGPA/BA, launched his own company, iEliteNetwork, in December 2007. The company provides services, such as credit repair software, Web design and hosting, customized software, and consulting and research.



iEliteNetwork

**1987** Octavio Colominat, SIS/BA, joined the University of Miami (Fla.) in November 2008 and is a public relations consultant in the Division of Advancement and External Affairs.

**1988** Robert Harrison Jr., CAS/PhD, was promoted to dean of the College of Professional Studies at West Virginia State University in Institute, W.Va. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence, CAS Dean's Discretionary Fund*

**1989** Valerie Broadwell, SPA/MPA, published a nonfiction book called *City of Light, City of Dark: Exploring Paris Below*. [www.parisbelow.com](http://www.parisbelow.com)

Maia Davis Loneragan, SPA/BA, SOC/MA '90, and Steven Loneragan welcomed their daughter, Abigail Mae, 7 lbs., 15 oz., and 20.5 inches, on January 12, 2008. *Donor to: SPA Leadership Fund, AU Fund for Excellence*



Abigail Mae Loneragan, daughter of Maia Davis Loneragan '90

Susan Dix Lyons, CAS/BA, founded Clinica Verde, a nonprofit organization that is building an environmentally sustainable health clinic for poor women and children in rural Nicaragua. A global prototype, the clinic approaches healthcare holistically by addressing the relationships between sustainability, education, social welfare, community, and self-agency.

Lisa Tait, CAS/MA, is the founder and CEO of Women of Destiny Ministries and adjunct professor at Interdenominational Theological Center. Her sermon, "God Specializes in Comebacks," was published in *Thou Preaching Women: A Multicultural Collection* (Judson Press). Released in June 2008, the book features the sermons of 33 ethnically and denominationally diverse women from across the nation.



Lisa Tait '91 had a sermon featured in *Thou Preaching Women: A Multicultural Collection* (Judson Press, 2008)

**1990** Robert Adams, CAS/BS, received his MFA in painting from the University of Oregon in 2007. His work has been chosen for national exhibitions, including shows juried by curators from the Carnegie Museum of Art, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. He credits AU professor Dun Kimes and the late Ron Haynie with enduring influence on his work. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence*



Robert Adams '90

Todd Wilkinson, SOC/BA, was listed as one of the top 100 DJs in America by *DJ Times* magazine. He is based in New York City and is working on four Sirius Satellite Radio music channels: Chill, Boombox, Left of Center, and Area 33.



Todd Wilkinson '90

**1992** Tania Bradkin, SPA/BA, is obtaining a master's degree in social work at the University of Pennsylvania. She lives in Wayne, Pa., and just celebrated the sixth birthday of her twins, Caroline and Spencer. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence*

CLASS NOTES continued on page 44

FIND A JOB

FIND YOUR CLASSMATES

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# BIG IDEAS



 that start small.

AU put its vision for the arts into bricks and mortar at the **Katzen Arts Center**. The shape of AU's strategic plan for the next decade is being formed now. Join the strategic plan conversation. E-mail [strategicplan@american.edu](mailto:strategicplan@american.edu).



## \$1 Million Endowment Expands Programming at Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

The opportunities for adult learners in the D.C. area just got a whole lot richer. In May, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at American University received a \$1 million gift from the Bernard Osher Foundation. The contribution establishes an endowment to support and expand programming and outreach for OLLI's peer-taught classes for adults and senior learners.

"We are very excited. It was very generous of the foundation," says Anne Wallace, executive director of OLLI.

"We'll be offering 64 different study groups this fall," says Wallace. Course topics run the gamut from politics to philosophy, art to music, and lots of literature, she says. This fall's offerings



From top: Anne Wallace, executive director of OLLI, and a gathering of OLLI participants

will include News in Context, History of Modern China, Politics and the Supreme Court, and Economic Justice—the latter taught by AU professor emeritus Jim Weaver. All classes are noncredit, taught by volunteers, and most are quite interactive... which is why the classes are often referred to as study groups, explains Wallace.

Celebrating its 26-year affiliation with AU this year, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute is a national network of more than 119 lifelong learning institutes that offer continued educational opportunities on college campuses across the United States. The OLLI program at AU, which now runs more than 575 courses, is the oldest in the D.C. area. Its motto: "Curiosity never retires."

Formerly known as the Institute for Learning in Retirement, the program was renamed in 2005 following an initial grant of \$100,000 from the Osher Foundation to promote the institute's growth.

The initial grant was used to purchase some much-needed new equipment, including hearing assistance for classrooms, several large-screen TVs, computer projectors, laptops, and wireless Internet. A second \$100,000 grant went toward advertising the program, which had historically been

promoted via word of mouth. "All of a sudden, we started growing by leaps and bounds. This really started to propel us in new directions," says Wallace.

The new \$1 million gift will allow Wallace to accommodate the growing number of students and classes and provide the support needed in a modern learning environment. An estimated four new class locations will accommodate the growing number of students. Many of OLLI's classes are held in the Temple Baptist Church on Nebraska Avenue, next to AU's Nebraska Hall.

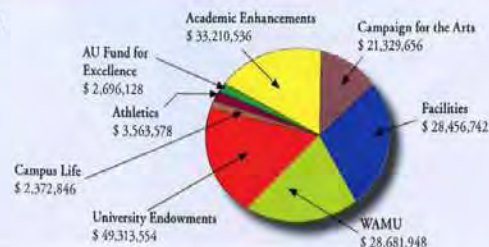
OLLI became eligible for the \$1 million gift by achieving the target of 500 enrolled participants. "Once we hit 750 members, AU will reach the next benchmark set by the Osher Foundation and become eligible to request an additional \$1 million," she notes.

The Bernard Osher Foundation was founded in 1977 by Bernard Osher, a respected businessperson and community leader. The foundation seeks to improve quality of life through support for higher education and the arts, especially through the support of postsecondary scholarship programs, lifelong learning institutes for seasoned adults, and selected integrative medicine programs. ■

—Melissa Reichley

### Campaign Priorities

**As of AU Total to Date:**  
\$164,624,988



CLASS NOTES continued from page 41

**Daniel Lott, CAS/BA**, his wife, Jennifer, and his son, Henry, welcomed Katherine Margaret Lott, 7 lbs., 9 oz., and 19 inches, on April 14, 2008.



*Katherine Margaret  
daughter of Daniel  
Lott '02*

**1993 Phyllis Jones, SPA/BA**, and her husband, Hugh Jones, recently welcomed their second child, Zachary Ethan Jones, on February 22, 2008.



*Zachary Ethan Jones, son of  
Phyllis Jones '93 and  
Hugh Jones*

**Porter Shreve, CAS/BA**, directs the Creative Writing Program at Purdue University. His new book, *When the White House Was Ours*, will be published by Houghton Mifflin in September. Shreve's previous books, *The Ordinary Writer* and *Drives Like a Dream*, were named notable books of the year by the *New York Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and *Britannica*. Shreve lives with his wife, the writer Bich Minh Nguyen, in Chicago and West Lafayette, Ind.

**1994 Jennifer Collins, SOC/BA**, received a 2008 Entering Women of the Year Award, an annual tribute to North America's top women entrepreneurs. She was recognized for raising up to \$1 million in annual sales revenues. *Donor to: SOC Dean's Discretionary Fund, SOC Food Services*

**1995 Ross Chazno, CAS/BA**, and his wife, Amanda, welcomed daughter Ava Rose on January 11, 2008.

**Noel Greene, SOC/BA**, is a producer for A Gatsby Production in Washington, D.C. The film production company specializes in documentary film production and film consultation services. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence, SOC Dean's Discretionary Fund, Center for Social Media, Film and Media Arts, Boston Alumni Chapter*

**Megan Pincus Kajitani, SPA/BA**, contributed to the new anthology *Mama, PhD: Women Write about Motherhood and Academic Life* (Routledge University Press).

**Natasha Rankin Kaltsis, SPA/BA**, was elected to the board of directors of the National Council of Women's Organizations (NCWO). As executive director of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, she has significant experience assisting women's organizations. She lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband, Nico, and daughter, Katerina.

**1994 Anjana Jegathesan Simpson, CAS/BA**, and



*Anjana Jegathesan Simpson '94 and  
Michael Simpson '94, with daughter  
Kira and newly adopted daughter  
Elika*

**Michael Simpson, SPA/BA**, and daughter Kira proudly announced the adoption of Eden Matizela Simpson on February 19, 2008, in San Antonio. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence University Library, Chapter Fund, SPA Justice, Law, and Society, Language and Foreign Studies*

**1996 Felipe Alcorza, Kogod/BSBA**, and his wife, Maria Castner, SPA/BA, welcomed their daughter, Lourdes Maria Alcorza, 8 lbs., 2 oz., into the world on March 25, 2007. Felipe is a director in finance at Vanda Pharmaceuticals and Maria is an associate general counsel at Qiagen. They live in North Potomac, Md.



*Felipe Alcorza '96 and  
Maria Castner '96  
welcomed daughter  
Lourdes Maria*

**Jodi Danziger Blum, SOC/BA**, and her husband, Darrin Blum, welcomed their second daughter, Saba Lily, on March 10, 2008. Saba joins big sister, Ellie Ryan. They live in Melville, N.Y. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence*

**Kelly Cooley Schomborg, SOC/BA**, and Paul Schomborg, Kogod/MBA '98, celebrated their third anniversary with a trip to London. Kelly is a product manager for a software company, and Paul is a management consultant in the federal sector. They live in McLean, Va.



*Kelly Cooley  
Schomborg '96 and  
Paul Schomborg '98  
celebrated their 3rd  
anniversary with a  
trip to London*

**1997 Luigi Crespo, SOC/MA**, was appointed director of special projects and protocol at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, where he is responsible for protocol support, brand management, and high-impact event production. A proud husband and father of three, he is also assistant troop leader of Girl Scout Troop 81632 in Frederick, Md.



*Luigi Crespo '97, far right, meeting  
Michael Chertoff, secretary of  
Homeland Security and his family  
prior to his appointment*

**Gayle Kansgor Hope, SPA/BA**, is happy to announce the birth of her son, Jordan Reece Hope. *Donor to: WAMU Membership*



*Jordan Reece, son  
of Gayle Kansgor  
Hope '97*

**Tamar Tiklin, CAS/BA**, and her husband, Mike, welcomed their daughter, Hannah Lily, 6 lbs., 8 oz., on February 22, 2008.



*Hannah Lily,  
daughter of Tamar  
Tiklin '97*

**1998 Vicki Axzlin, CAS/BA**, works at Junior Achievement (JA Worldwide) and develops curricular materials and online tools to accompany a new television program called *BizKids* in collaboration with the Emmy Award-winning producers of *Bill Nye the Science Guy*. The program features young entrepreneurs discussing topics related to work readiness, financial literacy, and business operations. Since its release in January 2008, the show has aired in more than 300 public television markets. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence, General Athletics, Alumni Programs, CAS Dean's Discretionary Fund*

**Tamás Jakab, Kogod/BSBA**, and Carrel Jakab, Kogod/BSBA '00, welcomed their first child, Logan Charles Tondor, 7 lbs., 9 oz., and 21 inches, on September 7, 2007. Tamás and Carrel met at AU, at did her paternal grandparents, in the 1940s. Tamás is a senior financial analyst with the Airlines Reporting Corporation in Arlington, Va. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence, Reunion/Honoring Young Alumni Chapter*



*Logan Charles, son  
of Tamás Jakab '98  
and Carrel Jakab  
'00*

**Brendan Kelleher, SPA/BA**, married Jennifer Bernal on August 25, 2007, in Buffalo, N.Y. Several AU alumni attended, including Reuben Ackerman, SPA/BA '98, Charlie Meisch, SPA/BA '97, Carl



*Brendan Kelleher '98 married Jennifer Bernal  
on 8/25/07. AU alumni in attendance*

**Bazarian, SIS/BA '97, Matt Dellon, SPA/BA '00, and Brendan Murphy, SPA/BA '99. Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence, SPA Leadership**

**Jolon McNeil, CAS/BS**, was appointed dean of students at Sojourner Truth Academy in New Orleans. She also serves as vice chair of the board of directors and chair of the Academic Accountability Committee at Akili Academy of New Orleans.

**Jennifer Scherz, SOC/BA, SPA/BA**, is an online marketing manager at Dreyfus, a bank of New York Mellon Company. She ran the June 2008 San Diego Rock 'n Roll Marathon as part of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Team in Training program. E-mail her at jscherz@yahoo.com. *Donor to: SOC Dean's Discretionary Fund*

**Adam Schramck, SPA/BA**, was elected to membership in the Fellows of the Texas Bar Foundation in recognition of his contribution to the legal profession in the state of Texas. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence, SPA Leadership Fund*

**1999 Scott Birnbaum, SOC/BA**, and Carla Birnbaum welcomed their daughter, Isabella Esther, 6 lbs., 1 oz., and 18.75 inches, on May 12, 2008. Mom, Dad, and Isabella are all healthy and happy.



*Isabella Esther,  
daughter of Scott  
Birnbaum '99*

**Jim Cramer, SIS/BA '02**, and his wife, Gayle, welcomed their daughter, Baker Lillian Cramer, on March 10 at 5:46 a.m. *Donor to: Cramer '98, '00 Kogod Scholarship Fund*



*Baker Lillian, daughter of Jim  
Cramer '98, '00*

**Stuart Denyer, SIS/BA, married Taylor Walters, SIS/BA '01, SIS/MA '02**, on August 4, 2007. Alumni in attendance included Louis Belaito,

*Stuart Denyer '99 married Taylor Walters '01 with Lisa  
Belaito '90, Augusta Abrahamson '02, '03, and Erin Trough '03  
in attendance*



Whether it's a promotion or an addition to the family, let us share your good news with your classmates. You can send us a candid photo too!

Information for Class Notes:

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By the time you receive this issue of *American* magazine, the deadline for Class Notes for the next issue may have already passed. But please keep sending us your news and photos and look for your class note in upcoming issues.

Fax: 401-853-7514; E-mail: classnotes@american.edu

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American University  
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Washington, DC 20064-6143

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please include room and check a circle to fill)

Year \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (w) \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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May we print your e-mail address with your class note?  
 Yes  No  Check here if address is new.

**Athletics Alumni & Friends**  
**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY**  
**ALUMNI & FAMILY WEEKEND**  
**October 24-26, 2008**

Join fellow letterwinners & friends for a weekend of fun and AU camaraderie!

For more information, visit the Alumni & Friends section of [AUEagles.com](http://AUEagles.com) or e-mail [eaglesclub@american.edu](mailto:eaglesclub@american.edu).

**Schedule of Events**

**Friday**  
Volleyball vs. Army, 7 p.m.  
Welcome Social, 8-10 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Brunch Reception, 11 a.m.  
Field Hockey vs. Lafayette, 12 p.m.  
Men's Soccer vs. Holy Cross, 1 p.m.  
Volleyball vs. Holy Cross, 2 p.m.  
Dinner Reception & Auction, 6:30 p.m.

Varsity Football  
Varsity Soccer  
Varsity Basketball  
Varsity Baseball  
Varsity Softball  
Varsity Tennis  
Varsity Golf  
Varsity Rowing  
Varsity Equestrian  
Varsity Ice Hockey  
Varsity Wrestling  
Varsity Climbing  
Varsity Archery  
Varsity Fencing  
Varsity Judo  
Varsity Karate  
Varsity Taekwondo  
Varsity Wrestling

**Pal Hristendahl, SOC/BA**, is head of communications for ESTEC, in the Netherlands. ESTEC is the technical heart of the European Space Agency.

**Jeanine Meyer, SIS/BA**, was promoted to director of caring for the Radisson Hotel in Holbrook, N.Y. *Donor to: University Library, Greek Life*

**Tracy Pritchard, Kogod/BSBA**, and **Eric Pritchard, SPA/BS, SPA/MS '01**, are pleased to announce the birth of their second daughter, Brennan Gillian.

The family lives in Brick, N.J. *Donor to: Kogod Renovation Fund*

**Andrea Cicero Rock, SPA/BA**, and her husband, Mitchell, proudly welcomed their son, Kyle Anthony, on August 21, 2007.

**Jennifer Tropollo Smith, CAS/BA**, welcomed twin boys on January 22, 2008. She is a school counselor, co-owner of Charleston High-End Motorworks with her husband, Pat Smith, and co-chair of the board committee for Charleston Mother of Twins Club in Charleston, WV. *jen.trops@bortmail.com. Donor to: General Undesignated Fund.*



*Business (Lillian, daughter of Tracy Pritchard '99 and Jeanine Meyer '98 '99*



*Right Anthony son of Andrea Cicero Rock '99*



*Jennifer Tropollo Smith '99, with her husband, Pat, and twin sons*

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Experience the vibrancy of San Francisco, and explore the beautiful countryside of the Napa and Sonoma valleys



**Matthew Snyder, SPA/BA**, is the director of communications and media relations at Syracuse University's Office of Student Affairs. He collaborated with students, staff members, a cross-campus advisory group, and consultants to create readySET. Information for new students at Syracuse. The piece has won three major accolades and has been recognized as a best practice in student affairs.

**Lisa Vigna, SIS/MA**, was admitted to practice law before the U.S. Supreme Court on June 2, 2008. She is also admitted to the New Jersey and District of Columbia Bars and currently works at an international law firm in Manhattan.

**Christopher Watson, SOC/BA**, and his wife, Kara, welcomed their daughter, Gabriella, on December 6, 2007, in Binghamton, N.Y. She is already being groomed for the AU experience. *Donor to: SOC Dean's Discretionary Fund*

**2000 Pamela Ferrel, SOC/BA**, married Marc Weinstein on March 22, 2008, at the Crystal Plaza in Livingston, N.J. Several AU alumni joined the celebration, including **Sharon Block Raphael, Alan Shenman, Kogod/BSBA '99, Erica Lewis, SIS/BA '99, Rachel Slav, Kogod/BSBA '00, Ilana Weisbrod**



*Matthew Snyder '99*



*All alumni helped celebrate the wedding of Pamela Ferrel '00 and Marc Weinstein, including Sharon Block Raphael, Alan Shenman '99, Erica Lewis '99, Rachel Slav '01, and Ilana Weisbrod Raphael '01*

**Kaufman, SOC/BA '01**, and not pictured, **Stacy Malina Phillips**

**Megan Basco Pope, SOC/BA**, won an Emmy for her work producing a weekend newscast on WMC-TV 5, the NBC affiliate in Memphis where she lives with her husband, Brad.

**2001 Jamie Dowd, Kogod/BSBA**, married William Bancroft on September 8, 2007, in Rehoboth Beach, Del. Many AU alumni attended, including bridesmaids **Joanna Olson Dyer, Kogod/BSBA '99**, and **Cindy Andrews Scarella, CAS/BA '01, CAS/MA '02**, as well as **Kari Gaskins, SOC/BA '99, Nichole Grant, CAS/BA '99**, and **Catherine Hebling Peduzzi, SPA/BA '98**. The couple lives in Gaithersburg, Md.

**Elizabeth Gritter, SPA/BA**, was a consultant for the *CNN Special Report* on its 40th anniversary special, "Eyewitness to Murder: The King Assassination," and was an invited speaker to events around the 50th

anniversary of school desegregation in Little Rock, Ark. She continues her work toward a PhD in history at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Her AU honors senior thesis under Julian Bond was extensively featured in *Unwilling Public Lessons Learned in Memphis's Civil Rights Classroom* (University of Tennessee Press). *Donor to: SPA Leadership Fund, AU Fund for Excellence*

**Donna Saxon, SOC/BA**, announced that Alpha Kappa Alpha Society celebrated its 100th birthday this July in Washington, D.C. *Donor to: AU Fund for Excellence, SOC Alumni Chapter Fund, SOC Dean's Discretionary Fund*



*Donna Saxon '01*

**2002 Amy Greene, SIS/BA**, received her master's degree in government administration from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2008. She is studying for a master's degree in international affairs with a

focus on international security at Sciences Po, Paris. Her expected graduation date is June 2009.

**2003 Lauron Medley Dott, CAS/BA**, earned her master of science degree, summa cum laude, from Drexel University in June 2007, just weeks before giving birth to her first daughter, Julia Laurie Dott, with Jeremy Dott. They live in Cary, N.C.

**Christina Bache Fidan, SIS/BA, SIS/MA '04**, became chair of the Democrats Abroad of Turkey Kadikoy Chapter and chair of the Women's Caucus. The Alumni Chapter of Turkey held a get-together with SPA professor Robert Tobias on March 12, 2008. Alumni who work in business, elected offices, and policy making, and art communities attended.

**2004 Marc Neilson, SIS/MIS**, is a reporting officer for the United Nations World Food Programme in Indonesia. He welcomed a new daughter, Leia, on June 15, 2007. *Donor to: SIS Dean's Discretionary Fund*

**Elizabeth Voelker, SIS/MA**, is now a senior consultant at Boots Allen Hamilton in Herndon, Va. She previously served as program assistant to the Right Honorable Joe Clark for one academic term.

**2006 Nicole Zangara, CAS/BA**, received her master's of social work degree from the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. She will be doing a postgraduate fellowship in social work at the Menninger Clinic in Houston.

**2007 Joanna Thomas, SIS/BA**, is the A&C coordinator for Putnam World Music. Joanna works from Vermont and collaborates with the independent world music label Cambarelia to create a niche position in the industry. She communicates with artists and labels worldwide to produce world music compilations and travels to concerts and festivals to discover new talent.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Mary Lesta Carlo, CAS/BA '36**, January 21, 2008, Carol Woodie, N.C.

**Sherman Westrich, WCL/JD '41**, February 23, 2008, Wilmington, Del.

**Milton J. Friedman, SGPA/BS '47, SGPA/MA '50**, January 15, 2008, Falls Church, Va.

**Albert Small, CAS/MA '48, Kogod/PhD '71**, January 13, 2008, Bethesda, Md.

**Ronald L. Garshag, CAS/BA '51**, February 23, 2008, Boynton Beach, Fla.

**Patricia Beall Bach, SOC/MA '53**, January 18, 2008, Bethesda, Md.

**Robert Livingston Reed, CAS/MA '55**, February 3, 2008, Fayetteville, Ark.

**John Collier, SOC/BS '56**, April 25, 2008, Arlington, Va.

**Odfjhan Sahaan, SIS/BA '56, SIS/MA '59**, May 18, 2008, Rockville, Md.

**Robert Bruce Posner, CAS/BA '58**, January 29, 2008, Brooksville, Fla.

**Ruby G. Woodson, CAS/MA '60**, February 8, 2008, Graceville, Fla.

**David Stanley, SPA/MA '61**, January 22, 2008, Fairfax, Va.

**Edwin Lee Cummings, Kogod/BS '62**, May 25, 2008, Virginia Beach, Va.

**Carol England, SIS/BA '62**, May 16, 2008, Pittsburgh.

**Myrna Beyer, CAS/BA '63**, March 4, 2008, Silver Spring, Md.

**Mildred R. Stephens, CAS/BA '63**, May 5, 2008, Birmingham, Al.

**Jacob E. Stempel, SIS/MA '64**, February 9, 2008, Rockville, Md.

**Robert D. Gschman, SGPA/BA '65**, March 1, 2008, Union, N.J.

**Aubrey L. Posey, Kogod/BS '65**, February 16, 2008, Berensdorf, Iowa

**Francis E. McLaughlin, WCL/JD '66**, January 29, 2008, Bowie, Md.

**Robert Schaeffer, SPA/MPA '68**, December 31, 2008, Charlotte, N.C.

**Rose D. Alshull, CAS/BA '69**, February 11, 2008, Lake Monticello, Va.

**Martin Riordan, CAS/AA '70**, January 6, 2008, Annapolis, Md.

**Robert C. Wood, SGPA/MPA '70**, February 24, 2008, Springfield, Va.

**Thomas L. Poore, CAS/PhD '71**, February 18, 2008, Silver Spring, Md.

**Elin L. George, CAS/PhD '72**, January 30, 2008, Springfield, Va.

**Elizabeth A. Ketchum, CAS/BME '73**, May 18, 2008, Bethesda, Md.

**Frances Wrice, Kogod/BS '76**, May 19, 2008, Washington, D.C.

**Amelia Cosimano, CAS/BA '77**, May 28, 2008, Washington, D.C.

**Rupert G. Knowles Jr., SPA/BS '78**, January 18, 2008, Churchton, Md.

**Edward L. Flaim Jr., SPA/BA '79**, February 8, 2008, Bethesda, Md.

**Richmond J. Egan, SOC/MA '80**, January 12, 2008, Foughkeepie, N.Y.

**Randall C. Durbin, CAS/BA '81**, February 8, 2008, Washington, D.C.

**Everett J. Dennis, SIS/MA '83**, January 14, 2008, Dothan, Ala.

**William C. Stewart, CAS/MA '83**, February 14, 2008, Albany, Ga.

**Ferne C. Carposis, SOC/MA '90**, February 10, 2008, Washington, D.C.

**Sharon Grace Becker, SIS/MA '01**, January 8, 2008, Bethesda, Md.

**Rebecca Griffin, WCL/JD '03**, December 28, 2006, Accoldeck, Md.

**Moving?**

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## GERM CULTURES, 1946 AND 2007

Bob and Mike didn't mind kissing in public. John "Bob" Harrison, CAS/BS '48, had just returned from World War II when a *Life* photographer came to the classroom where he was studying with the girl he'd left behind, Muriel "Mike" Adams, CAS/BA '46.

The biology students coated glass plates with a nutrient agar base to reveal any germs. *Life* photographed students kissing the plates and each other. When the June 10, 1946, magazine came out, "Both of our mothers said, 'Oh, heavens! They were just appalled,'" recalls Mike.

But she wasn't embarrassed. Bob had left AU "to go with General Patton on their little walking tour of Europe," she recalls. The returning D-Day veteran and his biology partner wed a few months after the *Life* story and moved into married student housing behind today's library.

"I cooked on a hot plate, but we didn't need anything more," she says. "I didn't know how to cook a thing in the world anyway, except scrambled eggs and bacon, lettuce, and tomato sandwiches. But Bob was good and patient, and obviously we survived."

He also learned a lot in biology, becoming a biology professor at the State University of New York at Oswego. Another future biology professor in that class was Maggie Long May, CAS/BA '46. "It made you realize there were germs everywhere," she says of the experiment. "Really, you could touch anything to it and you'd get bacterial growth." Retired in 1990 from Virginia Commonwealth University, May teaches science classes at her retirement community.

In 2007 the media still comes calling. More than 60 years after the *Life* story, microbiology students tested ice gathered

at area restaurants for a United Press International (UPI) reporter.

All the samples were free of bacteria. Perhaps that's because no one kissed the ice. Harmless everyday germs were found in the 1946 samples, particularly those kissed by the women, which *Life* attributed to their "regular use of powder, face cream, and lipstick." —SA



*Life*, June 10, 1946

Muriel "Mike" Adams Harrison '48 and John "Bob" Harrison '46



In 2007 United Press International films AU microbiology students testing ice from area eateries.



Who's  
SEE WHAT <sup>^</sup> CHANGED!



ALUMNI WEEKEND 2008  
OCTOBER 24-26

When was the last time you saw  
your college friends?

Come to Alumni Weekend 2008 for the sights (people you haven't seen in years), sounds (laughter, clapping, shrieking, and "no ways!"), and chances to reconnect (and maybe even learn something!)

[www.alumni.american.edu/alumniweekend](http://www.alumni.american.edu/alumniweekend)

## FEATURED EVENTS

### FRIDAY

#### Golden Eagle Luncheon

Golden Eagle alumni (those from Class of 1958 and prior) induct this year's 50th reunion class on the stage of the Abramson Recital Hall in the Katzen Arts Center.

#### Welcome Reception and AnewAU Showcase

The kick-off event of the weekend. Mix and mingle with faculty, staff, and fellow alumni with entertainment by AU's student stars.

#### 25-, 20-, 10-, and 5-year Alumni Reunions

Come back to D.C. to partake in some merriment-making at several fun locations, including AU's own "White House," Capitol City Brewing Company, and Ireland's Four Fields.

### SATURDAY

#### Family Picnic

Pack up the kids and head to campus for the finest in picnic fare! Hang out with Clawed, dance to fun music, and take home a balloon animal or two.

#### Port and Politics Reception—Our Premier Event

Join us for this festive event that honors our three 2008 alumni award winners. Great food and drink will be served as you catch up with fellow alumni and enjoy evening views of campus.

#### Kennedy Political Union Event: "They'll Take Your Questions Now: Views from Behind the Podium"

Following our premier reception, hear Dee Dee Myers, Mike McCurry, and Ari Fleischer discuss their experiences serving as White House press secretaries. Their discussion will be moderated by *Meet the Press* executive producer Betsy Fischer. SPA/BA '92, SOC/MA '96.

Check your mailbox for our Alumni Weekend brochure for descriptions of all our scheduled events or visit [www.alumni.american.edu/alumniweekend](http://www.alumni.american.edu/alumniweekend).

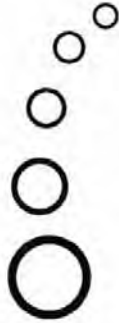
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# **Sharon Alston Declaration**

## **Exhibit 207**

**LOST** WHAT'S LOST WHEN VOICES VANISH?  
WORDS/WORLDS p. 16

**BEYOND RED & BLUE** TRACKING CHANGE ACROSS THE U.S.  
p. 22

**THE WRITER'S BLOCK** REJECTION AND REDEMPTION ON SACKETT STREET  
p. 26

# AMERICAN

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE | APRIL 2014



## SOLDIERS OF PAINT

PAINTBALL WAR IS HELL. A PAIR OF SOC FILMMAKERS HAVE THE WELTS TO PROVE IT.  
p. 30

AU060212





AU060213



**LONGEST SECRET SERVICE AGENT** of his life, Taylor raced to the White House when terrorists hit the Pentagon on 9/11. As two F-16 jets from nearby Air Force Base ripped overhead to **PROTECT KIDNAPERS OVER D.C.**, he knew, "that's what I was supposed to do."

New Jersey native, who did his first stint in the Air Force while in high school to pay for college, left the Secret Service and was commissioned that year. Captain Taylor **SIGN "DIESEL"** has served tours in Afghanistan as a member of the D.C. Air National Guard's 133rd Fighter Squadron known as the "CAPITAL GUARDIANS." **ILLING 9GS AND DOING FLIPS IS A BROTHERLY LOVE AFFAIR**, says Taylor, now COO of Crucible, a security consulting and training firm based in Fredericksburg. "But what I love most about being a fighter pilot is the adrenaline of being up there, riling the guys on the ground. It's an **AWESOME RESPONSIBILITY.**"



## AMERICAN

American University magazine  
Vol. 64, No. 3

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## FROM THE EDITOR

### Baby, It's Cold Outside

I'm wearing a pirate hat as I pen this letter, making animated truck sounds (*zoom, beep, vroom!*) between clicks of the keys, and reminding my 20-month-old—for no less than the 20th time—to be gentle with the kitty. It's a Monday morning and I should be at work, but the aptly named Winter Storm Titan has shut down the entire Mid-Atlantic. Outside, the snow continues to pile up: four inches, six, then eight.

For his part, Owen, clad in monkey pajamas and a straw fedora (I'm not the only one hankering for sunshine), is pulling all his books off the shelf. We both bob our accessorized heads to the Muppets' rendition of *Smells Like Teen Spirit*, a nod to my own childhood.

Turns out, snow days with a toddler are anything but nirvana.

It's been a long, hard winter in Washington—one of the coldest on record. We enjoyed (*ahem*, some of us more than others) more snow days this season than the last few years combined, and I'm still shivering—nay, shuddering—at the memory of a string of single-digit days in January.

The weather made everything, including producing the magazine, more challenging. Photo shoots, such as one with pilot Cliff Taylor (left), had to be juggled to accommodate finicky Mother Nature. (Read about the making of this issue at [americanmag.blogs.american.edu](http://americanmag.blogs.american.edu).)

In spite of the gloomy weather, or perhaps because of it, you'll find this issue of *American* to be one of the most colorful yet. From the coffee mugs we used to illustrate CAS professor Laura Juliano's new caffeine research, to the rainbow of colors in kindergarten teacher Brieanna Samples-Wright's bag, to our cover story on the biggest paintball game in the world, these pages are awash in bright, bold hues.

By the time you read this magazine, winter will be gone, though perhaps not yet forgotten. Spring will have sprung in Washington, with cherry blossoms and tulips (talk about beautiful colors) as far as the eye can see. We'll have peeled off our layers, and—like Owen—we'll have traded our wool beanies for straw fedoras.

*Zoom, zoom, here comes the sun.*

*Adrienne Frank*  
Adrienne Frank  
Senior editor

Send story ideas to [afrank@american.edu](mailto:afrank@american.edu).

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piled by the Department  
(DOL) in honor of its  
tennial. (Read all about  
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chapters include former  
ies of labor, civil rights  
authors, and AU intern  
'Krafi, SPA/BA '15, whose  
18—Louisia May Alcott's

*Little Women*, Ayn Rand's *Anthem*,  
Kathryn Stockett's *The Help*, and  
Lauren Weisberger's *The Devil  
Wears Prada*—generated the most  
web traffic when the site launched  
late last year. (Labor Secretary  
Thomas Perez has since claimed  
the top spot.)

Now in her second semester  
in the DOL public affairs office,  
the justice and law major blogs  
about the agency's centenary and  
updates social media. She interned  
previously on Capitol Hill.

In November, the *U.S. News  
Short List* named AU No. 1  
among national universities for  
internships. AU's Class of 2012  
set a new record for internships,  
with 90 percent of responding  
graduates interning—up 5 percent  
from the previous year.

"Students want to test what  
they're learning in the classroom,"  
says Brian Rowe, director of  
experiential education. "That  
learning is enhanced in the field."

## TICK TOCK

Kogod's 22nd annual case competition was a race against the clock, as 150 students had 72 hours to develop a corporate social responsibility plan for the bottled water company Fiji.

The case, centering on Fiji's desire to be more socially and ecologically responsible, was revealed minutes before midnight on Tuesday, February 4. By Saturday morning, the business undergrads and MBA candidates—clad in suits and powered by coffee and adrenaline—presented their solutions to a panel of judges. The winning teams took home cash prizes.

Unlike previous years, where the focus was on financial statements and organizational structures, the Fiji case "was more amorphous in nature," says longtime judge Susan Traver, Kogod/MBA '84, regional president for BNY Mellon. "There was room for the students to take as wide or as deep an approach as they wanted."

The case also reflects Kogod's commitment to sustainability and social responsibility. Last year, *Bloomberg BusinessWeek* named Kogod No. 1 for sustainability among undergraduate B-schools.

AU'S NEW VETERAN-ASKED FOR  
ONERABLE DUTIES ON NEWCASTLE IS VETERANARY  
**AU IS A TOP**  
MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL,  
SINCE 2009,  
JUMPED FROM 80 TO 250.

## SOC SCOOP

The School of Communication partnered with the *Washington Post* to lure Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalist John Sullivan to D.C. The joint hire—the first of its kind between a university and a media outlet—gives AU's aspiring reporters access to the legendary newsroom.

Sullivan, who led the *Philadelphia Inquirer* team that won the Pulitzer Prize for Public

Service in 2012 for a series of articles about violence in Philly's schools, wears multiple hats in his new role. As senior editor at SOC's Investigative Reporting Workshop and a member of the *Post's* investigations unit, he's continuing the paper's tradition of hard-hitting journalism. And as investigative journalist in residence, Sullivan leads a graduate practicum that puts five AU students in the newsroom, assisting reporters and chasing bylines of their own.

"It's a way to give them a clip they can't get anywhere else—an investigative clip from the *Washington Post*," Sullivan says.

## WHITE HOUSE EXCLUSIVE



President Barack Obama played *Hardball* before an enthusiastic crowd of about 300 political wonks on December 5 at the Greenberg Theatre, as AU hosted a taping of Chris Matthews' popular MSNBC show.

After tackling tough questions about the troubled rollout of the new Affordable Care Act and the National Security Agency wiretapping controversy, the commander in chief turned his attention to the political aspirations of the students in the audience.

"It's hard, it can be frustrating, and you've got to have a thick skin. But when you've passed a law or you've taken an executive action, and somebody comes up to you and says 'my kid's alive today because you passed that health

care bill! It's pretty hard to get greater satisfaction than that."

Reflecting on his time in the White House, Obama said the last five years have humbled him.

"You recognize that you're just part of a sweep of history. And your job really is to push the boulder up the hill a little bit before somebody pushes it up a little further," he said. "What makes me more confident than ever is the interaction I have with young people like this."

The AU taping, the latest stop on *Hardball's* college tour, marked Obama's third visit to campus. In 2008, he joined Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) in Bender Arena as the late senator endorsed his bid for president. Two years later, Obama spoke about immigration reform at the newly opened SIS building.

### GLASS IN THE CLASS

Kogod, CA), and the library have acquired Google Glass (online before the fully articulated technology hits the market). Kogod students will take the gadget—a wear-able Android-powered computer built into spectacle frames—aboard, and a science faculty will use it to record lab protocols for distribution on the web. The library scored five pairs.

### WE'RE PLEASED TO INFORM YOU...

AU received about 15,000 applications for fall admission, with nearly twice as many students this year applying for special offerings like the new American Heroes Program. Last December applicants numbered 950—the largest in AU history—and will constitute about 33 percent of the Class of 2013.

### UNTANGLING RED TAPE

AU president Neil Kerwin is among 14 higher ed leaders named to a new U.S. Senate task force that will examine the burden of federal regulations and reporting requirements on colleges and universities. Founder of AU's Center for the Study of Rulemaking, Kerwin is an expert on government regulation.



### GOODNIGHT MOON; HELLO, CLAWED!

Make room on your children's bookshelf for a new classic: *Hello, Clawed!* by Cynthia Blasi Auguste. CASBA '03. The book takes readers on a trek across campus to a basketball game. Auguste was inspired to write the book (available at [helloclawed.com](http://helloclawed.com)) after a stint as AU's winged mascot.

## ROUNDS FOR RESEARCH

**WAKE UP AND SMELL THE COFFEES:** you might be living with caffeine use disorder. Caffeine, found in cappuccinos, lattes, and chocolate, is the most popular drug in the world. It's cheap, plentiful—and it's a mounting concern, according to a new study by CAS psychology professor Luciano. Published in the *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, the study found that more than 50 percent of college students struggle to cut back on consumption or kick the habit altogether. Many suffer from headaches, irritability, and fatigue when they can't get their caffeine fix. Furthermore, some pregnant women and people with heart conditions are unable to skip the beans—even though caffeine is deleterious to their health. In the *American Psychiatric Association* added caffeine use disorder to its *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Health Disorders* last spring. Luciano says the negative effects of caffeine are overlooked because the drug is woven into routines and customs.

### If Caf

The study advises adults to cap caffeine at 400 mg per day—the equivalent of two to three 8-ounce cups of joe. Pregnant women should cut back further, as should those with anxiety, insomnia, or high blood pressure. The thought of giving up caffeine for good is a hard pill to swallow. Luciano's research indicates that people who struggle to cut back are interested in formal treatment, similar to smoking cessation programs.



## 10,000 HOURS



Malcolm Gladwell's book *Outliers: The Story of Success* offers a formula for success—being born at the right place and time and investing at least 10,000 hours in pursuit of your goal. It's about being focused and impassioned and pursuing a dream. Meet one of AU's outliers: U.S. district court judge Reggie Walton, WC1/JD 74.



**1949** Born in Donora, Pennsylvania, a steel town 25 miles outside of Pittsburgh.

**1956** Began playing football. "Donora was a tough little town. You had to be tough."



**1967** Appeared in court three times for gang fighting. Got more serious about studies after a friend nearly killed a rival with an ice pick.



**1967** Graduated from high school, won a football scholarship to West Virginia State University.

**1970** Appointed by a fraternity brother as chief justice of the university's student court. "That engendered my interest in becoming a lawyer."



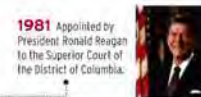
**1974** Earned juris doctorate from AU's Washington College of Law.



**1976-1981** Worked as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Office of the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia.



**1974-1976** Worked as a public defender in Philadelphia.



**1981** Appointed by President Ronald Reagan to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.



**1983** Began taking cooking lessons at L'Academie de Cuisine in Bethesda. "I do 99.9 percent of the cooking. My wife, Debra, is a medical doctor. She gets home late, so usually have dinner for her."

**1989-1991** Left the bench to work as President George H. W. Bush's associate director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy and later as his senior White House advisor for crime. "I felt very strongly about the impact of drugs on communities and individuals."



**1991** Reappointed to the Superior Court bench by Bush.

**2001** Assumed his current position as U.S. district court judge for the District of Columbia after being nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the Senate.



**2005** Witnessed the attack of a cab driver in Chevy Chase Circle while driving to the airport. Tackled the assailant and held him until police arrived.



**2007** Presided over the trial of Scooter Libby, Vice President Dick Cheney's former chief of staff. Libby was convicted of committing perjury, obstructing justice, and making false statements; Walton sentenced him to 30 months in prison and fined him \$250,000, but Bush commuted the sentence.

**2013** Elevated to chief judge of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. "The things that you hear are disturbing. When you get applications seeking to conduct surveillance, there's a lot of pressure not to have another 9/11. On the other hand, you don't want the executive branch to trample on individual liberties. It's a difficult balance."



# AGLE EYE

ka Smidova has right, strength, agility that many me collegiate ball players are ad with. But her physical attribute, weapons that make ceptional, may be g brown eyes. ak at everyone's face set and see if they look me," says the Patriot Setter of the Year and Athlete of the Year. it's even have to talk. It's t look that gives me the ion that one person has ability to put the ball hwe to be empathetic w if someone is injured or that day, or if they really e ball." i decidedly analytical th to volleyball that can't e taught. AU coach Barry ng knew the Czech native ed it when he first saw her a teenager at an event in herlands.

"Monika is one of those rare players in sports who can often see things that others can't," he says. "She can gain insight into what's coming. She is one step ahead of the game." Growing up in the city of Plzen, Smidova, Kogsd/BSBA '15, had the foresight to know that tennis and swimming weren't for her. "I need to interact with other people," says the six-footer. "I like the connection that I have with other people on the court." That bond didn't come easily. Smidova's first trip to the United States was in summer 2011, when she arrived at AU. Her language skills were decent, she says, but she didn't feel fully comfortable until she started dreaming in English and adjusted to American food and sensibilities. After a stellar freshman year, she tore her ACL in spring practice and missed all of the 2012 season. Smidova returned feeling "stronger and more confident" and led the Patriot League with 10.80 assists per set last year in helping the team to its first-ever NCAA Tournament wins. A business administration major with a 3.8 GPA, Smidova, 22, plans to play two more seasons at AU before taking a crack at a professional career in Europe. "I feel like if we just stay determined, focused, and keep practicing hard, we can do even better than this year," she says. Call it a vision.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PATRIOT LEAGUE BASKETBALL LIBRARY

## RDS SEASON

n seasons that culminated with a trip to the NCAA Tournament, also saw several es of the men's basketball team earn individual honors. First-year lead Mike Brennan was named Patriot League Coach of the Year, senior center nobilsky was picked as the Defensive Player of the Year, and sophomore Jesse Reed was named Men's Basketball Scholar Athlete of the Year.

## DOBBS WINS AGAIN

Alexis Dobbs has become a one-woman dynasty. The senior became only the second women's basketball player in Patriot League history to earn three consecutive Patriot League Scholar Athlete of the Year honors. The three-time team captain carries a 3.01 cumulative GPA as a public health major, and led AU in scoring, assists, and steals this season.



# GOOD VERSUS EVIL HIGHER ED UPDATE

Franklin Delano Roosevelt is a towering and often revered figure, yet what he did—or didn't do—to save Europe's Jews from Hitler's gas chambers has always sparked contentious debate among historians. Scholarly writing on the question has tended toward the extremes: FDR as staunchly principled and righteous, or FDR as the passive realist. In *FDR and the Jews*, history professors Richard Breitman and Allan Lichtman argue that the truth lies in between. "If you're looking for a man who made key decisions for moral reasons, Roosevelt doesn't always meet the test," Breitman says. "He often made

decisions for political reasons. But some of the decisions that he made resulted in saving large numbers of Jews. We had a war in Asia as well as a war in Europe. Roosevelt gave priority to the war in Europe. Had he not done so, the war in Asia might have ended earlier, the war in Europe gone on longer, and lots more Jews might have been slaughtered." The book, which won the American Jewish Studies Celebrate 350 Award from the Jewish Book Council, has received glowing critical acclaim and made a splash in popular culture as well as academia. Breitman and Lichtman have spoken across the country, in media outlets such as NPR, and received positive

**"Roosevelt did not do everything possible to aid the Jews, but he was far better for the Jews than his isolationist political opponents at home. Had they been in power, things would have been much worse."** — Allan Lichtman

reviews in newspapers around the world.

"Breitman and Lichtman have combed the archives of the leading players... and the result is quite impressive," raved the *New York Times*. "Even those who disagree with the book's conclusions must acknowledge the mountain of research on which they rest."

Lichtman attributes the project's crossover appeal in part to the basic components of the story: good versus evil.

"How did a humane but pragmatic president weave his way through all of these competing priorities, including the persecution and slaughter of the Jews during the worst depression in the history of the world and the worst war in the history of the world?"

Hopefully it's a question no leader will ever again have to confront.



Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr., left, was FDR's only Jewish cabinet officer and persuaded the president to form the War Refugee Board in 1944.

## MAKING THE GRADE

Public administration and policy professor Seth Gershenson landed a \$20,000 grant from the American Educational Research Association to trace out the relationship between teacher quality, student attendance, and academic achievement.



## SILVIA'S SEMINAL WORK

Lauded as the best book on German trade unions and industrial relations ever written, SS professor Stephen Silvia's *Holding the Shop Together* explores the oscillations of Deutschland's economy in the post-war era. The book was released in fall 2013.

## TAX PRO

Kogsd Tax Center director Don Williamson is *The Nation's* 2013 person of the year. The KPMG veteran and director of AU's tax-ranked master's in taxation led the charge to finalize new IRS repair regulations.

## OLD MEETS NEW

OUT of the north west  
is of the iconic McKinley  
g and you'll see the  
here the grand, original  
re-erected in 1907—meets  
tion, construction on  
commenced in 2012.

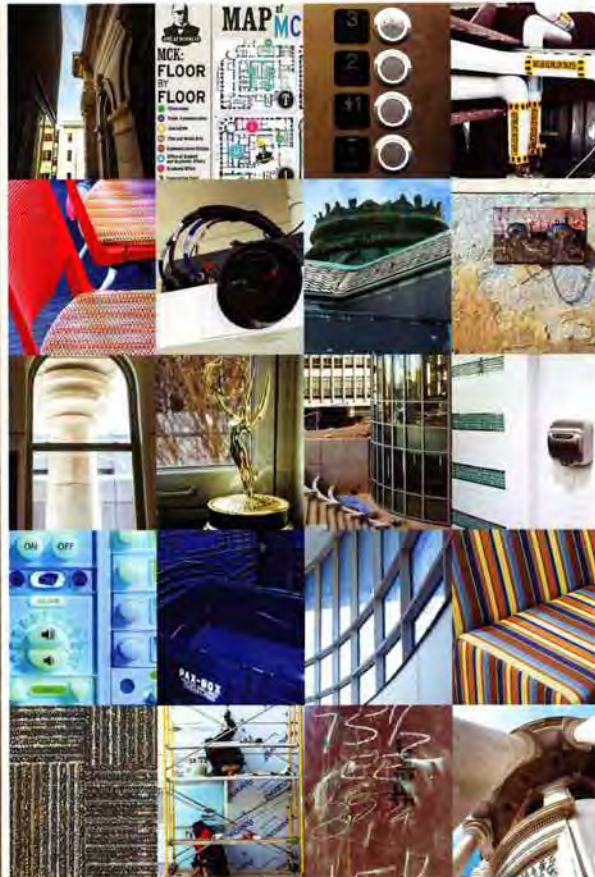
spot where old meets new is  
a metaphor for the School of  
Communication's new home. The  
of-the-art facility, which nearly  
doubles SOC's square footage,  
provides a school that's already

...to the very top echelons  
of communication and education.  
President Neil Kerwin  
has busily scattered in six  
across campus, SOC's 850  
faculty, 350 grad students,  
time faculty members, and  
others are now housed under  
the school's owned roof. The building  
is a media innovation lab, a  
group teleconference suite,  
classrooms, a rooftop terrace,  
Amazon Family Plaza, and the  
Malsi Doyé and Michael  
Theater.

### Don our mess

rooms were finished, but  
the building was still a construction  
site. Finishing touches were  
the modernized McKinley,  
or LEED certification, in  
fact.

about how McKinley will  
SOC's reputation as a global  
in communication education,  
ways in which it will prepare  
the next generation of journalists,  
writers, and PR works. In the  
issue of *American* magazine.



## THIS I KNOW

**Q.** You've run 12 marathons (winning 2). What makes the Boston Marathon so special?

**A.** Boston's one of the most competitive marathons in the world—but it's the spectators that make it. Without the people, it would just be another race.

I thought 2012 was the year, but it just wasn't meant to be because of the weather. It was really hot. Heat is like Kryptonite for me. I learned that the hard way that day and actually dropped out. I knew I would be back.

Last year we had perfect racing weather. It was 50 degrees, maybe a slight headwind, but you knew you had a real opportunity to enjoy everything the course has to offer. There's no city that so thoroughly embraces its marathon like Boston. The support you get is unbelievable. Literally miles and miles of the course are lined with people screaming as loud as they can. You can tell it's important to them that they give this experience to the runners.

I crossed the line in 2:37. It wasn't my best time, but I gave everything I had. I also knew immediately I would be back. My flight was later that afternoon, and I remember we got on the plane and the pilot told us three people died. It was crushing. My wife and I just started sobbing. It was heartbreaking, especially after just experiencing a city that so fully gives itself to you.

I think it made me more resolute. I know that it's just a race, but in terms of repaying what Boston gives to you on that day, I don't know how to do that other than go out and give the absolute best effort I can, because the Boston fans really appreciate and acknowledge that.

*Mercer plans to run his third Boston Marathon on April 21. To find out how he does, visit SideBar, American magazine's blog: americanmag.blogs.american.edu.*

**DICKSON MERCER**  
SOC/MA '12  
Speechwriter, U.S. Department of Transportation  
Senior editor, *Run Washington*



"I became the person I was supposed to be once I started running every day. People often say a successful athlete has a gift, but running itself is a gift. It gave me tons of time to think, and a much clearer sense of purpose and direction."



**WORK**—*Jessica Charles, SPA/MPA '11*  
Year-round programs site manager, E. L. Hayes Public Charter School, Kansas Avenue between Buchanan and Webster Streets

**LIVE**—*Andrew Huff, SPA/NBA '07*  
Resident, 16th Street Heights on Hamilton Street, and director of community relations, American University

**WORK**—*Mark Sakamoto, SOC/BA '14*  
Student who wrote feature story about the neighborhood for SOC professor Angie Chuang's Race, Ethnic, and Community Reporting class

**CHRONICLE**—*Dan Silverman, SIS/MA '11*  
Funding editor, Prince of Petworth blog ([poville.com](http://poville.com)), and resident, Fourth and Taylor Streets

**WORK**—*Katherine Fetter, CAS/NEd '12*  
Teacher, Bruce-Morris Elementary School at Park View Warder Street between Quebe Place and Rock Creek Church Road

# METRO



# CENTERED

GEORGIA AVE-PETWORTH  
STOPS FROM TENLEYTOWN-AU

An urban playground. A laboratory for learning. A professional hub. A vibrant collection of neighborhoods—and neighbors. Washington's got it all. And for our alumni, students, and faculty, Metro is their ticket to ride, connect, and explore AU's backyard.

Which Metro stop is the center of your world? Share your story at [metro.aum.edu](http://metro.aum.edu).





**WINNEMEM WINTU**

**Pictured:**  
Caleen Siak, spiritual leader, tribal chief of the Winnemem Wintu tribe, and a last speaker of the language.

**Where:**  
McCloud River area, Northern California

**Speakers:**  
fewer than 10

**From the dictionary:**  
[p'w'qtə] woman

ICAN MAGAZINE APRIL 2014

# LOST

WORDS/WORLDS

By MARILYN

LANGUAGE WORLDS ARE FIGHTING TO SURVIVE WITH THE

The soft voices of the two elderly sisters belie the difficulty of their task. They live, as have their ancestors, on the island of Chiloe, off the coast of Chile, an area with fragile ecosystems not found anywhere else in the world.

Sitting next to a large wood-burning stove on the cool, rainy island, Wilma and Teolinda Guentco speak Spanish, Chile's dominant language, during the interview. But they also speak a centuries-old indigenous tongue called Huillichesungun. They are two of only a handful of people, mostly elderly, who are fluent in the language.

The sisters hope to preserve and revitalize their ancestral tongue before it fades completely, before they and other remaining speakers pass on.

Indigenous languages link the ancient past to the present, imparting a community's values to young members and safeguarding a way of life—traditions, livelihoods, and sacred rituals. Languages also preserve knowledge about the natural landscape, its ecosystems and environmental conditions, knowledge that has enabled communities, such as the Huilliche, to survive harsh climates—in deserts, mountains, and rainforests—for millennia.

In the face of extreme weather and climate change, this knowledge could also play a vital role in helping the industrialized world find solutions to these challenges. As speech communities with oral traditions go extinct, however, their skills, expertise, and problem-solving strategies could be irretrievably lost.

Aside from the titans of global languages—English, Spanish, Russian, and Mandarin among them—some 7,000 smaller tongues are spoken throughout the world. About half of these languages face extinction in the coming decades. According to the United Nations, every two weeks a small endangered tongue disappears when its last speaker dies. Researchers gauge the vitality of languages on a scale ranging from the vigorous, such as ever-expanding English, to the endangered, those on the verge of permanent loss.

Language loss occurs in nearly every country. Although dominant tongues have edged out smaller ones throughout history, the rate of extinction in recent years has dramatically increased, outpacing that of plants and animals. To pinpoint the threat of extinction and prioritize research, Swarthmore linguistics professor David Harrison, SIS/BA '88, coined the term *language hotspots*. Modeled after the concept of biodiversity hotspots, they include areas with jeopardized, undocumented languages within a region having a high diversity of language families (Indo-European would be the language family for English, for example).

Linguists at the Living Tongues Institute for Endangered Languages—the nonprofit Harrison cofounded that produces materials such as the videocording of the two Huilliche speakers—have identified some 20 hotspots with an urgent need for research, including those in Asia, Australia, Siberia, West Africa, and North and South America.

LET'S TALK #AMERICANMAG 17



**TUVAN**

**Pictured:** rider on the steppes

**Where:** Tuva, Russian Federation

**Speakers:** about 250,000

**From the dictionary:** [ɛsɛŋgɪlɔɛr] to stirrup; to sing with the chimes of a riding horse



**TSESUNGUN**

**Pictured:** Señor Anselmo Huyado, Acepción and Señora Teresa Marijan at the sacred site Shuka Xura (House of Rock)

**Where:** Choroy Traiguén, Chile

**Speakers:** fewer than 10

**From the dictionary:** [ko] water



**YOKOIM**

**Pictured:** Luis Kolisi on the Kariwaii River, modeling traditional body paint for tourists

**Where:** Papua New Guinea

**Speakers:** 1,000

**From the dictionary:** [jɔpəkɔpɛn] hello

**CLIMATE PACKAGING**

languages, large and small, embed cultural knowledge. In English, various words for a horse's age and gender illustrate this: *and mare* for male and female horses, *colt* and *filly* for young and female horses, or *foal* for even younger horses. By a certain age, English speakers can decode the meaning beneath those labels, but Spanish retains a residue of a previous age, not so long ago, when husbandry played an important role in American society. Like global languages like English that spread geographically, Spanish tongues stay rooted for thousands of years in a particular region, preserving a wealth of concentrated ancestral knowledge. Tucked in, sometimes only as single words, are deep layers of meaning and *climate packaging*, says Harrison. This became clear to him while doing dissertation research in southern Siberia, where he lived for a year with a family of nomadic Tuvan yak herders. In addition to gaining empathy for their imperiled way of life, including the loss of their ancestral tongue, Harrison made a discovery that led to a central tenet of linguistics: that all languages are essentially equal, with nearly identical rules for creating their grammar, vocabulary, or facets of language. Harrison recognized that the Tuvan language reflected the community's environment. For a Tuvan speaker, using the correct form of the verb *to go*, for example, requires knowing in which direction the current of the nearby river flows. Harrison observed that the Tuvans, in a feat of lexical engineering, complex concepts into single words, reflecting their unique and efficient way of speaking and categorizing their herds. One such

"Ten years ago, when I would use the phrase 'endangered languages,' people would do a double take. The phrase was simply not in circulation, not a term people acknowledged. It was something that now people get it. They know that cultures are under threat, that languages are going extinct."

—David Harrison

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF THE TUVAN PEOPLE; PHOTO: JAMES HARRISON; PHOTO: JAMES HARRISON; PHOTO: JAMES HARRISON

useful word for yak herders is *dönggür* (doong-GUR), meaning *male domesticated, uncastrated, rideable reindeer in its third year and first mating season, but not ready for mating*.

"You have to be out in the landscape interacting with the animals and the features of the landscape to even understand the grammar of a language," says Harrison, who first recognized his knack for language during a trip to Poland as an AU undergrad. "Language is so much more than something contained in the head. It spills out into the environment and the world around us. That was my big eureka moment: that the academic discipline of linguistics was too narrow to apprehend the language."

**LANGUAGE SHIFT**

Linguists do not know exactly how or why languages die. They seem to diminish in strength and eventually disappear for many reasons—social, economic, and political—but almost always from outside pressure.

Children appear to hold the key to keeping a language alive, says AU linguist in residence Robin Barr, who teaches in AU's Department of World Languages and Culture. "The more people you can get in a speech community who are using the language and using it with their children . . . so they learn not only the grammar and the pronunciation but also all of the culturally important lexical items," the better the chance that the language will flourish like the way healthy languages do.

The classroom, past and present, has played a role in language vitality. The elderly Guentee sisters from Chiloé Island lament that their community schools teach classes mostly in Spanish. In the United

States, past policies of cultural assimilation drove many Native American children to government-run boarding schools, which prohibited them from speaking their languages. In western Mongolia today, young nomadic herders face similar pressures in schools, where they must speak the dominant Mongolian language.

Indigenous languages fade for other reasons. Young speakers might come to view them as out of date, socially inferior, or an obstacle to employment. Or they might opt to learn to read and write in a dominant language and not keep up the oral tradition of their native tongue.

When children understand a small tongue spoken at home but refuse to speak it themselves, a shift to a dominant language occurs. Their children, the next generation, miss the chance to learn to speak it fluently, if at all.

Language shifts also happen in global languages—when, say, huge numbers of young Spanish speakers migrate to America with their parents and cast aside their native tongue for English in order to fit in or keep up with their English-speaking peers. Despite this shift, the Spanish language remains strong, because so many people, including children, still speak it around the world.

Harrison, who was born on a Cree Indian reservation to missionary parents, has become a fervent advocate of cultural autonomy for indigenous groups. Speakers of endangered languages, he says, are often given a false choice that has dire consequences: either learn a dominant language and leave behind their ancestral tongue or not learn it and risk social, political, or economic hardship.

Around the world, however, multilingual speakers prove that people can be afforded another choice: to become fluent in another language, or languages, while holding on to their heritage tongue.

LET'S TALK AMERICAN MAG 19



## KORO AKA

### **Picture:**

Giamuz Yano and her two-year-old son, Koko, in the doorway of their home

### **Where:**

Arunachal Pradesh, India

### **Speakers:**

about 1,600

### **From the dictionary:**

[əʒə] nana



## RISING VOICES

Once language shift occurs, does it spell the irreversible end of an endangered tongue? When the only speakers are a few elderly people, can a small tongue come back to meet the benchmark of use in everyday conversation, where it can grow and change and create new words?

Harrison says that the survival of threatened tongues ultimately depends on the attitudes of the indigenous communities themselves. Fortunately, language activists are on the rise in small-tongue communities: language warriors, as he calls them, are pushing back against adopting a dominant language to the detriment of their own, and they are taking an active role in revitalization.

Tech-savvy activists know that expanding their language involves harnessing technology and social media to draw in their young people. The Huilliche in Chile find hope in the interest shown by two teens, for example, who have incorporated words from their ancestral tongue into a hip-hop song primarily in Spanish.

Some groups gamely try to reach their young members through apps, social media, text messaging, and language-translation software. Encouraging young people to communicate through formats like Facebook is important, says Barz, who studies the role of the brain in learning language. She points out the difficulty in reviving small tongues through written documentation alone: "There's no way you can write down everything in a language. It's infinite, and speaking is a very different process. Really only one language has been revived—Hebrew, which people could speak to each other and use with their children so they could grow up speaking it."

Worldwide awareness of the problem of language loss is growing. "Ten years ago," says Harrison, "when I would use the phrase 'endangered languages,' people would do a double take. The phrase was simply not in circulation, not a term people acknowledged. I'm seeing that now people get it. They know that cultures are under threat, that languages are going extinct."

A number of organizations, including UNESCO with its interactive map of endangered languages, have joined in

the effort to strengthen languages under threat. Harrison, a National Geographic fellow, and his team from the Living Tongues Institute, work with National Geographic's Enduring Voices project to document the languages and cultures within them. The group was the first to uncover the tiny language of Koro, which was hidden under Aka, a larger endangered tongue, in northeast India. Koro people speak both languages, as different from each other as Japanese and English.

The institute also produces print and electronic materials, which Harrison explains that he and his fellow linguists curate but do not own. The materials are the intellectual property of the speech communities themselves. They include books and online talking dictionaries, which serve as a virtual classroom for

speakers and offer insight into the rich diversity of seldom heard languages.

To promote awareness of language loss, Harrison has also written two books, appeared in a documentary film, *The Linguists*, screened at the Sundance festival; and even appeared on *The Colbert Report*.

According to UNESCO's *Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger*, 230 languages have become extinct since 1950. If small tongues disappear

as their last speakers die, says the linguist, "the global community does not even know what it stands to lose."

Certainly indigenous communities could lose centuries of oral tradition and the cultural identity and wisdom that comes from living close to nature and surviving extreme climates.

The rest of us could lose opportunities to learn about ecosystems still unknown to Western science. We could miss the chance to study how, for millennia, people have passed down vast amounts of information—whether 10,000-line epic tales or techniques for celestial navigation or natural resource management—without written documentation, digital technology, or twenty-first century memory-enhancing aids.

Preserving and revitalizing other languages "allows us to step outside our own patterns of thinking to experience the world in a completely new way," says Harrison. "We will need the entire sum of human knowledge as it is encoded in all the world's languages to truly understand and care for the planet we live on."



Abamu Diego, left, watches a recording of herself singing a traditional Koro song, with Anthony Diego, center, and David Harrison in Arunachal Pradesh, India

PHOTO BY GREGORY HEPPNER FOR NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC; PHOTOS BY GREGORY HEPPNER FOR NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



# BEYOND RED & BLUE

**IS NOT A MONOLITHIC UNITED STATES THAT IS  
LIVING; IT'S THOUSANDS OF PLACES MOVING  
THEIR OWN DIRECTIONS TRYING TO MAKE SENSE  
OF THEIR SHIFTING LANDSCAPE AROUND THEM."**

his introduction to *Our Patchwork Nation: The Surprising Truth about the "Real" America*

As a kid Dante Chinni began logging miles on the road, and as an adult he's writing stories about American places. One day, he drove north to Bob Dylan along the Iron Range in Minnesota, Dale Earnhardt country to cover a race in North Carolina, northwest to Ferndale, Ohio, and headed home like a tone back to Detroit. As a journalist, he covered all these places and more, going on what makes each place the way it is—how communities—and the way they're changing. And he discovered that place matters.

He spends enough time traveling around the United States, says Chinni, and you start to see how this one town looks a lot like that town—not the town next door, but the town you've visited halfway across the country, seen here before—not literally, but you know it: the place whose downtown is just where Walmart is thriving five miles out. You know there'll be a McDonald's on the corner get their morning coffee. And a diner.

It's just one type of American place, and Chinni's a journalist with a taste for the new. He began to notice while he crisscrossed the country trying to gather his stories. He started to see that the nation was a patchwork of distinct place archetypes and that the people

living in those different types of communities know different realities of the "American experience." Politicians and analysts often default to misleading generalizations about "what Americans believe" or "what the American people want." But the fact is, what Americans actually believe and know and want varies a whole lot from one place to the next.

When he wasn't on the road, Chinni was crunching numbers for the Pew Research Center and its annual State of the News Media, trying to quantify changes that were happening in the media. And he got to thinking: the United States was and still is undergoing an upheaval, with tectonic shifts—cultural, political, demographic, socioeconomic—reshaping its communities, rural and urban, north and south, east and west, liberal and conservative. There must be a way to quantify everything he was seeing, a way to understand the country as a journalist, and then to use that data as an analyst to break the country down with some new unit of measure, some typology, by which we could systematically analyze these different Americas, these different places that define our varied positions and mindsets.

The problem, he saw, is that our models aren't working. For example, take the map we've been using since the 1980s to slice the

country into two camps by state and region: Red America and Blue America. Red and blue, says Chinni, "have become shorthand definitions for the country, and they miss the point," except on election night when "you gotta have teams to keep score and see who wins." We've latched on to two words that have become a code, he writes. "When we say 'red' and 'blue' in the context of American culture, it conjures up a set of stereotypes." But the simplicities of red and blue, conservative and liberal, ignore the nuance at the community level. They miss the red parts of New York or the blue parts of Texas.

"Red and blue," he writes, "is black and white." It's shorthand that doesn't work. "Culture is just more complicated," he says. "Culture is a mix of economy and politics and religion and consumer culture and all these things." Places that are very red can be very wealthy and very poor. And places that are very blue can be very wealthy and very poor, very well educated and very poorly educated. "It changes from place to place," he says. The suburbs of New York, for instance, look more like the suburbs of Denver than towns of upstate New York. "The kinds of people that live in these kinds of places share similarities, regardless of the state they live in."



**H**ow do we move beyond the black and white of red and blue? Chinni saw an opportunity to create a new vision: the United States as a patchwork nation. Working with the *Christian Science Monitor* and *PRS NewsHour*, he conceived a project that became a book, *Our Patchwork Nation: The Surprising Truth about the "Real" America*.

What the journalist needed was a statistician, and Chinni found one in James Gimpel, a government professor at the University of Maryland who became his coauthor.

They went in search of a more granular and statistically meaningful level of geographic observation, and they drilled down until they hit pay dirt: county. Smaller than states or congressional districts, counties are stable, independent entities with central governments. What's more, they're the smallest unit from which come many types of data: race and ethnicity, religion, education, occupation, income level, unemployment, immigration patterns, population growth and density, consumer spending, and just about anything else. The United States has 3,141 counties. That's a whole lot of data.

Why not use zip codes? "First of all, they're not based on anything," he responds. "They're based on postal carrier routes, and they change all the time. No other data is collected that way in a reliable fashion that you can look at over time."

Using his notes from the road and data from the 2007 American Community Survey—an ongoing statistical survey that the Census Bureau uses annually to track changes in the population—Chinni and Gimpel organized these 3,141 counties into 12 types of community. Among the places they were able to identify and type by name were Monied Burbs and Mormon Outposts, Boom Towns and Military Bastions, Immigration Nation and Emptying Nests, Service Worker Centers and Industrial Metropolises. (He has since modified his typology and changed his method of data analysis.)

To ground truth his model, Chinni picked 12 representative places—and hit the road again. He visited Eagle, Colorado, and El Mirage, Arizona; Lincoln City, Oregon, and Hopkinsville, Kentucky; Claremont, Florida, and Philadelphia—each of which represented one of these community types (although no place fits entirely into one type; each has elements of others). He made several visits to each community, talking to lots of people and getting to know each place really well.

It was 2007 when the journalist and the statistician first went to work on Patchwork Nation, before the great recession that changed everything. The original idea had been to cover the 2008 election and report on how it played out in these 12 communities around the country.

What played out before and after the election, however, was a tsunami of change that swept across the country: a Wall Street collapse and a Main Street catastrophe, a housing bubble, hundreds of thousands of lost jobs and homes, along with political and technological and socioeconomic and demographic upheavals. As the economy was falling apart, Chinni was on site watching the poison work its way through one place after another. "It's really horrible to watch, it's very sad," he says. "But it's fascinating, too, because it's like, 'this place is so different [than it was].'"

Eagle, Colorado, his representative Boom Town community, was a perfect example. "First time I went to Eagle was the winter of 2008. The housing crisis hadn't hit there yet, and they thought everything was going to be fine," he says. When he returned in the summer of 2008, people were worried. When he went back in the winter of 2009, "the bottom had fallen out, things were closed. I mean it was remarkable how much that place changed in the course of just a year, and I was able to watch that happen."

It's cautionary, he says. "In Eagle, they were absolutely sure that they weren't going to be affected—and they were affected, probably as much or more than anybody. People were just trapped in their homes out there, they were all underwater."



**A**fter finishing his book, Chinni took his idea of a patchwork nation on the road, moving the project from the Pew Foundation to the Jefferson Institute before finally finding a new and perhaps more permanent home at American University. Along the way he began to sharpen his methods and expand his model from 12 to 15 types of community, a change that would help clarify different types of rural and suburban communities. Working with a new academic partner, Iris Hui, a political science professor at Stanford, he redesigned his idea into the American Communities Project (ACP).

The project seems perfect and perfectly titled for AU's ambitious School of Public Affairs (SPA). When Jon Gould, director of SPA's Washington Institute for Public Affairs Research (WIPAR), saw the website for Patchwork Nation, he was impressed. When he talked with Chinni, he was impressed



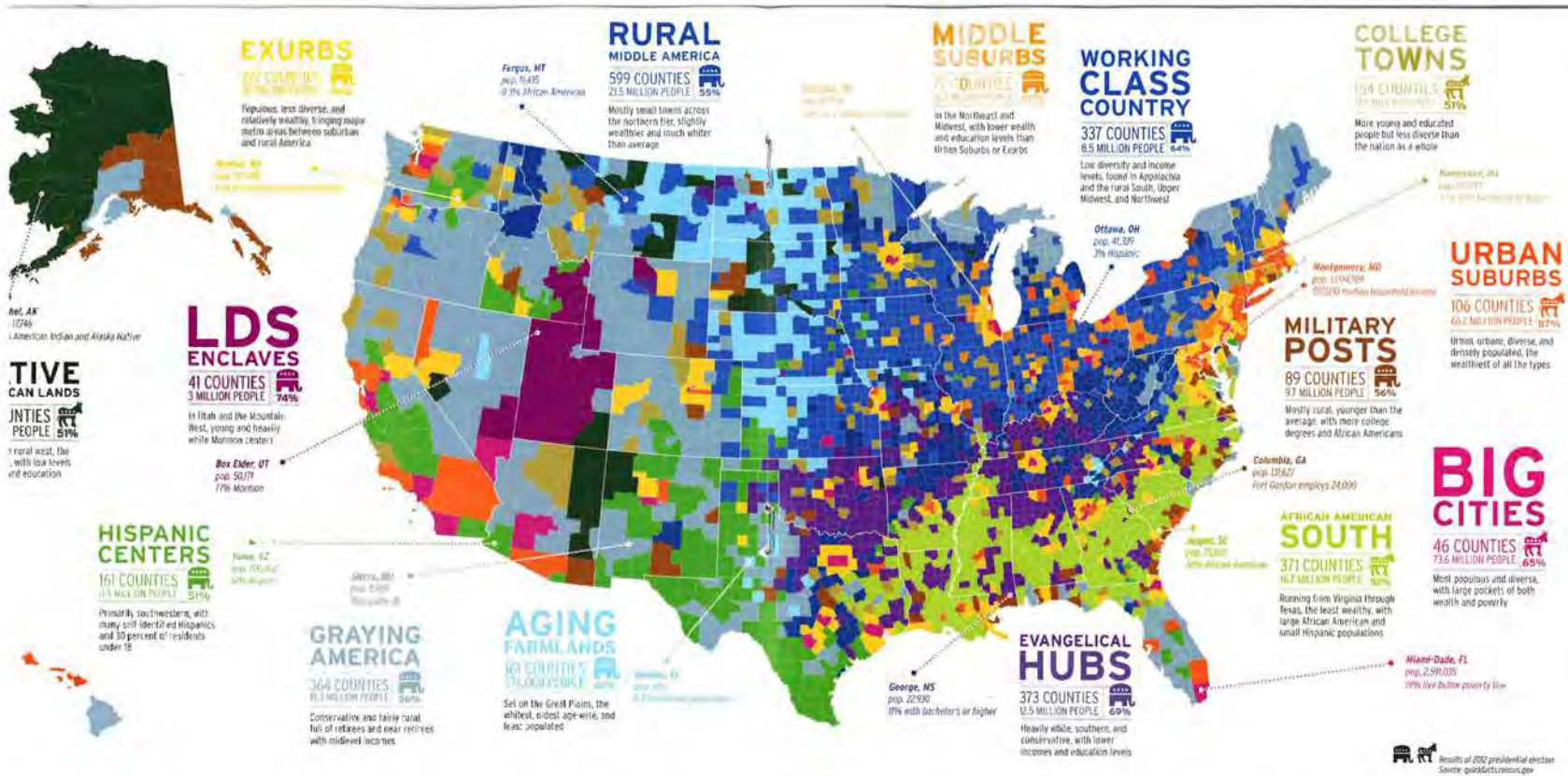
again—this time by Chinni's personality and his passion for what he's doing. "But he can't sell it to save his life," says Gould. Chinni, he decided, was not that familiar Washington type, the self-promoter, but Gould saw the potential and jumped.

"There's a great opportunity to put together a really interesting guy doing fascinating work with a school of public affairs that is so connected and interested in the world around us," he says. "My job now is to help him go out and seek funding for the work that he's doing."

The SPA dean offered Chinni a part-time position as practitioner in residence, leaving him time to write his weekly *Politics Counts* blog and graphic for the *Wall Street Journal*. Gould introduced him to Antoine Yushinaka, a political scientist with a specialty in American politics and statistics and a soft spot for large data sets. "Dante has access to really fantastic data that's otherwise inaccessible to social scientists," he admits, "I was intrigued by that."

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What's down the road for the American Communities Project? Chinni's plan is to build an annual almanac of cities in this country, an almanac that include quarterly reports, probably that would look closely at different parts of the country through a variety of data exist, he says, to examine economy, the politics, the environment, and culture.

Idea that's clearly emerging from these data in most American communities,

we tend to cluster around people like ourselves. "You want a certain feel, you want a certain look, maybe the schools to be a certain way, maybe you want certain types of stores near you," says Chinni. "And when you live near people that are like you, those people tend to have the same education levels, they tend to have the same types of income levels, they tend to have the same political views."

Living in these clustered communities is like living in little bubbles, he says, and

those bubbles become our lenses for gazing out on the rest of the world. With different people clustering into different bubbles, the end result is different economies, different politics, and different media habits, Fox News versus MSNBC.

What's down the road for the country? That's the larger question that a lot of journalists would like to answer, and that's where Chinni's approach can help. He sees the country entering an era defined by a new kind of plate tectonics—with some counties

shifting toward each other and others shifting away like continents once did. "I just think the country is changing quite rapidly right now, and I want to be able to track it." And thanks to his new typology, he can. "I think we're in a unique position to be able to watch it happen—and to explain, to chronicle, it happening. I think that's really exciting."

Jon Gould thinks it's exciting for SPA and WIPAR. "Dante's got an opportunity here through AU to be the source for all kinds of work around America on how our

communities are changing, how localities are really in a period of transition—not just politically but economically and culturally. And so we're hoping that AU will be the focal point for all of this interesting research that can be done from here."

"That kind of research could help journalists and the rest of us see more clearly the country that's been hidden for years behind Blue America and Red America." This is a guy who's figured out the best way to understand change in America right now through these

typologies of counties and is able to run almost any data through those to tell a better, more nuanced story about what's going on in America," says Gould. "He's got the right idea at the right time."

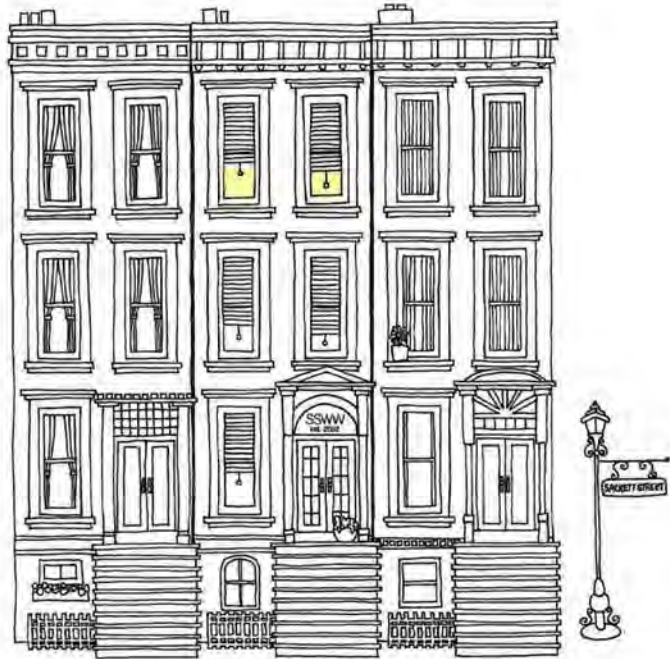


More information about the American Communities Project available at [americancommunities.org](http://americancommunities.org) and [american.edu/spa/american-communities](http://american.edu/spa/american-communities)

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# The Writer's Block



*A writer finds her happy ending on Brooklyn's Sackett Street* by Mike Lages

*Thirteen steps below Court Street, in the basement of a bookstore in the heart of the Brooklyn literary renaissance, Julia Fierro sits with five writers around two tables pushed together, reading.*

Her focus on this damp February night is *Florida*, a short story penned by one of the students in her Sackett Street Writers' Workshop post-MFA class. Fierro reads aloud, as the other women pop chocolate-covered pretzels into their mouths and follow along silently.

"I like the way this ending makes the reader feel," she says after putting the pages down. "Now let's work backwards and make sure you're dropping the right clues, the bread crumbs that lead to it."

Julia Fierro, CAS/BA '98, is a novelist, editor, essayist, teacher, business owner, mother, wife, slight obsessive compulsive, constant self-evaluator, demander of hard work, and astoundingly hard worker.

But at the core of it all, she's a reader. Earlier that afternoon, she shared her reading-centric philosophy of writing over a skim mocha at one of the seemingly ubiquitous coffee shops manned by bearded baristas in the Cobble Hill section of the borough.

"No one talks about the reader or mentions that you're writing for a reader," she says. "For me, the reader is just somebody like you who has similar tastes. I think it's really valuable to talk about the reader in the workshop. What would the reader feel here? Is this what you want the reader to think? There's a reader for every writer."

After the release of her debut novel on May 13, Fierro, 37, hopes she'll have millions of

devoted ones. But as confident and successful as she appears now, she was not always able to so easily embrace her own doctrine. A dozen years ago she was just another talented but supremely insecure writer burdened with fistfuls of rejection letters from publishers and a head full of doubt. With no obvious next path on her own literary journey, she pivoted and placed an ad on Craigslist seeking writers interested in improving their prose.

An odd mix of people, including a restaurant owner, a comic, and an accordionist, responded to her call. They each paid \$175 to sit around the kitchen table in Fierro's third-story brownstone walkup on Sackett Street and have their writing deconstructed, critiqued, criticized, and even occasionally praised over eight sessions.

Sackett Street Writers' Workshop has grown immensely from that humble beginning. It has taught more than 2,000 students, employed more than 80 teachers, and produced novelists and hosts of MFA students.

Classes remain intimate, usually with no more than eight students meeting either at the teacher's home or a salon-like space such as the basement of BookCourt (yes, a few relics known as "bookstores" still do exist).

"I produced more fiction in two years than I had in my previous 20," Orli Van Mourik wrote of her Sackett Street experience in an essay published on the website Brooklyn Based. "My critical habits developed even as the scathing voice in my head died away. I

begin to see what I was good at and where I might hope to advance. Not everything I wrote succeeded, but I came to see the had as a stepping stone instead of as a roadblock.

Fierro's philosophy deserves much of the credit for this. Sackett's emphasis on craft puts the power in the hands of the writer. In Fierro's universe, you don't have to be born extraordinary to earn the label writer, you just need to write, and write, and keep on writing. Thanks to Sackett Street, for the first time in my life I can, in good conscience, call myself a fiction writer."

Scores of writers credit Sackett Street for nurturing and improving their work. Julia Fierro, its founder, is one of them.

"I grew up and became more confident through Sackett Street," she says. "When I sat down to write my novel, it just came out in nine months."

Born healthy, she named it *Cutting Teeth*.

**FIERRO GREW UP ON LONG ISLAND, THE CHILD OF AN ITALIAN IMMIGRANT FATHER AND IRISH-AMERICAN MOTHER.** Her parents owned a card and gift shop, and while they were educated, they had little time for reading. So their daughter picked up the slack.

"I read voraciously," she says. "That was a huge escape. I read whatever books we had on hand. My grandmother's romance novels. Stephen King and Steinbeck. I remember reading *Grapes of Wrath* and being amazed. I loved *Crime and Punishment* at an early age. I wasn't a great student in high school because I

only wanted to read."

Fierro enrolled at AU eyeing a law career, but after taking a creative writing class, quickly decided to major in literature.

"At no point growing up did I ever think I was going to make a living reading or talking about books," she says. "When I went to American, that was the first step in giving myself permission to take my thoughts about books, my ideas about literature, and my writing seriously."

Harvey Grossinger, CAS/MFA '90, was an early influence.

"She took risks," says Grossinger, who taught Fierro when she was an undergrad. "Her writing showed a depth of imagination. I don't want to overstate by saying she was unconventional, but she was different. I always used to give a spiel about how I don't want any stories about dorm room love affairs. I want you to write what you don't know. Julia seemed to know that intrinsically. She wasn't afraid to use her imagination and to look a little bit outside of herself. For people in their first creative writing class, that's actually pretty rare."

After graduating from AU, Fierro applied to the renowned Iowa Writers' Workshop, harboring no illusions of actually attending. (Last year 950 applied in literature—25 got in.)

She read her acceptance letter in a state of shock.

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ILLUSTRATION BY MIKE LAGES



only 23 when I went to Iowa," says. "I had never hung out with 'I'd never been in a place where we're out writing. I wrote for eight hours vs. exhausting and competitive' erro excelled. She landed a us fellowship, then graduated mpleted novel, *Roseland*. The next ep was to move to New York, a city riters' dreams flourish—or die.

ily's literary persistence, she rose. It was the dawn of klay's industrial past, but in y was across its extensive in to use thing, though, *Cutting Teeth* "of gorgeous 18th- and 19th-century wintown had fallen into a-est, showing young exaction a young of their writers, in to the *Highlands of Africa* tosharian. And *Brooklyn's* no manufacturing districts "elects, apocryphal offices, for li history and its teaching, and the publishing behaviois tosharian. This was a brand of kind of ally integrated factory for ware, whose would-be packs of shits can find out only through but would-be writers at their coffee hour, but also a healthi writing program, one that takes out readings as it's a cottage industry of literary wrires and small presses. *As if it says in the literary- mly his is the Sackett Street we're Workshop?* —The *Ecstasy*, June 2012

OF OPENING REJECTIONS AND BUT-NO-THANKS NOTES from a flor in New York," would be enough on any creative person. For a riter and adjunct professor who sting to marriage and trying to make it in pricey New York (writers often the same sad tax bracket as minis icians) while attempting to reignite rly stalled writing career, it was a te.

led to retreat," Fierro says. "I had fence in my writing. But I discovered

in Iowa that I loved teaching. What I feel the most confident about is teaching writing. I really do believe, and maybe it's delusional, that I can look at any book and figure out what it needs to be engaging."

Fierro drew heavily, but not entirely, on her experience at Iowa when she started Sackett Street in 2002. She wanted to build a community, a haven really, where she could spend time with writers while simultaneously repairing her own shattered confidence. While Iowa was ultra-competitive and writers were occasionally known to browbeat one another to tears with their critiques, Fierro aimed to create a more comfortable, inclusive workshop in Brooklyn.

In most Sackett Street classes, the writer sits silently, as the other participants first discuss what they liked about the material. Criticism comes next.

"If you're not analyzing people's work and trying to figure out how they did something that's working, you're not going to be able to have that positive perspective of your own work," Fierro says. "Reading with a hyperanalytical perspective, and asking yourself how the writer accomplished this, is how you become a better writer. It's not so much getting feedback from other people, it's learning how to read in a more confident way."

Heather Ajaue O'Neil is the second person Fierro hired for Sackett Street. Now the program's assistant director, she also teaches writing at Hunter College.

"Julia's not somebody who's a writer who just happens to be a teacher," O'Neil says of her good friend. "She is a natural teacher. Working with Julia has improved my writing because she's constantly asking why and how. If she's editing your work, you can't just get away with making a suggestion without answering why?"

Why? Why hadn't Fierro resumed her own writing career? With Sackett Street firmly established and her second child having just turned 2, she no longer had a reasonable response. So she hired a babysitter and joined a writer's space in the neighborhood (a kind of place where even a vibrating cell phone can garner dirty looks), sat down at the computer, and banged out *Cutting Teeth*.

The novel tells the story—from different characters' perspectives—of a group of Brooklyn marriages (and one daddy) and their relationships with their children, their spouses, and each other. Every one represents an aspect of parenting that Fierro had fear or

inequity about, or loved. The material can be biting, painful, an-aging, emotional, erotic, and it tense, and succeeds for many of the same reasons Fierro has.

"It's her curiosity for the mind and world, and her empathy in the way that she sees people," O'Neil says. "Not every writer could write a novel with so many points of view. That is because of her capacity to really study and examine a person's psychology. Her reading and writing and teaching, that's her religion, her philosophy. It's the way she experiences the world, the way she processes it and discusses it."

**CUTTING TEETH IS BEING PUBLISHED BY ST. MARTIN'S PRESS, one of New York's most prestigious houses. Although she'll be traveling the country doing readings and signings in support of the book (including one at Politics and Prose in Washington on June 1), she'll continue to run Sackett Street. As its director, she still reads and responds to every application personally. Its popularity remains a thing of wonder to Fierro, who's only recently stopped ego-litigating for its "accidental" success.**

"So much of good writing is instinct, but a good teacher can show you how to maximize those instincts. Julia did that for me," says the novelist Keija Parsinen, author of *The Bains of Us* and a Sackett Street alum. "She introduced me to a vocabulary of craft, such as point of view, pacing, world, structure, and taught me how to read like a writer. This was perhaps the most invaluable thing Julia taught me, because it enabled me to use every novel I read as a learning opportunity. Julia taught me to focus on the characters' desires and fears, and to bring that to the fore."

In a way, Sackett Street taught Fierro the same lessons. "All those years I wasn't writing, I was becoming a better writer through teaching," she says, strolling down Court Street toward the bookstore to lead another class. Her voice gains slight speed and pitch, and it's clear that she's looking forward to reading, to listening, to instructing, and to learning from her students.

She's looking forward to becoming a better writer.



**Excerpt from *Cutting Teeth* (on shelves May 13)**

Nicole stood in the driveway and searched the windows of the house before popping the trunk of the car.

There they were. The product of months of researching and purchasing, until she was certain she had the best Go Bags in the tri-state area, more thorough than the official Office of Emergency Management Ready New York Go Bag.

She began her inventory, checking items against the *NICOP Disaster & Preparation Checklist*. The mini tablets, the "Space Emergency Blankets" and first aid kit, the whistles, toilet paper, plastic plates and utensils, the camping stove, bottles of water and nonperishable food, including twelve cans of gluten-free organic Alphabet O's, her son Wyatt's favorite. She had packed changes of clothes for all three of them, including her husband Josh, and toy cars for Wyatt, as well as his lovey, a cuddle-worm blanket named Blue. There were matches, flashlights and packs of batteries, and an envelope with five hundred dollars cash. A top-of-the-line package of tampons. A thick paperback, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare*. The print was so small, she had added a magnifying glass. Not her ideal reading material, but more bang for the buck space was

the Go Bags had taken her months to complete since she'd had to hide her collecting from Josh. First, she had saved the money, then she had spent it, using a PayPal account opened in her mother's name, arranging for the items to be shipped to her parents' house—\$50 for an economy bottle of Cipro antibiotic, \$250 worth of gaiters (extra charge for child-sized), \$100 of Mylar blankets, \$185 for walkie-talkies.

Nicole's fingers dragged over each object as if, by touch alone, they imbued her with protection. A force field, Wyatt might say. Her sweet boy organized the world into two ranks: food guys and bad guys.

Entwined with this feeling of safety was self-loathing. How could an intelligent person buy all this crap? Yes, she was neurotic, she thought, as most creatives were, but she was a high-functioning member of society. She paid her bills on time, made sure her child had all he needed to thrive, and taught at a well-regarded city college where her classes were among the students' favorite. The trunk of this car belonged to a mafia member of a paranoid fringe cult, not a liberal educated upper-middle-class mother.

She felt like a fool when she thought of it—the end of days, like she was some right-wing

evangelical. Or one of those people who believed the Mayan prediction that the world would end in 2012. But still, talk of the end was everywhere. Mescalitos in Park Slope, mumps in Midwood. And the boys were disappearing.

Armageddon. Apocalyptic. By flood, by tsunami, by flaming asteroid. Shortage of water and food was inevitable, claimed even the most rational voices on NPR. The world was a mess and people were terrified there was no denying that. Autism rates were skyrocketing, the ozone-depleting, and you couldn't eat a tuna sandwich because of the mercury.

When Wyatt was born, all she had at stake multiplied exponentially, and she had come to see that terrible things—the witches and boogey men of her childhood nightmares—could and did happen during the day. An airplane could slice open the sky. A pair of psychopaths could take a high school bus hostage. You, yes you, could receive mail coated in white dirt.

She'd had the single-page checklist laminated, but could see creases where she had folded it three and three again. It had been massaged by checkmarks and scribbled notes. She felt today for this list. She pressed it to her face and breathed deeply. The plastic was cool against her sunburned cheeks.

# SOLDIERS OF PAINT

BY MIKE ANDELL

The front hatch of the transport boat lowered, 60-clad Allied troops surging onto Omaha Beach. Gritzmacher, armed not with a handheld rifle but with a paintball gun. He was a noncombatant on D-Day, yet over the course of hours of intense fighting, direct hit after direct hit from the Germans.

**THEY MARCHED INTO BATTLE WITH A CAMERA AND A PRAYER AND EMERGED WITH 100 HOURS OF FOOTAGE. THAT'S WHEN THE REAL FIGHT BEGAN.**

battle without using bullets," Gritzmacher says. "Having gone to the game several times now, both [Mike and I] can attest to what an intense experience it is. There's screaming and yelling, there's physical pain, chaos, smoke. You have a little bit of everything thrown at you. You're on high alert for the

entire game." And on the edge of your seat for the entire movie.

ending on how close a range you're at, it seconds to a minute," he says of the paintball hit that was three shots to the same place; nearly brought me to tears. Back in 1997, I counted about 50 wets. "D-Day-inspired paintball game that takes place on 20 acres in a tiny northeast town each June does not determine the fate of the free world, nor is it a matter of life and death. But to the more than 4,000 participants in the self-proclaimed world's largest paintball event, it's only marginally less intense. From the moment Gritzmacher, DeChant, and Michael DeChant Jr., SOC's first son, first watched the spectacle, their eyes glued to the action, they had to film it.

The opening scene of their colorful documentary, *Soldiers of Paint*, the audience sees the beach *Saving Private Ryan* style, complete with the constant pop of machine-gun fire and the higher-pitched thwap of paintball rounds. Gritzmacher and DeChant played at a staggering rate.

Paintball actually is used by the military for training because it's the closest to replicating

the documentary is the second collaboration between Gritzmacher and DeChant. Both grew up as film fanatics and honed their craft in the School of Communication's film and electronic media program. It was there they made *Rose Meters*, a short documentary about a diverse group of individuals united by the game of dominoes. The movie screened at numerous festivals and won four awards.

In 2007 they were looking for a feature-length project when DeChant was struck by a good idea at an event where many succumb to bad ones.

"I was at a friend's bachelor party," he says. "We did a bunch of things that weekend, but one of them was to go play paintball. I had played three times in my life. While I was there I was shot, so when I was on the sidelines some teenager said to me in passing, 'Are you going to D-Day?' As a filmmaker, I said, 'I need to know more about that.'"

He shared the idea with Gritzmacher, who was equally intrigued, and the two headed to Wyandotte, Oklahoma, a town of 333 residents near the Missouri and Kansas borders. There



Michael DeChant Jr., left, and Doug Gritzmacher

they met Dewayne Convis, the event's General Patton, grandson of a World War II veteran, owner of an army surplus and paintball store, and possessor of a thick Midwestern twang straight out of central casting.

"I have had several people attempt to do movies or articles on D-Day," says Convis, who started the game in 1997 with 135 players on 20 acres. "So I was a little apprehensive at first. They hung out and visited and tagged along with me, trying to convince me that they could do this. It worked. I could tell they had their hearts in it."

For the next year, Gritzmacher, a freelance filmmaker, cinematographer, and photographer, and DeChant, a video producer for a Washington nonprofit, threw themselves—and plenty of their own money—into the project. They identified key players, like Supreme Allied Commander Ken "Psycho" Moore (day job: karaoke DJ) and German Supreme Commander Bill "Wilhelm" Bailey (day job: plumber), and shadowed them as they prepared all year for the one-day battle.

It took time to earn the players' trust. D-Day isn't a reenactment; it's a fiercely competitive "restaging" of the battle that at its core is a competition. Teams earn points for capturing battlefield flags and killing tanks (mostly refashioned old trucks), and players who are hit must temporarily sit out in a dead zone. "This time," the *Soldiers of Paint* movie poster reminds us, "the Germans could win." Espionage, as a particularly compelling scene in the film shows, is not unheard of. So each side's leaders had the filmmakers sign a legally binding nondisclosure agreement that read in part, "any Combatant generated Classified Information shall remain confidential and will not be shared, at any time prior to the specific Event, with opposing Combatant."

Serious stuff. Gritzmacher and DeChant wanted to ensure that they presented their film in as serious a manner as the players take the game. Juan "Beetle" Parke doesn't run the air conditioning in his New Orleans home until after the battle so he and his son, Deano, can acclimate to the Oklahoma heat. Spring can be quite sticky in the Big Easy.

But not as brutal, as it turned out, as D-Day 2008, the culmination of the film's story. It was 81 degrees that morning, and the forecast called for temperatures as high as 98 during the eight-hour battle. The elements were

taxing, to say the least, on the film crew of about 15.

"There are no breaks, so for the camera guys we had to have extra batteries, food, and hydration packets, because the environment is no joke," DeChant says. "People go to the emergency room every year. We wanted to make sure that our embedded cameramen were not separate from the action; we wanted them to blend in and look like enemy combatants to the other team. So we were shot at like enemy combatants."

They captured 160 hours of footage, which over the next four years painstakingly was whittled down to 90 minutes. Throughout the process, they relied on a host of friends from their time at AU to provide everything from motion graphics to narrative reviews.

"We had so much footage, and it was all intertwined," Gritzmacher says. "Documentaries are really made through editing. You don't always know what the story is going to be, unlike with a dramatic film, where you have a script. With a documentary, you have a hope and a prayer."

They came out with a film that, at its heart, is about what all good stories are about: characters.

"It's the Super Bowl of paintball, but these guys are in it for the brotherhood," DeChant says.

Against the odds (making independent films is a passion, not a get-rich-ever scheme), they secured a distributor, and the film now is available on Netflix streaming, iTunes, Amazon, and DVD. The movie cost about \$150,000 to make—"like true independent filmmakers, we begged, borrowed, and stole," Gritzmacher says. They're hoping to break even.

"They never gave up on the project, and they easily could have," Convis says. "They're tremendously talented and passionate. I never had a film crew dog me that long."

Both men have returned to the battlefield several times, as observers, and in DeChant's case, as a player.

"It's as close as you can get to D-Day without actually having been there," he says. "I'm a member of one of the units now. I try to hunt tanks, but they mostly shoot me."

**WATCH THE TRAILER AT SOLDIERSOFPAIN.COM**

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# A Life in Service of AU

Over three years ago, Don Myers accepted an unexpected position: Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer. What was to be a professional pit stop—permanent leave for the accountant-turned-finance officer—the setting of an early career in service to AU's health.

The university lost its longtime financial architect on January 6, when Myers, 83, died. He passed away after fighting a two-year battle with cancer. He was 68 years old.

The CFO, vice president and treasurer leaves behind an incredible legacy, including building and fortifying the university's financial infrastructure and developing the

human capital, facilities, and grounds to support AU's academic programs and aspirations.

Board of Trustees chair Jeff Sine calls Myers' impact on the university profound and transformative. "His commitment to AU, our students, and our faculty was abiding and absolute."

**THE UNIVERSITY'S DEVELOPMENT** has also been recognized for its beauty and sustainability. Myers's team sought and received the designation of a campus arboretum in 2003. Sustainability and green power programs have made it possible for AU to become carbon neutral by 2020.

**USING AU'S FINANCIAL STABILITY AND RESERVES.** Myers focused on developing facilities and grounds to support the university's academic mission. Since 1992, AU's facilities have doubled to 4 million square feet, with another 1 million square feet in progress. The School of Communication moved into renovated academic facilities in the McKinley Building this spring. A new home for the Washington College of Law at Tenley Campus is slated to open in fall 2015, and plans are well along for the new East Campus, including the Don Myers Technology and Innovation Center. Every member of the Board of Trustees and president's cabinet contributed to the fund for the building that will bear Myers's name.

**THE WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL** honored Myers with its 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award. During his acceptance speech, Myers noted how gratifying it was to help the university he loved to achieve such significant growth. "I appreciate this award in a personal sense because it acknowledges what a great institution AU has become, and I am honored to have been a part of that."

**MYERS IS SURVIVED** by his wife, Margie; two sons, Curtis and Charlie; a daughter, Tracey; granddaughters, Elyse and Allie; grandsons, M.J. and D.J.; and two brothers, Ronnie and Larry.

**UP IN HAGERSTOWN,** MD, Myers was active in sports and enjoyed to be busy. After discovering the numbers, the Shepherd College Shepherd University pursued a career in business, the General Accounting Office joining AU in 1968.

**MYERS STARTED HIS CAREER AT** AU as an accountant and rose to CFO in 1982. Under his guidance, the university's endowment soared from \$7 million to \$550 million; the operating budget grew tenfold to \$600 million; and total assets increased fourteen-fold to \$14 billion.

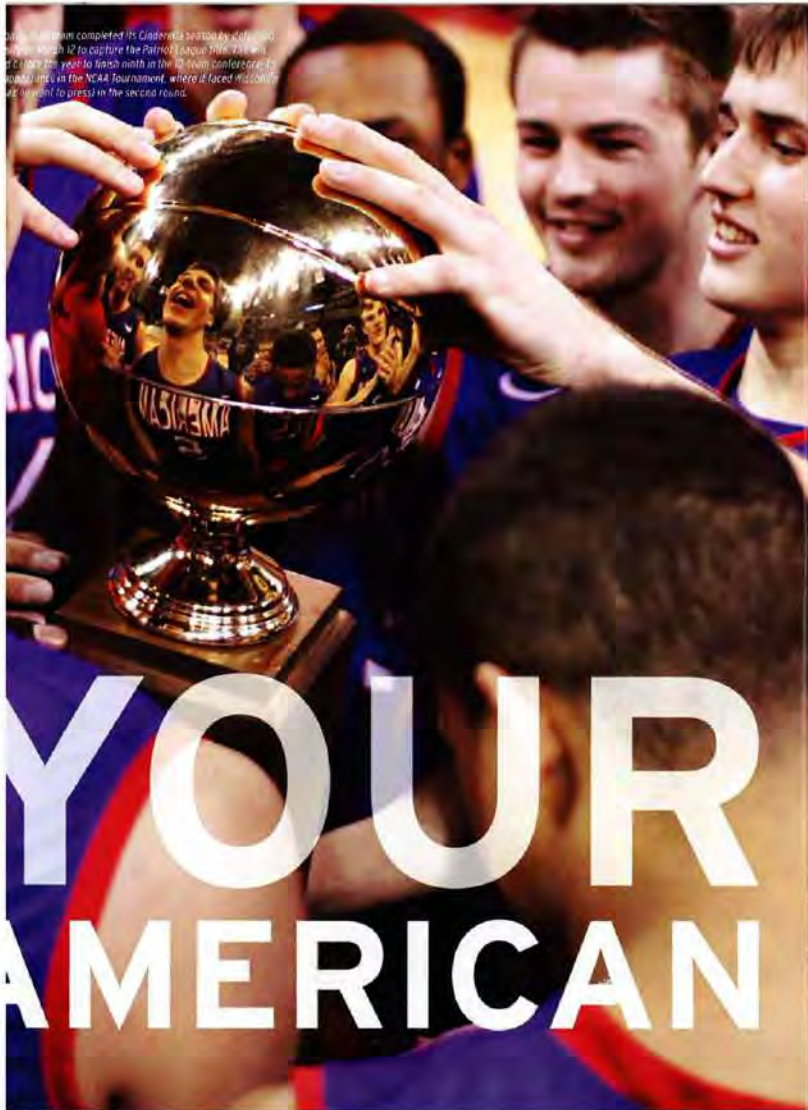
**AMONG HIS PROLIFERATED ACCOMPLISHMENTS** were the A- (Standard & Poor's) and A2 (Moody's) bond ratings AU earned in the wake of the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression. Thanks to Myers's foresight and financial planning, AU continued to offer competitive compensation and benefit increases to faculty and staff when other universities were furloughing employees or freezing pay. Just weeks after Myers's death, Moody's upgraded AU's bond rating to A1.

**A FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT** who worked on a farm, Myers was attuned to the issue of college affordability. He kept an eye on the relative price of tuition, advocating for AU's position at the midpoint of peer institutions. He also supported a shift in financial aid from being primarily merit-based to a balanced portfolio of merit- and need-based awards. As co-chair of AU's budget committee, he recommended the lowest tuition increase on record in 2012. In 2003 Myers established an endowed scholarship in the Kogod School of Business, his alma mater.

**PRESIDENT NEIL KERWIN**, who joined the university in 1975, has said that he and Myers grew up together at AU. "Any complete and accurate history of American University must include Don among the institution's most dedicated, influential, and effective leaders," he says. "His commitment to the faculty, students, staff, alumni, and Board of Trustees of our university was unparalleled."



LET'S TALK AMERICANMAG 33



With 11 wins, the team completed its California season by defeating... through 12 to capture the Patriot League title... of Clark's 22nd year to finish ninth in the Division conference... against... in the NCAA Tournament, where it faced... (AK: Knight to press) in the second round.

YOU AMERICAN

PHOTO BY KYLE HARRIS '17

# CLASS NOTES

## 1940s

**Richard "Dick" Mather**, CAS/BA '49, became a foreign service officer immediately after graduation. He has since lived in Iran, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Japan, and several cities in Germany. He still keeps in touch with some of his friends from AU.

## 1950s

**Stanley Grogan**, SOC/BS '50, SOC/MA '55, completed his 20th year in the National Defense Executive Reserve as an advisor to the annual reserve components national security course. As the vice chairman of the International Institute of Security and Safety Management, he has given presentations to hundreds of delegates from South Asia, Europe, and Africa since 1996.

## 1960s

**Dave Anderson**, Kogod/BS '68, was married in Old Town in 1978 and now lives in Florida with his wife, who is retired. His son works in Arlington, and his daughter, a law student, is interning in the D.C. area.

**Robert Jacobs**, SPA/BA '69, a mostly retired lawyer and active musician, has released his new CD, *Heartlinka*. The CD features Jacobs on piano, accordion, and digital accordion, playing solo as

well as with Gypsy Roots, a gypsy jazz and world music group. robertjacobsmusic.com

## -1960- TIME CAPSULES

### TOP CROSSING FLICK

*Spartacus*

### IN THE NEWS

Seventy million people tune in to the presidential debate between John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon. Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann is captured by Israelis in Argentina.

### FROM THE AU ARCHIVES

Much to students' dismay, the College Council prohibits Bermuda shorts, slacks, sweatshirts, and khakis in the classroom and during evening meals in the cafeteria.

## 1970s

**Jane Christina Ostrander**, SIS/BA '70, was awarded a PhD in education from Oregon State University in December 2013. She is principal investigator and executive director of the Destination Problem-Based Learning Project and director of the Experiential Learning Center at Truckee Meadows Community College in Reno, Nevada.

**Beryl Lowenthal Feinberg**, SIS/BA '71, was elected November 5, 2013, to serve a two-year term as a council member in Rockville, Maryland.

**Karen Ruckman**, CAS/BA '71, and **Gary Keith Griffin**, CAS/BA '77, SOC filmmaker in residence, are working together to create a documentary of Ruckman's work in the 1980s teaching photography to prison inmates.

**Diane (Yokel) Smith**, SIS/BA '71, has retired from teaching English as a second language at the University of Denver's English Language Center and is now working as an administrative assistant at her church. In addition, she spent time editing and proofreading a novel by her husband, G. Eldon Smith, *Murder in the Rockies*, published in November 2013.

**Eric Mondshein**, SPA/BA '72, wrote *Life at 12 College Road*, published by Something or Other Publishing.



The documentary shows the humanity in these men. They did bad things, but they still can change. They can transform. They can move away from crime into a productive life."

—**Karen Ruckman**, CAS/BA '71, on her film about inmates at Lorton Reformatory in Virginia

**George Schaefer**, SPA/BA '72, and **Lois Schaefer**, Kogod/BS '72, have retired and moved to Austin, Texas, where they plan to continue to travel and perform various volunteer activities.

**James T. Brett**, SPA/BA '73, president of the New England Council, was recognized by the University of Massachusetts in Boston with the university's first

James T. Brett Endowed Chair in Disability and the Workforce. He serves as chairman of the Massachusetts Governor's Commission for People with Intellectual Disabilities, and president of the board of directors of the Massachusetts Association of Mental Health.

**Barton Evans**, CAS/PhD '76, was elected fellow of the American Psychological Association's



AMERICAN.EDU/ALUMNI 39

of Clinical Psychology for his contributions in the field of psychology. As a doctoral student, he was inspired by AU professors Margaret Rieth and Robert Weiss. He lives and works in Raleigh, North Carolina.

**Samuel Sheres, SIS/MA '82**, released a new novel, *Ingersoll*, which he calls into question the future of the United States and whether it belongs to religious fanatics or nonbelievers.

## -1971- TIME CAPSULES

**TOP TUNE**  
"The World," Timez Day Night

**IN THE NEWS**  
The microprocessor, introduced by Intel, revolutionized the computer industry. The first AIDS cases were reported in the U.S. in 1981. The May Day protests in Washington, D.C.

**IN THE AU ARCHIVES**  
The residents of Anderson Hall were celebrating the 50th anniversary of the building's opening. The building was named in honor of "Tree House."

**J. Dubin, CAS/BS '78**, is a District Mobile Dental, a mobile dental service. The company offers dental care to businesses, students and senior citizens in the Washington, D.C. area.

**Laughlin, CAS/PhD '78**, released her eighth novel, *Amory*. The story explores the tensions between sisters, a parent and child and the world of 1927.

## 1980s

**Rathy Ferguson Sinnes, SOC/BA '80**, and **Anne Murray Hildreth, SOC/BA '80**, recently vacationed together on the Amalfi Coast of Italy. They were roommates as freshmen in 1976 and remained friends over the next 37 years but hadn't seen each other in 23 years. They enjoyed exploring Sorrento, Capri, Minori, Naples, and all the towns in between.

**Bruce Plaxen, WCL/JD '82**, received the 2013 Leadership in Law Award from the *Daily Record*, a Maryland publication for legal and business information.

**Kendra Harris, Kogod/BSBA '83**, talked about her blog, *Happily Never Married*, on WHUR Radio.

**Benece Rosen, SOC/BA '83**, wrote *Dollface: A Novel of the Roaring Twenties*, published by Penguin NAL in November.

**Julie Weinberg, CAS/BA '87**, published a book called *I Wish There Were Baby Factories*.

**Susan R. Shelby, SIS/BA '88**, president and CEO of Rhino Public Relations, was elected to a third term as president of the board of directors of the Franklin Square House Foundation, which provides grants to housing and shelter organizations that support women and families in Boston and surrounding communities.

**Gina Brown, SPA/BA '89**, is reimagining the next half of her life and, in addition to writing a book of "Gina-isms," has started to do stand-up comedy. Gina appears on stages around the D.C. area and other cities as time permits. [ginabrown.com](http://ginabrown.com)

**Peter Quinter, WCL/JD '89**, was appointed to the newly formed One Community/One Goal Trade and Logistics Leadership Group. Formed by the Beacon Council, the group is tasked with charting the future of Miami's trade and logistics industry.

## -1988- TIME CAPSULES

**TOP CROSSING FLICK**  
*Rain Man*

**IN THE NEWS**  
The shuttle *Columbia* was launched for the first time. NASA scientist James Hansen warns Congress about the dangers of global warming. Terrorists bomb Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 270.

**FROM THE AU ARCHIVES**  
AU's residence halls go dry, but students can still enjoy a cold one in the Tavern.

## 1990s

**Michael Buckley, SPA/BA '90**, was appointed vice president of public affairs for the BrightFocus Foundation, a nonprofit that supports research on brain and eye diseases.

**Jules Raymond Cattie, SPA/BA '90**, married Rabiya Latif on July 18, 2013.

**Kevin Lane, SIS/BA '93**, was relieved from duty as commanding officer of the amphibious dock landing ship *USS Oak Hill*. He will join the chief of naval operations staff as an operations director at the Pentagon.

**Stacey L. Young, Kogod/BSBA '93**, wrote a new book, *Above Expectations—My Story: An Unlikely Journey from Almost Failing High School to Becoming a College Professor*. In a YouTube video promoting the book, he credits AU for helping him reach his educational goals.

**Rio Guerrero, SIS/BA '94**, was featured on the Filipino Channel, the leading cable television network for Filipino Americans in the U.S. Guerrero shared his experience as a second-generation Filipino American and discussed building a law firm and raising a family in New York City.

**Lauren Fogle, SOC/BA '96**, released her first novel, *The Alpha piece*, on the subject of Nazi art looting. A blog with links to related content can be found on her website. [laurenfogleboyd.com](http://laurenfogleboyd.com)

**Toni Bacon, SPA/BA '97**, took a trip to Mt. Everest in 2012, bringing an AU logo patch with her. This year, she plans to visit Bhutan or Myanmar.

**DeCarlo Felix (Derrick Wayne Jackson), CAS/MS '98**, wrote a book, *The X Establishment*, available for free on Amazon's Kindle store.

**Ari Ghosal, SIS/MA '98**, joined the labor and employment group of Whiteford Taylor & Preston.

**Jessica Schoenholtz, CAS/BA '99**, married Mark Murphy on September 29, 2013, at the Richmond County Country Club in Staten Island, New York.



ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL WENZEL



BUILDING A BETTER AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON, DC

### Washington College of Law asks, and Kenneth Lore answers.

And as one of the country's top real estate attorneys, Lore, an alumnus of the School of Public Affairs and the Washington College of Law, understands the importance of the right facilities. After he and his wife, Patricia, an alumna of the College of Arts and Sciences, made one of the first gifts to WCL's new home at the Tenley Campus, Lore dedicated himself to encouraging and inspiring others to do the same.

Situated just steps from the Tenleytown Metro and a few short stops from downtown Washington, D.C., the Tenley Campus is "an exciting and natural move forward for WCL," says Lore, who wielded a shovel alongside Dean Claudio Grossman at the groundbreaking last summer. "It will allow

students, faculty, and alumni—and the legal community at large—endless opportunities to come together to study and promote the rule of law."

In appreciation for his support and leadership, Lore received WCL's Inaugural Founders Award in September 2013. The award recognizes his service as chair of WCL's Dean's Advisory Council, a member of the campaign steering committee, and a thoughtful and generous supporter.

"Our son Michael also attended WCL. Pat and I have gotten so much from American University. I like to think the support we provide WCL will help ensure it remains a wonderful place to study law and a powerful launching pad to the kind of meaningful and rewarding career I've enjoyed," he says.

After 19 years at Bingham McCutchen law firm, Lore's own career just started a new chapter. In February, he moved across K Street to Matten Muchin Roseman to head up that firm's real estate practice on the East Coast.

FOR INFORMATION ON THE TENLEY CAMPUS CAMPAIGN, VISIT [TENLEY.WCL.AMERICAN.EDU](http://TENLEY.WCL.AMERICAN.EDU).



We want our alumni to participate on campus, to help students, to come to events, and to be an active part of this institution.

OFTEN WHEN PRESIDENT KERWIN and I speak to alumni, we ask them to reach back to AU. You're out there in the world; you've made it. Reach back and extend a helping hand to the students here today by providing the resources necessary for the lifeblood of the institution.

When you give to American, whether it's \$25, \$250, or \$25,000, it demonstrates that you recognize the difference that AU made in your life. Whether it's something you learned from a faculty member that resonates in your career, an experience you had through residential life, involvement in a leadership program, or meeting of a lifelong friend, this place affected you.

Gifts from alumni help us enhance the student experience by enabling us to give more scholarship aid, retain faculty, bring amazing guests to campus, or send a student abroad who otherwise couldn't afford it.

Alumni giving is also critical to AU's stature. The number of alumni that give back is often examined by potential corporate and foundation supporters. People look at it as an indicator of graduates' satisfaction. Foundations, corporations, and, increasingly, individuals consider it the measure of people's willingness to demonstrate their affinity to the institution. Well-known ratings of colleges and universities fall back on it heavily in their rankings.

For the most part, \$25 gifts are designated for one of our operational funds, which go to things like scholarship support. While \$25 may not seem like a lot, it has a cumulative effect. In fact, almost 95 percent of all gifts received last fiscal year were under \$1,000, resulting in more than \$1,377,397 of support for our most critical needs.

We're also grateful to members of our President's Circle—donors who annually support the university with gifts of \$2,500 or more. They play an invaluable leadership role in our philanthropic community.

We're keen on having more engaged investors in AU. We want our alumni to participate on campus, to help students, to come to events, and to be an active part of this institution.

If American University was there for you, if AU supported you, trained you, or sent you to study abroad, giving back is a chance to tell the world of the powerful impact that this institution can make.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Minar, PhD  
Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations

# MAKE AN IMPACT



**UFUND IS AN INNOVATIVE WAY** for you to support the projects and initiatives that you care about most. UFUND gifts allow us to plant trees, sponsor film series, provide online mental health screenings, and even help the pep band buy a sousaphone. Pick your project at [american.edu/UFUND](http://american.edu/UFUND).



**ATHLETICS PLAY A PIVOTAL ROLE** in the AU experience. Designating gifts to a specific sport through the Eagles Club allows the head coach to apply your gift to the area of greatest importance. All donations designated to General Athletics will be applied to athletic, academic, and operational needs across the department.

## UNRESTRICTED ANNUAL GIFTS

to the AU Fund for Excellence are a top priority. These gifts support all areas of the institution and allow AU to direct funds to areas where they are most needed. Annual gifts may also be broadly designated to a specific purpose, such as a gift to a school or college, department, or campus program. By contributing to AU's school-based deans' funds, you provide critical support to bridge the gap between tuition revenues and the true cost of educating students.



## IT TAKES A GENEROUS COMMUNITY

of thousands of supporters to ensure AU maintains and builds upon its status as a world-class institution. In fiscal year 2012-2013, alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff and friends from all 50 states and 23 countries chose to support AU. Many of these gifts were less than \$1,000 and were designated to reflect the vastness of donors' interests and priorities.



## GIVING TO THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN VISIONARY FUND

allows the university librarian to enhance the collections, facilities, and services that support student learning in our nationally recognized academic programs. In addition to our faculty, staff, and students, alumni benefit from the library and have access to a variety of electronic databases.



**DONOR-FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID** are vital to ensuring that the best, brightest, and most deserving students have access to an AU education. Many thanks to all of you who have given millions to support our students' education.

For even more ways to give, visit [american.edu/giving](http://american.edu/giving).

ILLUSTRATION BY MARCO DI MARCO

ler, SPA/PhD '99, started job as deputy chief of staff senator Ted Cruz (R-TX). He recently worked as executive director of the U.S. House of Representatives' House of Representatives Study Committee.

**-1993-  
TIME  
CAPSULES**

**TOP TUNE**  
"I Wanna Dance with Somebody (Who Loves Me)" by Whitney Houston

**IN THE NEWS**  
The first human embryo created using cells from a defective human embryo was implanted in a woman's uterus in Waco, Texas.

**AT THE HELM**  
John P. Pittinsky was 1993-1994 National Conference president. He and Michael Chabon edited Blackboard, a DC-based education technology company.

**20s**

**Voelke Kline, SPA/MA '02** and **Nathan Kline, SIS/MA '03** welcomed their first child Arthur Kline, on her 27, 2013.

**Wojcik, Kogod/BSBA '04** is a television show on I Geographic Channel called *Lost in Korea*. His clients include Goodman and Lesse Day catching and live octopus, attending a festival, and learning zen arts from monks.

**Rahime-Malik Howard, CAS/MA '02, CAS/MA '05**, has been named department coordinator and full-time professor of sociology at El Centro College in Dallas, Texas. He is also an associate professor at Collin College in nearby Plano, Texas.

**Toby McChesney, SPA/BA '02**, completed his doctorate in education in August, with a focus in higher educational leadership. In July, he was appointed to the Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC) Board of Directors. GMAC is the owner of the Graduate Management Admission Test, a requirement for entry into business school programs.

**Helena Basche, SPA/BA '03**, and **Chris Poda, Kogod/BSBA '03**, were married on June 8, 2013, on the Jersey Shore and now reside in Silver Spring, Maryland.

**Andrew Langsam, Kogod/BSBA '03**, started Dynamic Advertising Solutions with other AU alumni right after graduation. The company has now grown into a national organization.

**Haley Mapie, WCL/JD '03**, was appointed co-chair of the social media committee in the American Bar Association Section of Litigation.

**Amy Schofield, SPA/BA '03**, received the Military Family

Member Community Heartbeat Award for the work of her business, Schofield Strategies, in support of military families and veterans.

**Chanel Spriggs, SOC/BA '03, SOC/MA '04**, was named District Manager of the Year for ADP's Midwest Division. Spriggs is district manager for ADP's resource division in Indianapolis.



**Rachel Tabakman, SPA/BA '03**, was hired as a government affairs specialist at the University of Maryland-Baltimore, with a focus on federal policy issues and appropriations.

**Marshall Thompson, CAS/BA '03**, plans to open Braven Brewing Company, a microbrewery in Brooklyn, New York. Thompson and cofounder, Eric Feldman, hope to make Braven the first brewery in the Bushwick neighborhood in over 30 years.

**Darren Johnson, SPA/MSOD '04**, accepted the position of deputy director for the state of New Mexico's Office of African American Affairs.

**Zachary Madden, SOC/BA '04**, was named manager of internal communications for Heinz North America in August 2013. He oversees employee communications for Heinz's 6,000 North American employees.



To stay warm, we poured boiling water into bottles and put them in our sleeping bags. By morning, they were frozen."

—Toni Bacon, SPA/BA '97, on Mount Everest's ambient temperatures

**Sarah Bishop, Kogod/BSBA '07**, gave a talk on how people form authentic connections at TEDx London Business School.

**Zach Copeland, SOC/BA '07; Charlie Wachtel, SOC/BA '08; and Noah Baron, SOC/BA '09**, made news on Hollywood's most-read industry news site, Deadline.com. The three Pi Kappa Phi brothers worked together on a web series called *The Tinsel Zone*, a satirical take on the entertainment industry from the view of the assistants. Copeland and Wachtel coproduced the series; Baron is an actor.

**Hector Lopez, SIS/MA '02**, was nominated by the president and confirmed by the Senate on November 6, 2013, to become a brigadier general in the United States Army. He is assigned to eighth Army South Korea, where the international service skills he honed at AU will be well exercised.

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**SKY HIGH**

**Ashley Rose Stumbaugh, Kogod/BSBA '12 + Robert Maisano, SPA/BA '13**

In the summer of 2012, Maisano went to Tanzania for safari. When he returned, he asked his girlfriend, Stumbaugh, who he said "LOVES TAKING ANY TYPE OF CHALLENGE," if she wanted to climb Mount Kilimanjaro—the highest mountain in Africa, she did. "I started taking the stairs at work," the 25-year-old says. "At that time I worked on the 49th floor." On June 1, they began the arduous climb to the top. Accompanied by two guides, two other climbers, and 13 porters, IT TOOK MORE THAN FIVE DAYS TO REACH THE SUMMIT. "We were hiking an average of six hours a day," Stumbaugh says. "The guides kept telling us, 'POLI POLI,' WHICH MEANS 'SLOWLY' in Swahili. They don't want you to exert yourself at high altitude." On the last night, they awoke at 11 p.m. and set out for the top, 19,341 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL. Of the people who attempt it, just 40 percent actually reach the summit. "You hike through the night on the steepest part of the mountain," Stumbaugh says. "At sunrise we had perfect conditions. OUR ENTIRE TEAM MADE IT. It was incredibly beautiful." Just three days later, they were back on the ground, hooked up by having their heads in the clouds. "Our goal is to do seven [of the tallest peaks on each continent] by the time we're 30," says Maisano, 28. DON'T BET AGAINST THEM.



At times, nobody speaks English. I see food I want, I point to it, and I point to myself, and then I'm eating him in a minute or two."

**g Goodman, Kogod/BSBA '02**, on the 'international language' of gestures

**Obold, SPA/BA '07** and **Stafford, SPA/BA '07**, married on October 5, Washington, D.C. The party included **Adam SIS/BA '07**, **Mallory a, SIS/BA '07**, **Matthew ne, SIS/BA '07**, **Theodore s, SPA/BA '07**, and **Kaitlin iOC/BA '07**. Many other mi were in attendance.

The couple reside in Boulder, Colorado, where Obold serves as corporate counsel for Level 3 Communications and Stafford is in her second year of law school.

**Angel Drolet, WCL/JD '09**, opened the Law Offices of Angel Drolet on Vancouver Island in Sidney, British Columbia, in July 2013. Drolet, a graduate of WCL's international dual degree program with the University of Ottawa, is admitted to practice in both the state of Georgia and the province of British Columbia, and devotes her practice exclusively to family law.

**Justin Tuia, SIS/MA '09**, bought a condo in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

**Scott Wener, SPA/BA '09**, was appointed assistant state's attorney of Cook County, Illinois.

## -2001- TIME APSULES

**CROSSING FLICK** *11er and the Sorcerer's Stone*

**IN THE NEWS** 3,000 die in the 9/11 terrorist attacks; letters are sent to a government officials; killing several postal workers

**THE AU ARCHIVES** Is altered in the National lot on September 11 after a lot. Students from neighborhood donated food and water; campus store provides clothes; set who filed in their pajamas

## 2010s

**France Francois, SIS/MA '10**, published a political article, "Peacekeepers Weigh In on Obama's Chance at Achieving an

Israeli-Palestinian Peace Plan," on [ebony.com](http://ebony.com) on August 12, 2013.

**Allison Gold Roberts, SPA/BA '10**, married **Max Fischowitz Roberts**, Washington Semester '10, on July 7, 2013.

**Sarah Goldman, CAS/BA '10**, married **Josh Reinitz** on May 4, 2013, in the hill country of Texas.

**Nick Saboto, SIS/MA '11**, is associate director of the Center for International Development at Ball State University.

**Kari Barber, SOC/MFA '12**, became an assistant professor at the University of Nevada-Reno.

**Erin O'Brien, WCL/LLM '12**, joined Certilman and Balin Adler & Hyman as an associate in the Banking and Commercial Lending Practice Group.

**Bridget Sullivan, CAS/MA '12**, completed a year of service with AmeriCorps at Providence Children's Museum. Her work influenced learning activities in science, technology, engineering, and math for 500 low-income children ages 6-12 in after-school and summer learning clubs.

**Laura Yochelson, CAS/BA '12**, authored a book, *Sick*, primarily about her experiences with an eating disorder. The book was published through Balboa Press.

**Tim Tolka, SIS/MA '13**, started a job with **Andrew Price-Gibson**,

SPA/BA '08, SPA/MSOD '12, and **Mary Beth Robles, SPA/MSOD '12**, at The Beaufort Group, a consulting startup. The company is about a year old, and its client list is steadily growing.



## WRESTLER TURNED TRUSTEE

A photo of a young Alan Meltzer '73 helping students settle into Anderson Hall in the November 2013 issue of *American* prompted a handful of emails—and more than 40 phone calls to Meltzer, a member of the AU Board of Trustees. The former three-time AU wrestling squad captain can't recall when the picture was snapped, "but if it was when freshmen were moving in, I was probably helping and hoping someone would tip me!" Founder and CEO of the Bethesda, Maryland, insurance firm, the Meltzer Group, Meltzer and wife, Amy, have four children.

We're still searching for the identities of the other students on the steps of Anderson. Email leads to [magazine@american.edu](mailto:magazine@american.edu).



# EAGLE TALES

Excerpts from the Eagle archives at [live.wifeonline.com/archives](http://live.wifeonline.com/archives)

RECOGNIZE these plaid-skirt, pickaxe-packing coeds? Reveal their identities at [magazine@american.edu](http://magazine@american.edu)

### 1933

Shouldering shovels, saws, and spades, would-be gardeners fanned out across campus for AU's inaugural Arbor Day celebration, April 27. "Clad in beach galanias, overalls, and knickers (the latter especially prevalent among the faculty)," the green thumbs tended trees and groomed gardens—including a patch of poison ivy planted by mistake instead of honeysuckle on the football field. Despite the itchy situation, an annual Arbor Day celebration was added to the college calendar in 1936.

### 1943

Four Korean cherry trees were presented to AU by the Korean Women's Relief Society of Honolulu as part of the Arbor Day festivities. AU president Paul Douglass read the Korean Declaration of Independence while Syngman Rhee—who in 1948 became the first president of South Korea—broke ground, planting the first flowering tree near the School of International Service. That day, a tradition took root: the South Korean ambassador visits SIS every spring when the pink blossoms are at their peak.

### 1970

AU students were among the 20 million Americans who rallied on behalf of Mother Nature during the first-ever Earth Day, April 22. The brainchild of Sen. Gaylord Nelson (D-WI)—who wanted to harness the energy of the student antiwar movement to promote environmental issues—the day featured a "teach-in on the environment" at colleges across the country. AU's eco-friendly activities included guest lectures, a film about noise pollution, a folk concert, and a demonstration of a "portable waste disposal unit."

### 1994

After a particularly brutal winter, 600 volunteers crept out of their cubicles and residence halls to do some spring cleaning. For six hours, students, faculty, and staff gave the campus a little TLC, sweeping sidewalks, raking leaves, and washing the university's fleet of vehicles. And with that, Campus Beautification Day was born. The celebration of sustainability, an early April tradition, during which volunteers plant thousands of perennials, hundreds of shrubs, and dozens of trees, is now in its 21st year.

Were you an environmental crusader? Share your memories of Arbor, Earth, and Campus Beautification Days past: email [magazine@american.edu](mailto:magazine@american.edu).

## MEMORIAM

**Nard Bernstein**, '64, October 13, 2003, c-ick, New York

**Kenneth Graham Cook, CAS/PHD '52**, October 25, 2013, Arlington, Virginia

**Rashid Abdul-Jami** (formerly Gordon Stiles), CAS/BA '71, November 4, 2003, San Antonio, Texas

**Donald L. Myers, Kogod/MSA '76**, January 2, 2014, Bethesda, Maryland

**FACULTY**  
**Abolghassem Ghaffari**, November 5, 2013, Los Angeles, California

**Edmund B. McCue**, November 6, 2003, Washington, D.C.

**Robert Pastor**, January 6, 2014, Washington, D.C.

# AU'S STAKE IN... NEW YORK CITY

**PLUGGED INTO THE WORLD'S FASTEST BUSTLING AND AND THEIR FELLOW BOUGHS,**

New York City, the harbor city that coined the phrase "the Big Apple" is home to an estimated 10,000 AU alumni—all their dreams within New York's majestic skyline. From the 110 to the Bronx to hundreds of miles in between, these alumni have mapped in a city admired for its style and fashion to art, science and breaking news. It's a city of bold sophistication, and it's a city where the insider's knowledge counts. On April 3, at the reception in the city. Will you be there? For more information, visit [www.auc.edu/alumni](http://www.auc.edu/alumni).

**MORE LOCAL INSIDERS**



**GABRIELLE KUEY, KOGOD/BSBA '10 INTERNATIONAL MARKETING ASSOCIATE, KATE SPADE SATURDAY**

In a city where window shopping is a sport, and millennials are inherent style pioneers, it's only natural to crowdsource a retail launch branded on "living colorfully." Kate Spade Saturday—the new offshoot of the classic luxury brand Kate Spade New York—launched a line of clothing and accessories in 2013 through a series of interactive window displays that used the city as an advertising backdrop.

Saturday partnered with eBay to create a unique shopping experience,

installing 24-hour pop-up stores in five prominent storefronts across New York City. Fashionistas had instant access to Saturday's bright colors, graphic shapes, and bold prints.

"Whatever the customer bought on screen would be delivered within an hour to a New York location of their choice," says Kuey. Touch screens let the company showcase a variety of products within a small space in true New York fashion and tailor the experience.

"Saturday is a lifestyle brand. We want our customers to come to us for everything. It's innovative and functional—stuff you wouldn't see anywhere else," says Kuey. The 35-person staff, which includes an in-house print designer and creative team, is housed on 33rd and Park, just uptown from its first U.S. brick-and-mortar location in SoHo.

**DESIGN YOUR BAG AT SATURDAY.COM**

KOGOD AND PHOTOGRAPHY: ILLUSTRATION BY ANDREW L'ECHEMONT/ARTISTBY

## Francis Dougherty SOC/MA '86

MOVING IMAGE PRESERVATION SPECIALIST  
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"Time travel is possible within the narrow bounds of my studio," Francis Dougherty writes on his blog for the nation's largest public library system ([nypl.org/blog/author/335](http://nypl.org/blog/author/335)). With 88 branches in three boroughs, there's enough material for every New Yorker to check out six items without overlap. It's also the only organization permitted to document Broadway plays, a research haven for theatre pros to study and prepare for roles.

Dougherty is part of the team responsible for preserving and making accessible what will become digital stacks of some 800,000 items of sight and sound, including Metropolitan Opera recordings, early choreography from Jerome Robbins, and other pieces of New York in motion—most before video was portable.

"I've seen a lot of formats come and go, obsolescence and deterioration are our greatest challenges," he says.

The daily jaunt from Dougherty's home to the division's apt location within Lincoln Center includes a ferry and a subway ride. "I treasure the commute as my reading time; it often seems difficult for me to read if I'm not on water or underground."



**POLITIAN**  
KCF ART

**Mock, CAS/BA '92**, assistant educator. With 6.2 million in new The Met's 17 cardinals continue its mission to a broadest audience.

**BLOOMBERG**

**Kyle Ashworth, CAS/BS '07**, financial analyst. Occupying 33 floors of its 2002 modern Midtown tower, Bloomberg's offices feature one of the world's only curved escalators.

**WALL STREET JOURNAL**

**Dana Mattioli, SOC/BA '06**, reporter and columnist. Mattioli's up-to-the-minute correspondence covers mergers and acquisitions around the globe.

**MADISON SQUARE GARDEN**

**Sari Brandwine, CAS/BA '99**, account executive. Originally located next to its namesake park, the legendary sports and entertainment venue sits atop rail hub Penn Station.

**SAKS FIFTH AVENUE**

**Colleen Sherin, Kogod/BSBA '91**, senior fashion director. In style since 1919, the retail icon stays fresh with picks from up-and-coming designers thanks to Sherin's expertise.

**TED TALKS**

**Jamia Wilson, SOC/BA '02**, prize storyteller. In the city that inspires big ideas, Wilson promotes the annual \$1 million award that boasts names like Bono and tackles issues like obesity.

**MERCURY/ISLAND DEF JAM MUSIC GROUP**

**Steve Yegorov, SOC/BA '84**, senior vice president of A&R. The Mercury label first relocated to New York in 1981 and has been rising in pop and rock fame since its 2007 revival.

**DIANE VON FURSTENBERG**

**Amrita Ghosh, Kogod/BSBA '02**, senior manager, merchandising and planning. The luxury fashion brand reaches four continents and is rooted in the historic cobblestone streets of Lower Manhattan.

AMERICAN MAGAZINE APRIL 2014

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**DONORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

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**LOREN AND JAMIE DANIELSON**

Loren Danielson, Kogod/BSBA '80, and wife Jamie, CAS/BA '81, speak of American University as others might extended family. It's not comparisons: The couple's connections to the AU community run deep. Loren joined AU's wrestling program after being recruited by School of Education, Teaching, and Health professor Robert Karch, grew from coach and mentor to family friend. Loren, a business administration major, met Jamie, an education and psychology major, in a humanities course. With help from fellow wrestler and AU trustee Alan Meltzer '73 (see page 42), Loren landed his first job at investment firm Ferris & Co.—now RBC Wealth Management in Washington, D.C., where he serves as senior vice president. Loren and Jamie, a teacher at the Harbor School, married in 1984 and settled in Bethesda, Maryland, where they raised sons Collin and Matthew. The couple have supported AU Athletics for more than 30 years. They attend nearly every home match and make regular, annual scholarship donations to the wrestling program. Over the years, they've come to know many wrestlers personally. "They're great kids; they work hard—academically and as athletes," Loren. "In getting to know AU's student-athletes, you can't help but want to support them." In addition to their annual support, the couple have made provisions in their charitable estate plans to establish the Loren and Jamie Danielson Endowment. Their generous will ensure the lasting quality of AU wrestling, a program that's already produced one national champion and 10 All-Americans.

INFORMATION ABOUT HOW YOUR VISION AND CHARITABLE ESTATE PLANNING can create a legacy at American University, contact Speyer, assistant vice president of development, at 202-885-3411 or [speyer@american.edu](mailto:speyer@american.edu), or visit [american.edu/plannedgiving](http://american.edu/plannedgiving).

**MY FAVORITES**



A knockout performance. That's what critics are calling **Margo Seibert's Broadway debut** as painfully shy pet store clerk Adrian in *Rocky*, the musical adaptation of the iconic boxing flick, which opened at the Winter Garden Theatre in March. (The Italian Stallion himself, Sylvester

Stallone, wrote and produced the musical, which stars Andy Karl in the title role.)

Before inheriting Talia Shire's **famous red beret**, Seibert, SIS/BA '08, honed her craft on stages across DC, including the Folger Theatre, Imagination Stage, and the Olney Theatre. Dubbed one of *Entertainment Weekly's* "2014 faces to watch," the native Marylander moved to New York in 2010 with sights set on her name in lights. *Rocky*, she says is "thrilling and scary—and the opportunity of a lifetime."

**An avid theatergoer** (her first playbill: *Velveteen Rabbit* at Toby's Dinner Theatre in Columbia), Seibert returns to AU each year to speak to students in professor-turned-friend Carl Menninger's Business of Acting class. "It helps me remember how many steps it's taken to get where I am now."

**Seibert's most influential musicals:**

- 1. WEST SIDE STORY**—I grew up watching *West Side Story*. I think I can sing every word. It doesn't matter if it's a high school production, I'm there.
- 2. GYPSY**—Gypsy has one of the most beautiful books (narratives); the language is so honest. The part of Louise is my dream role—one day all the stars will align.
- 3. GIANT**—Based on the Elizabeth Taylor movie about a ranch family and the Texas oil boom, this debuted at the Signature Theatre in Arlington. La Chiusa's score is gorgeous.
- 4. LES MISÉRABLES**—An oldie but goodie. I never tire of *Les Mis*; it's one of the first musicals to use a revolving stage, which is magical. It's coming back to Broadway—I can't wait.
- 5. INTO THE WOODS**—In high school I played the witch, and at AU I played the baker's wife. I just auditioned for *Cinderella*. There's not a bad role in the bunch. (I'm a forever Sontheim fan.)

- 6. THE BOY DETECTIVE FAILS**—This one also premiered at the Signature Theatre; it's about a boy detective who tries to figure out why his sister died. It's a beautiful story about love and loss.
- 7. RAGTIME**—Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, the composers of *Ragtime*, also wrote the score for *Rocky*. It's an honor to sing their music.
- 8. MELANCHOLY PLAY**—Sarah Ruhl and Todd Almond's musical, which I saw in Brooklyn in 2012, is weird but delightful. It's billed as "an irrational play with a highly rational string quartet."
- 9. ONCE**—*Once* is a beautiful movie-turned-musical, which is the trend now. All the actors play instruments—fiddles and accordions. It's exciting to watch such a talented cast.
- 10. THE DISAPPEARING MAN**—I'm partial to this one because it's my boyfriend John Sood's musical about a 1930s circus. I've been involved creatively with the show; it's important to cultivate and support new art.







JEANNA SAMPLES-WRIGHT'S UNPACKED

MAT '12, kindergarten teacher at Stanton Elementary School, Washington, D.C.

1. I love what I eat. Love Crunch's blue and red berries granola and Farm's Cafe latte with almond milk on the go.

2. I'm a member of Zeta Phi Beta at AU, a historically black organization. I'm involved in their chapter, and I'm still very close with my line sisters, many of whom are teachers in the D.C. area.

3. It's paramount in our classroom: the students to grow, learn, and inspire their minds. I read poems, songs, and storybooks everyday to the kids.

4. I enjoy thrift shopping. Yoke Village in Silver Spring, Maryland, is my favorite: everything's 50 percent off on Mondays. I love seeing how many things I can get for \$20.

5. I love teaching science and social studies. We've done units on chemistry and the polar region. The kids enjoyed learning about the Tuskegee Army, the first black military aviators.

6. Stanton is very college-minded—it's not a question of "if" for our students, it's "where." Classrooms are named for a college. Ours is Tuskegee University, a historically black college in Alabama.

7. In a kindergarten classroom germs are everywhere! I use sanitizer to keep my hands clean and students safe and Bath & Body Works's Shea Cashmere lotion to keep them soft.

8. Stanton is very invested in family engagement. We do at least two home visits a year, and I pick two superstar students of the day and either call the parents or send a note home.

9. I buy Goldfish crackers and animal crackers in bulk for the kids.

10. I started a fitness club for teachers. Five of us run the steps of the school.

11. I maintain a private blog for my students and their parents. I also share classroom ideas on my personal blog: [thumbleteacher.com](http://thumbleteacher.com).

12. I'm one of 20 CityBridge Education Innovation Fellows—a yearlong fellowship for D.C. teachers. We're visiting schools in California and Detroit, then I'll develop a blended, personalized learning pilot program.

13. Crayola has nothing on me! I have an array of writing utensils in my bag.

14. I collect teacher pins. The kids always notice when I wear one.

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# FINAL EXAM



*Go fact to fact*  
WITH AU'S PEOPLE IN THE KNOW AT  
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## THE CHALLENGE

Frostbitten Washingtonians likened this winter—one of the coldest on record—to the Arctic. But comparisons to the North Pole, an area especially vulnerable to the effects of global warming, aren't entirely accurate: while D.C. saw record lows, the Arctic is getting warmer. Government professor James Quick kicks off his popular Power and Money course with a discussion of the security, economic, and environmental implications of Arctic melt. Drop anchor and take the following quiz to see how your Arctic aptitude stacks up to that of SPA students.

## THE QUESTIONS

1. What is the primary body of international law governing the Arctic Ocean?
2. Commercial shipping through the Arctic has increased dramatically in recent years. What other activity is likely to generate a flurry of activity in the region?
3. Why does Denmark care?
4. What is Svalbard saving for the rest of us?
5. Russia has a fleet of icebreakers, Canada has six, and Estonia has two. How many does the United States have? (Extra credit: how many does National Geographic have?)

**THE DETAILS** Submit the correct answers to [magazine@american.edu](mailto:magazine@american.edu) by May 15 to be entered to **win a six-month subscription to Politics and Prose Bookstore's Book-a-Month Gift Program.**

**Congratulations to Christopher Hannigan, SPA/BA '07, who aced last issue's final exam.**

AU060238

# **Sharon Alston Declaration**

## **Exhibit 208**



# AU Newsmakers

## March 14 – March 21, 2014

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

### Top Story

#### AU Community Rallies Behind AU Men's Basketball Team



In the lead up to the **AU Eagles Men's Basketball team** returning to the NCAA tournament, [Associated Press](#), [Comcast Sports Network](#), [WUSA-CBS9](#), [WRC-NBC4](#), [WTTG-FOX5](#), [News Channel8](#) and many other outlets highlighted the AU community's rallying around the team for [selection day](#), the [big send-off](#), and [watch parties](#). Local and national news outlets provided feature lead up and game day coverage of the team as they took on the Wisconsin Badgers. [Washington Post](#) featured [Coach Mike Brennan's](#) first year success and the players he led all the way to the Big Dance. (3/16, 3/17, 3/18, 3/19, 3/20)

### Additional Features

#### What's Next For Russia's Relations With the West



After the Crimea referendum, AU foreign policy and Russian experts provided analysis about the impact on U.S.-Russia relations and how it affects the balance in the region. School of international service dean **James Goldgeier** spoke to [New York Times](#) and appeared on [WAMU's Diane Rehm Show](#) as syndicated to NPR to discuss sanctions targeting Russia and U.S.-Russia relations. Executive director of the Initiative for Russian Culture **Anton Fedyashin** appeared on [CNN International](#) to discuss Russian President

Putin's strategic and uncompromising speech following Crimea's annexation. Additionally, international service professor **Keith Darden's** coauthored op-ed for [Reuters' Great Debate blog](#) explained why the stakes are so high and Western leverage is too weak to stand on principle following Crimea's annexation. **Darden** also spoke to [Sirius Satellite Radio](#). (3/16, 3/18, 3/19, 3/20)

#### Warming Up to the Culture of Wikipedia

### The New York Times

Communication professor **Andrew Lih** discussed with [New York Times](#) the surge of Wikipedia 'edit-a-thons' including his course, "Wikipedia and Public Knowledge," which focuses on 'edit-a-thons' and requires students to create and improve entries. (3/19)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### Where Have All the Great Powers Gone?



In their op-ed for [U.S. News & World Report](#), international service professors **Mike Schroeder** and **Davy Banks** argued that G-20 countries including China, Brazil, and India remaining silent throughout the Ukraine crisis is a failure to signal their commitment to basic order and their readiness to take on shared leadership. (3/21)

#### What the Search for Flight MH370 Tells Us About National Security in Asia

### The Washington Post

In an op-ed for the [Washington Post's Monkey Cage](#), international service professor **Jessica Trisko Darden** argued the loss of Flight MH370 demonstrates a lack of effective control over vast territories—some of which are disputed in the region. (3/18)

## Expertise

### Poll: People Still Seek Meaty News on Media Buffet



Journalism professor **Jane Hall** spoke to [Associated Press](#) about a poll revealing leading newspapers and network evening news no longer set the national news agenda as Americans are increasingly relying on a wider variety of media sources—

including social media—to stay informed. More than **422** outlets republished this article, including **U.S. News & World Report**, *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *Atlanta Journal Constitution*. (3/17)

### Politics Won't Be on First Lady's China Itinerary, Aides Say



With [Reuters](#) and [New York Times](#), executive in residence **Anita McBride** discussed First Lady Michelle Obama's trip to China and her decision to focus on people-to-people exchange rather than politics. (3/16, 3/19)

### U.S. to Cede Its Oversight of Addresses on Internet



Communication professor **Laura DeNardis** spoke to [New York Times](#) about the U.S. Department of Commerce's decision to not renew the Internet

Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) contract. **DeNardis** explained the benefit, which will take into account the global interests of multiple stakeholders. **DeNardis** also spoke to [TIME](#) and [The Economist](#). (3/15, 3/17, 3/22)

### Nostalgic for Old Times, Former Members of Congress Want to Return



Ambassador in residence **Connie Morella** spoke to [McClatchy Newspapers](#) about the counter-trend of former members of Congress making new campaign bids to return to Capitol Hill. *Miami Herald* and *Sacramento Bee* republished this article. (3/18)

### Who Was Carl Sagan?



Communication professor **Declan Fahy** spoke to [National Geographic](#) about the impact and legacy of astronomer Carl Sagan. (3/16)

### Crowdfunding Real Estate: You Are On Your Own



Finance and real estate professor **Peter Chinloy** talked to [KUOW – FM Radio](#) (Seattle) about the pros and cons of crowdfunding real estate. (3/18)

# **Sharon Alston Declaration**

## **Exhibit 209**



# This Week's Newsmakers

Aug. 14 – Aug. 20, 2010

## Top Stories

### High Achieving Students at AU



[\*The Washington Post\*](#) profiled two sisters, Meghan and Moira Esson, who as incoming freshmen are members of American University's highest achieving class in history. The class of 2014 boasts the most students who graduated in the top 10 percent of their class, and an average GPA of 3.79. The story illustrates a trend at universities across the nation where applications are up—as are the caliber of applicants—and admission at selective schools is down. (8/19)

### A Mosque at Ground Zero and Religious Tolerance



**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, appeared in major media outlets to discuss the controversy around the Ground Zero mosque, religious tolerance, and Americans' views about Muslims. "For most Americans, 9/11 remains as an open wound, and anything associated with Islam, even for Americans who want to understand Islam—to have an Islamic center with so much publicity is like rubbing salt in open wounds," he said in an [\*Associated Press\*](#) story, which appeared in more than 375 news outlets. This week Ahmed appeared

on [\*WAMU's Diane Rehm Show\*](#), [\*CNN's Anderson Cooper 360\*](#), and [\*Fox News Channel's America's Newsroom\*](#). Ahmed also wrote an OpEd which appeared on [\*CNN.com\*](#).

## Quotes

### Travel to Cuba Eased

#### *The New York Times*

**Robert Pastor**, professor of international relations, was quoted by [\*The New York Times\*](#) regarding developments the easing of travel restrictions to Cuba saying, "We're dealing with a relationship that's so contorted; it would take another 50 years of incremental steps to pull it apart and reassemble it in a constructive way." (8/16)

### 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Brings Results Today



In [\*The Christian Science Monitor\*](#) **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, suggested women are finally making the gains in politics that were promised to them when the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment was passed 90 years ago. "Women turn out to vote in greater proportions than men, so women can often be the decisive bloc in an election," she said. (8/18)

### Buffet Reclaims His Stake in Johnson&Johnson



**Gerald Martin**, professor of finance, was quoted in [\*Bloomberg Businessweek\*](#) about Warren Buffet's repurchase of his shares in Johnson & Johnson. "He's starting to [build] back up in the investments he wants to be in—Johnson & Johnson and, of course, the new Fiserv," said Martin. (8/17)

## Cuba in Political Limbo



On [WAMU's Kojo Nnamdi Show](#), **Phil Brenner**, professor of international relations, discussed the current political state of Cuba, and what that means for the future of US-Cuban relations. (8/17)

## Shifts in Social Media Will Affect Journalists



**Jessica Clark**, the director for the Future of Public Media Project for the Center for Social Media, commented in an article on the [PBS MediaShift](#) blog recommending print journalists adapt to the changes in social media

as it will ultimately help them build relationships with readers. (8/16)

## Obama's Comments May Affect Upcoming Elections



In a [Voice of America.com](#) article about how the Ground Zero controversy will affect the midterm elections, **Steven Taylor**, professor of government, predicted, "President Obama's comments will be used against Democrats in campaign commercials." (8/18)

## Mexican Migrant Crab Workers Exploited



[Voice of America](#) highlighted the report by **Jayesh Rathod**, assistant professor of law, about the exploitation of Mexican guest workers in the American crabbing industry. "They just want to make sure that they have flexibility and rights to make changes of employers and to earn enough under the program without going back to Mexico remaining in debt." (8/17)





## This Week's Newsmakers Aug. 20 – Aug. 27, 2010

### Top Stories

#### Freshman Service Experience



First year students were featured in *The Northwest Current* for their efforts during last week's Freshman Service Experience. They volunteered at Tenleytown's Washington Home and Community Hospice. Students served at more than 50 sites throughout the D.C., Maryland, and Virginia suburbs and according to freshman participant, Aaron Grushkin, the goal was to contribute 14,000 hours of service by the end of the week. (8/25)

#### Ground Zero Mosque Controversy Grows



**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, continued to appear in national media outlets to discuss the controversy around the Ground Zero mosque, religious tolerance, and American perceptions of Muslim Americans. In his appearances on *MSNBC's Andrea Mitchell Reports* and *Fox News' O'Reilly Factor*, Ahmed discussed the mosque controversy, including his views about Imam Fiesal Abdul Rauf and the need for Muslims to be more sensitive to post 9/11 issues. In *The New York Times*, Ahmed said, "[Fiesal Abdul Rauf] is in the eye of a storm for which he's not suited at all. He's not a political leader of Muslims, yet he now somehow represents the Muslim community." Ahmed was also quoted in stories on [CNN.com](#) and [The Washington Post](#).

### Additional Feature

#### Mosque Controversy Stirs Discussion on Campus



**Tanim Awwal**, president of the Muslim Student Association, was interviewed by *The Washington Post* for a feature about Muslim college student reactions to the Ground Zero mosque controversy. AU was mentioned as a campus where Muslim students felt safe and included despite tension throughout country over post 9/11 issues. (8/27)

### OpEds

#### Experiencing the Journey into America

washingtonpost.com

For *The Washington Post's* "On Faith" column, AU graduate fellow **Hailey Woldt** discussed her experiences working with **Professor Ahmed** on his new book *Journey into America: the Challenge of Islam*.

"For many non-Muslim American children, they are inheriting a legacy of fear and mistrust and there are innocent Muslim children, not even in existence on 9/11, who are becoming the victims." (8/24)

## Quotes

### **How Long Should a Campaign Last**



"You have no choice. Unless you are a sitting President, you have to start at least two years in advance," said **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, to [Time Magazine](#) about the pattern of presidential election campaigns in America. (8/18)

### **Sherrod Declines USDA Offer**

#### **Los Angeles Times**

Shirley Sherrod declined an offer for a new job with her former employer, the USDA, after she had been wrongfully fired based on comments taken out of context. "Sherrod may be able to use her visibility to raise awareness of the questions of racism and discrimination underscored by her ordeal," Jane Hall, associate professor of communication, told the [Tribune Wire Service](#). The story was republished in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, among others. (8/24)

### **Documentaries Go Mainstream**



"There is a growing hunger for content on all screens from cable to the movie theaters," Patricia Aufderheide, director of the Center for Social Media, told the [Christian Science Monitor](#) about the growing popularity of documentary films. She explained that in the past, audiences for feature documentaries had been underserved, but now, films are even showing in theatres once reserved for major motion pictures. (8/20)



## This Week's Newsmakers Aug. 28 – Sept. 3, 2010

### Top Story

#### Best Places to Work in Federal Government

### *The Washington Post*

The School of Public Affairs' Institute for the Study of Public Policy Implementation and the Partnership for Public Service's annual *Best Places to Work in Federal Government* rankings show that employee satisfaction is at an all-time

high as reported in a [Washington Post](#) exclusive. *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Federal News Radio*, *Fox News Channel*, and *The Hill*, among others, also published the rankings. (9/1)

### OpEds

#### Experts Debate Muslim Culture

### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

[The Wall Street Journal](#) published an OpEd by **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, who discussed the impact the Ground Zero mosque debate

has had on American perceptions of Muslims. "Having studied the practices of Muslims around the world today, I've come up with three broad categories: mystic, modernist and literalist. Of course, I must add the caveat that these are analytic models and aren't watertight," Ahmed wrote. (9/1)

#### Advocates for Troy Davis



A federal judge in Savannah, Georgia, ruled that new evidence did not support death row inmate Troy Anthony Davis' innocence in the 1989 slaying of an off-duty police officer. **Gemma Puglisi**, professor of communication,

who has incorporated efforts to advocate for Davis' innocence into her classes, wrote an OpEd for [Savannah Morning News](#) rebutting another column that supported the judge's ruling." (8/30)

### Quotes

#### Beck's Restoring Honor Rally



**Jane Hall**, professor of communication, appeared on [CNN's Reliable Sources](#) to comment on Glenn Beck's Restoring Honor rally on the National Mall. She discussed the landmark event and who constitutes the "we" that Beck said would be the group of people to "restore honor" to the country. (8/29)

#### Federal Court Upholds Verdict

### *The New York Times*

[The New York Times](#) quoted **Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, about his efforts to file a brief asking a federal appeals court to rehear the case of Guantanamo

detainee Ghaleb Nassar al-Bihani from Yemen. "They've basically removed the single biggest complaint people had with that opinion," he said, "They said, 'We don't think we need to rehear the whole case just to limit the opinion.'" (8/31)

### Female Candidates in the Midterm Elections

**The Washington Post**

"Women have won relatively few close primaries, and some of those races were fought on the uneven territory of gender politics," said **Jennifer Lawless**, director of American University's Women & Politics Institute, to [The Washington Post](#) about women and the midterm elections. (9/1)

### Internet Traffic Rules

**Bloomberg**

Google and Verizon signed an agreement on a proposal for Internet traffic rules. **John Dunbar**, project director with the School of Communication's Investigative Reporting Workshop, told [Bloomberg News](#) that if allowed to go through, the collaboration would be, "a potent presence." (9/1)

### Taxes for Stem Cell Research



**Matthew Nisbet**, professor of communication, said a ruling on tax support for stem cell research "has the potential to mobilize the conservative base in the midterm election." The decision not to support federal taxes for the research was highlighted in [U.S. News & World Report](#). (9/1)



## This Week's Newsmakers Sept. 4 – Sept. 10, 2010

### Top Story

#### Primary Voter Turnout Low for Democrats



"What the last 16 months have done is rob the public of the hope that was engendered in 2008," said **Curtis Gans**, director of the Center for the Study of the American Electorate, to [USA TODAY](#) about the center's analysis which showed democratic voters did not vote in mass for the midterm election primaries. On [MSNBC's The Rachel Maddow Show](#), Maddow said the analysis was more useful than polling data. The [Associated Press](#) story was circulated to more than 140 outlets including [Washington Post](#), [Los Angeles Times](#), [Forbes](#) and [Time](#). [The Wall Street Journal's Washington Wire](#) and [Washington Post's Who Runs Gov](#) also commented on the study's significance. (9/7)

### Additional Features

#### AU's Green Campus



Students, faculty, staff and local neighbors built a green roof on the **Kogod School of Business** and **Chris O'Brien**, director of sustainability, noted on [WUSA-CBS9](#), that AU has the highest density of green roofs for a DC campus. [WRC-NBC4](#) featured the new **School of International Service** building and noted its environmentally friendly aspects during a teaser for the evening weather. (9/8)

### OpEds

#### Religious Turmoil in America



**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic Studies, wrote an opinion piece for [CNN.com](#) suggesting Pastor Terry Jones and Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf "appeared to be disconnected" from the controversies surrounding them in the media until recently. Ahmed observed, "Two men of God, both believing that they are motivated by their faith, are adding fuel to the fire flaring around the religion of Islam in the United States today." (9/8)

### Quotes

#### Burn Quran Day



Florida Pastor Terry Jones threatened to burn the Quran, the Muslim holy book, if Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf did not change his plans to build a mosque near Ground Zero. **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, commented on the pastor's ultimatum on [CNN's American Morning](#), "I've never heard this argument before that a construction that's yet to be created is somehow jeopardizing this national security of the [USA]." He discussed the controversy on [BBC World News](#), [BBC Radio](#), [WJLA-ABC7](#) and [WTOP](#) Radio. The [Associated Press](#) and the [Los Angeles Times](#) quoted him. (9/8-9/9)

## First Daughters Adjusting to Life in the White House

**Chicago Tribune**

From meeting the Jonas brothers to traveling to domestic and international locations the first daughters experience life differently than most peers their age according to the [Chicago Tribune](#). **Anita McBride**, executive in residence with the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, said the mansion's recreational offerings can be a plus for the girls, and "the girls to have [developed] some good and happy relationships here in D.C." (9/5)

## Castro Back In Action



Cuban dictator Fidel Castro has reentered public life after rumors of his death according to the [Christian Science Monitor](#). **William LeoGrande**, dean of the School of Public Affairs, said "I think [Cuba is] staging in very gradual ways his reintroduction." (9/8)

## New Technology: Helping or Hurting?

**THE CHRONICLE**  
of Higher Education

In a [Chronicle of Higher Education Wired Campus](#) podcast, **Naomi Baron**, professor of linguistics, discussed the impact of new technology, such as cell phones and laptops in classrooms. She said technology is changing social interactions and shared her concerns that too much new technology isn't good for both students and faculty. (9/9)

## Sexual Harassment In and Out of the Work Place

**MercuryNews.com**

"Adding alcohol to the mix makes things riskier for the organization," said **Caren Goldberg**, professor of management, to [San Jose Mercury News](#) about inter-employee relationships inside and outside of the office. "There's nothing inherently wrong or unusual about it," referring to happy hour, "but I think organizations probably do need to be a little guarded, I guess, in making sure that everyone understands that the same rules with regards to sexual harassment that apply on-site apply off-site." (9/4)



# This Week's Newsmakers

Sept. 11 – Sept. 17, 2010

## Top Stories

### Religious Tolerance in a Post 9/11 World



In an [Associated Press](#) article about the anniversary of the September 11 tragedies, **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, said, "Many mosques are engaged in internal struggles between Muslims with rigid and modernist views, but I found none that fit the imaginings of anti-Muslim conspiracy theorists." More than 275 outlets republished the article, including the *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Los Angeles Times* and [MSNBC.com](#). Ahmed was also quoted in an [NPR.org](#) article and wrote an OpEd for [CNN.com](#). On [NPR's On Point](#), he spoke about his recent journey across America to visit mosques and for [YahooNews.com](#), he discussed his decision to join a coalition to defend the rights of Muslims to build mosques in their communities. A previous article in *Los Angeles Times* was republished in more than 20 online news sites this week.

### Center's Voter Turnout Data a Resource for Media & Politicians



AU's Center for the Study of the American Electorate analysis pointing to stronger Republican voter turnout during the primaries continued to drive discourse. **Curtis Gans**, director and lead researcher on the project, discussed the results on [ABC's World News Tonight](#), which aired on 175 ABC affiliate stations, and on [NPR's All Things Considered](#). "I think it's going to be very, very difficult in places where Republicans have plausible candidates for the Democrats to mobilize in the way that they were able to mobilize in 2008." [CNN's Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer](#), *New York Times*, *Bloomberg BusinessWeek*, *Boston Globe*, and *Buffalo News* cited the study in pre-primary day election coverage. [Wall Street Journal](#) noted the results in an article about Tea Party primary wins. More than 25 online outlets republished this article.

### Women Underrepresented on Talk Shows & Campaign Trail



The [New York Times' Media Decoder](#) blog cited findings by AU's Women & Politics Institute in a post about the lack of diversity on the major networks and cable news outlets Sunday mornings. In [CQ Politics](#), **Jennifer Lawless**, the institute's director, suggested that the "Year of the Women" for congressional candidates might not be so. "After the June primaries, where we saw this alleged upsurge in women candidates," she said, "we were not talking about 20 or 30 or 40 high-profile candidates. We were talking about four." Lawless told the [Washington Post](#) that there are more new Republican than Democrat women running for office this year.

## Additional Features

### What Matters Most to Federal Employees



**Robert Tobias**, director of AU's Institute for the Study of Public Policy Implementation, told [Federal Computer Week](#) that the relationship between employees and top-level leaders—not their immediate supervisors—carries the most weight with federal employees. "The Best Places to Work in the Federal Government" survey and ranking finds a strong correlation between this specific aspect of employee satisfaction and an agency's ranking. (9/12)

### Best Practices in Bringing Broadband to the Underserved



A post on [PBS's Media Shift](#) blog about the Public Media Corps' effort to bridge the broadband gap for underserved communities mentioned that the **Center for Social Media** will help the corps evaluate their efforts and results to identify best practices. (9/15)

## Quotes

### Tough Job Market May Increase Hiring Discrimination



**Caren Goldberg**, assistant professor of management, told [Crain's New York Business.com](#) that when times are tough, so is the competition for jobs, which could create difficulties for transgender applicants. "When the economy is not doing so well and employers have a wider range of applicants to choose from, you tend to see more discrimination," she said. (9/10)

### News Media Narcissism Behind Myths



[DenverPost.com](#) praised communication professor **W. Joseph Campbell's** book about media myths, *Getting It Wrong*. "Campbell's literate take on the media and their gazing at themselves in the mirror is an exquisitely researched and lively look at an industry that too often shines the light on itself more than it does on events and public figures," wrote the reviewer. (9/12)

### Observing September 11



In the [Pittsburgh Post Gazette](#), **Peter Kuznick**, associate professor of history, noted that how Americans observe national tragedies such as September 11, Pearl Harbor Day, and D-Day depends on the context of the year in which the anniversary falls. "Nine years after Pearl Harbor, there were very, very few commemorative events on Dec. 7," he said, noting that it was more of a time for reflection as America was involved in the Korean War. (9/11)

### Missouri Senate Candidate's Fundraising Record



In an article about Roy Blunt, Republican candidate for Missouri's open U.S. Senate seat, **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, told the [St. Louis Post Dispatch](#) that Blunt's fundraising style mimicked that of his mentor Tom DeLay. "I think the Republican leadership during that time, especially Tom DeLay, pushed the limits of what I call the 'iron law of reciprocity' — I'll help you and you help me," he said. (9/12)

### Fiscal Crisis a Reality



**Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, said "The fiscal crisis is real; it poses serious, long-term threats to America's well-being and global position; and the only solution, as already experienced from 1985 to when we hit a surplus in 1998, is for all parts of federal spending and revenues to be on the table, including defense," in an interview with the [National Journal](#) about the government's spending habits. (9/12)

### Tea Party Gaining Momentum



**Lenny Steinhorn**, professor of communication, was interviewed on [WTTG-FOX5](#) about recent national primary election results and what it means for November. "When the Alaska senator lost her primary to a Tea Party candidate, and people started wondering if this could happen elsewhere, well it did happen in Delaware," he said about the Tea Party's sudden surge of popularity. (9/14)

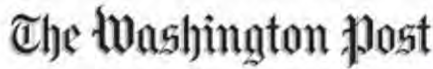




# This Week's Newsmakers Sept. 18 – Sept. 24, 2010

## Top Story

### Nature Documentaries Not So Natural



**Chris Palmer**, director of the Center for Environmental Filmmaking, discussed the little-known secrets of wildlife filmmaking with the [Washington Post](#) for a feature story about his new book **Shooting in**

**the Wild**. According to Palmer, most nature films and TV shows use footage of wild animals from game farms in controlled situations. "If you see a bear feeding on a deer carcass in a film," Palmer said, "it is almost certainly a tame bear searching for hidden jellybeans in the entrails of the deer's stomach." (9/22)

### Wonks Live Here



#### Wonk if you love American U.

New marketing play gets to the heart of school, some say, but others aren't feeling it. The school has had a lot of buzz lately, thanks to its new marketing campaign, including "Coke" and "WONK" shirts. The school has had a lot of buzz lately, thanks to its new marketing campaign, including "Coke" and "WONK" shirts. The school has had a lot of buzz lately, thanks to its new marketing campaign, including "Coke" and "WONK" shirts.

"New York has financiers and Las Vegas has gamblers. Washington has wonks," said the [Washington Post](#) about American University's new WONK campaign. "We looked at what the word was doing in its current use, and we decided this is what we are," said Terry Flannery of University Communications & Marketing.

AU was featured as part of a larger look at university branding efforts across the country. (9/24)

## Additional Features

### Race Still Influences Decisions



The [Washington Post](#) reviewed **Danielle Evans'**, professor of literature, new collection of short stories called **Before You Suffocate Your Own Fool Self** about African-American teenagers and young-

adults still struggling in a world where race is less of an overt concern. (9/22)

### Conflict among Obama Advisors



[CBS News](#) interviewed **Alan Lichtman**, professor of history, about Bob Woodward's new book, focusing on President Obama's strategy in Iraq and Afghanistan. The segment aired on more than 20 affiliate stations across the country. Lichtman said, "Obama is not doing what is politically reasonable and could follow in the footsteps of his predecessor, Lyndon Johnson, during the Vietnam War era." (9/23)

## Quotes

### Advertisers Track Children on the Net

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.** "We need clearer explanations of what's happening to their data online, that they can understand—not the kind of legalese in a privacy policy that basically obscures what's really going on," said **Kathryn Montgomery**, professor of public communication, to [The Wall Street Journal](#) about technology that lets advertisers track children's activity on the Web. (9/17)

### Fed Ready to Take More Debt



"The committee put a marker down in August," said **Ellen E. Meade**, professor of economics, to the [New York Times](#) about how the Federal Reserve will stand its ground on low interest rates so banks will borrow more, which will spur economic growth. "They opened the door on quantitative easing, and they're keeping it open until they're sure they need to close it." (9/21)

## Muslim Discrimination in the Workplace

### The New York Times

"In America right now, there are intense concerns about many issues — immigration, the faltering economy, the interminable wars," said **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic Studies in a [New York Times](#) article about the rise in workplace discrimination toward Muslims. "In all of these, there's one link, Islam. Islam is the lightning rod. Whenever there is a great distrust or antipathy, it spills beyond religion into public life." (9/23)

## Documentaries Gain Popularity



"It is impossible to show scientifically that any single media event has a dispositive effect on events — that is just the sad reality of social science," **Patricia Aufderheide**, director of the Center for Social Media, told [USA Today](#) about the popularity of documentary films and whether such films can change human behavior "That said, I think you can point to documentary films that have had a real-life, real-time effect in the world." (9/22)

## Wall Street the Sequel



**Richard Linowes**, an assistant professor of management, told [Dow Jones Newswires](#) he hoped Oliver Stone's Wall Street sequel would present a more balanced portrayal of the financial industry. "I hated the first movie. It was a realistic portrayal of some aspects of the business—the trading floor, the trading dynamics, the facilities, the dress—but it zeroed in on a few rats in the corner and largely ignored the people of fine character in the business." (9/23)

## Congress Progressive under Obama

### Bloomberg

"Historically, it's going to rank as one of the most productive Congresses in recent time, comparable to LBJ's first two years, and maybe even Franklin Roosevelt's time" when Social Security was created, said **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, to [Bloomberg News](#) about the laws Congress created and enacted during President Obama's time in the White House. (9/17)

## Investors Determined to Save Argentina

### Bloomberg

**Arturo Porzecanski**, professor of international finance, said investors in Argentina are coming up with strategies to improve the country's flawed financial system. "It's a more professional group," he said to [Bloomberg News](#), "It's a more resilient group. They're not going to give up. They're determined to prevent Argentina from ever issuing bonds in the overseas market." (9/20)

## New Technology is Changing Behavior



**Naomi Baron**, professor of linguistics, said "[People say] I can send you a text, and not have to listen to what you have to say," in an interview with [Voice of America](#) about the prevalence of technology in daily social interaction. "They say, 'Yeah, I just want to get my message in, and not have to deal with you. I want to be able to control this communication.'" She discussed how new forms of communication may change the way people interact for better or worse. (9/20)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC

## This Week's Newsmakers Sept. 25 – Oct. 1, 2010

### Top Story

#### Wildlife Films Far From Wild



**Chris Palmer**, director of the Center for Environmental Filmmaking, was the focus of an [ABC's Nightline](#) story for drawing back the curtain on the dark side of wildlife filmmaking in his book *Shooting in the Wild*. During the segment, he explained why he wrote the book and discussed the reason for coming clean about the staged aspects of wildlife documentaries. The story re-aired on [ABC's Good Morning America](#), then on ABC news affiliates across the country, and [Canada Television](#), Canada's largest TV news outlet. [NPR's Weekend Edition](#) also interviewed Palmer.

### Additional Features

#### Midterm Elections



**Curtis Gans**, director of the Center for the Study of the American Electorate, appeared on [NBC's Nightly News](#) to discuss the American people's disappointment with their government stemming from comedian Stephen Colbert's testimony to Congress on immigration. "People are angry, some people are scared about the economic condition, some people are disillusioned," Gans said. His segment re-aired on [NBC's Weekend Today Show](#). He was also quoted by the [Wall Street Journal](#) about developments in the midterm election campaign period, and [U.S. News](#) about candidate's use of PACs.

#### Democrats in the Line of Fire



"They're worried, they're frustrated, and they're taking it out on incumbents, primarily Democrats," said **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, to [NBC's Nightly News](#) about what American dissatisfaction with the government could mean for the Democratic Party in the midterm elections. The [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) also featured Thurber in the "5 Minutes With" column addressing why politicians embellish their accomplishments to look better to the voters during election periods.

#### Tennessee Mosque Controversy



"The notion of Sharia being implemented in America with about 2 percent of the population, to me, is mathematically absurd," said **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, on [CNN's Anderson Cooper 360](#) about the controversy surrounding the construction of an Islamic community center in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. (9/26)


#### Kennedy-Nixon Debates after 50 Years



"They [Kennedy-Nixon] didn't debate on television, they didn't debate on the radio, they didn't debate out in the streets," said **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, on [ABC's Topline](#) about the history of political debate in America. Lichtman discussed what televised debates have brought to the political arena over the past fifty years since the Kennedy-Nixon debates in 1960. (9/24)

## Quotes

### China on the Rise

 **Associated Press** **Deborah Brautigam**, professor of international relations, discussed China's economic progress with the [Associated Press](#). She cited how China receives a large amount of government aid, but spends lots of money on events like the Olympics and military expenditures. This article was published by more than 225 news outlets including the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *Washington Post*.


### Justice William J. Brennan's Legacy

 **THE WALL STREET JOURNAL** **Stephen Wermiel**, professor of law, said the late Justice Brennan "believed that government needed to be accountable to the people in the courts, and not just the ballot box," to the [Wall Street Journal](#) in an interview about a book he is co-authoring called *Justice Brennan: Liberal Champion*. (9/26)


### Mixing Business and Government

 **The Washington Post** "Every time you get a new president, there are vast changes in tax interpretation, so what we're really finding is the industry is looking for true experts in very specific areas," **Richard Durand**, dean of the Kogod School of Business, said to the [Washington Post's Capital Business](#) in a story about D.C. area business schools offering more programs that examine the intersection of business and government. (9/27)

### Saving Spain's Economic Future

 **GLOBAL FINANCE** **Robin Lumsdaine**, professor of finance, told [Global Finance Magazine](#) that Spain's officials and its citizens need to take a cue from the country's World Cup winning soccer team and work together to solve its economic woes. "There needs to be a commitment to work together to overcome the crisis, recognizing that viable long-term solutions will likely involve near-term challenges, sacrifices and difficult decisions," she said. The news section of [NASDAQ's](#) Website also published the article.


### Plastic Bottles Environmentally Unfriendly

 **THE CHRONICLE**  
of Higher Education **Chris O'Brien**, director of sustainability, discussed the cost of recycling plastic bottles on college campuses with [Chronicle of Higher Education](#). He said "we have been working for 10,000 years in human civilization to create great, safe drinking water for the public, and we have succeeded, and now we are throwing it out."


### Defining Rich and Poor in America

 **FOX NEWS .com** **Michelle Newton-Francis**, professor of sociology, discussed what it means to be rich or poor in America in an interview with [FOXNews.com](#). She said "we used to have a class hierarchy and most people wanted to be middle class," she said. "Being labeled rich or poor carried a stigma. Now it appears we are either rich or poor."

### Businesswomen Becoming Politicians

 **POLITICS DAILY** "Business and law are the overwhelming majority of backgrounds for people who go into politics, regardless of whether they're men or women," said **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, to [Politics Daily](#) about successful businesswomen such as Meg Whitman, Linda McMahon and Carly Fiorina who have made an impact for the GOP in the primary races.

### NASA Stops Shuttle Missions

 **VOA**  
Voice of America **Howard McCurdy**, professor of public administration, said "the most significant changes we are going to see is that the United States and its international partners for the first time in some 35 years are going to get out of low-earth orbit and get back to the business exploring the inner solar system," in an interview with [Voice of America](#) about NASA's research into newer and more extensive missions.



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC

## This Week's Newsmakers

Oct. 2 – Oct. 8, 2010

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Book Details Legacy of Supreme Court Justice



Stephen Wermiel, professor of law, appeared on [NBC's \*Nightly News\*](#) to discuss the start of the Supreme Court's new session and his book *Justice Brennan: Liberal Champion*. The next morning, he appeared on [MSNBC's \*Morning Joe\*](#) where his work was praised by hosts Joe Scarborough and Mika Brzezinski. [The New York Times](#) cited that Brennan placed his trust in Wermiel to write his biography before his death in 1997.

### Additional Features

#### The Artists Behind Katzen

##### THE NORTHWEST CURRENT

"I can't imagine this happening many places... To me it's a wonderful example of how a little bit of concern for the university's family and your neighbors and your community can pay big dividends," said **Jack**

**Rasmussen**, director and curator of the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center about the tight-knit group of AU art alums called Group 93. A *Northwest Current* feature story about Group 93 outlined how the group's longtime comraderie with each other and their former professor, Luciano Penay, led to the Katzen Arts Center's creation. (10/7)

#### D and R Wonks Agree: Youth Vote Is up for Grabs

The Washington Post

##### POSTPOLITICS

They may be on opposing ends of the political spectrum, but during the School of Communication's [American Forum](#), MSNBC political analyst Karen Finney and Republican strategist Kevin Madden agreed that the youth vote is always up for grabs. The event, live streamed on the

[WashingtonPost.com's Post Politics](#) page and on [Federal News Radio](#), allowed AU's students—ranked the most politically active in the nation—to challenge Finney and Madden with questions about the 2010 midterm elections. "In 2006, only 11 percent of the voters were young people, but they made the difference in several races," Finney said. In addition, [Fishbowl DC/MediaBistro](#) ran a photo and blog post about the forum. (10/6)

#### Wild Life Documentary Fans Disillusioned



[Moviefone.com](#) published a feature spotlighting **Chris Palmer**, director of the Center for Environmental Filmmaking, and his new book *Shooting in the Wild*. The article garnered more than 300,000 hits and was featured on the [AOL](#) homepage twice. (10/1)

### Quotes

#### Politicians Play the Blame Game



The [Associated Press](#) quoted **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, about the strategies politicians are using for midterm election campaigns. He said, "The election will be about anger, with not a lot of content." This article was syndicated to more than 400 news outlets including the *Los Angeles Times*, *Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, and *Houston Chronicle*. (10/2)

## Mario Vargas Llosa wins Nobel Prize for Literature



**Richard McCann**, professor of creative writing, talked to **Associated Press Radio** about Mario Vargas Llosa winning the Nobel Prize for literature. He discussed why Llosa was the best candidate, provided insight into the significance of the Nobel Prize. McCann said Vargas Llosa is known for using personal material and well as historical material. (10/7)

## Political Fundraising Race



Republicans have raised almost twice the amount of money as Democrats have in the midterm elections according to the [Washington Times](#). **Candice Nelson**, professor of government, said it's because of the enthusiasm gap, "Democratic contributors were more excited about the election in 2008; Republicans are more excited this year." (10/3)

## Obama Could Become Carter



Obama's decision to install solar panels on the White House rather than focus on the possible switch to Republican control of Congress has brought much criticism and comparison to a past president. "Jimmy Carter is a symbol of a failed president whose failure helped contribute to nearly 30 years of Republican dominance of American politics," said **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, to [Politico](#). (10/5)

## From Greening the Government to Greening the Campus



For years, organizations have viewed sustainability as cost prohibitive, but not until recently have they seen that implementing sustainable programs can save money in the long run. On [Federal News Radio](#), **Chris O'Brien**, director of sustainability, explained how the green industry has changed, and discussed the challenges of committing to sustainability. "If someone doesn't see it happening, is it really happening? For example, electricity consumption is invisible in reality," he said. O'Brien recommended ways federal employees can make their offices more sustainable and highlighted AU initiatives as examples to follow. (10/6)

## Bad Economy Affects Everyone



Whether it's the single mother living in poverty or the President of the United States, the economy is the most pressing issue on American minds. **Robert Lerman**, professor of economics, spoke to the [Columbus Times Dispatch](#) about how family structure in the United States relates to economic factors and with [Inside Higher Ed](#) about how high unemployment is steering people towards apprenticeships rather than jobs.

## Picketing at Military Funerals: Free Speech?



**Dan Marcus**, professor of law, explained to [WTTG-FOX 5](#) "We'll find out from the Supreme Court," about the Westboro Baptist Church's claim that the First Amendment protects its members' right to protest at military funerals. The church travels across the country to hold demonstrations at the funerals of fallen soldiers, claiming that God is killing soldiers to punish America for homosexuality, adultery, and divorce. (10/6)

## 90 Years after the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment



"Women's responsibilities and roles behind the scenes were probably the same before suffrage as they were after but they were seen as actual voting people with real rights and a potential constituency that could be appealed to by the candidates," said **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, to [Voice of America](#) about the ninetieth anniversary of women winning the right to vote in America. (10/5)

## US-ASEAN Summit



**Amitav Acharya**, professor and chair of the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Studies Center, said "the heart of it all lies in the U.S.'s recognition of ASEAN's 'strategic primacy,'" in an interview with [Straights Times](#) about the U.S.-ASEAN summit. President Obama's decision to host this meeting reassured Asian leaders that the U.S. is serious in building a positive relationship with Asian countries.



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC


## This Week's Newsmakers

Oct. 9 – Oct. 15, 2010

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories


#### Curveballs Don't Break

 **Associated Press** According to a new study by **Arthur Shapiro**, professor of psychology, a curveball's sudden break is more optical illusion than reality. The curve is "always going to follow a parabolic path. But from a hitter's point of view, an approaching ball can appear to break, drop or do a whole range of unusual behaviors," Shapiro said in an interview with the **Associated Press**. More than 50 news outlets including [MSNBC.com](#) and [SportsIllustrated.com](#) republished this article. The AP article was translated into Spanish and published on each Major League Baseball teams' Spanish companion site. In addition, [USA Today](#), [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#), [Vancouver Sun](#), [UPI.com](#), and [Science Magazine](#) published original stories. Shapiro also spoke to [ABCNews Radio](#). (10/13)

#### Republican Turnout Remains Strong


**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.** Democratic voter turnout is lower than Republicans for the first time in 80 years according to final results on primary voter turnout released by the **Center for the Study of the American Electorate**. The [Wall Street Journal](#), [Politico](#), and [PBS's NewsHour.com](#) highlighted the findings. **Curtis Gans**, director of the center, said, "this should be a warning for the Democrats to work harder to keep control of Congress." (10/14)

#### Obama Courts Young Voters: Too Little, Too Late?


 "I don't know why he didn't turn to this base much earlier," **Jane Hall**, associate professor of communication, told the [Christian Science Monitor](#) in a story examining Obama's recent efforts, including an MTV town hall forum, to mobilize young voters for the midterm elections. Capitalizing on the MTV forum, [washingtonpost.com](#) posted the School of Communication's *American Forum: Is Your Vote up for Grabs?* highlight video and an accompanying blog post mentioned professor **Dotty Lynch's** students' analysis of polling data about young voters. (10/14)

### Additional Features


#### College Not for Everyone

 **Associated Press** Dropping out of college costs the average tax payer billions of dollars. **Robert Lerman**, professor of economics, questioned whether pushing all high school students toward college is wise and to the [Associated Press](#) said, "it could just as easily be used to argue that less-prepared, less-motivated students are better off not going to college." More than 435 news outlets including [USA Today](#), [Los Angeles Times](#), [Washington Post](#), and [Houston Chronicle](#) republished the article. (10/11)

#### Nobel Prize may not help Obama's Fed Nominee

 **Associated Press** Winning the Nobel Prize does not boost influence as much as it once did. "It's not automatic that someone receiving a Nobel Prize will be helped by it, politically, any more," said **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, to the [Associated Press](#) about economist Peter Diamond, President Obama's nomination for a Federal Reserve seat. More than 235 news outlets including the [Los Angeles Times](#) and [Washington Post](#) republished the article. (10/12)

## Consultants Recast Candidates from Rich to Regular

 **Associated Press** Leonard Steinhorn, professor of public communication, explained why politicians hire consultants in an interview with the [Associated Press](#). Steinhorn, a former political consultant himself, said most people who run for office have almost nothing to do with the lives of their target voters, "but your goal is to make it appear you can identify with them." More than 225 outlets republished the article including the *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *MSNBC.com*, *NPR.org*, and *Forbes*. (10/13)

## Women and the First Lady's Role in the Midterm Elections



Jennifer Lawless, director of the Women & Politics Institute, and Anita McBride, executive in residence for the School of Public Affairs, appeared on [PBS's To The Contrary](#) to discuss the role of the women running for office and the First Lady's role in this election cycle. McBride also spoke to [CNN.com](#) saying, "Going into this role as first lady you're automatically a political partner of your husband, whether you like it or not." In an [NPR.org](#) interview, Lawless said, "In order to run for office and be viable, you cannot have done anything [wrong]. But we need to be careful that we're not getting to a point where anything in any candidate's past is not fair game."

## Most Liberal Law Students



Law school rankings released by the [Princeton Review](#) designated the **Washington College of Law** as having the "most liberal students" in the country. The study was based on data collected from more than 18,000 students at 172 law schools in addition to data from school administrators. (10/12)

## Quotes

### Y U Luv Texts, H8 Calls

#### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

In an interview with the [Wall Street Journal](#), Naomi Baron, professor of linguistics, explained the love-hate relationship young people have with their mobile devices. "What they like most about their mobile devices is that they can reach other people," said Baron, "What they like least is that other people can reach them." *Houston Chronicle* also published this article. (10/14)

## Winners May Not be Determined on Election Day

#### The New York Times

The road to the midterm elections is filled with heated debates and harsh attack ads from both sides of the aisle, which could, according to **Danny Hayes**, professor of government, result in hotly-contested elections in November. "There has been so much attention to the way we count votes in the United States," he said to the [New York Times](#), "but we know no battling method is perfect. Procedures designed to make sure every vote counts could lead to the possibility of more cliffhangers." (10/13)

## Mobilizing the Black Vote



In an interview that aired on [CNN Saturday Morning](#), **David Lublin**, professor of government, said the key to success in the elections for Democrats or Republicans is to get African American voters behind their cause. (10/10)

## Buffet Bets on the Euro

#### Bloomberg Businessweek

The Euro is struggling in today's economic climate and although it faces a tough recovery, billionaire Warren Buffet thinks it will survive. "He may think that the Euro's gotten too strong and there's more than likely only one way to go," said **Gerald Martin**, associate professor of finance, to [Bloomberg BusinessWeek](#). (10/13)

## Cutting Back on Military Spending



"Congress and the administration can no longer ignore the reality that Americans have neither the will nor the wallet for unprecedented spending that does not set priorities for our statecraft," said **Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, in an interview with [ForeignPolicy.com](#). (10/12)





AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## This Week's Newsmakers

Oct. 16 – Oct. 22, 2010

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### Controversial Topics in the Midterm Elections



Jamin Raskin, professor of law, discussed the separation of church and state on [MSNBC's Countdown with Keith Olbermann](#) after Delaware Senatorial candidate Christine O'Donnell challenged her opponent's statement that the Constitution specifically defines the concept. **Raskin** also appeared on [CBS9 WUSA](#) to discuss laws that require local television stations to air a D.C. delegate candidate's graphic abortion campaign ad. (10/19)

#### Supreme Court Justice Expert



The [Associated Press](#) highlighted **Stephen Wermiel**, professor of law, for his book, *Justice Brennan: Liberal Champion*, noting Wermiel was granted unprecedented access to Brennan. The article was republished by more than 145 news outlets including the *Los Angeles Times*, *Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, and [CBSNews.com](#). **Wermiel** also appeared on [CNN's The Situation Room](#) to discuss the apology Justice Clarence Thomas's wife demanded from Anita Hill, who accused Justice Thomas of sexual harassment.

### Additional Features

#### Young Republicans Are Mobilized



[CNN's Sunday Morning](#) highlighted a forum by **American University's College Republicans** in a segment about how young Republicans are turning out in greater numbers this election year compared to young Democrats during the 2008 presidential election. Stephan Laudone, president of AU's College Republicans, said he knows "several friends who are splitting the ticket this year, whereas in 2008 it was all Democrats." (10/17)

#### Gay Rights Advocates Wear Purple to Protest Anti-Gay Bullying



[USAToday.com's](#) video unit documented American University's Queers & Allies club's campus campaign in support of the national Wear Purple Day. **Kae Klepitskaya**, transgender advocacy director for AU Queers & Allies, said "Spirit day was formed as a response to a number of suicides of queer youth. There have been a shocking number in the past few months. In order to stand up for everyone we're wearing purple today to show support." (10/21)

#### Monday's Poem: Note Blue



[The Chronicle of Higher Education's](#) Arts & Academe online column reviewed a poem by **Kyle Dargan**, professor of literature. The poem, *Note Blue or Poem for Eighties Babies*, is

described as "rich, nostalgic, forgiving and reveals another of Dargan's poetic gifts: a kinetic stereoscopy that allows, in any one poem, a provocative conflation of personal and public histories, of past and present situations." (10/17)

## Op-Eds & Editorials

### A Muslim Response to Juan Williams

washingtonpost.com

**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, wrote an opinion piece for [washingtonpost.com](http://washingtonpost.com)'s *On Faith* about his disappointment in NPR analyst Juan Williams' comments about Muslims. Ahmed said, "It is

especially disappointing because Williams is known for his work on the 1960s civil rights movement and is sensitive of the need to give dignity to minorities. So how can a member of the minority community then single out another minority community and label it as he did?" (10/21)

## Quotes

### Foreclosures Profit Some Equity Firms

The New York Times

"The concern is that you are pushing production down to [the] least-cost producer," said **Susan Carle**, professor of law, to the [New York Times](http://www.nytimes.com) regarding foreclosure mills. The article cites a case in

Mississippi in which private equity law firm Great Hill Partners and foreclosure firm Prommis Solutions split legal fees for their mutual benefit. (10/20)

### Prominent Muslims Fear NPR Analyst's Firing May Fan Hostility

Los Angeles Times

"The greater American public remains unsure about Islam and very often hostile about Islam," said **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, to the [Los Angeles Times](http://www.latimes.com) about hostility towards Muslims in

America. Ahmed said that although NPR fired Williams after anti-Muslim comments made, it will not greatly reduce discrimination. (10/22)

### Texting Trends & Human Contact



"One of the things we know is males and females don't necessarily feel the same way about talking versus texting," said **Naomi Baron** in an interview on [NPR's On Point](http://www.npr.org) about human interaction through technology. Her research cites that phone calls are losing popularity to the convenience and efficiency of text messaging, which in turn is changing the way people communicate with each other on every level. (10/19)

### Wildlife Photography: Natural or Staged?



[WAMU's The Kojo Nnamdi Show](http://www.wamu.org) interviewed **Chris Palmer**, director of the Center for Environmental Filmmaking, regarding wildlife film and television. Palmer's interview is part of the promotion of his new book, *Shooting in the Wild*, which reveals the secrets behind wildlife documentaries. (10/21)

### Increases in Comcast's Political Campaign Giving

Bloomberg

"That's truly an extraordinary number," said **John Dunbar**, director of the Investigative Reporting Workshop's media and broadband project, to [Bloomberg](http://www.bloomberg.com) about Comcast's increase in political campaign contributions. Comcast increased its

political contributions to \$1.1 Million (compared to \$682,450 2 years ago) while seeking federal approval to buy NBC Universal. (10/19)

### A Productive Congress



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, and **Candice Nelson**, director of the Campaign Management Institute, discussed the [111th Congress](http://www.congress.gov), and [election fundraising](http://www.electionfundraising.com) respectively with [Capitol News Connection](http://www.capitolnewsconnection.com). According to **Thurber**, this Congress is the most productive since the

eras of Presidents Lyndon Johnson and Franklin Roosevelt, but that may not be enough to guarantee victory. "This year there is more enthusiasm on the conservative side, so there is more money, [but] in two years a

different political environment could favor progressive groups," **Nelson** said. (10/20)

### Parties Play Election Expectations Game



"My suspicion is that a lot of the pressure on the White House to change the nature of the rhetoric probably comes from House and Senate candidates in close races," said **Danny Hayes**, professor of government, to the [Washington Examiner](#). The article looks closely at the likely results of important senatorial and congressional races on Election Day. (10/18)

### Election Results Could Impact Foreign Policy



"Republican gains in November could solidify support for the Afghan war in the short term. But, they could also increase the potential for conflict in Congress if Democrats press for withdrawal of U.S. troops," said **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, to [Voice of America](#). Lichtman discussed his predictions for the future of Congress if the Republican Party gains the majority. (10/18)

### No Toleration for Torture



"No one should be sent to a place that uses torture," said **Claudio Grossman**, dean of the Washington College of Law, to [CanadaEast.com](#) concerning the 1987 United Nations torture agreement. Many places in the world still use it and do not comply with the treaty, but Grossman said once nations start making exceptions to the agreement, "there is a slippery slope that cannot be maintained." (10/19)



## This Week's Newsmakers

Oct. 23 – Oct. 30, 2010

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### 2010 not the Year of the Woman



**Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, told [Forbes](#) that despite the number of women running for office, 2010 is no “year of the woman” like 1992 was. “In 1992, women’s issues were really driving the election cycle,” Lawless said, citing the Family and Medical Leave Act as an example. Lawless also discussed female political candidates running in this year’s election with [Globe and Mail](#), [CNN.com](#), and [Associated Press Television](#). (10/26; 10/25; 10/28; 10/25)

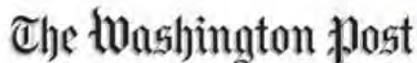
#### Satire Could Energize Electorate



**Lauren Feldman**, assistant professor of public communication, explained to the [New York Times](#) how Jon Stewart’s and Stephen Colbert’s non political rally could foster greater political engagement. “To the extent that people are showing up because of their enthusiasm for the message behind the rally—that is, discontent with extremist rhetoric and divisive politics—that is a political statement, and that makes their participation political,” she said. Feldman also discussed the rally with [Washington Post](#), [WTTG-Fox5](#), [WAMU 88.5](#), and [TBD.com](#). (10/29; 10/25; 10/26; 10/29; 10/29)

### Additional Features

#### Federal Executive Leaders Win Prestigious Award



[Washington Post’s Federal Eye](#) noted the winners of this year’s **Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership**. **Robert Tobias**, director of the Key Executive Program, emceed the ceremony which honored

Kenneth E. Baker, principal assistant deputy administrator for the Office of Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation at the Energy Department, and Margaret A. Focarino, deputy commissioner of patents for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. (10/25)

### Op-Eds & Editorials

#### Voter Disillusionment Tied to Economy



**Curtis Gans**, director of the Center for the Study of the American Electorate, asserted in his [Roll Call](#) Op-Ed that the economy, unemployment, and underemployment are the main sources of voter disillusionment for the mid-

term elections. “Obama chose to build his record on individual policy achievements rather than the assertion and defense of an engaged government as the only entity with sufficient resources and ability to attack the magnitude of the nation’s economic crisis,” Gans wrote. (10/28)

### Quotes

#### Focus on Fiscal Discipline



President Obama likely will focus on fiscal discipline between now and 2012—a nod to voters tired of big spending and to a Congress positioned to become more Republican. “To a certain extent, (Obama’s) strategy depends on the

strategy of majority of the House, and what can be found in the Senate, where’s he’s basically going to be deadlocked,” **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, told the [Associated Press](#). The article was republished more than 470 times. (10/24)

## Curve Ball an Optical Illusion



New research by **Arthur Shapiro**, assistant professor of psychology, found that the curve of a curve ball is an optical illusion facilitated by the way the eye is constructed. “It’s like we have an HD camera in the center and a cell phone camera in the periphery (of the eye),” Shapiro explained to [NPR’s \*All Things Considered\*](#). When

we first observe a curve ball from the batter’s point of view, we see it with the strong, central part of our visual system, but as it comes closer, the ball is too fast for the “HD camera” to keep up—we rely on the lesser “cell phone camera” to complete the picture. (10/23)

## Election Season = Mean Season



**Dotty Lynch**, director of the graduate political communication program, told [Yahoo! News](#) that politicians use negative ads because their advisors say they work. Lynch said she had heard of a campaign advisor who told candidates they

would do more good giving money to charity than running positive ads. (10/24)

## Latino Vote Critical in California



**David Lublin**, professor of government, told [CNN’s \*Situation Room\*](#) that the controversy surrounding Republican California gubernatorial candidate Meg Whitman—who fired her illegal immigrant housekeeper when she decided to run for governor—reminded him of former Governor Pete Wilson’s 1994 bid for reelection and Prop. 187. Lublin said Prop. 187, a push to deny tax funded social services to illegal immigrants, succeeded “in making Latinos in California very solidly Democratic.” (10/27)

## AU’s Maksoud Goes One on One



**Clovis Maksoud**, director of the Center for the Global South, discussed life in the center of Arab regional politics and East-West issues with [Al Jazeera English](#) for the network’s popular “One on One” segment, which focuses on the lives and accomplishments of notable public figures in the Middle East. (10/28)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## This Week's Newsmakers

Oct. 30 – Nov. 5, 2010

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### Election Night Coverage



News outlets featured American University elections experts both on camera and in print before and during Election Night. **Danny Hayes**, professor of government, appeared on **NBC News** in more than 100 markets in five-minute election

analysis segments from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. **Reuters** quoted **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, about Speaker Nancy Pelosi's possible exit from her position. **CBS Radio** also interviewed Thurber and **Dotty Lynch**, executive in residence for the School of Communication, on election night about developments during the evening. **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of public communication was on **WTTG-FOX5** to analyze potential results one day before polls opened. (11/1, 11/2)



**NBC's Today Show**, **WTTG-FOX5**, and **Canada TV** interviewed **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, about why many female candidates campaigned, but few won. Lawless told **Atlantic.com** that women were able to position themselves as the better alternative to incumbents in Washington. **CNBC** interviewed **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, to discuss President

Obama's new set of priorities in light of the Republican House majority. **Curtis Gans**, director of the Center for the Study of the American Electorate, told the **Associated Press**, "competitive races featuring tea party-backed candidates in Florida, Texas and Delaware were drawing high voter turnout, with mixed results." (11/1, 11/2, 11/3)

### Additional Features

#### Washington Location Puts Kogod on Top

*The Washington*



**The Washington Diplomat** prominently featured the **Kogod School of Business** in a trend story about business schools launching programs focused on emerging markets. "It's always been my feeling that we need to exploit our location advantage," said **Frank DuBois**, director of The Kogod Global

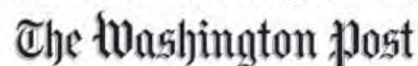
Management Institute focused on business and emerging markets. "You know we're not in Harrisonburg, or Blacksburg, Virginia, or in the middle of Kansas," said DuBois, "We're in Washington—and we need to get involved with the IMF and the World Bank and the embassy community, and talk about the market opportunities our students are going to have going forward." (11/1)

#### American University's Increased Stature



**WAMC-Northeast Public Radio** interviewed President **Neil Kerwin** about American University's history and progress throughout the past 30 years during a live broadcast on campus. "The stature of the institution has increased enormously due exclusively to the influence of a remarkable faculty," Kerwin said.(10/29)

#### American University's Campus Arboretum an Urban Oasis



**The Washington Post** featured the university's devotion to aesthetics in groundskeeping in the Local Living section of the paper. "This attention to an ailing environment has coincided with the arrival of major new buildings

and a strategy of landscape shifts: Underground parking garages support green roofs; old roads and lots are being torn up for new plantings, fresh paths and sitting terraces," noted the article. (11/4)

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## Op-Eds & Editorials

### No 'Year of the Woman'



"With a record number of women running for the U.S. House and U.S. Senate, pundits, pollsters, and politicians assumed it was the dawn of a new day, one in which Democrats and Republicans understood the importance of electing women," wrote

Jennifer Lawless, director of the Women & Politics Institute for a [CNN.com](#) Op-Ed. "High-profile female candidates, many with interesting personal stories and personality traits, fostered the speculation that 2010 might very well be another 'Year of the Woman.' But it wasn't." Lawless also wrote [two similar](#) columns for [Slate.com](#)'s [XXFactor](#) blog. (11/4)

## Quotes

### In 'Waiting for Superman,' a Scene Isn't What It Seems



[The New York Times](#) interviewed **Patricia Aufderheide**, director of the Center for Social Media, about chronology in the documentary film *Waiting for Superman*. "Documentarians firmly believe that altering

chronology in itself is not a betrayal of a good faith relationship with an audience," said Aufderheide, "but altering chronology when it fundamentally alters the interpretation of what happened. That's when you get an ethical breach." (11/2)

### The Rally to Restore Sanity



[WAMC-Northeast Public Radio](#) interviewed **Lauren Feldman**, assistant professor of communication, about Jon Stewart's and Stephen Colbert's pre-election rally in Washington. "When [Stewart] says it's not political, he's more meaning it's not partisan," said Feldman. She also talked to [CBS Radio](#) and the [Washington and San](#)

[Francisco Examiners](#). (10/29, 11/1)

### Can a Kid Have Too Many Moms?



[Psychology Today](#) discussed the changing family dynamic with **Nancy Polikoff**, professor of law, and how gay marriage is affecting children in those families. "The law needs to adapt to the reality of children's lives, and if children are being raised by three parents, the law should not arbitrarily select two of them and say these are

the legal parents, this other person is a stranger," said Polikoff, who also talked to the [San Francisco Examiner](#). (10/31).



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## This Week's Newsmakers

Nov. 5 – Nov. 12, 2010

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### Paradox: Low Turnout with Partisanship



**Curtis Gans**, director of the Center for the Study of the American Electorate, released a study on Election Day voter turnout and appeared on [MSNBC](#) and [Capitol News Connection](#) to discuss the pattern of party changeovers in recent elections. Regarding the election, he told the [New York Times](#), "the mandate was to go in a different direction and make it a better country." [NPR.org](#) and 20 additional outlets published his study. (11/5, 11/7)

#### Michelle Obama's favored candidates: 6 wins, 7 losses

#### Los Angeles Times

The [Los Angeles Times](#) interviewed **Anita McBride**, executive in residence for the School of Public Affairs, about the success rate of the candidates First Lady Michelle Obama supported during the midterm election. "Given the current environment and given the sweeping changes that took place in this election, the fact that six of the 13 candidates she helped and campaigned for won their seats is a good number," she said.

[Chicago Tribune](#) and 20 additional outlets republished the article. (11/6)

### Additional Features

#### 'Butterfly' on stage at American University



[Washington Jewish Week](#) featured **Gail Humphries Mardirosian**, professor of theatre, for her production of the musical, *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*. The story centers on the children confined in the Jewish concentration camps at Terezin during the Holocaust. "I wanted to see if I could use theater as a conduit to enlighten students and the American population about Terezin," she said. "It was such an unusual phenomenon that you have these intellectually and artistically extraordinary human beings there in the [direst] of circumstances." (11/4)

#### Behind the Research: Dr. Sabiyah Prince



[The Atlanta Post](#) featured **Sabiyah Prince**, professor of anthropology, about her work regarding race, class, and culture, and a focus on African Americans in Washington, DC. "I'm writing for my book which is about how Washington, DC, is changing demographically and how African-Americans are affected by the changes, how they are interpreting the changes and how they are responding to the changes," said Prince. (11/8)

#### The Faces of NPR



[Vanity Fair](#) included WAMU 88.5 host **Diane Rehm** in a feature which matched faces to the voices of **NPR's** on-air personalities, asking 'you know these voices, but could you pick these veteran personalities out of a line-up?' A veteran of public radio since 1973, Rehm has interviewed the world's movers

and shakers for an audience of more than 2.1 million a week. (11/9)



## Op-Eds & Editorials

### **Analysis: The Buck Stops with Program Managers**



**Robert Tobias**, director of the Institute for the Study of Public Policy Implementation, wrote an Op-Ed for [Government Executive](#) about how government program leaders run their respective programs. "Time and again, reports from the Government Accountability Office point to federal capital

investments that flounder because of inadequate controls over cost, schedule and technical performance," wrote Tobias. (11/5)

### **The Joyless Election**



**Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, wrote an Op-Ed for the [History News Network](#) regarding lack of election enthusiasm and ousting of the party in power in the past three congressional elections. "Never before in the history of the United States has such a sweeping victory by one political party elicited so little joy and such minimal

expectations," wrote Lichtman. (11/5)

## Quotes

### **Government Lacks Female Representation**



[CNN.com](#) and [Seattle Times](#) interviewed **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, about the number of women who serve as elected government officials. "Our political institutions in the United States remain bastions of male

dominance," said Lawless. "It's actually unbelievable." (11/4, 11/10)

### **Parents' 'Study Circles' Aim to Close Gap on Student Achievement**



[Washington Post](#) interviewed **Mark Clark**, professor of business management, about the positive effects group study has on student achievement and productivity at school. "Yes, we want the students to

achieve," Clark said, "but honestly, even if it is just the dialogue that occurs and people gain understanding of one another, we have actually achieved a large portion of our goal." (11/9)

### **Republicans' Hard Line since Winning House Could Backfire**



The [Los Angeles Times](#) discussed the sudden increase in Republican support during the midterm election with **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies. He said the midterm

vote was "an expression of anger and impatience," and not a sudden burst of affection for the GOP. (11/12)

### **Weighing India's Chances for Security Council Seat**



[NPR](#) interviewed **David Bosco**, professor of international service, about India earning a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council. "I think it's realistic in the longer term," said Bosco, "I think it's unrealistic in the next couple of years. The U.S. may have

decided that India is a good candidate, but broader U.N. membership has not made up its mind yet." (11/8)



## This Week's Newsmakers

Nov. 12 – Nov. 19, 2010

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### Less Spending for National Security

**The New York Times** **Gordon Adams**, professor of foreign policy, led a team that prepared the Bipartisan Policy Center's military spending recommendations for its new report aiming to address the U.S. deficit. Adams discussed his team's recommendations, which included a 5-year freeze on Pentagon spending, with the [New York Times](#), acknowledging it would not be easy. Adams also spoke to [NPR.org](#) about Democrats losing their top defense and military voices on the Hill. (11/12, 11/17)

### Additional Features

#### Blasphemy Law Prevents Free Speech in Pakistan



During a 7-minute interview segment on [CNN International](#), **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, discussed a case of blasphemy against a Pakistani Christian woman sentenced to death for comments about the Prophet Mohammed. "These cases appear again and again, unfortunately, targeting the Christian minority," Ahmed explained, saying blasphemy law often compromises Pakistani citizens' right to free speech. (11/18)

#### Washington Project for the Arts at the AU Museum

**The Washington Post** The [Washington Post](#) ran a glowing review of *Catalyst: 35 Years of Washington Project for the Arts*, now at the **American University Museum**. "It is the role of nonprofit alternatives such as WPA to act as a catalyst - and a home - for art that might otherwise slip between those cracks," wrote critic Michael O'Sullivan about WPA's role in promoting art that is not shown in D.C. museums and galleries. The *Post* also featured an [image gallery](#) and a [sidebar](#) article about Alberto Gaitan whose work is in *Catalyst*. (11/18)

#### Reinventing Yourself in Journalism



A [Huffington Post](#) column by AU alumna Janet Janijigian highlighted a **School of Communication** event about staying ahead of technology in journalism—moderated by SOC alumna and WRC-NBC4 anchor Wendy Reiger. "Larry Kirkman, Dean of the School of Communication, has encouraged and cultivated a broad spectrum of professors, alums and students attracting new talent and exciting educational programs and opportunities, Yes, the AU experience did change my life and my career in news—mine and many others," wrote Janijigian. (11/15)

#### The Democratic Lame Duck Agenda



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, appeared on [NBC Nightly News](#) to discuss President Obama's new agenda with a Republican led Congress. "He's trying to play the space in the middle. There's nobody in the middle and it's going to be very hard for him," he said. Thurber also appeared on [PBS NewsHour](#) to discuss the rise of government earmarks and in an interview with [Gannett](#), he said Democratic leadership needs to have "someone who is tough and knows the media and knows how to react." (11/12, 11/16 11/17)

## Quotes

### Top Investors Share Their Picks

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.** Gerald Martin, professor of finance, and the [Wall Street Journal](#) discussed Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc. taking a new \$52 million stake in Bank of New York Mellon Corp. and the retirement of Buffett's Berkshire colleague Lou Simpson. "It appears to be a changing of the guard," Martin said. "It's interesting timing. It coincides with Lou leaving and the new guy coming on." (11/16)

### Other Generations Weary of Baby Boomers



[USA Today](#) asked Leonard Steinhorn, professor of public communication, about newer generations' feelings about baby boomers. "Boomers have certainly sucked up a lot of cultural oxygen. They changed America in deep and profound ways," he said. "It's natural for other generations to think they didn't get their time in the sun." (11/17)

### Health Care Reform under Attack



Stephen Vladeck, professor of law, appeared on [CNN's Situation Room](#) to discuss the health care reform debate between the federal government and state legislatures. He said the question lies in whether the federal government can require consumers to buy health care or tax those who do not. "The states, the challengers, have to convince the courts that it's unconstitutional on both sides," said Vladeck. (11/12)

### Presidents Get Less Personal Time



[Newsweek](#) interviewed Allan Lichtman, professor of history, about how presidential responsibilities have increased, leaving the president less personal time. "Lincoln had time to think," Lichtman said. "That kind of downtime just doesn't exist anymore." (11/13)



## This Week's Newsmakers

Nov. 19 – Dec. 3, 2010

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### Young Guns in Power



The Kennedy Political Union hosted Majority Leader-designate **Eric Cantor** (R-Va.), Majority Whip-designate **Kevin McCarthy** (R-Calif.), and presumptive budget chairman **Paul Ryan** (R-Wisc.) for a town hall meeting. The congressmen said President Obama must agree to work with the GOP to create progress in the current lame-duck session of Congress. [C-SPAN](#) broadcasted live from the event, and re-aired the forum three times. A [two-part](#) interview with the congressmen appeared on [FOX News' On the Record with Greta Van Susteren](#), [Roll Call](#), [The Hill](#), [National Journal](#), and [National Review](#), and others

published articles. (11/29, 11/30)

### Additional Features

#### Washington Post Chat with Bill Mayer

[washingtonpost.com](#)

Bill Mayer, university librarian, discussed final exam preparation, navigating the library, and finding the best research sources in a [Washingtonpost.com Campus Overload](#) online chat. Mayer talked about

the university's library system and why it is a good place to study for exams. "With so many internet-enabled resources now, the library is everywhere, you have a network. We're in the dorms, we're in the classrooms, we're on the quad!" he said. (12/2)

#### Notable LLM Degree Programs

**FINANCIAL TIMES**

[Financial Times](#) highlighted the **Kogod School of Business** and the **Washington College of Law** in a feature about their joint LLM and MBA program. According to the article, the popularity of post-graduate law and business degrees is rising. (11/21)

#### Women Who Spoke For Presidents Say More Women Should Run

**National Journal**

In a bipartisan expression of concern former White House press secretaries Dee Dee Myers and Dana Perino said finding female candidates to run for office is difficult during a discussion hosted by the **Women & Politics Institute**. [National Journal](#) and [U.S. News & World Report](#) covered the event. (11/30)

#### Attention Getters: 40 Who Shaped 2010

**WASHINGTONIAN**

[Washingtonian magazine](#) included **Danielle Evans**, professor of literature, as one of 40 people in Washington, D.C. who made an impact in 2010. Evans, the only university professor and the only university representative on the list, published "one of the year's best short story collections," *Before You Suffocate Your Own Fool Self*. (December)

### Op-Eds and Editorials

#### Protest Power in the Philippines

**The Nation.**

**Robin Broad**, professor of international development, coauthored a three-page profile in *The Nation* about a Philippine congressman who participated in the People's Power protests against Ferdinand Marcos in 1986. Broad accompanied the congressman to the Philippine president's state of the nation. (12/6)

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## Quotes

### U.S. Weighs Prosecution of Wikileaks Founder



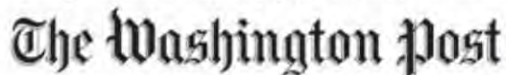
**Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, discussed the implications of the case against the founder of WikiLeaks with the [New York Times](#). "The government has never brought an Espionage Act prosecution that would look remotely like this one," Vladeck said. [Christian Science Monitor](#) also quoted him, and he appeared on [Canada TV](#) and [Portland, Maine's NBC affiliate station](#). (12/1, 12/2)

### College Students on Break Fix Other People's Lives



[USA Today](#) highlighted American University's alternative break program to Columbia in a story about college service trips. The article noted that many programs take place in the winter to allow for additional travel time, and student Matthew Barnes' alternative break trip. (11/29)

### Early Decision Applications Are More Popular Than Ever



**Greg Grauman**, director of admissions, said, "The ultimate demonstration of interest is applying early decision," in a [Washington Post](#) article about college admissions. He noted that American University received 576 early decision applications this

year—a seven percent increase from last year. (11/27)

### Toward a WWI Memorial



**Peter Kuznick**, professor of history, explained to the [Los Angeles Times](#) why there is no national monument for World War I. "It's one of those black holes in American

historical memory, in part because it was such a negative experience both at the time and even more so in hindsight," he said. Kuznick's remarks were republished in the [Chicago Tribune](#), [Orlando Sentinel](#), [AARP: The Magazine](#), among others. (11/28)

### Astronauts Considered in NASA Budget Cuts



**Howard McCurdy**, professor of public administration, discussed with the [Los Angeles Times](#) the reason behind the temporary stop on NASA's astronaut program and the details of the

department's budget cuts. "Astronauts are expensive," he said. "Keeping them on the government payroll isn't like maintaining a couple of extra forest rangers." (12/1)

### Gulf Oil Spill Offshore Drilling Firms Threaten to Go Abroad



**Dan Fiorino**, professor of environmental policy, talked to the [Christian Science Monitor](#) about the Obama administration's ban on offshore drilling. "Do you go for short-term economic benefits concentrated in one area or the longer-term risk of some other environmental disaster?" he asked. (11/22)

### Prosecuting WikiLeaks



**Daniel Marcus**, professor of law, appeared on [MSNBC's The Daily Rundown](#) to discuss the case against WikiLeaks. "We don't think of WikiLeaks as being part of the mainstream press, and yet WikiLeaks is doing essentially the same thing the [New York Times](#) did when it published the information about the NSA electronic surveillance program," said Marcus. (12/1)

## Explaining the DREAM Act



**Alan Kraut**, professor of history, discussed the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) act on [CNBC Radio](#). "We're trying to find a solution to the many unauthorized or undocumented immigrants who are coming into the United States, and so it's natural that this would be a hot topic of political debate," said Kraut. (11/30)

## Palin Presidential Strategy



**Lauren Feldman**, professor of public communication, appeared on six **Hearst Television** stations to discuss the impact of Sarah Palin's reality television exposure on her possible 2012 presidential campaign. "For people who aren't following politics or may only follow it when there is a big election going on, this is a way for them to build some kind of relationship with Sarah Palin," said Feldman. (11/23)

## Deficit Commission Recommendations



**Robert Tobias**, distinguished practitioner in residence, discussed the new federal pay freeze on [Federal News Radio](#). He said the pay freeze will make it difficult for managers to motivate their employees to work towards the common goal of running a functioning office., "It will make it much more complex, especially given the age of the federal work force," Tobias said. (12/1)

## Pentagon says Gays Won't Hurt Military



**William Leap**, professor of anthropology, discussed the Pentagon's study recommending the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" with the [Washington Examiner](#). Leap said "the conflict over the policy reflects a generational divide and wider cultural acknowledgment and awareness of homosexuality among younger people." (11/30)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## This Week's Newsmakers

Dec. 3 – Dec. 10, 2010

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Challenges in Prosecuting Wikileaks Founder



Stephen Vladeck, professor of law, appeared on [CNN's American Morning](#) and [CTV: Canadian Television](#) to talk about challenges the U.S. government faces in prosecuting the WikiLeaks founder. "One of the hardest and most important things for the government to prove is that the defendant knew that what he was doing was violating the Espionage Act," he said. An [ABCNews.com](#) article also quoted Vladeck. (12/7, 12/8, 12/9)

### Additional Features

#### Boosting the Profile of Local Artists



[WAMU's The Kojo Nnamdi Show](#) featured [CATALYST: 35 Years of Washington Project for the Arts](#), an exhibit at the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center. The segment focused on the WPA's history of helping local artists build their artistic reputations. (12/7).


### Op-Eds and Editorials

#### GOP's Southern Stampede

[St. Petersburg Times](#) "For decades after the end of Reconstruction, the Democratic Party ran the South's public affairs, but the political world has changed, and last month, the formerly one-party Democratic region continued its evolution into a one-party Republican one," wrote **Danny Hayes**, professor of government, in a [St. Petersburg Times](#) Op-Ed about the strong Republican influence in the South. (12/5)

### Quotes


#### Obama Wants New 'Sputnik Moment' for America

 **Associated Press** The [Associated Press](#) interviewed **Howard McCurdy**, professor of public policy, about President Obama's charge for an American "Sputnik Moment." According to McCurdy, while a jolt of innovation is needed for the country, he's not sure what type of precipitous major event Obama is referring to. "Usually, it requires a Pearl Harbor, a shock to the system, and is followed by something new and major, neither of which is occurring," he said. More than 180 news outlets republished the article. (12/6)

#### In Congress, Short-Timers Pack Up as a New Wave Prepares to Move In

[The Washington Post](#) "The unvarnished truth is that most of them made absolutely no impression whatsoever," said **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, to the [Washington Post](#) about ousted freshman and sophomore Democratic congressional representatives. (12/8)

#### Political Negotiating on Tax Cuts and Jobless Benefits

 **Marketplace** **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed the tax cut deal between President Obama and congressional Republicans in an interview with [American Public Media's Marketplace](#). "The Democrats will claim that the Republicans want to give tax cuts to the very wealthy, and the Republicans will say the Democrats want to raise taxes and spend money yet again," he said. (12/6)

AU064506

## Bill to Bar Illegal Immigrants from State Colleges Pre-filed for Next Session



**Virginia**  
Statehouse News

"Allowing people access to higher education is not just a benefit to them, it is a benefit to society," said **William LeoGrande**, dean of the School of Public Affairs, to the [Virginia Statehouse News](#) about a Virginia bill limiting illegal immigrants from enrolling in public colleges. (12/8)





AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## This Week's Newsmakers

Dec. 10 – Dec. 17, 2010

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Report Details Ties between U.S., Nazi War Criminals

**AP Associated Press** Richard Breitman, professor of history, talked to the [Associated Press](#) about a report he coauthored that uncovered the CIA's use of Nazi war criminals to wage "a covert war" against the Soviet Union during the Cold War. [The New York Times](#) also wrote a story and more than 315 news outlets, including the [Los Angeles Times](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [Houston Chronicle](#), [FOXNews.com](#), [MSNBC.com](#), and [Forbes.com](#), republished the AP article. (12/10, 12/11)

### Additional Feature

#### SOC Adds *Current* to Public Media Initiatives

**The New York Times** [The New York Times](#) announced that public media trade publication *Current* will have a new home with American University's School of Communication. Larry Kirkman, dean of the School of Communication, noted that the school is "a laboratory for the future of public media," as demonstrated by initiatives like the Center for Social Media and the Investigative Reporting Workshop, which produces for PBS's *FRONTLINE*. Several other news outlets, including [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#) and [Politico](#), also published the announcement. (12/13)

### Quotes

#### Healthcare Ruling



"It's just one judge, and on an issue of this importance, the Supreme Court justices will approach it from their own standpoint," said **Dan Marcus**, professor of law, on [NBC Nightly News](#) about a Virginia judge's decision to rule President Obama's healthcare bill unconstitutional. (12/13)

#### Politicians Fear Military Pay Raise Too Small

**CNN** While opposition to the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell may be mostly to blame for delaying approval of the Defense Authorization Bill, it isn't the only provision that has politicians sweating. "Dealing with military pay, benefits and health care is a classic third rail of defense planning," **Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, told [CNN.com](#) about the bill's proposal to give military personnel a 1.9 percent pay raise—an amount politicians fear is too small. (12/11)

#### Obama's History of Compromise Brought Him to Tax-Cut Deal

**Bloomberg Businessweek** "This deal is all about stimulating the economy. Obama knows that if the economy recovers over the next two years he will rather easily win re-election, much like Reagan in 1984," said **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, to [Bloomberg BusinessWeek](#) about President Obama's compromise on taxes with congressional Republicans. (12/16)

#### AU Expert on WikiLeaks, Health Care Law



**Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, spoke to [MSNBC.com](#) and [PBS.org](#) about the WikiLeaks controversy. He said the single biggest problem with the Espionage Act is that its limits have never truly been tested. Vladeck was also a guest on [WAMU's The Kojo Nnamdi Show](#) to discuss a Virginia federal judge's ruling of the healthcare bill. "The question here is whether imposing [the] healthcare requirement is a bridge too far," said Vladeck. (12/12, 12/14, 12/15)

AU064508

### Changing D.C.'s Adoption Laws

**WAMU 88.5 FM**  
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY RADIO

"A lot of policies around child welfare had incentives that a lot of people hadn't thought about," said **Mary Hansen**, professor of economics, on [WAMU's Metro Connection](#). Hansen discussed her research—which uncovered a subsidy discrepancy that made adoption in D.C. less financially beneficial than being a foster family—and how it helped change D.C. adoption laws. (12/13)

### Much of Obama's Agenda in Hands of Courts

**The Examiner**  
WASHINGTON

"The fact that Obama's political agenda is sunken into litigation reflects how deeply the country is divided over fundamental issues," said **Jamin Raskin**, professor of law, to the [Washington Examiner](#) about the opposition to many of the president's sweeping policy changes leading to lawsuits. (12/14)



## This Week's Newsmakers

Dec. 17, 2010 – Jan. 7, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### The 2010 Post 200



The [Washington Post's Capital Business](#) published a list of the 200 largest companies in Washington, D.C. that power the local economy. [American University](#) with one of the highest enrollments for the 2009-2010 academic school year ranked fifth among local universities. (12/27)

#### Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies 2010 Winter Institutes



The **Campaign Management Institute** hosted its annual two-week class to train individuals for political campaign participation. Students heard from campaign industry works including [Ben Nienaber](#), [David Winston](#), and [Jeff Berkowitz](#). At the **Public Affairs and Advocacy Institute**, students learned from American University President [Neil Kerwin](#), [Elizabeth Moler](#), [Charles Brain](#), and [Michael Berman](#). **C-SPAN2** provided live broadcasts of the sessions. Between live sessions and re-airings, more than 65 hours of programming appeared on the **C-SPAN** Networks. (12/27-1/7)

### Additional Features

#### Common Sense Key to Entrepreneurial Success



In her research study, [Barbara Bird](#), professor of management, found that entrepreneurs who learn from experience have an edge over those who acquire knowledge through observation or reading. Bird told [Reuters](#), "They have to make the best decisions possible in the least amount of time. They need to act. Practical intelligence empowers them to act quickly and confidently." (1/6)

#### Banks Slowly Getting Stronger



[Wendell Cochran](#), professor of communication, authored an article for the [BankTracker](#) series, a joint project of AU's Investigative Reporting Workshop and msnbc.com. He wrote, "The only category of troubled

assets still growing is 'other real estate owned,' which is primarily property the banks acquired through foreclosure. As of the end of September, banks had \$46.9 billion worth of other real estate owned, a 21 percent increase since the first of the year." (12/21)

### Op-Eds/Editorials

#### Christians Senselessly Tormented by Extremists in Muslim World



[Akbar Ahmed](#), chair of Islamic studies, coauthored an op-ed for [CNN.com](#) about the persecution of Christians in Muslim nations. He wrote, "Christians living in the great societies of Islamic history, including Muslim Spain and the Ottoman Empire, largely

lived in peace and security according to their own laws. Yet in the past few years, the persecution of Christians has increased in scope and frequency." (12/23)

## A Leaner and Meaner Defense

FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS

"The United States faces a watershed moment: it must decide whether to increase its already massive debt in order to continue being the world's sheriff or restrain its military missions and focus on economic recovery," wrote **Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, in an essay for [Foreign Affairs](#) magazine which focused on improving the Pentagon's performance by cutting its budget. (12/22)

## Slavery, Jim Crow and the White House

counterpunch

**Clarence Lusane**, professor of international service, wrote an editorial for [Counterpunch.org](#) about "The President's House: Freedom and Slavery in Making a New Nation" a new exhibit in Philadelphia's Independence Park. "The President House exhibit's most important lesson is not about the country's first President, but about the voiceless people whose stories have gone untold for centuries," wrote Lusane. (12/17)

## Quotes

### Kennedy's exit from Congress leaves a family void

AP

Associated Press

"It is a milestone," said **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, to the [Associated Press](#) about Representative Patrick Kennedy's exit from the House, ending an era of more than 60 years of the Kennedys serving in office. "Frankly, it's not as if there's a new generation of Kennedys ready to move into public life in a major way," said Lichtman. More than 150 outlets, including the *Washington Post* and *Los Angeles Times*, published the article. (12/26)

### Daley Bring Business and Political Smarts to Job

AP

Associated Press

**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed President Obama's new chief of staff with the [Associated Press](#). "[William Daley] is different than Rahm. His ego is not as big and I think that's good for the White House. He's not going to be sending a fish to anybody," he said. More than 125 outlets, including the *New York Times* and *Chicago Tribune*, republished the article. (1/6)

### Senate Passes Bill to Lift Military Gay Ban

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

**Michelle McCluer**, executive director of the National Institute of Military Justice, discussed the repeal of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' with the [Wall Street Journal](#) and in a radio interview on New York City's public radio station [WNYC](#). "The individuals who are in the military who are currently serving who are homosexual, I think, are going to be reticent at first to step forward until they see that the command is implementing the policy," she said. (12/18)

### Chicago Seen as Likely 2012 Obama HQ

Chicago Tribune

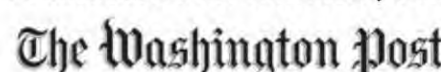
"He will and must select Chicago. Obama needs to project an anti-Washington image and keep the campaign staff far away from the echo chamber in D.C." said **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, to the [Chicago Tribune](#) about where President Obama should set up his reelection headquarters. More than 25 outlets republished this article. (12/24)

### The 112th Congress Convenes

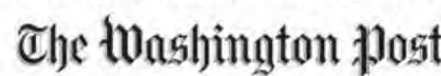
The Washington Post

**Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, discussed the transition between the 111th and 112th Congresses, in an [interview](#) and [online chat](#) with the *Washington Post*, in a radio interview with Boston's NPR affiliate [WBUR](#), and in an appearance on [WTTG-FOX5](#). (12/20, 12/23, 12/31)

## A Milestone for Mikulski, the 'Dean' of Senate Women

 As Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.) becomes the longest serving female Senator, **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, doesn't see much to celebrate in terms of women's equality in Congress. "I have a more 'glass is half empty' outlook on this one," said Lawless to the [Washington Post](#). "When we are 52 percent of the population and only 17 percent of the Senate, it's difficult to say we've made so much progress, especially when that number has plateaued." (1/4)


## Double Standard on Stock Ownership in Military Development

 The Senate Armed Services Committee prohibits its staff and presidential appointees requiring Senate confirmation from owning stocks or bonds in companies with Defense Department contracts, but no such provision applies to the senators who sit on the committee. "You get a great deal of information about the Pentagon's intentions for the future," said **Gordon Adams**, professor of international service to the [Washington Post](#). "As a member, you have vastly more information than the average Wall Street adviser or investor." (12/18)


## Obama Looks to Reagan Years as a Way to Move Agenda

 "It's been one of the fastest cycles of political recoveries I've ever witnessed," said **Patrick Griffin**, associate director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, to [Bloomberg BusinessWeek](#) about President Obama's agenda for the new Congress. **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, also discussed President Obama's legislative agenda with the new GOP controlled House on [WAMU's The Diane Rehm Show](#) and [MarketPlace: American Public Media](#). (12/23, 1/3, 1/4)


## Argentina Swap Seeks Default Closure

 **Arturo Porzencanski**, professor of economics, discussed Argentina's decision to reopen its debt swap to investors with [Bloomberg BusinessWeek](#). He said "it won't cure the default because the bulk of the bondholders who didn't enter have consolidated into a hard core of litigants who have judgments and have won lawsuits." (1/5)

## Defining Moments at the Court in 2010

 **Jamin Raskin**, professor of law, highlighted the Supreme Court's top 2010 moments with the [National Law Journal](#). President Obama's scolding the justices over Citizens United and Justice Samuel Alito, Jr.'s negative reaction tops the list. "It confirmed the dominant impression of the Court as closely aligned with the agenda of corporate America, and what Alito did showed just how passionate the justices are on that side," said Raskin. (12/28)

## Baby Boomers Turn 65

 As the first wave of the Baby Boom generation turns 65 this year, **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, discussed the generation's impact on society, with Southwest Florida's [News-Press](#). "Boomers pivoted society in a new direction. We are a far better society today because of the values they instilled in everyday life," he said. (1/1)

## Tax on Cuban Cash Exchange Lifted

 **Philip Brenner**, professor of foreign policy, discussed the end of a tax on American money exchanged in Cuba with [Al Jazeera English](#). Cubans will be able to pay the 10 percent fee in pesos instead of being forced to pay in dollars. "What this means is that if a Cuban American wants to send money to a family in Cuba, they will pay less, they will be able to send more," he said. (12/28)

# **Sharon Alston Declaration**

## **Exhibit 210**



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## This Week's Newsmakers

January 7–14, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### Sense of Place



[University Business](#) showcased the new School of International Service's creative green elements and how the building reflects the school's mission. "We want the building to be an inspiration, and it already is," said **Lou Goodman**, dean of the School of International Service. "We want it to inspire students to dream and think about what they want to do in the world." (1/1)

#### American's Vlad Moldoveanu Has Come a Long Way from Romania



The [Washington Post](#) featured American University senior and basketball player **Vlad Moldoveanu** for his accomplishments on the court. In one week, Moldoveanu earned three top honors including Patriot League Player of the Week, East Coast Athletic Conference Player of the Week, and U.S. Basketball Writers Association Oscar Robertson National Player of the Week—a Patriot League and AU first. (1/11)

### Op-Eds/Editorials

#### Career Advice: Job Letters



In two compositions for [Inside Higher Ed](#), **Richard Sha**, professor of literature, provided pointers on how academics should write job letters. Sha said, "The job letter is one of the most important pieces of writing an academic does. But I have seen, serving on 15 search committees, that some letters never have a chance." His [first piece](#) discussed how doctoral committees review recommendation letters and [the second](#) advised doctoral students on how to write their letter properly. (1/10, 1/12)

### Quotes

#### Political Discourse and the Arizona Assassination Attempt



In the wake of the shootings at a Congressional rally in Tucson, AZ, several American University experts discussed political discourse in the United States. **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, appeared on [BBC World News](#), and **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, appeared on [WTTG-FOX5](#). Steinhorn, **Carolyn Brown**, assistant professor of communication, and **Connie Morella**,

ambassador in residence, were quoted in the [Boston Globe](#), [Financial Times](#), and [Roll Call](#) respectively. **Jane Hall**, professor of journalism, discussed President Obama's role as "Consoler-In-Chief" with the [Washington Examiner](#). (1/10, 1/11, 1/12)

#### NASA Names Backup for Giffords' Husband on Shuttle



**Howard McCurdy**, professor of public administration, discussed NASA's decision to name a back-up to astronaut Mark Kelly, commander of the space shuttle program's final flight and husband to Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords. "The shooting of Mrs. Giffords put NASA in an uncomfortable position about what to do with the April flight," he told the [Associated Press](#). More than 235 outlets, including the [Los Angeles Times](#), republished the article. (1/13)

#### Struggle Forecast for Pentagon and Deficit Hawks



"The finger in the dike didn't work, and now he is acknowledging that pressure from outside is impinging on defense," said **Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, to the [New York Times](#)

regarding Secretary of Defense Robert Gates' defense budget cuts. (1/8)

AU064513

### Early Practice Fosters Entrepreneurial Common Sense



“The sooner someone gets thinking about business, the more likely they’re going to have practical intelligence in starting a business,” said **Barbara Bird**, professor of management, about her new research about entrepreneurial success in an interview on [The Insana Quotient](#) with CNBC’s Ron Insana. (1/12)

### BP Likely to Face Criminal Charges



**Dan Jacobs**, executive-in-residence in the Kogod School of Business, discussed the likely legal fall out of the BP Oil Spill Commission’s final report in an interview on **Sirius XM Radio’s POTUS**. “What you’re going to see, you’ve already seen, the civil suit for billions of dollars in penalties by the Justice Department, and I think you

need to stay tuned for criminal charges down the road,” he said. (1/12)

### Republicans Boost Ayotte as New Face of Party



“The GOP has not elected any new women to the Senate in recent election cycles, so they finally have an opportunity to showcase one. That’s what it is, though—showcasing,” said **Jennifer Lawless**,

director of the Women & Politics Institute, to [Roll Call](#) about Senator Kelly Ayotte’s newfound spotlight in the Republican Party. (1/12)





## This Week's Newsmakers

January 14–21, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Business Schools See Rise in On-Campus Recruiting

##### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

The **Kogod School of Business** was one of two schools mentioned in a [Wall Street Journal](#) trend story about job prospects for 2011 MBA grads. "Not only are companies rebounding, they are also accelerating their hiring to make up for lost time," said **Arlene Hill**, director of Kogod's Career Development Center, about the rosier picture for the class of 2011, Hill added that 25 percent of the MBA class of 2011 had job offers (a more than 15 percent increase from the class of 2010) and that government consulting was a large factor in the uptick. (1/14)

### Additional Feature

#### Barefoot Coach Brings Awareness to Good Cause



**Jeff Jones**, head coach of AU men's basketball, coached the Eagles-Army game barefoot in support of Samaritan's Feet, a non-profit that provides shoes for the poor. [WRC-NBC4](#), [WTTG-FOX5](#), [WJLA-ABC7](#), [TBD-Channel8](#), and [WUSA-CBS9](#) profiled Jones for his efforts to bring attention to the cause. Earlier in the week, Coach Jones and the team did volunteer work on behalf of Samaritan's Feet which was covered by [Comcast Sports](#). (1/19)

### Op-Eds/Editorials

#### Five Myths about Defense Spending

##### The Washington Post

**Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, coauthored a [Washington Post](#) Op-Ed about common defense-spending myths. "Defense spending is a massive part of our federal budget and a

cause of equally massive debate, whether in wartime or in peace," wrote Adams. "We can no longer separate national security from fiscal imperatives. Unfortunately, several myths keep us from a more disciplined defense budget." (1/14)

### Quotes

#### Attorney Argues for GI's Release in WikiLeaks Case



"The allegations that this person is in some form of solitary confinement is by itself a matter of concern because solitary confinement by itself can, at least in some instances, cause very serious psychological harm," said **Juan**

**Mendez**, visiting professor of law, to the [Associated Press](#) about the detained WikiLeaks suspect. More than 35 outlets including [Washington Post](#), [Boston Globe](#), and [MSNBC.com](#) republished the article. (1/14)

#### Reversing 'Citizens United'

##### The Washington Post

"American citizens have repeatedly amended the Constitution to defend democracy when the Supreme Court acts in collusion with democracy's enemies," said **Jamin Raskin**, professor of law, to the [Washington Post](#) about an amendment to support last year's

Supreme Court decision on *Citizens United v. Federal Elections Committee*. (1/18)

## FCC, Justice approve Comcast-NBCU merger

**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

"This is an extraordinary development. It's a new kind of media consolidation and it will bring with it, its own set of risks, concerns and dangers. Nothing like this kind of combination has happened before," said **John Dunbar**, director of the media and broadband project with AU's Investigative Reporting Workshop, to the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) about the Comcast-NBC merger. (1/19)

## Risk in Long Term Insurance

**Bloomberg**

"It's a market where policies typically get underwritten fairly early on," said **Robin Lumsdane**, professor of finance, on [Bloomberg Radio's The Hays Advantage](#). "The number of people who have long term insurance is actually quite small." (1/18)

## Issa Settles for Assistant for First Hearing on Obama Policies

**Bloomberg Businessweek**

**Richard Semiatin**, assistant professor of government, discussed Speaker of the House John Boehner, and the U.S. House Oversight and Government Reform Committee's investigation of the Obama administration with [Bloomberg BusinessWeek](#). "Issa's approach may stem from the political tone set by the new House speaker, Ohio Republican John Boehner. Boehner doesn't want to turn his speakership into one of just investigations," said Semiatin. (1/21)

## Delaware, China Aim to Strengthen Ties

**do delawareonline**

**Frank DuBois**, chair of the international business department, discussed Chinese business interest in the state of Delaware with the [Delaware News-Journal](#). "The Chinese government sees a practical purpose to locating businesses in Delaware, since there are so many consumers in this country, and Delaware is so close to much of that population," he said. (1/18)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## This Week's Newsmakers

January 21–28, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### AU Faculty Wonks Analyze State of the Union Address



Several American University political and communication wonks analyzed President Obama's second State of the Union address. SOC's **Dotty Lynch** discussed how coverage has drifted from broadcast networks to cable news and the Web with [Politico](#). CBS News Radio, San Francisco's ABC Radio affiliate and [Federal News Radio](#) interviewed SOC's **Robert Lehrman**, who also wrote an article for [Christian Science Monitor](#). In addition, Lehrman was an in-studio guest for post address analysis on [WAMU 88.5 Radio](#) alongside SPA's **Connie Morella**. CAS's

**Allan Lichtman** discussed the Republican response with the [Washington Post](#). [WAMU's The Diane Rehm Show](#) and [Yahoo! News](#) interviewed SPA's **James Thurber**. Finally, SPA's **Jennifer Lawless**, participated in a **Canada Broadcasting Company** radio tour and provided post-speech analysis with **China Radio International**. (1/21, 1/24, 1/25, 1/26)

### Additional Features

#### Stress Driven by Economic Insecurity and Food Abundance Blamed for Obesity



"When I began to look into the issue of obesity, I realized that the most overweight are the least privileged members of society. And amongst those, it tended to be minorities. And amongst minorities it tended to be women. It

was those people who possessed the least control over their lives, and thus suffer the greatest insecurity and stress," said **Jon Wisman**, professor of economics to [eMaxHealth.com](#) about his research suggesting economic insecurity leads to obesity. More than 60 outlets, including [Asia News International](#), published articles about the research. (1/21, 1/22)

#### Circles, Stains at AU Museum



[Washington Jewish Week](#) featured **Julie Linowes: STAIN, Marisa Baumgartner: Grande Avenues, and Nicole Cohen: Driving in Circles**, three of the six exhibits at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. The article highlights Linowes, Baumgartner, and Cohen's D.C. roots and Jewish heritage. (1/26)

### Op-Ed/Editorial

#### Hu Jintao's Visit Ends Any Dreams of the US and China Sharing the World Stage



**Amitav Acharya**, professor of international relations, wrote an editorial for [Jakarta Globe](#) about Chinese President Hu Jintao's visit to the United States and the U.S.-China summit. "While the unipolar moment in international relations is over, it will not be replaced by a China-U.S. duopoly, at least not

an effective one that addresses the challenges of our time," he wrote. (1/25)

### Quotes

#### Product Placement, Turned Inside Out



**Patricia Aufderheide**, director of the Center for Social Media, explained to the [New York Times](#) why high level officials of large corporations participate in interviews with documentary filmmakers, who typically put said officials on the hot seat. "If

they're not there, it looks like an admission of guilt," she said. "And at least if they show up they have a chance to get their side of the story—their spin—across." (1/22)

AU064517

## How Challenger Brought NASA Down to Earth



"When the shuttle turned out to be not what we thought it was, all those downstream visions began to crumble," said **Howard McCurdy**, professor of public administration, to [USA Today](#) about the 25th anniversary of the Challenger explosion. "The business model collapsed, and it wasn't just the business model for shuttle, it was the business model for shuttle, station, Mars, [and] the moon. It was like a corporation going down." (1/26)

## Olbermann's Abrupt Exit: What Happened?



**Jane Hall**, associate professor of communication, appeared on [CNN's Reliable Sources](#) to discuss Keith Olbermann's resignation from MSNBC. "I think it's regrettable that his voice is lost because [Olbermann and MSNBC] were the anti-Fox. That's what he characterized himself as," said Hall. (1/23)

## Accused Tucson Shooter's Day in Court



"Raise the insanity defense from day one, simply with the hope of saving the defendant's life once it comes to the sentencing part of the proceedings," is the strategy **Ira Robbins**, professor of law, suggested on [NBC Nightly News](#) for accused Tucson gunman Jared Loughner's defense team. More than 15 additional NBC affiliate stations re-aired the segment. (1/23)



## This Week's Newsmakers

January 28–February 4, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### The Fight for Democracy: Egypt in Crisis



Prof. DIANE SINGERMAN  
School of Public Affairs, American Univ.

Egyptian citizens demanded a shift from dictatorship to democracy and several AU foreign policy wonks analyzed the chaos in the Middle East. **Diane Singerman**, associate professor of government, discussed the situation with the [New York Times](#), [Bloomberg News](#), [St. Louis Times-Dispatch](#), and in interviews on [ABC's World News with Diane Sawyer](#), [American Public Media's MarketPlace](#), [Minnesota Public Radio](#), [Wisconsin Public Radio](#), [WHYY-FM's Radio Times with Marty Moss-Coane](#) and [WRC-NBC4](#). Singerman also wrote an op-ed for [Foreign Policy](#)

magazine. **Mustafa Aksakal**, assistant professor of history, discussed what is at stake for the United States with [USA Today](#), and **Clovis Maksoud**, director of the Center for Global South, spoke with Hispanic news service, [Agencia EFE](#). [Washingtonpost.com's Campus Overload](#) was one of several outlets to highlight AU's efforts to assist students studying abroad in Egypt. (1/28-31, 2/1-2)

#### Snow Day Class Taught on Facebook



**Rhonda Zaharna**, associate professor of communication, wrote a column for [Washingtonpost.com's Campus Overload](#) about her decision to use Facebook to conduct class during a snow storm. "I

learned a lot, and the students did an incredible job. They provided solid, thoughtful answers that referred to their reading and research. And they seemed to enjoy the experience," wrote Zaharna. The article went viral after Facebook featured it on its fan page and has received more than 18,000 "likes." (2/2)

### Additional Features

#### Applications Rise (Yet Again) at Dozens of Selective Colleges



The sluggish economy and increasing cost of a college education appear to have done nothing to cool applicants' interest in those institutions that, historically, have been among the most difficult to

get into, according to the [New York Times](#). The article included American University among a group selective colleges that saw an increase in freshmen applications. (1/31)

#### Can New Online Rankings Really Measure Colleges' Brand Strength?



The [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) mentioned **American University's Wonk campaign** in an article about the relationship between a university's online presence and the

success of its branding campaign. "Monitoring social-media usage is a good short-term technique for testing the effectiveness of a campaign," says **Teresa Flannery**, executive director of University Communications and Marketing. (1/30)

#### Race Relations and the White House



"[The White House] signals to many people around the world democracy, freedom, liberation; but not only the occupants of the White House historically not live up to those values, but the building itself was built by a combination of slave labor and free labor," said **Clarence Lusane**, associate professor of international service on [BBC World News](#) to discuss his new book [The Black History of the White House](#). [Public Radio International's](#)

[The Tavis Smiley Show](#) and [NPR's Talk of the Nation](#) also interviewed Lusane. (1/28)


## For Generations of Runners, the Ultimate Test

### The New York Times


**Matt Centrowitz**, head cross-country and track coach, became an inaugural member of New York City's Van Cortlandt Park's Cross Country Hall of Fame. "Van Cortlandt was the ultimate," said Centrowitz to the [New York Times](#). "Kids would come from Massachusetts and Maryland. The point was if you were a star in any state, you came to Vannie like a gunslinger." (1/27)

## Quotes


### Giffords' Astronaut Hubby to be Aboard Endeavor

 **Associated Press** **Howard McCurdy**, professor of public administration, discussed NASA's decision to allow wounded Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' husband to participate on the space shuttle Endeavor's mission with the [Associated Press](#). "We all want [Rep. Giffords] to go back to Congress; we'd like them both to continue their careers and we'd like them to be whole and normal as if this thing had never happened," he said. More than 215 additional outlets have republished the article. (2/4)


### Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for Poetry

Chicago Tribune The Chicago-based Poetry Foundation released the "Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for Poetry" guide, which is the result of a two-year joint effort between the **Center for Social Media**, the **Washington College of Law**, and the Harriet Monroe Poetry Institute. According to the [Chicago Tribune](#), "the code lays out copyright rules as they apply to creating and quoting poetry." (1/28)


### Slim Gets Richer as Mines, Mobile Beat Gates, Buffett

Bloomberg Businessweek "Part of [Carlos] Slim's success last year came simply because his holdings are mostly in Mexico, a country where investing is riskier than in the U.S.," said **Gerald Martin**, professor of finance, to [Bloomberg BusinessWeek](#) when he compared Mexican investor Carlos Slim to American investor Warren Buffett. "If the comparison between Slim and Buffett's stock performance last year were adjusted for risk, Buffett may have come out ahead." (2/2)

### Decision 2012: Analyzing the Presidential Hopefuls

 HARVARD POLITICAL REVIEW "Probably the most important factor in determining who will run for president in 2012 and who will win the primary and general elections is economic progress in the coming months," said **Danny Hayes**, assistant professor of government, when he discussed President Obama's chance of re-election in 2012 and Republican candidate hopefuls with the [Harvard Political Review](#). (2/1)

### Mitt Romney Aims to Catch Fire

BOSTON Herald **Lauren Feldman**, assistant professor of public communication, discussed Mitt Romney's recent appearances on the early morning and late night television circuit with the [Boston Herald](#). "There are politically interested people in those audiences, but they also reach audiences who are not necessarily watching the Sunday morning talk shows and cable news and reading the Washington Post," said Feldman. (2/1)

### The Future of Public Media

whrv89.5 NPR "Part of the historic mission of public media is to make America's culture visible and available to the public at large," said **Jessica Clark**, director of the Center for Social Media's Future of Public Media Project. She discussed the role public media plays in today's broader media landscape on [WHRV's Hearsay with Cathy Lewis](#). (2/2)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

## This Week's Newsmakers

February 4–11, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Children's Body Mass Index May Rise the Longer Mom Works



**Taryn Morrissey**, professor of public administration, led a study which found that children's body mass index (BMI) rose the more years their mothers worked over their children's lifetimes. "It's important to emphasize that it seems to be the environmental factors associated with the total time that moms work, and not maternal employment per se, that contributes to an increase in children's BMI," said Morrissey. More than **240** outlets including [Los Angeles Times](#), [US News & World Report](#), [Boston Globe](#), [CNN.com](#), [FoxNews.com](#), [NPR.org](#), and [Time.com](#)

featured the study. (2/4-9)

### Op-Ed/Editorial

#### The Reagan Legacy



**Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, wrote an editorial for [EncyclopediaBritannica.com](#) focusing on President Ronald Reagan's centennial birthday. "Ronald Reagan revived a conservative tradition that politically had been in eclipse since the days of Coolidge and Hoover, not by rallying a conservative base, but by making conservatism more optimistic, inclusive and diverse than before," wrote Lichtman. (2/4)

### Quotes

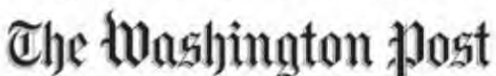
#### Obama, GOP Moving in Different Direction on Jobs



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential studies, discussed the cost of President Obama's State of the Union speech promises with the [Associated Press](#). "Obama is trying to be pragmatic even though he never gets very specific on just how he'd reduce trillion-dollar-plus deficits at the same time he's pumping more government money into new programs," said Thurber. More than **160** outlets including [Washington Post](#), [CNBC.com](#) and [Forbes.com](#) published this article. (2/10)

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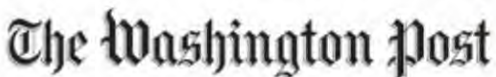
#### Reagan's Complicated Legacy for Federal Workforce



"Reagan's lasting impact on the federal workforce was to successfully link his political goal of downsizing the federal government with the demonization of the workforce of the federal government," said **Robert Tobias**, distinguished practitioner-in-residence for the School of Public Affairs, to the [Washington Post](#) about President Reagan's legacy and policies on minimizing big government. (2/7)

residence for the School of Public Affairs, to the [Washington Post](#) about President Reagan's legacy and policies on minimizing big government. (2/7)

#### Lawmakers urge FTC to Investigate Free Kids Games on iPhone



**Kathryn Montgomery**, professor of communication, talked to the [Washington Post](#) about regulations the Federal Trade Commission is creating to oversee free games for children on iPhone. "The bigger question of business marketing practices moving forward is that policy doesn't have time to stay up, so we need to ensure there are safeguards across all platforms so kids are not exploited," said Montgomery. (2/8)

moving forward is that policy doesn't have time to stay up, so we need to ensure there are safeguards across all platforms so kids are not exploited," said Montgomery. (2/8)

### Bill O'Reilly interview of Barack Obama Could Be Victory for Both



**Jane Hall**, associate professor of communication, spoke with [Politico](#) about FOX News' pre-Super Bowl interview with President Obama. "I think it's a very smart idea for both Obama and O'Reilly to do the interview before the Super Bowl," said Hall. "In the 2008 campaign, he [Bill O'Reilly] did a terrific, serious, lively interview with Barack Obama that probably helped Obama with Republican voters." (2/6)

### Is the Tweet the New Soundbite?



**Gemma Puglisi**, professor of communication, discussed whether the State of the Union address was purposely set up to be Twitter friendly with [Congressional Quarterly Weekly's Congress.org](#). "[The President is] making sure he gets the message across to the people... and [there's] a very large audience," she said. "Obviously you're going to get messages that will be easy to tweet," said Puglisi. (2/9)

### Lobbying Firm of Clarence Thomas' Wife Raises Ethical Questions



**Stephen Wermiel**, professor of law, discussed the ethical issues surrounding the new lobbying firm of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas' wife with [The Afro-American Newspaper](#). "It seems as though she will be working with issues involving legislation that may come before the Supreme Court and working with people involved in political efforts whose organizations may come before the Supreme Court—and that's a problem," said Wermiel. (2/9)





AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## This Week's Newsmakers

February 11–18, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Six Female Artists, One Dizzying Show

#### *The Washington Post*

The [Washington Post](#) ran a full-page story in the Sunday Arts section reviewing the six new exhibitions—all by female artists—at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**.

"Wilcoxon's comic monstrosities portray the sometimes frantic nature of art-making. On one piece, 'Who's in Charge?,' the titular question is scrawled along the side edge of the canvas. A pen in different handwriting answers, 'Of who' - which could easily be the artist herself changing her mind," mused the reviewer about artist Heather Wilcoxon's dark, humorous cartoon drawings. (2/13)

### Additional Features

#### Cafeteria Trays Vanishing from Colleges



The [Washington Post](#) highlighted American University as one of several colleges banishing trays from the dining hall in the interest of sustainability. The story noted AU removed trays from Terrace Dining Room in 2009 after students wrote a paper proposing the move. The front page Metro story appeared online and included a slideshow of students in TDR. (2/17)

### Op-Ed/Editorial

#### Winning the Battle, Losing the War



**Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, wrote an Op-Ed for [Foreign Policy](#) magazine about the military's share of President Obama's 2011 federal budget. "Even if the Pentagon were to trim its projected budget by 15 percent over the next ten years, the U.S. military would still be the only force in the world capable of deploying ground forces globally, sailing all of the world's oceans, and flying all of the world's skies," wrote Adams. (2/15)

### Quotes

#### Feds Forecast Faster Growth as the Economy Improves

#### *The New York Times*

**Martha Starr**, professor of economics, discussed U.S. economic recovery with the [New York Times](#). "The higher growth rate bodes well, perhaps, for an earlier recovery in the labor market than had

been expected, but even with the better growth prognosis, it will take a while for the average person on the street to feel it," said Starr. (2/17)

#### The Four Pieces of the Great Spending Debate



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed the debate between Republicans and Democrats over the federal budget with [Time](#). "Boehner tried very hard to show that he can get things done, that he can lead. But

he has to appeal to the far right. It's a fine line and these are indicators that he's not doing well," said Thurber. (2/14)

## Study Finds Link Between Working Moms, Overweight Kids



"We can improve access to healthy foods, we can improve information about children's sleep habits, we can help inform policies and parents and working parents, both moms and dads alike, to promote healthy weight," suggested **Taryn Morrissey**, professor of public administration, on [NPR's Tell Me More](#), during a discussion about her study that links working mothers to a rise in children's body mass indexes. (2/15)

## An Open Government Implementation Model



"Many organizations have leverage in social media to innovate their products by not only cooperating with their employees, but also with customers," said **Gwanhoo Lee**, professor of management, on the program *The Business of Government*, a program airing on [Federal News Radio](#). Lee discussed his study about federal agencies making progress in moving to a more open and transparent government. (2/14)

## DoD's Impending Crisis a Myth



"To suggest that this is an unmanageable and difficult process or one that puts the department at the edge of crisis I think simply overstates the problem," said **Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, on [Federal News Radio](#) about rumors that the Department of Defense is in a spending crisis. (2/16)

## United States Lags in Women Political Leaders

**THE SACRAMENTO BEE** Political kingmakers such as parties, labor unions and business groups have been slow to promote female candidates, according to **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute. "The majority of the electoral gatekeepers who are finding candidates are men. They recruit from the networks they circulate in, and as a result, women are often left out," Lawless said to the [Sacramento Bee](#). (2/14)

## Virginia's Senate Race



"The President has two goals. Get reelected and to keep a democratic Senate majority, and he sees Tim Kaine as central to both of those," said **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of public communication, on [WTTG-FOX5's News Edge](#) about DNC Chairman Tim Kaine's possible run for a Virginia Senate seat in 2012. (2/16)

## CSR in Post-Mubarak Egypt



**Jennifer Oetzel**, professor of international business, discussed corporate social responsibility in an Egypt without Hosni Mubarak with [JustMeans.com](#). "Any company that has been operating there for a while has a good idea of how the average person on the street feels about political and economic conditions in Egypt," said Oetzel. (2/14)



## This Week's Newsmakers February 18–25, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Wealthiest in Washington Area Get Best High-Speed Internet Values

**The Washington Post**

The **School of Communication's Investigative Reporting Workshop** released a report showing that certain areas of Washington, D.C., get the highest quality broadband coverage. According to the [Washington Post](#), which broke the story, the study "found that people in the 25 richest Zip codes in the region spend about one-third less on average than those in the 25 poorest Zip codes for similar Internet access speeds." Four additional outlets also published articles. (2/18)

### Additional Features

#### Eight Ways to Get Higher Education into Shape

**The Washington Post**

The [Washington Post Magazine's](#) feature story about steps to improve the American higher education system highlighted the **School of International Service's** three year bachelor's program as an example of a growing trend of colleges creating accelerated degree programs. (2/20)

#### Academy Award-Winning AU Prof Heads Back to the Oscars

**The Examiner**  
WASHINGTON

The [Washington Examiner](#) profiled **Russell Williams**, artist-in-residence with the School of Communication, AU alumnus, and the first African-American to win two Academy Awards, as he geared up to return to the Oscars ceremony this year to celebrate the 20th anniversary of his second win. "So far in the African-American multiple Oscar club there are only three, but we're looking for more members, so put your projects together and hopefully get nominated," said Williams. He was also a guest on [WAMU's The Kojo Nnamdi Show](#) to discuss potential outcomes. (2/23)

### Op-Ed/Editorial

#### Reform or the Flood in the Gulf



"The demands of Gulf activists, and increasingly Gulf publics, are broadly similar to those coming from Tunisia and Egypt: We want accountable governance, free of corruption. We want popular participation and to have our say on the issues that affect us," wrote **Kristen Diwan**, assistant professor of international service, in an editorial for [Foreign Policy](#) magazine. (2/20)

### Quotes

#### Filmmakers Chronicle Africa's 'Last Lions'

**The Washington Post**

"When they film, they go out of their way not to disturb or even be noticed by the animals they're filming," said **Chris Palmer**, director of the Center for Environmental Filmmaking, to the [Washington Post](#) about the filmmakers of the movie *Last Lions*. The [National Parks Traveler blog](#) also featured Palmer's storied career and recent book, *Shooting in the Wild*. (2/19, 2/24)

#### Saudi Arabia's Watchful Eye Looms over Bahrain Unrest

**The Washington Post**

"Saudi Arabia fears a constitutional monarchy in Bahrain. It's about empowerment of the Shia and what that might mean for Shia in the eastern province of Saudi Arabia," said **Kristin Diwan**, assistant professor of international service, to the [Washington Post](#) of the impact Bahrain uprisings might have on its neighbor. (2/23)

## Facing a Government Shutdown



"No matter how you define essential, there are still going to be people who depend on services who aren't going to receive them," said **Robert Tobias**, distinguished practitioner-in-residence for the School of Public Affairs, on [ABC World News with Diane Sawyer](#) about the potential government shutdown. (2/20)

## Presidential Leadership and Economic Crisis



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, appeared on [C-SPAN's Washington Journal](#) to discuss how presidents Reagan, Clinton, George W. Bush, and Obama have dealt with fiscal matters when Congress is divided. "I think the president always has the upper-hand because budgets are incremental," said Thurber. (2/22).

## For Egypt's Women, Harassment Remains Part of Daily Life



**Diane Singerman**, professor of government, discussed the ways in which Egyptian women regularly experience sexual harassment with [PBS's NewsHour](#). "I would say a lot of it is verbal abuse. A lot of it is looks. A lot of it is catcalls. But there is also groping. There are also people sort of touching you when you don't want to be touched," said Singerman. (2/21)

## White House, Black History



"There may have been some sense (among the American public) of Jefferson and Washington (owning slaves) because they're pretty well known to have had slaves. And what's significant about that is that compromise and that engagement also then shaped the country's policies around slavery and around race," said **Clarence Lusane**, professor of international service, on [NPR's Tell Me More](#) about how the notion of slaves in the White House shouldn't surprise people, but does. (2/21)

## Obama Administration Drops Legal Defense of Marriage Act



**Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, discussed the government's decision to end the Legal Defense of Marriage Act with [ABCNews.com](#). "The government has decided that prevailing social views of morality are no longer sufficient to justify discrimination against homosexuals," said Vladeck. (2/23)

## Has Political Correctness Gone Too Far?




**William Leap**, professor of anthropology, discussed why GLAAD and other advocacy groups should hold comedians and other media figures accountable for LGBT depictions that are more hurtful than humorous with [Edge-NewYork](#). "It [insulting LGBT media narrative] does seem to show up more in times of economic crisis," Leap said. "People need something as a foil and a vocal point of anger, and that is something that I think is frankly serious." (2/19)

## Federal Spending Cuts



**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of public communication, appeared on [WTTG-FOX5's News Edge](#) to discuss the federal budget cuts proposed by Senate Republicans. "When you put it starkly, the world according to the Republicans is that business creates jobs, every dollar the government takes in taxes hurts businesses ability to create jobs, so you've got to have less money going into government," he said. (2/19)

## Metro Grade: How Dirty Is Metro and Does It Matter?

**TBD**  Nancy Zeller, director of biology teaching laboratories, assisted [TBD.com](http://TBD.com) with an experiment to determine the number of germs on Metro surfaces. "Wherever there's a public place, it is loaded with germs," Zeller said. "When you touched your cotton swab to a surface and then smeared it on the agar in the petri dish, the agar provides food and nourishment. Then the cells start dividing. In a matter of days, you can have a large bacteria colony." (2/18)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

## This Week's Newsmakers

February 25–March 4, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### The Legacies of America's First Ladies



American University partnered with the White House Historical Association and the National Archives' Presidential Libraries to host top advisors to first ladies Lady Bird Johnson through Michelle Obama during The Legacies of America's First Ladies conference. "The first lady is the one person who provides her husband with unfiltered advice and the one person who can't be fired," said **Anita McBride**, former chief of staff to Laura Bush and now executive-in-residence in the School of Public Affairs, who organized the conference. [AOL News](#), [Chicago Tribune](#), [Houston](#)

[Chronicle](#), [Politico](#), and [The Hill](#) published articles. **Richard Benedetto**, adjunct professor of journalism and political science, wrote an [op-ed](#) and appeared in a [video segment](#) for [FOXNews.com](#). (3/1, 3/2, 3/3)

#### Kogod among Best Undergraduate Business Schools



[Bloomberg BusinessWeek](#) ranked the **Kogod School of Business** as one of the best undergraduate business schools of the nation in its 2011 ranking. Among schools that made the ranking, Kogod came in at 63 in the overall ranking and 43 in the student survey ranking, and received an A+ —the highest mark attainable—

for teaching quality. (3/3)

#### Ten Universities Producing the Most Interns



With a whopping 81 percent of all of its undergraduates completing at least one internship before they graduate, **American University** came in at number three in a new [US News & World Report](#) ranking of the nation's top 10 intern-producing national universities. (3/1)

#### An International Edge



[Sky](#) magazine, Delta Airlines' in-flight magazine, featured the **Kogod School of Business** in a trend story about internationally-focused MBA programs that teach students how to navigate the complex global market. "Our focus is on exposing and sensitizing students to the nuances of doing business across national frontiers," said **Frank DuBois**, chair of Kogod's Department of International Business. (3/1)

### Additional Features

#### Women Rare on Local Tech Company Boards



[DCTechSource.com](#) featured research conducted by the **Kogod School of Business** and commissioned for Women in Technology that found women are underrepresented on the boards of publicly-traded

companies in Virginia and D.C. "Diversity defines the workplace of the 21st century," said **Jill Klein**, Kogod executive-in-residence. "Women, a vital element in this diverse workplace, represent one of the largest, untapped corporate resource at all levels, including on the board of directors." (3/1)

#### Reel Journalism: Dan Rather



**Nick Clooney**, distinguished journalist-in-residence in the School of Communication, interviewed former CBS *Evening News* anchor Dan Rather for *Reel Journalism*—a coproduction of SOC and the Newseum.

They discussed Rather's opinion of mainstream media and his portrayal in the movie *The Insider*. The [Washington Examiner](#) and [MediaBistro.com/FishBowIDC](#) published articles. (3/2-3)

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## Two Time Oscar Winner Returns to the Oscars



**Russell Williams**, distinguished artist-in-residence in the School of Communication and AU alumnus, was featured on two **WJLA-ABC7** segments—one the [day before](#) and one from the [Red Carpet](#) at the Academy Awards—for his 20th anniversary of being the first African American to win two Oscars. “I thought that it would never happen, and it also happened back to back, so as a kid from Southeast D.C., a miracle still can happen,” said Williams. (2/26, 2/27)

## Basketball Trick Shots Go Viral



Numerous news outlets including [ESPN](#) and [Yahoo! Sports](#) featured **Joe Hill** and **Steve Luptak**, American University Men’s Basketball players, for their video of basketball trick shots that went viral on YouTube and has garnered more than 200,000 views. Locally, [WTTG-FOX5](#) and [WJLA-ABC7](#) profiled the players. In a city more passionate about politics than college sports, [Politico](#) and [Huffington Post](#) even took notice and featured the video. (3/2)

## Op-Ed/Editorial

### Bahrain’s Shia Question



**Kristen Smith Diwan**, professor of international service, wrote an editorial for [Foreign Affairs](#) magazine about the Shia population in Bahrain. “Contrary to Western fears and the Bahraini regime’s announcements, the country’s largely Shia opposition movement is not an Iranian implant,” wrote Diwan. (3/2)

## Quotes

### Is Obama Unbeatable in 2012?



“An economic downturn would hurt him but not be fatal to his reelection,” said **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, to the [Christian Science Monitor](#). “A combination of economic downturn and another 9/11-style attack on U.S. soil would finish off Obama for reelection, but that’s a lot to have to happen,” said Lichtman. (3/1)

### Buffet ‘Itchy’ for Takeovers at Berkshire



“He’s saying that the economy is turning and he’s not as concerned about having the extra capital available for his own operating companies,” said **Gerald Martin**, professor of finance, to [Bloomberg BusinessWeek](#) about Warren Buffet’s recent announcement to Berkshire Hathaway, Inc., shareholders that he is ready

to make more big acquisitions. (2/28)

### Peitions, Not Protests, in Saudi Arabia



**Kristen Smith Diwan**, professor of international service, discussed how the protests across North Africa and the Middle East could affect key U.S. allies such as Saudi Arabia on [FOX Business Network](#). “The Saudis are very concerned with the popular democratic uprisings that are taking place,” said Diwan (2/25)

### Military No Longer Protected From Budget Knife



**Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, discussed the defense budget cuts with [Government Executive](#) and during [two](#) radio segments on [Federal News Radio](#). “The defense budget had reached an inflection point that mandated more fundamental action,” said Adams. (2/28, 3/1-2)

### Creativity and Learning



**Gail Humphries-Mardirosian**, professor of theatre, discussed the importance of encouraging children to creatively express themselves with [Washington Family Magazine](#). “If we generate thinkers who just know responses that fit into precise bubbles, we cannot foster creativity,” said Humphries-Mardirosian. (3/1)

AU064529



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## This Week's Newsmakers

March 4–March 11, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Fair to Muslims?



"There is a generalized sense of Islamophobia floating around, and the hearings are not doing anything to assuage Muslim fears," said **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, to [CNN.com](#) about congressional hearings addressing radical Islam. He said the hearings could either encourage or diffuse a growing sense of suspicion aimed at Muslims in America. Ahmed wrote an op-ed for [The New York Times](#), appeared on [FOX News Channel's The O'Reilly Factor](#) and [BBC](#), was interviewed on [WAMU's The Diane Rehm Show](#), and spoke with the [Washington Post](#). (3/7-10)

### Additional Features

#### To LOL, or Not to LOL? That Is the Question



The [Associated Press](#) interviewed **Naomi Baron**, professor of linguistics, about the changing use of LOL—laughing out loud—in everyday communication, and mentioned her book *Always On: Language in an Online and Mobile World*. "One of the things that's pretty clear—whether LOL is in or passe—it depends on your social circle," Baron said, citing her research in to how day-to-day language changes with the times. More than 190 outlets including the *Washington Post*, *USA Today*, *Seattle Times*, *Huffington Post*, and *Yahoo! News* published the article. (3/6)

#### Reviewed: Grand Avenues and STAIN at the AU Museum



[Washington City Paper](#) reviewed *Grand Avenues* and *STAIN*, two exhibits at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. The review noted how perfectly *Grande Avenues*, an exhibition focused on D.C.'s traffic circles, fit with the museum given that nearby Ward Circle is included in the exhibit. (3/7)

### Op-Eds

#### David Broder: An Appreciation



"He wasn't out to indoctrinate or proselytize his readers. He was out to provide them with solid and well-researched information with which they could make decisions for themselves," wrote **Richard Benedetto**, professor of communication, in an editorial for [FOXNews.com](#) about the late *Washington Post* reporter David Broder. (3/9)

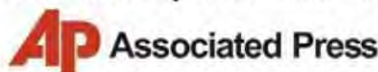
### Quotes

#### New Book Sheds Light on Lincoln's Radical Views



The [Associated Press](#) talked to **Phillip Magness**, adjunct professor of public administration, about a new book he coauthored on President Abraham Lincoln's colonization views. According to Magness, Lincoln's original draft of the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation encouraged slaves to relocate to Central America. "It makes his life more interesting, his racial legacy more controversial," said Magness of Lincoln. More than 200 outlets including the *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *CBSNews.com*, and *FOXNews.com* published the article. (3/4)

#### UN Probe Opened into Torture by Gadhafi Forces



**Juan Mendez**, visiting professor of law and part of a U.N.-sanctioned team investigating Moammar Gadhafi's use of torture on Libyan government opposition, talked to the [Associated Press](#). "We wrote a joint communication to the government of Libya on allegations that we received. It was an urgent action." More than 165 outlets including *Houston Chronicle*, *Boston Globe*, and *CBSNews.com* republished the article. (3/9)

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## In Kuwait, a Long Battle to Oust the Prime Minister

**The Washington Post** **Kristen Smith Diwan**, assistant professor of international service, analyzed demonstrations in Kuwait for the [Washington Post](#). "It's like a little Athens," said Diwan in reference to the democratic nature of Kuwait's political climate. "The men have a lot of free time, and they spend their time discussing politics." (3/6)

## Turning the Lens on Home Videos and the Right to Privacy

**The Washington Post** **Patricia Aufderheide**, director of the Center for Social Media, told the [Washington Post](#) that according to the center's study on documentary filmmaking and ethics, filmmakers believe they have an obligation to protect their subjects from themselves. The obligation "is something that the filmmaker really needs to think about, whether it's a parent of a professional," Aufderheide said, in reference to the debate swirling around films for which parents are the filmmakers and children are the subjects. (3/10)

## The Slow Decline of North America

**The Miami Herald** "We need to start over with a big North American idea, one based on the simple premise that all three countries benefit when one succeeds, and we are all hurt when one fails," said **Robert Pastor**, professor of international relations, to the [Miami Herald](#) about relations between the United States, Canada, and Mexico. (3/4)

## Groups Seek 2012 Repeat of 'Year of the Woman'

**ROLL CALL** **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, discussed with [Roll Call](#) how redistricting might affect the likelihood of new female representation in Congress. "It creates more open seats, and it induces more incumbent retirement. And so any time that you've got a white-male-dominated political institution that sees an upsurge in retirements, any marginalized group stands to benefit," she said. (3/8)


## Surprising Jobs Women Are Taking Over

**Forbes** Women are increasingly landing jobs that have typically been perceived as male-dominated, including those in finance such as financial managers, budget analysts, and insurance underwriters. **Caren Goldberg**, assistant professor of management, told [Forbes.com](#) the sharp increase of female business school graduates—a 75% jump in the last decade—is likely behind the trend. (3/7)


## Defense: A Question of Scale

**FINANCIAL TIMES** "Is it simply not credible to describe a reduction of even perhaps \$23 billion from the 2011 defense budget as the end of the world—it is about three percent of the department's resources from last year," said **Gordon Adams** to [Financial Times](#) about Pentagon budget cuts. (3/6)

## Does ACLU Have A Case Against Metro's Bag Searches?

 **WAMU 88.5** "It's certainly not a frivolous lawsuit, although I do think it is an uphill battle for the ACLU," said **Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, on [WAMU 88.5](#) about the constitutionality of bag searches in the Washington, D.C., metro system. Vladeck says this case could go a long way toward defining exactly how far law enforcement can go in the name of preventing terrorism. (3/4)

## White House Should Heed Lessons of Reorganizations Past

 **1500AM FEDERAL NEWS RADIO** Celebrating 10 Years Two policy wonks in the School of Public Affairs, **Robert Tobias**, distinguished practitioner-in-residence, and **Beryl Radin**, scholar-in-residence, discussed how the Obama administration should handle government reorganization on [Federal News Radio](#). "We've forgotten politics and we've forgotten federalism. I think that one of the real difficulties we haven't given enough space to the trade-offs we have to make among the different goals," said Radin. (3/9)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

## This Week's Newsmakers

March 11–March 18, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Public Broadcasting: Luxury or Staple?



Patricia Aufderheide, director of the Center for Social Media, spoke with [USA Today](#) about the threat to eliminate public broadcasting's federal funding. Aufderheide pointed out the importance of programming that is not dependent on advertisers. She said no audio service "comes close to NPR news," and that PBS treats kids "not as little consumers but as responsible members of the community." (3/11)

### Op-Eds

#### Would ElBaradei Make a Good President for Egypt?

*The Washington Post*

David Bosco, assistant professor of international service, wrote an op-ed for the [Washington Post](#) about Mohamed ElBaradei's plan to nominate himself for the Egyptian presidency. Bosco wrote, "He has been breathing rarefied diplomatic air for decades, and he's shown little aptitude for retail politics. He may have the judgment and diplomatic skill the country needs, but can he convince Egyptians that he's feeling what they're feeling?" (3/11)

### Quotes

#### Congressional Hearing Puts Muslim Civil Rights Group in the Hot Seat Again

*The New York Times*

"After 9/11, Muslims in this country felt very much under siege, and they saw CAIR [Council on American-Islamic Religion] as their champion. Everyone can be linked by the seventh degree to someone who's an extremist," said Akbar Ahmed, chair of Islamic Studies, to the [New York Times](#) about congressional hearings targeting CAIR. (3/12)

#### Bahrain Crackdown Dashes U.S. Hopes for Negotiated Solution

*Los Angeles Times*

Kristin Smith Diwan, assistant professor of international service, discussed with the [Los Angeles Times](#) the rising conflict in Bahrain and the arrival of one thousand Saudi troops to quell anti-Shiite government protesters. "I will hazard to predict that the impact will be negative, even on the stability they hope to preserve," she said. [Inter Press News](#) also quoted Diwan. (3/15-16)

#### Death Penalty Repeal Gets Hearing but Lacks Momentum

*The Washington Post*

[WashingtonPost.com's Maryland Politics](#) blog quoted David Aaronson, professor of law, after he served as a witness during a trial hearing to repeal Maryland's death penalty law. An agreement was reached in 2009 raising the evidence standard for capital crimes, but Aaronson said the terms were "ambiguous and vague." (3/15)

#### The 15 Jobs Where Women Earn More than Men

*Forbes*

"Women who choose male-dominated jobs are likely perceived as 'atypical' or less consistent with the stereotypes associated with women, who are also associated with lower-paying jobs," Caren Goldberg, professor of management, explained to [Forbes](#) about why women who choose male-dominated careers are out-earning their male colleagues. (3/14)

## Obama Aims to Show Support for Democracy in Latin America



Voice of America

"Countries don't look to the United States the way they used to. They still look to the United States of course. And I think it is President Obama's intention to try to create a new look and a new relationship that is very positive and very consistent with what is happening in the 21st century," said **Lou Goodman**, dean of the School of International Service, to [Voice of America](#) online about President Obama's state visit to Latin America. (3/15)

## How Many Amigos?



**Robert Pastor**, professor of international relations, appeared on [Business News Network](#) to discuss the diplomatic possibilities between the United States, Canada, and Mexico. "Washington is so filled with crises, that it will never give attention to Canadian or Mexican issues by themselves, that it would give if the three countries work together," he said. (3/11)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

# This Week's Newsmakers

## March 18–March 25, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Town & Gown Relations: AU's 10-Year Campus Plan



Through its 2011 Campus Plan, **American University** will strengthen its academic prestige, maintain its standing as an asset to Washington, D.C., and honor its commitment to be an amenity to the surrounding community. "The focus of our campus plan is to improve the quality of our facilities to support the academic programs and our students," said **Jorge Abud**, assistant vice-president for facilities development and real estate, on [WAMU's The Kojo Nnamdi Show](#). **David Taylor**, AU president's chief of staff, also discussed the plan on [WJLA-ABC7](#). (3/21)

### Additional Features

#### 2011 NCAA Men's Wrestling Championship



American University Eagles **Ryan Flores**, **Steve Fittery**, and **Ganbayar Sanjaa**, earned second, third, and fourth places, respectively, in the 2011 NCAA men's wrestling championship in Philadelphia. Flores' final [championship match](#) aired on [ESPN](#). [NCAA.com](#) published a feature about the team and the reinvigorated wrestling program. "We've come a long way . . . We were number one in the classroom two of the last three years," head coach **Mark Cody** said to the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#). The [Ithaca Journal](#), Cody's hometown paper, featured him after he received the 2011 NCAA Coach of the Year award. (3/19-21)

#### Beethoven Project an Intellectual Challenge



**Yuliya Gorenman**, musician-in-residence in the Department of Performing Arts, reached the end of a four-year series of performances of Ludwig von Beethoven's 32 sonatas called *The Gorenman Beethoven*

*Project*. [Washingtonpost.com](#) reviewed the final installment and said her journey was "a feat of the intellect and of endurance as it is of pianism." (3/20)

#### Spanish Design in "Bravos"



[Dwell](#), a national modern design and lifestyle magazine, posted a blog entry on *BRAVOS: Groundbreaking Spanish Design*—a forthcoming exhibit at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. "The exhibit shows the remarkable diversity of styles and techniques emerging from Iberia," read the blog. (3/21)

### Op-Ed

#### The Dire Consequences of Saudi Intervention in Bahrain



"The [Gulf Cooperation Council's] decision to send troops is a momentous one," wrote **Kristen Smith Diwan**, assistant professor of comparative and regional studies, in an Op-Ed about Saudi troop presence in Bahrain for [CNN.com](#). "Instead of defending the state from foreign aggression (as the military pact specifies), the GCC force is protecting a monarch from a domestic uprising – the first time the forces have been deployed this way." (3/21)

### Quotes

#### U.S. Foreign Aid Faces Cuts as China's Reach Grows



**Deborah Brautigam**, professor of international development, spoke with the [Associated Press](#) about China's growing influence in the global market. She said that the United States still far exceeds China in providing grants and low-interest loans in the developing world. More than 165 outlets including the [Washington Post](#), [Forbes](#), and [FOXNews.com](#) republished the article. (3/24)

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## Castro's Retirement Ends Era, Spurs Buzz



Associated Press

"They could send a startling message by picking somebody young or out of the party, or somebody whose name is not easily recognized," said **Robert Pastor**, professor of international politics, about Fidel Castro's replacement in Cuba's

Communist Party to the [Associated Press](#). More than 100 outlets including the *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, and [NPR.org](#) republished the article. (3/22)

## Obama Juggles Libya War, Brazil Trade



"He does not want to overlay this war the way in which the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have been overlaid," said **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, to the [Los Angeles Times](#) about President Obama's

challenges with Libya and Brazil. "He is better off keeping American involvement limited and low-key," Lichtman added. Eight additional outlets, including the *Chicago Tribune*, republished the article. (3/21)

## Why Isn't Obama Emphasizing Regime Change?



**Kenneth Anderson**, professor of law, discussed President Obama's position on removing Moammar Gaddafi from power in Libya with [Washingtonpost.com](#). "Taking part in hostilities does not require

carrying a weapon or engaging directly in fighting; commanding forces is certainly enough," said Anderson. (3/22)

## Republican Tax Chiefs Cool to Cisco, EMC Offshore Proposal



"Congress could say we're going to tax 25 percent a year for four years, whether you bring it back or not. It would generate substantial revenue to keep tax reform revenue-neutral," said **David Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax

Center, to [Bloomberg News](#) about the debate over repatriation and tax reform. *San Francisco Chronicle's* Web site republished the article and the **National Association of Corporate Directors** referenced it in its online newsletter. (3/23)

## Libya Costs Won't Stop Spending Debate



"The negotiations on the budget are coming to a crossroads on the next continuing resolution whether we are in Libya or not," said **Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, to [The Hill](#) about Libya and the defense

budget debate. (3/22)

## Reader's Review: "The Masters" by C.P. Snow



**Milton Greenberg**, professor emeritus of government, former provost and interim president, discussed academic politics during a review of C.P. Snow's novel, *The Masters* on [WAMU's The Diane Rehm Show](#). "People think if they give money and mention that their grandson is a candidate for law school or medical school, that that will help. And a smart leadership will decline that," said Greenberg. (3/23)

## Cleaning Up in a Tough Economy



**Leigh Riddick**, a finance and real estate professor, discussed how small businesses can survive in a troubled economy with [WAMU's Metro Connection](#). "There are two business mottos that will help a company do well in a bad economy. One is to have a business that has a less expensive alternate for something that people need or value," said Riddick. (3/18)

## Obama Takes 'Unprecedented' Aim at Leakers



Law professor **Daniel Marcus** talked about the effects of leaking confidential government information to the public with **Agence France-Press**. "There's always been a great concern in the governments about leaks of damaging national security information, and I don't think that's changed dramatically from one administration to another," said Marcus. Five additional outlets, including [Yahoo! News](#), republished the article. (3/23)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers

March 25–April 1, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### American Intervention in Libya



Numerous national news outlets turned to AU's foreign policy wonks for analysis on President Obama's decision for military intervention in Libya. "We shouldn't push Gaddafi out just yet," said **Hillary Mann Leverett**, professor of foreign policy, on [MSNBC](#). **David Bosco**, professor of international politics, discussed the coalition strike with the [Washington Post](#). **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, and **Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, [spoke to American Public Media's](#)

[Marketplace](#). **Curtis Gans**, director of the Center for the Study of the American Electorate, talked to [Capitol News Connection](#). (3/28-31)

### Additional Features

#### MBA Programs Focus on Project Management



[U.S. News & World Report](#) featured the **Kogod School of Business** in a trend story about the increasing popularity of project management courses in business schools across the country. "There are a lot of employers that are looking for MBAs that have some knowledge and experience in project management and could be certified in the near future," said **Gwanhoo Lee**, associate professor of management. (3/30)

#### AU's Social Media Wonks



American University seniors **Alex Priest** and **Ethan Klapper's** social media skills helped launch their post-college careers well before their graduation day. [USAToday.com](#) featured an upcoming social media conference Priest helped organize, and he participated in [Twestival](#)—an event that uses Twitter to fundraise for charities. [MediaBistro/FishbowIDC](#)

featured Klapper after *National Journal* hired him as an online editor. (3/31)

### Quotes

#### Warren Buffet's Copycats



The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) cited a study by **Gerald Martin**, professor of finance, about how investors would have fared had they invested in the footsteps of Warren Buffett. According to the

study, "investors could have earned statistically high annual returns if they purchased the same stocks as Buffett." (3/30)

#### Reporting From the Libyan Conflict



"I think journalists, within their initial stories, tried to raise questions about the discrepancy or the seeming discrepancy," said **Jane Hall**, associate professor of journalism, on [CNN's Reliable Sources](#). Hall [discussed](#) what journalists face in Libya and how they report stories about the conflict while immersed in it. (3/27)

#### Leadership Spots Opening Up for Gay and Lesbian Academics



**Thomas Minar**, vice president of development and alumni relations, discussed increasing leadership opportunities for openly gay and lesbian academic professionals with the

[Chronicle of Higher Education](#). Minar noted people can limit their options by assuming that some places will be unwelcoming before finding out for themselves if that is the case. (3/27)

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### Ferraro's Trailblazing Path for Women in Politics



"This was a woman who had been outspoken about women's issues. And she embodied a degree of femininity we had not seen in politics," said **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, to **Newsday** about the late Geraldine Ferraro, the first female candidate for Vice-President of the United States. (3/27)

### Congress is Getting Little Done, Frustrating its Members



"It's not necessarily a bad thing that Congress is not passing bills," said **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Presidential and Congressional Studies, to the **Cleveland Plain Dealer** about Congress. "But when you're in a recession and now you have three wars and you have a variety of issues with regard to substantive policies... It doesn't look very good for the Congress not to be doing anything." (4/1)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers

April 1–April 8, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### President Obama to Run Again in 2012



AU's presidential politics wonks provided insight into President Obama's re-election campaign announcement. "Barack Obama became president because of this remarkable grassroots campaign driven by the Internet, driven by social media, and driven by people going door-to-door, and he has to energize people again," said **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, on [WTTG-FOX5](#). **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, used his "13 Keys" to analyze Obama's re-election chances for the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#). Also, **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies and editor of *Obama in Office*, spoke to the [San Francisco Chronicle](#). (4/4-5)

#### Preventing Anti-Muslim Sentiment



**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic Studies, appeared on [CNN International](#) and talked to [CNN.com's Belief](#) blog in defense of the Muslim religion after a Florida pastor followed through on his fall 2010 promise to burn a Quran. Ahmed also coauthored an opinion piece for the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) about "Islamophobia." Ahmed wrote, "Fear of Muslims has been exacerbated by professors in the booming field of terrorism and security studies, who not infrequently characterize Islam as an inherently violent religion." (4/1-4)

### Additional Features

#### AU: One of Nation's Greenest Campuses, Thanks to Cooking Oil, Tap Water, Sun



With a plan for carbon neutrality by 2020, **American University** is a leader in sustainability initiatives according to [SmartPlanet.com](#), which recently spoke to **Chris O'Brien**, director of sustainability. O'Brien discussed the university's use of green power, green roof installations, and previewed the upcoming installation of the largest solar photovoltaic arrays in the Washington area. (4/6)

#### AU Museum Exhibit Focuses on the Past's Impact on the Present



[Washington Jewish Week](#) featured *A Cultural History of My Neighborhood: Photo Collages by Gail S. Rebhan*—an exhibit of photo collages at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**—chronicling the evolution of the Tenleytown-Friendship Heights neighborhoods. "The collages combine historic and new photographs, newspaper articles, telephone books and other artifacts," read the article. [Georgetown Dish](#) reviewed *Sam Gilliam: Close to Trees*, and [FOXNews Latino](#) and [TBD.com](#) reviewed *BRAVOS: Groundbreaking Spanish Design*, both also showing at the museum. (4/6)

#### Girl Scout Cookie College at Kogod



[TLC's DC Cupcakes](#)—a primetime reality show about the owners of Georgetown Cupcake—featured **American University's Kogod School of Business** in an episode about Cookie College, a program that teaches girl scouts entrepreneurship skills to prepare them to sell cookies. Kogod has a relationship with the Girl Scouts' National Capital Chapter. The Georgetown Cupcake owners were guest speakers for Cookie College participants. (4/1)

### Op-Ed/Editorial

#### FiveTasks for Next SECDEF



"The next secretary will have to ride the rapids of an inevitable decline in defense resources, driven by pressures for deficit reduction and flagging public interest in being the world's police officer," wrote **Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, in an editorial for [Defense News](#) about the duties for the next Secretary of Defense. (4/4)

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## Quotes

### Company Planning Biggest Rocket since Man on Moon



**Associated Press**

**Howard McCurdy**, professor of public administration, spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about Space Exploration Technology president Elon Musk's aspiration to build the most powerful rocket since the first space mission to the moon. "If he's

not in the lead, he's well positioned for the finish," said McCurdy. More than 240 outlets including the *Boston Globe*, *Forbes*, and *Washington Times* republished the article. (4/6)

### Google Wades into Global Warming Debate



**Matthew Nisbet**, associate professor of communication, discussed Google's creation of a "21-Club" of handpicked global warming experts with [FOXNews.com](#). As one of the chosen experts, Nisbet said it is meant to drive investment in climate change research. "If Google included people who challenged that debate, they would be wrong to do so," he said. (4/5)

### Can House Finance Chief Paul Ryan Sell His Budget to Americans?



**Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, discussed Republican

Representative Paul Ryan's attempt to persuade Americans to support his budget cut proposal with [WashingtonPost.com's Post Politics](#).

"Nobody knows who Ryan is, outside his home area," said Lichtman. "I don't think he has the clout, the charisma, the political power to do this." (4/5)

### Stepping Up



"What will be interesting is what happens in the primaries," said **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, to the [National Journal](#) about female candidates in the 2012 special elections. "In 2010, people expected greater increase in the [number of] women serving. When you look at the raw numbers and the highest profile candidate, it's easy to think

that women are playing a much bigger role than they may be." (4/1)

### Nobel Panel: Give War a Chance



In [Politico](#), **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, disputed critics' demands for President Obama to give up his Nobel Peace Prize after sending troops into Libya. Thurber compared the military coalition in Libya to

former President George W. Bush's American-led invasion of Iraq, and said "that's better for peace when you do that than when you do things all alone." (4/5)

### Librarians Put Increasing Value on Their Role in Support of Student Learning



**Bill Mayer**, university librarian, participated in a national survey of top librarians at four-year colleges and universities about the library's role in supporting undergraduate education. Mayer told the [Chronicle of](#)

[Higher Education](#) that part of a librarian's job is to give scholars "that bridging comfort to know they can carry on with their lives and always have access to the material they need when they need it." (4/4)

### Guantanamo Trial for 9/11 Mastermind



"It's alarmingly premature for the government to decide on military commission trials for these defendants when substantial questions remain as to the legality and legitimacy of these tribunals," said

**Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, to the [Sydney Morning Herald](#) about the prosecution of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed at Guantanamo Bay. More than 40 additional outlets republished this article. (4/5)

### Red-Shouldered Soap Berry Bug



[The Encyclopedia of Life's Learning + Education](#) podcast talked to **David Angelini**, professor of biology, about the presence of *Jadera haematoloma*—also known as the red-shouldered soap berry bug—in a Goldenrod tree on American University's campus. "We started getting tips and drove all over creation looking for them, and then we discovered this one right on

our doorstep." (4/7)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

April 8–April 15, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Colleges Catering to Curious Parents as well as Prospective Students



The [Washington Post](#) featured **American University** in an article about the growing trend of including parents in college recruitment strategies. "It used to be that parents were just along for the ride, but this is a generation that feels like parents are partners," said **Sharon Alston**, executive director of enrollment. A photo of the new admissions welcome center served as the centerpiece for the article's print and online editions. (4/12)

### Additional Features

#### The Black History of the White House



**Clarence Lusane**, associate professor of international service, appeared on [C-SPAN's BookTV](#) and [WAMU's Metro Connection](#) to discuss his book, *The Black History of the White House*. "Part of the reason [The White House] was called that is because of the way it looks," said Lusane on **WAMU**. "But for many in the South in particular, it also had a racial meaning to it as well." (4/8-9)

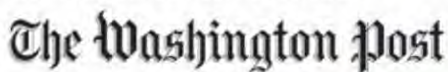
#### Graduate Programs Offer Background in Real Estate



[The Northwest Current](#) featured the **Kogod School of Business'** master's program in real estate in its spring Real Estate edition, page R5. "What we have done is change our curriculum to reflect the

changes in the industry," said Dawn Eisenberg, executive-in-residence in the Kogod School of Business and program director. (4/13)

#### HealthyU: How Eight D.C. Area Universities are Helping Students Make Smart Choices about Food and Fitness



**American University's** healthy eating and fitness options were featured in **Washington Post's Healthy U Guide**. According to [one article](#), most university dining halls are vegetarian friendly, but AU is unique because of its vegan-friendly station. [Another article](#) recognized the Jacobs fitness center as a useful recruitment tool because it is free for students. (4/12-13)

#### Local Artist Turns Spotlight on Tenley



[The Northwest Current](#) featured *A Cultural History of My Neighborhood: Photo Collages by Gail S. Rebhan*—an exhibit of photo collages at the **American University Museum at the**

**Katzen Arts Center**—on page R27 chronicling the evolution of the Tenleytown-Friendship Heights neighborhoods. "The panels juxtapose old and new photographs and memorabilia like phone-book pages and newspaper articles," read the article. (4/13)

## Op-Ed/Editorial

### A Government Shutdown? Yes, Please.



**Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, wrote an op-ed for [CNN.com](#) about the government shutdown. "If we move forward with the shutdown now, then when the really tough fights occur in the coming months—over entitlements, defense spending, whether to allow the Treasury to borrow money beyond the current \$14 trillion debt limit—

another stoppage will be unlikely. Shutting down the government on a regular basis is hardly a sustainable plan," wrote Lawless. (4/8)

### Defense in Need of Fiscal Discipline



**Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, argued in an op-ed for [The Hill](#) that Republicans are wavering on defense spending cuts during the budget crisis representing a sharp departure from the party's

past practice. "Cutting programs without returning the money to the Treasury is not savings. Nor is it fiscally disciplined," wrote Adams. (4/12)

### Afghan Women's Rights Still Fragile



**Anita McBride**, executive-in-residence in the School of Public Affairs, wrote an op-ed for [The Daily Beast](#) about the plight of Afghan women and the positive impact U.S. presence has had on their emerging yet still fragile role in society. "The world was largely ignorant to the widespread suffering of Afghanistan—especially its women and children," wrote McBride. "It was heartbreaking to see the destruction but it was uplifting to meet Afghans—particularly Afghan women

participating in the redevelopment of their country." (4/11)

## Quotes

### Five Ways for Retirees to Save on Future Taxes



**Associated Press**

**Don Williamson**, executive director of the Kogod Tax Center, outlined for the [Associated Press](#) some tax-planning tips for retirees. Williamson pointed out that Maryland and the District of Columbia each have \$1 million

estate tax thresholds while neighboring Virginia has no estate tax, and because of this it's not uncommon for area retirees to sell their homes and move to Virginia. [MSNBC.com](#), [TodayShow.com](#), and [CBS](#)

[MoneyWatch](#) republished the article. (4/8)

### What Wal-Mart's Arrival Will Mean to D.C.

The Washington Post



In the [Washington Post's Capital Business](#) on Wal-Mart's planned entry into Washington, D.C., **Leigh Riddick**, professor of finance, said, "Ten years ago if we were having this conversation I would have a different

opinion, even five years ago. But they are really a different company in a lot of ways than they used to be." (4/10)

### Last Minute Budget Deal Ups the Political Ante



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed with [USA Today](#) the after-effects of the budget agreement reached by President Obama and congressional leaders. "It's likely we'll have deadlock right into Christmas," said Thurber. (4/11)

### Japan Crisis Renews Interest in Anti-Nuke Movement



**Peter Kuznick**, professor of history, analyzed the future of nuclear power after the earthquake in Japan for the [Chicago Tribune](#). "The worst thing from the standpoint of the nuclear industry nationally is that this is going to

remain in the eyes of the public for a long time," said Kuznick. (4/11)

### Obama's Chicago Visits: Mixed Feelings on Infrequency of Trips Home



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed where President Obama's true hometown is with the [Chicago Tribune](#). "He's certainly a Chicago guy, but it seems to me he's

had roots in many places: Cambridge, Massachusetts, New York, especially Hawaii. And Chicago was sort of like a stopping-off point for his political career," said Thurber. (4/12)

## Defense Spending After the Budget Deal



**Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, discussed the effects of the national budget agreement on defense spending with [Foreign Policy](#) magazine and as a guest on [KCRW's To The Point](#). "The defense budget is expected to grow 12 percent over the next five years, so the reality is we're spending more in absolute dollars than we've ever spent on defense and we're right to a point where we're not getting much for it," said Adams. (4/12)

## Farewell Interview for Barack Obama, Oprah



"It's good for her ratings, and a lot of people who maybe don't like Obama but do like his wife will get to see them both," said **Jane Hall**, associate professor of journalism, to [Politico](#) about President Obama's appearance on Oprah and use of non-traditional media to reach the American public. "And I will bet you he is going to talk about the impact of Republican budget cuts on women and children," said Hall. (4/14)

## Speaking of AG's



**David Lublin**, professor of government, discussed Maryland's attorney general, Douglas Gansler, with [Washingtonian](#) magazine "People have the impression that he has improved as attorney general," said Lublin. "He's less of a show horse and more of a workhorse. Everyone expects him to run for governor in 2014." (4/11)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

### April 15–April 22, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### American U. to Use Sun for Power, Hot Water



With a mandate for renewable energy in the District of Columbia in place, and a commitment to become carbon neutral by 2020, American University announced it is installing one of the largest solar electricity systems in Washington, D.C., and the largest urban solar hot water system on the east coast. More than 80 outlets, including [Associated Press](#), [Washingtonpost.com](#), [WAMU Radio](#), [WTTG-Fox 5](#), [Campus Technology](#), and [EnergyDigital.com](#), reported on the university's commitment. (4/15)

#### Obama Puts Deficit Ball Back in Pentagon's Court

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.** Gordon Adams, professor of international relations, discussed the effects of proposed federal budget cuts targeting future defense spending. Adams spoke with the [Wall Street Journal](#), [New York Times](#), [CNN Money](#), and [Foreign Policy](#) magazine. He was also a guest on [NPR's Morning Edition](#) and [WAMU's The Diane Rehm Show](#). "You're going to have to look at what missions are important, what missions are less important. You're going to have to look seriously at the size of the force, how many people have we got in the military," Adams explained. (4/15, 4/18, 4/20)

### Additional Features

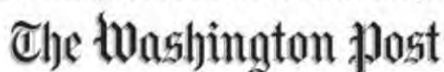
#### NFLPA Goes to School, Talks Lockout with AU Students



**Associated Press**

An [Associated Press](#) article featured members of the National Football League Players Association (NFLPA) at the **Washington College of Law** "answering questions from students about the league's decision to lock out the players and the court proceedings that have followed." More than 50 outlets including [Washington Post](#), [Yahoo! Sports](#), and [SportsIllustrated.com](#) republished the article. (4/19)

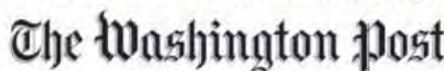
#### Art Explained: Innovative by Design



The [Washington Post](#) reviewed *BRAVOS: Groundbreaking Spanish Design*, one of the exhibitions at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. [WAMU's Metro Connection](#) and the arts blog

[New American Paintings](#) ran features on two other exhibits: *A Cultural History of My Neighborhood: Photo Collages* by Gail S. Rebhan and *Sam Gilliam: Close to Trees*. (4/15)

#### Seniors Find Theatrical Inspiration on DC Metro



[WashingtonPost.com's Campus Overload](#) blog featured *See Something, Say Something*—a **Department of Performing Arts** senior capstone project about Metro. "The play is a funny, crowd-

sourced critique of the system's shortcomings," read the blog. (4/15)

#### Guide to Green Colleges 2011



[The Princeton Review](#) included **American University** among the nation's most environmentally friendly campuses in its 2nd annual *Guide to Green Colleges*. "In keeping with the get-it-done ethic of hometown Washington, D.C., AU is taking a series of practical steps to make sure that its students are green-equipped all the way from the classroom to

Congress," read the guide. (4/19)

## Film School Directory



[Variety.com](http://Variety.com) featured the **School of Communication's** film program as one of 40 leading media programs in the nation. The directory cited American's rep as the most politically active campus in the country and the Center for Environmental Filmmaking. (4/14)

## Reel Journalism: Diane Sawyer



**Nick Clooney**, distinguished journalist-in-residence in the School of Communication, interviewed ABC anchor Diane Sawyer for *Reel Journalism*—a coproduction of SOC and the Newseum. They discussed Sawyer's career and the future of journalism. The [Washington Examiner](http://Washington Examiner) and [MediaBistro.com/FishBowlDC](http://MediaBistro.com/FishBowlDC)

published articles. (4/21)

## New Report Makes Waves in Climate Debate



**Matthew Nisbet**, associate professor of communication, is challenging the status quo in the cap and trade debate with his new report *Climate Shift: Clear Vision for the Next Decade of Public Debate*. [Nature.com](http://Nature.com) writes, "It should be essential reading for anyone with a passing interest in the climate-change debate." [Examiner.com](http://Examiner.com) and [The New Republic](http://The New Republic) also published articles. (4/21)

## Op-Ed/Editorial

### Why Look Down on a Business Degree?



In response to a recent claim that business majors study less, **Richard Durand**, dean of the Kogod School of Business, defended the breadth of knowledge business majors acquire in

the [New York Times](http://New York Times). "They take the same core writing, speech and general education classes as liberal arts students do. They are as apt to study abroad as students in other majors. But on top of that, they spend considerable time on practical skills," wrote Durand. [Bloomberg Businessweek](http://Bloomberg Businessweek) cited Durand's response to the article. (4/17, 4/20)

## Quotes



### China Cites Positive Impact in First Report on Aid

**Deborah Brautigam**, professor of international service, discussed China's position on foreign aid with the [Associated Press](http://Associated Press). "They're trying to figure out what it means to be a responsible, great power, and one of the things they've

been getting beaten up about a lot is foreign aid," said Brautigam. More than 195 outlets including the [New York Times](http://New York Times), [Washington Post](http://Washington Post), [Chicago Tribune](http://Chicago Tribune), [Boston Globe](http://Boston Globe), and [Forbes](http://Forbes) republished the article. (4/21)

## In Online Games, a Path to Young Consumers



**Kathryn Montgomery**, professor of communication, discussed the "360 degree marketing" used by national food corporations with the [New York Times](http://New York Times). "Food marketing is really now woven

into the very fabric of young people's daily experiences and their social relationships," said Montgomery. (4/21)

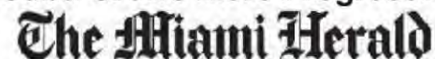
## Earth Day Arrives on College Campuses



[U.S. News & World Report](http://U.S. News & World Report) discussed the importance of Earth Week on college campuses with **Chris O'Brien**, director of sustainability. "Even if every university in the country adopted every green policy they could, it still wouldn't be enough," said O'Brien. "It's people who have to also make changes in their own expectations and

lifestyles, and we have to do both of those together." An accompanying [photo slide](#) illustrated American University's Earth Week activities. (4/18)

## Cuba Grows More Progressive



Two Cuba policy wonks discussed significant post-Fidel Castro era developments with the [Miami Herald](http://Miami Herald). **William LeoGrande**, dean of the

School of Public Affairs, [explained](#) the significance of the Cuban Communist Party Congress' first meeting in 25 years. **Philip Brenner**, professor of international service, [discussed](#) Coral Gables' new progressive mayor, the former head of the U.S.–Cuban Interests Section in Havana. (4/16, 4/18)

## BP Costs to Soar, Say Experts

### FINANCIAL TIMES

"The Texas City settlement was incorporated into one of the most remarkable package deals that I have ever seen," said **Dan Jacobs**, director of Kogod's Master's in Sustainability Management program to the [Financial Times](#) about BP's most recent oil spill case. "Multiple violations under different statutes, civil and criminal penalties were all settled in one package. My suspicion is that there is talk behind the scenes to reach a similar global settlement for the gulf disaster." (4/19)

## The Story Behind Tax Expenditures

### GOVERNING

CONNECTING AMERICA'S LEADERS **David Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, explained tax expenditures in the recent federal government budget deal to [Governing.com](#). "Basically, it is any reduction in income tax liability that results from a special provision or regulation that provides tax benefits to particular taxpayers," said Kautter. (4/20)

## Obama Goes Local to Pitch Budget Plan, Re-Election



**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, discussed President Obama's trip across the country to gain support for his budget plan and re-election with the [Washington Examiner](#). "He wants to frame the issues, he wants to frame the budget debate - and especially in states where people are really in the middle," said Steinhorn. (4/18)

## A City Transformed: War's Effect on Washington



**Alan Kraut**, professor of history, explained to the [Washington Examiner](#) how the Civil War transformed the nation's capital. "When Lincoln issued a call for 75,000 troops initially, there was nowhere to put them—they started camping out on the Mall," said Kraut. "This was our first big bureaucratic task as a country, and that's arming a big army to fight over a number of years." (4/17)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

April 22–April 29, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Solving America's Financial Dilemma



**Associated Press**

"It's another game of chicken. And this time there are Mack trucks going at each other, not bumper cars. This is a biggie," said **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, analyzing financial issues straining the country in one of two **Associated Press** articles about [rising oil prices](#) and the possibility of a [federal loan default](#). The stories were republished by 327 and 282 outlets, respectively, including the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Washington Post*, *Forbes*, *CNBC.com*, and the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. In addition, Thurber discussed Republican tax cuts on [NPR's Morning Edition](#), and discussed his book, *Obama in Office*, on [The Insana Quotient](#). (4/23, 4/26)

### Additional Features

#### Climate Shift Continues to Make Waves

#### *The New York Times*

Associate professor of communication **Matthew Nisbet's** new report challenging the status quo in the climate debate garnered additional attention. A [NewYorkTimes.com](#) blog featured

*Climate Shift: Clear Vision for the Next Decade of Public Debate* [twice](#). [Economist.com](#) and [Time.com](#) which said "It's definitely worth reading," also addressed the report. Many other news outlets and blogs commented on the report. (4/25-28)

#### Networking Plays Big Role in Landing Hill Job

#### ROLL CALL

[Roll Call](#) featured **American University's Career Center** in a story about how networking helps new political science graduates find their first jobs on Capitol Hill. "For the most part, Members hire staffers who have interned or

had some other experience working in Congressional offices previously," said **Chris Hughes**, career center advisor. (4/22)

#### Greenspan: Hepburn 'Almost Up to Andrea's Standard'



mediabistro.com

[MediaBistro.com/FishBowIDC](#) featured *Reel Journalism*—a coproduction of the School of Communication and the Newseum. SOC's **Dotty Lynch** introduced NBC News chief foreign correspondent Andrea Mitchell and her husband, former Federal Reserve Chairman, Alan Greenspan who discussed *The Philadelphia Story*. (4/28)

#### American University opens Korean Garden

#### THE KOREA TIMES

[The Korea Times](#) highlighted the ceremony American University held to open a Korean garden near the three cherry trees donated by former

South Korean President Syngman Rhee in 1943. South Korean Ambassador Han Duck-soo, AU President Neil Kerwin, and SIS Dean Lou Goodman spoke at the ceremony. (4/26)

### Op-Ed/Editorial

#### Obama Needs to Increase His Support Amongst Blacks and Hispanics



McCLATCHY  
» Truth to Power®

**Clarence Lusane**, professor of international service, analyzed President Obama's approval ratings across demographic groups focusing on black and Hispanic voters in his [McClatchy-Tribune News Service](#) op-ed. "Although his support among blacks is still in the stratosphere, and although it is a bit above 50

percent among Hispanics, the trends are all in the wrong direction," wrote Lusane. [Hispanic Business Magazine](#), *Albany Times Union* and *The Progressive* republished the op-ed. (4/27)

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## Quotes

### **Panetta Comes Armed With Background in Budget Fights**

**The New York Times**

**Gordon Adams**, professor of international relations, discussed President Obama's secretary of defense nominee Leon Panetta, and the future of military spending with the [New York Times](#).

"[Panetta] knows how to draw a line, he knows how to hang tough, he knows when to concede and he knows when to close a deal," explained Adams. (4/27)

### **Budget Battles Reignite Animosity Between Congress, D.C. Government**



**Jamin Raskin**, professor of law, discussed the District of Columbia's lack of representation in relation to the federal budget deal on [PBS' Newshour](#). "Everybody needs their own representatives. You can't trust other people's representatives to do your bidding and to represent your interests effectively." (4/27)

### **Grounding an American Dream**

**CQ WEEKLY**

**Howard McCurdy**, professor of public administration, discussed the move away from NASA's manned spaceflight program with [CQ Weekly](#). "There hasn't been a second act for space," said McCurdy. "It's been a one-act play so far." (4/25)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers April 29–May 6, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### Millennial Generation Reacts to Osama Bin Laden's Death



The [New York Times](#), [WashingtonPost.com](#) and [WRC-NBC4](#) featured School of Communication professor **Amy Eisman's** class project [Growing Up in the Shadow of 9/11](#). The project, completed three days prior to Osama bin Laden's death, examines the impact of 9/11 on the millennial generation. "We carry the weight of it [9/11] more because our entire adult lives have been during a time of war," said Ashley Bright, a graduate student who worked on the project. The report is also linked on [USAToday.com](#). In the hours following bin Laden's death, [CNN.com](#), [CNN](#), and

alumnus David Gregory on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#), cited **AU students** outside the White House. (5/2-5)

#### Islamic Scholars Split Over Sea Burial for Bin Laden



**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic Studies, provided insight on the debate about Osama Bin Laden's burial at sea in the [New York Times](#). "If they allowed Osama bin Laden to be buried in Pakistan, his followers would show up, plant flowers, and women will say the shrine has healing powers, especially among the uneducated," said Ahmed. [C-SPAN's Washington Journal](#) also mentioned his comments.

Ahmed also talked to [BBC World News](#), [C-SPAN Radio](#), and [Al Jazeera](#), [NPR.org](#) and the [Canada Courier Post](#) about Pakistan-U.S. relations. More than

20 outlets republished the [Courier Post](#) article. (5/2-5)

#### Osama bin Laden's Death and the Defense Budget



On [PBS' Nightly Business Report](#), **Gordon Adams**, professor of international relations, discussed why Osama bin Laden's death exemplifies how the defense budget should focus on priority operations rather than on expensive, broad campaigns "It means slowing down some hardware programs and it probably means refocusing on missions.," said Adams. (5/2)

#### For Obama, a Likely Boost but Economic Challenges Remain

##### The Washington Post

**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed how Osama Bin Laden's demise would affect the economy and President Obama's re-election chances with

[WashingtonPost.com's Post Politics](#). "Jobs and the performance of the economy are still and will be the primary factors influencing 2012," said Thurber. Thurber also spoke with [Asian News International](#). (5/2-3)

#### Believers and Non-believers: Different sides to Osama Bin Laden's Death



**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, analyzed the country's reaction to Osama bin Laden's death with the [Houston Chronicle](#) and [WJLA-ABC7](#). "The U.S. has lived under this cloud for over a decade, so it's an opportunity for people to feel like the U.S. got its revenge to some extent," said Steinhorn. (5/3)

## Conspiracy Theories Proliferate



**Peter Starr**, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, discussed conspiracy theories that dispute Osama bin Laden's death with [Politico](#) and as a guest on [NewsChannel8's News Talk with Bruce DePuyt](#). "The conspiracy theories that grew up around JFK were in large part because the nation was deeply wounded. But there is no trauma in this case, quite the opposite," said Starr, author of *We the Paranoid*, a Web-based, multimedia book. (5/3)

## Obama: Will His Re-election hopes be realized thanks to Bin Laden's Death?

### THE CANADIAN PRESS

"Overall, the economy will be the dominant issue and if it gets worse, getting rid of Osama bin Laden will not be terribly determinative," said **Dotty Lynch**, School of Communication executive-in-residence, to the [Canadian Press](#) about Obama's re-election chances. More than 20 outlets republished the article including [MSNMoney](#) and [Yahoo! News](#). Lynch also spoke with [Medill News Service](#) about America's reaction to bin Laden's death. (5/2-3)

## Bin Laden Coverage Had Dropped Prior to Killing



**Jane Hall**, associate professor of journalism, discussed with [USNews.com](#) the decline in bin Laden media coverage and public attention prior to his death. "I think that as time went on, and the U.S. did not get him, people [in the media] began to ask the question less," she says, adding that for President Obama, avoiding the topic was a smart move. (5/4)

## Shifting Focus from Afghanistan to Pakistan



**Jordan Tama**, assistant professor of international relations, discussed the next step for U.S. relations with Afghanistan and Pakistan in the post bin Laden world on [Russia Today's Big Picture](#). "There is a broader concern where Pakistan has not been a reliable partner," said Tama. (5/3)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers

May 13–20, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Avenging Osama bin Laden's Death



**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, analyzed the discovery of pornography in Osama bin Laden's Pakistani hideout on [ABC's World News with Diane Sawyer](#) and [Nightline](#). "It is surprising that pornography was found because he was known to be a rather austere man, a rather religious man." Ahmed also discussed Al-Qaeda's retaliation attack in Pakistan to avenge bin Laden's killing on [BBC World News](#) and President Obama's speech on the Middle East and North Africa on [C-SPAN's Washington Journal](#). (5/13)

### Additional Features

#### Change in Contrast Fools Your Brain



Our brains tend to group the objects we see based on common attributes but a new illusion created by psychology professor **Arthur Shapiro** and psychology PhD student **Erica Dixon** shows that these groupings can also be made based on changes in contrast.

The illusion won second prize in this year's Best Illusion of the Year Contest and [NewScientist.com](#) explained the illusion in a blog. A separate [NewScientist.com](#) entry featured a second illusion by Shapiro that was a contest finalist. (5/19, 5/17)

#### Resident, Author Wins SPJ Award for Latest Book



The [Kensington Patch](#) featured **W. Joseph Campbell**, professor of journalism, for winning the Society of Professional Journalists' Sigma

Delta Chi award, which honors the best in journalism research, for his 2010 book, *Getting it Wrong: Ten of the Greatest Misreported Stories in American Journalism*. (5/17)

### Op-Eds/Editorials

#### Why Obama Was Happy to See Trump Drop Out of the 2012 Presidential Race



**Richard Benedetto**, professor of communication, analyzed Donald Trump's decision not to run for president in an op-ed for [FOXNews.com](#). "Chances are Obama would have beaten Trump easily, but a president constantly irked by an upstart would have added some much-needed spice to what is shaping up as a bland race," wrote Benedetto. (5/19)

#### Foreign Policy: After Scandal, Who Can Run The IMF?



**David Bosco**, professor of international service, wrote an editorial for [NPR.org](#) about the future of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) after managing director Dominique Strauss-Kahn's arrest for an alleged sexual assault. "Ultimately, Strauss-Kahn's legal problems will probably have little impact on the immediate substantive work of the fund. But the leadership crisis occurs at a moment when there are myriad critical decisions pending," wrote Bosco. (5/16)

#### SCOTUS Needs and Ethics Code



**Herman Schwartz**, professor of law, wrote an op-ed for [Politico](#) explaining the need for an ethics code to create stricter limitations for Supreme Court justices. "Supreme Court justices are the closest thing we have to absolute monarchs. They have immense power over our lives, are accountable to no one for their decisions and can stay in office for life," wrote Schwartz. (5/13)

## Quotes

### Pentagon: No Quick Review of Bin Laden Photos' Bid

**AP Associated Press** Daniel Metcalfe, professor of law, discussed the Defense Department's refusal to review a Freedom of Information Act request to release photos of Osama bin Laden's corpse with the [Associated Press](#). "It's hard to see how such a photo in and of itself could properly be classified, and with that decision ultimately sustained in court, on the basis of national security harm," said Metcalfe. More than 255 outlets including *USA Today*, *Newsday*, and *Forbes* republished the article. (5/14)

### Do-Nothing Congress after Record Lawmaking Session Shows Budget Paralysis

**Bloomberg** James Thurber, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed with [Bloomberg News](#) Congress' ability to make progress on other issues while debating the budget. "It's going to be hard to get that done, and it's hard to get them to focus on something outside of that. The politics of cutting the budget is really tough and it's very slow," said Thurber. (5/17)

### Berkshire Purchases MasterCard Shares after Buffett Hires Combs

**Bloomberg** Gerald Martin, professor of finance, spoke to [Bloomberg News](#) about Warren Buffett's new money manager who is handling Buffett's stake in MasterCard. "He's going to get into the mix, and if he's had some success or a lot of knowledge on MasterCard, then he's bringing that to the table," said Martin. (5/17)

### 'Yes' Pile Will Bring D.C. \$127M in Revenue

**The Washington Times** David Kautter, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, critiqued D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray's proposed tax increases to bridge the city's budget gap in the [Washington Times](#). "The one thing you cannot say is it is a pro-growth or pro-job series of proposals. You have to worry about the impact on small businesses and entrepreneurial business," said Kautter. (5/12)

### Federal Gun Legislation Would Greatly Expand Who Qualifies as Mentally Ineligible from Owning a Gun

**THE DAILY CALLER** Jeff Schaler, assistant professor of justice, law and society, discussed proposed legislation expanding ineligibility for gun ownership due to mental health problems with the [Daily Caller](#). "People who are introducing and arguing for this legislation are essentially acting as if there is a post script at the bottom of the Bill of Rights that reads as follows: 'For mentally healthy people only,'" said Schaler. (5/13)

### Republicans Scattered Over 2012 Elections



Leonard Steinhorn, professor of public communication, discussed the potential Republican candidate field on [WTTG-FOX5](#). "They may look underwhelming now, but the group in 1991 looked underwhelming when they were going to go after George Bush the first, no one thought they had a chance to win. In fact some of the big people dropped out and guess what happened? Bill Clinton, Democrat, won," said Steinhorn. (5/17)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

May 20–June 3, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Pushing Back Against Legal Threats by Putting Fair Use Forward



*The Chronicle of Higher Education* featured professors **Patricia Aufderheide** and **Peter Jaszi's** fight against misperceptions about the fair-use rules of U.S. copyright law. The article focuses on their upcoming book, *Reclaiming Fair Use: How to Put Balance Back in Copyright* which outlines the reasons why copyrighted material is turning people away from producing original work. "People are choosing not to create. The general feeling is you never want to do anything that deals with popular movies or music because you can't clear those," said Aufderheide. (5/29)

### Additional Features

#### Job Prospects Improving for New Graduates



**Katherine Stahl**, director of American University's Career Center, discussed increasing job opportunities available to graduates on *PBS' Nightly Business Report*. The segment also highlighted May graduate **Ed Levandoski** for landing a job after using the center's resources. "We are very much happier than we were at this point [last year]. Those students who are preparing are landing jobs," said Stahl. (5/20)

#### Ivory Tower: James Goldgeier



*National Journal* featured **James Goldgeier's** appointment as the new dean of the School of International Service. Goldgeier said the benefit of being in D.C. is blending "the academic world and the think-tank world." *Inside Higher Ed*, *The Hill*, *Washington Business Journal* and *YahooNews' The Envoy*, a foreign affairs blog, also noted the appointment.

#### The Future of Washington Arts



*WAMU's The Kojito Show* interviewed artist Sam Gilliam whose exhibition, *Close To Trees*, is showing at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. Gilliam was one of three panelists who discussed D.C.'s art scene, and why a younger generation could be changing Washington's reputation. (5/23)

#### College Town Tour: Washington, DC



*NBC's The Today Show* mentioned **American University** in an *Education Nation* segment about college towns that double as great family vacation destinations. Historic monuments, museums and cultural opportunities combined with so many great colleges ranked Washington, D.C. among the top five cities to visit. (5/23)

## Op-Eds/Editorials

### The 1967 Borders: No Legal Basis, No Power Basis, but Permanent



**Boaz Atzili**, assistant professor of international service, traced the history of Israel's borders from 1949 through 1967, starting with the armistice agreements in an op-ed for [Huffington Post](#). "Both Israelis and Palestinians should take Abbas's UN initiative as an opportunity to gain, for the first time in their history, an international recognition of their borders, as should

President Obama," wrote Atzili. (5/25)

### Black Infighting over the Obama Presidency—Getting Beyond It



**Clarence Lusane**, professor of international service, explained how some African Americans are reacting to President Barack Obama being the first black president in an op-ed for the [Huffington Post](#). "For many, the overriding question, given the nation's horrific legacy of slavery, Jim Crow apartheid, and continuing racial disparities, is what will President Obama

do to help his community," wrote Lusane. (6/1)

## Quotes

### Ex-IMF Chief May Use Tried, Tricky Consent Defense



**Brenda Smith**, professor of law, spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about the defense strategy former International Monetary Fund chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn may use in his upcoming sexual assault trial. "It really is the credibility of the complainant and

the defendant, and also the facts and information that each side can marshal to support their version of what occurred," said Smith. More than 230 outlets including [Washington Post](#), [Boston Globe](#), and [Forbes](#) republished the article. (5/26)

### Vanishing Giants in a Sharply Divided Congress



With [Reuters](#), **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed the growing partisan divide in Congress. "The extreme partisanship, lack of civility and comity and inability to pass legislation has occurred as a result of more individuals on the far right and far left being elected to the House and Senate," said Thurber. More than 35 outlets including [Chicago Tribune](#), [CNBC.com](#) and [Orlando Sentinel](#) republished the article. (5/23)

### Tough Choices to be made in Cutting Defense: Gates



**Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, predicted to [Reuters](#) larger cuts in defense spending during the next decade than already proposed. "While it may or may not be a trillion dollars over 10 years, chances are very good that it's going to be well above

\$400 billion over 12," said Adams. More than 25 outlets including [Chicago Tribune](#), [Sun Sentinel](#), and [Yahoo! News](#) republished the article. (5/24)

### Museum Convention Showcases a Gadget-filled Future



**Maggie Stogner**, assistant professor of film and media arts, discussed how new technology will impact museum exhibitions with the [Houston Chronicle](#). "The mobile apps free up the ability to get history on demand—culture on demand—which I think is a wonderful concept (that allows) museums to really extend beyond their walls," said Stogner. (5/24)

### Female Candidates in 2012



**Jennifer Lawless** discussed Senator Barbara Mikulski's efforts to assist women running for office in 2012 with the [Baltimore Sun](#) and analyzed the Sarah Palin/Michelle Bachmann GOP presidential primary dynamic with the [Canadian Press](#). "Both Palin and Bachmann are also trying to stake out much of the same territory, particularly when it comes to courting the right-wing media," said Lawless. (5/11, 5/27)

### Joplin Tornado Memorial Service



On [MSNBC](#), **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, critiqued President Obama's appearance at the Joplin, Missouri memorial service for tornado victims. "I thought he was very effective and very moving. In times of such great tragedy, we look to our president who has a special mystical bond with the people to provide for the nation hope, compassion, unity," Lichtman said. (5/29)

## Fit for Trial?



**Ira Robbins**, professor of law, explained the implications of whether Jared Loughner—Rep. Gabrielle Giffords’ alleged assassin—is mentally fit to stand trial on [NBC Nightly News](#). “The defendant has to participate in the proceedings. If as a result of a disease or defect he’s not able to do that, then the proceedings cannot continue,” said Robbins. (5/22)

## Katie Couric and Right-Wing Media-Bashing

**POLITICO**

In a [Politico](#) article about Katie Couric’s CBS departure, **Jane Hall** discussed perceived political bias on network television. “There are a number of people who speak only to Fox News at this point because the presumption is that they are going to get a fair shake,” said Hall. (5/20)

## IMF Board Aims to Pick Successor to Strauss-Kahn by June 30

**Bloomberg Businessweek**

**Arturo Porzecanski**, distinguished economist-in-residence, discussed how the International Monetary Fund (IMF) should select its new chief with [Bloomberg Businessweek](#). Porzecanski said that the IMF will choose the most qualified candidate, but that “in political organizations, many of them are talking the talk but not necessarily walking the walk.” (5/21)

## President Obama Addresses AIPAC



**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, analyzed the impact of President Obama’s speech before the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) on [WTTG-FOX5](#). “I think he is trying to move the process forward and there are a lot of Israelis that are with him on this,” said Steinhorn. (5/22)

## Unlike Harper, Obama Looks Ahead

**TORONTO STAR**

**Clovis Maksoud**, professor of international service, compared President Obama’s reconciliation with Arab nations to Canadian Prime Minister Harper’s isolationist views in the [Toronto Star](#). Maksoud said Harper is “not only denying the right of Palestinian refugees to return but also enhancing the already existing institutional discrimination against the Israeli Arabs.” (5/23)





## AU Newsmakers

June 3–10, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### Universities Drive DC Region's Economic Growth as Federal Government Downsizes

The Washington region's colleges and universities, including American University, will be a catalyst for the District's economic growth according to a new Consortium of Universities report highlighted by the [Washington Examiner](#). "This city is a magnet for talent—they come here and they don't leave," said **President Neil Kerwin** in support of the fact that universities and their students contribute an average of \$1.4 billion to the city annually. In a related article, [WashingtonPost.com's College Inc](#) blog noted that AU is among the city's top 10 employers. (6/3)

#### AU's East Campus Plan is a Good Start



As **American University's Campus Plan** proposal goes before the DC Zoning Commission this week, two local outlets outlined elements of the plan. [Greater Greater Washington](#) reported that the new facilities will bring students out of neighborhoods and that the plan deserves support. [NewsChannel8](#) pointed out that the university modified its campus plan in response to neighbor concern. One of the changes lowered the number of students expected to live on the east campus from 1,000 to 590.

### Additional Features

#### Panetta Confirmation and Pentagon Budget Cuts



On [PBS's NewsHour](#), **Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, discussed Leon Panetta's Secretary of Defense confirmation hearing and the defense budget. "The general public is looking at defense as part of the equation we have to deal with to solve the debt-deficit," said Adams. (6/9)

#### Eye-Opening Images for the Global Citizen



The [Washington Post](#) reviewed *E•CO*—an exhibit at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center** showcasing the perspectives of 20 international photo collectives on the environment. "It's a big deal, and a big show, with works running from the polemic to the poetic," read the review. A [side bar story](#) as well as an [online photo gallery](#) accompanied the review. [The Pinkline Project](#), a Washington arts blog, also reviewed the exhibit, noting that the show is not only about the environment, but the shifting state of photography.

#### 'Queering' the Bard: The World of Shakesqueer



**Madhavi Menon**, associate professor of literature, discuss her book, *Shakesqueer: A Companion to The Complete Works of Shakespeare*, on [WAMU's Metro Connection](#). "Queer theory really names that field of thought and endeavor that pushes against or tests the limits of and tries to move beyond certain boundaries that engulf our everyday

life," said Menon. (6/3)

## Op-Eds/Editorials

### Despite Recovery, Bank Lending Still Falling



**Wendell Cochran**, professor and senior editor of AU's Investigative Reporting Workshop, wrote about the continued decline in bank lending despite the banks' recovery for [MSNBC.com](http://MSNBC.com). "Many in and out of government supported the bailout on grounds it would boost lending by banks. But it didn't, and it still hasn't," wrote Cochran. (6/9)

## Quotes

### The Real World: Tax Tips for Summer Workers

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL**. In [The Wall Street Journal](http://The Wall Street Journal), **Don Williamson**, director of the Kogod Tax Center, gave shrewd advice to young people about summer work earnings. "Total tax-free income swells to \$10,800 if the child puts the next \$5,000 of pay into a tax-deductible individual retirement account," explained Williamson. (6/4)

### Weak Economic Data Widens Divide on Deficits



**Patrick Griffin**, professor of government, characterized to [Reuters](http://Reuters) the debate between Republicans and Democrats over increasing the nation's debt limit. "I don't think Republicans will be escaping what I think will be increasing pressure on being realistic about the debt limit," said Griffin. **CNBC.com** and **Yahoo! News** republished this article. (6/8)

### Austan Goolsbee Finds Tenure an Offer He Can't Refuse in Leaving Obama

**Bloomberg** **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed with [Bloomberg News](http://Bloomberg News) why Austan Goolsbee and others have left the White House to return to academia. "He would have lost his tenure. Was it worth it? I don't know. Kissinger lost tenure at Harvard after two years' leave," said Thurber. (6/8)

### Marketing to children on social networks, is it fair?

**The Washington Post** **Kathryn Montgomery**, professor of communication, discussed with [WashingtonPost.com's On Parenting](http://WashingtonPost.com's On Parenting) blog the practice of marketing to children via social networks. "It's totally under the radar. We need some kind of rules and regulations," said Montgomery. (6/6)

### Peru Vote: Humala Wins, Markets Worry

**The Miami Herald** **Ambassador Anthony Quainton**, distinguished diplomat-in-residence, analyzed for the [Miami Herald](http://Miami Herald) and [Epoch Times](http://Epoch Times) the outcome of Peru's presidential election and what president elect Humala might do. Humala is "a political unknown. All you have to go on are the things that he has said and the assurances that he has given to the people of Peru and to the economic sources of power in Peru," said Quainton. The **Seattle Times** and **Sacramento Bee** republished the *Miami Herald* article. (6/6)

### Agencies' FOIA Responses Seem to Have no Guide

**THE HILL** In [The Hill](http://The Hill), **Dan Metcalfe**, professor of law, discussed inconsistencies in how federal agencies respond to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. "Other than for those individuals who were making first-party requests for records about themselves, [using Exemption 6 to withhold all requesters' names] it is entirely improper and a careless violation of longstanding Justice Department policy," said Metcalfe. (6/3)

### Senators Try to Revive Bipartisan Spirit

**ROLL CALL** **Connie Morella**, ambassador-in-residence in the School of Public Affairs, analyzed for [Roll Call](http://Roll Call) why the Senate has lost the spirit of bipartisanship. She argued friendships used to be key to legislating, but now, "It's hard for them to find free time. Situations don't bring them together; it's not their fault," said Morella. (6/7)

## The Feminine Effect on Presidential Politics



**Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, and **Connie Morella**, ambassador-in-residence, explained to [NPR.org](http://NPR.org) how female presidential candidates, including Sarah Palin and Hillary Clinton, impact elections. "The extent to which they energize voters or affect the gender gap in vote choice, for example, are important

questions. But there are still simply too few cases from which we can generalize," said Lawless. "Whenever women try and succeed in elective office, it sends a message to all women that there is opportunity for them and their children," said Morella. (6/9)

## Budgets Could Sap Federal Leadership Development



**Robert Tobias**, distinguished practitioner-in-residence in the School of Public Affairs, discussed on [Federal News Radio](http://Federal News Radio) how managers at federal agencies are dealing with budget cuts. "These managers feel the same kind of squeeze on pay, on benefits, lack of respect that those they lead feel, so how to come to work and be up is a very difficult task for

every federal leader at every level today," said Tobias. (6/6)

## 2012 Republican bid: The Race is On

**The Voice of Russia** **David Karol**, professor of government, discussed potential 2012 Republican presidential candidates and the importance of early primaries on [Voice of Russia Radio](http://Voice of Russia Radio). "In the modern presidential campaign system, if you cannot make a strong show somewhere in the early stages, people are not going to believe that you are viable, they are not going to give you money, the press is not going to give you attention," said Karol. (6/9)



## AU Newsmakers

June 10–16, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### Faculty Leaders at American U. Seek Old-School Rights for a New Work Force

**THE CHRONICLE**  
of Higher Education

In a two-page feature, [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#) outlined important changes to American University's faculty governance and policies driven by a shared governance structure with the Faculty Senate. "What set

American University apart from many of the nation's other colleges is how aggressively it is adapting its governance structure and policies to today's academic work force," read the article. "The culture of governance has changed from deep suspicion to collective collaboration," said **Anthony H. Ahrens**, a past chair of the Faculty Senate. (6/12)

*\*\*Note: This premium content article is viewable online from an AU computer or with a subscription-based password*

### Additional Features

#### Three-Year College Degrees: A Closer Look

**The Washington Post**

Following a front page [Washington Post](#) article about three-year bachelor's degree programs which mentioned American University, [Washington Post.com's College Inc.](#) blog featured **AU School of International Service's Global Scholar**

**Program** in a column taking a closer look at these programs. **Provost Scott Bass** said "It is learning at its best." He added, the program is filled with high-impact experiences identified by research to foster academic engagement, such as undergraduate research, collaborative work, global study and shared learning. (6/16)

### Op-Eds/Editorials

#### Why Prop 8 Must Fall: Civil Rights



**Julian Bond**, distinguished adjunct professor of government, wrote an op-ed for [USA Today](#) comparing the Prop 8 legislation banning gay marriage to laws that forbade African-Americans and Caucasians from marrying. "It denies those Americans the fundamental rights afforded their fellow citizens. Like the anti-miscegenation statutes struck down 44 years ago,

Prop 8 serves no purpose but to permit one group of Americans to degrade another," wrote Bond. (6/10)

#### Balancing D.C. Budget on Fragile Backs of Workers

**The Washington Times**

**David Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, argued why raising local taxes on small businesses in Washington, D.C., will hinder growth and hurt employees in an op-ed for the [Washington Times](#). "Startups and

small businesses hire the unemployed, buy new equipment and provide health insurance for their employees. Small businesses are clearly the growth engine of the economy for the country. The District is no different," wrote Kautter. (6/14)

### Quotes

#### Blacks' Role in Confederacy Remains Touchy Subject

**AP** Associated Press

**Ed Smith**, professor of history, discussed with the [Associated Press](#) why the debate over African-Americans' contributions to the Confederacy during the Civil War still touches a nerve 150 years later. "In today's world, it's hard to look back on slavery

with any kind of clarity," Smith said, referencing the societal, economic and other pressures that played on blacks and whites during slavery. More than 145 outlets including the [Houston Chronicle](#), [Forbes](#) and [Washington Examiner](#) republished the article. (6/13)

## Obama, Boehner Golf to Get Debt Talks Out of Rough



[Reuters](#) asked **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, to explain the significance of President Obama's golf match with Speaker of the House John Boehner. "It is an important time to relax and talk—as long as you aren't hitting it into the rough all day—and do deals," said Thurber. More than 50 outlets including **New York Times**, **MSNBC.com** and **NPR.org** republished the article. (6/15)

## All-Out Media Coverage of Alaska Emails Draws Fascination, Skepticism



**Jane Hall** and **Scott Talan**, associate professors of communication, analyzed the media's reaction to the public release of Sarah Palin's email files. **Hall** told the [Wall Street Journal](#) the reaction looks like "overkill for gains that aren't clear." She said to the [New York Times](#), "This is not WikiLeaks. This is not the conduct of the war in Afghanistan or the war in Iraq." **Talan** explained to the [Canadian Press](#), "It's an easy story for the media to cover, because she's topical, and people are really interested in her—they react to what she says and does." (6/11)

## When It Comes to Scandal, Girls Won't Be Boys



**Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, discussed with the [New York Times](#) why women in Congress are less prone to scandal compared to their male counterparts. "Women hold themselves up to this hypothetical standard no candidate has ever achieved," she said. (6/12)

## A Political Wonk's 2012 Election Analysis



**Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, discussed America's political climate in advance of the 2012 elections. Lichtman explained the Senate's slow roll call process with [WashingtonPost.com's Politics](#) blog, and the redistricting movement to spread the African-American vote to more elections in South Carolina with the [Spartanburg Herald Journal](#). (6/9, 6/14)

## Has Weinergate Reporting Gone Too Far?



On [CNN's Reliable Sources](#), **Jane Hall**, associate professor of communication, analyzed political scandals and the media craze over the Congressman Weiner controversy. "I think that the media, if they're focusing on whether he lied or not, that is personal pique on the part of the media. I think the bigger story is the story that most people I know are resonating to, which is, what is with these guys?" (6/12)

## Libya, War Powers Start White House, Congress on Collision Course



**Jamin Raskin**, professor of law, provided insight on [PBS' Newshour](#) about the legal wrangling between Congress, the Supreme Court and the Obama Administration concerning the War Powers Resolution language. "Either we should be declaring a war or we will give a limited window, for the president to initiate hostilities—that the president would notify Congress of after 48 hours, and then would have to get out within 60 days unless there was an intervening authorization by Congress of the conflict," said Raskin. (6/15)

## Producer Broke Ground with 'A Raisin in the Sun'



In the [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#), **Caleen Jennings**, professor of theatre, discussed the significance of *A Raisin in the Sun*, and the influence of the play's late producer—and her co-collaborator—Phillip Rose. "People don't realize how groundbreaking it was and what a huge risk it was," said Jennings. "My mother came home and said, 'That was the first time I ever saw myself on stage.'" (6/12)

## For Incoming Defense Chief, No Easy Answers on Budget Cuts



**Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, discussed with the [National Journal](#) reasons for military budget cuts. "Budget constraints are a proxy for people not wanting to be there anymore," said Adams in reference to the general desire to end the war in Afghanistan. (6/13)

## Speed Journalism

### **THE DAILY**

"Reading has become 'hit-and-run.' We have neither time nor patience for connected prose," **Naomi Baron**, professor of linguistics, told [TheDaily.com](#) about technology diminishing our appetite or capacity for longer, in-depth written texts—including news stories. "Think of the way most newspapers format their online editions: a headline, a couple of sentences, and you're done unless you click to read more," she said. (6/13)

## Breitbart is One in Long Line of Reviled, Revered Media Gadflies

### **FIRST AMENDMENT CENTER**

The [First Amendment Center](#) cited research conducted by **W. Joseph Campbell**, professor of journalism, in an article comparing conservative blogger Andrew Breitbart to past sensationalist writers. " He [Campbell] notes that William Randolph Hearst shook up the relatively staid world of New York City journalism in the late 1890s by exploiting new advances in printing such as color to add zest and sensational impact to stories of political corruption as well as crime, sex and scandal," read the article. (6/10)




## AU Newsmakers

June 17–24, 2011

Prepared by University Communications


### Top Story

#### **GOP Women Defend Party Against 'Anti-Women' Charge**

 **Associated Press** [Jennifer Lawless](#), director of the Women & Politics Institute, explained to the [Associated Press](#) the significance of Republican women in the U.S. House of Representative defending their party against Democrat claims that the GOP is anti-woman. "The credibility of having done this event probably matters more electorally than the content of what they say," she said. More than 170 outlets including *Washington Post*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Denver Post* and *Seattle Times* republished this article. (6/22)


### Op-Eds/Editorials

#### **Can the Europeans Defend Themselves?**


 **The New York Times** [James Goldgeier](#), incoming dean of the School of International Service, wrote a [NewYorkTimes.com](#) op-ed concerning NATO's future if the United States reduces its military involvement with the organization. "As the strategic threats shift away from Europe to Asia, the United States will inevitably devote more attention and resources to the Indian and Pacific oceans," wrote Goldgeier. (6/14)

### Quotes


#### **U.S. Pressing Its Crackdown Against Leaks**

 **The New York Times** [Stephen Vladeck](#), professor of law, discussed with the [New York Times](#) the Obama administration's decision to increase penalties for individuals who leak classified information to the media. According to Vladeck, the best option would be a new statute tailored to fit leaks to the media, perhaps allowing defendants to argue that information disclosed should never have been classified in the first place. (6/18)


#### **Ten Facts about Jon Huntsman and His Presidential Campaign**

 **The Christian Science Monitor** "Can you even conceive of a Republican presidential nominee with the following resume: worked for Barack Obama, was an envoy to China, favors civil unions, favors action on global warming, once said he was comfortable with a mandate on health care—and is Mormon?" said [Allan Lichtman](#), professor of history, to the [Christian Science Monitor](#) about GOP presidential candidate Jon Huntsman. (6/21)

#### **U.S. Competitiveness Becoming a Tale of Two Economies**

 **CNBC** [Richard Linowes](#), assistant professor of management, explained to [CNBC.com](#) how the United States compares to other countries in the World Economic Forum's competitiveness survey. "The U.S. has motivated entrepreneurs and a supportive financial network, [both of] which promote innovation," said Linowes about the United States being ranked fourth in the world. (6/21)

#### **Junk Food Fight: Should Ads Stop Targeting Teens?**

 **NPR** [Kathryn Montgomery](#), professor of communication, spoke on [NPR's Morning Edition](#) about junk food advertising that specifically targets children and teens. "What we're talking about are very complicated and very subtle forms of marketing that aren't always clear as such," said Montgomery. (6/22)

## Troop Reduction Won't Stop Military Spending on Afghanistan



**Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, explained to [American Public Media's Marketplace](#) the effects of troop reduction in Afghanistan on military spending. "There's some savings in terms of hazardous duty pay, in terms of pays and benefits that go to families when they're overseas, but that's almost dust level savings, it's hardly measurable," said Adams. (6/22)

## Great Dismal Swamp Landscape Study



On [UNC-TV's North Carolina Now](#), **Dan Sayers**, assistant professor of anthropology, discussed his research on Native Americans and maroons (formerly enslaved people) that formed resistance communities in the Great Dismal Swamp from the 1600's through the 1800's. "It's a pretty elaborate sort of history we're dealing with out here," said Sayers about the dig to uncover where these secret communities had existed. (6/21)

## Texting and Email: No Time to Talk



[AARP Bulletin](#) interviewed **Naomi Baron**, professor of linguistics, for an article about why more people—including older Americans—now prefer sending a text or an email to picking up the phone and calling someone. "We may say we don't have the time, but what we lack is the patience to give somebody a hearing," said Baron. (6/20)





## AU Newsmakers June 24–July 8, 2011

Prepared by University Communications


### Top Story

#### Southern Swamp Holds Clues about Runaway Slaves

 **Associated Press** The [Associated Press](#) featured **Dan Sayers**, assistant professor of anthropology, and his students for their field research in the Great Dismal Swamp to identify evidence of Native American and maroon (formerly enslaved people) resistance communities between 1600 and 1860. "They were creating their own world, and when you think about it, not many people have that opportunity, even in the present day," said Sayers. More than **250** outlets, including [ABCNews.com](#), [AtlantaJournalConstitution.com](#), and [SanJoseMercuryNews.com](#), republished the article. (7/4)

### Additional Features


#### Washington's Most Influential In-House Attorneys

 **Legal Times** The *National Law Journal's Legal Times* highlighted **Mary Kennard**, AU's general counsel, as one of Washington, D.C.'s, top 20 most influential in-house lawyers. "From intellectual property disputes to issues of campus policing, Kennard has her hands on a variety of legal issues," read the article. (6/27)

#### Photo Collectives Capture Jarring Environmental Picture

 **The Washington Diplomat** [Washington Diplomat](#) reviewed *E•CO*, an exhibition at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. "Like a thunderous choir, the pictures sing—at times even scream—a compelling narrative that's reinforced by the fact that they hail from all over the world yet attest to a universal phenomenon: The environment is telling us something," read the article. (6/28)

#### Family Spends Thousands to Find Missing Dog Sassafras

 **NBC 4** [WRC-NBC4](#) mentioned **American University's** contribution in the search for Sassafras, a local family's lost dog. The dog was last seen at a water bowl on Tenley Campus. AU groundskeepers helped set up a motion sensor camera near the bowl. (6/30)


### Op-Eds/Editorials

#### Bachmann for President? I'll Take the Glass Ceiling

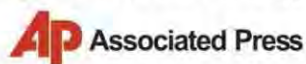
 **CNN** **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, wrote an op-ed for [CNN.com](#) about Michelle Bachmann's campaign for the 2012 GOP presidential nomination. "Like many Americans, I am excited by the prospect of a woman in the White House. Dozens of other nations have elected female heads of state while the United States continues to lag. But shattering the glass ceiling with a candidate like Michele Bachmann might carry too high a price for mainstream Americans," wrote Lawless. (6/27)

### Quotes

#### New Pentagon Chief Facing Mountain of Problems

 **Associated Press** **Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, spoke with the [Associated Press](#) about the new Secretary of Defense. "Republicans and Democrats alike have always found [Leon] Panetta very user-friendly. He gets along with people," Adams said. More than **395** outlets, including the [MiamiHerald.com](#), [WashingtonPost.com](#) and [BostonGlobe.com](#), republished the article. Adams also discussed the defense budget as a guest on [NPR's All Things Considered](#). (6/25, 7/1)

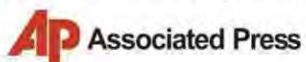
## Space Shuttle's Legacy: Soaring in Orbit and Costs



"One problem is that the shuttle was a compromise from start to finish," said **Howard McCurdy**, professor of public administration, to the [Associated Press](#) about NASA's space shuttle program. More than **335** outlets, including

[WashingtonPost.com](#), [DenverPost.com](#) and [SeattleTimes.com](#), republished the article. [USA Today](#) spoke to McCurdy about NASA's shuttle mission history. (6/27, 6/30)

## New U.S. Policy Aids Workers Abused by Diplomats



**Janie Chuang**, professor of law, explained to the [Associated Press](#) why worker abuse is prevalent amongst the staff of foreign diplomats. "You've got the language barriers, the fear, the not understanding how things work in the United States," said

Chuang. More than **170** outlets, including [FOXNews.com](#), [BostonGlobe.com](#) and [Forbes.com](#), republished the article. (7/3)

## Lawmakers Seek New Immigration Museum in D.C.



**Alan Kraut**, professor of history, spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about a proposed immigration museum in Washington, D.C. "It's a dream to have some discussion of the American people in a city that is filled with monuments mostly to great white

men," Kraut said. More than **145** outlets, including [MSNBC.com](#), [MiamiHerald.com](#), and [WashingtonPost.com](#), republished the article. (7/7)

## Obama Daughters are Handling Spotlight with Grace and Poise



**Anita McBride**, School of Public Affairs executive-in-residence, spoke to the [Chicago Tribune](#) about Sasha and Malia Obama's life in the media spotlight.

"The girls are a little older now; they've settled in to where they live and maintained a private life and private experiences with friends. They look settled and happy and comfortable," said McBride. (7/3)

## Facing a Faith's Glass Ceiling: Trailblazing Female Rabbi Losing Her Job



"Congregations that are hiring new rabbis are looking to appeal to the greatest number of their congregants," said **Pamela Nadell**, an expert in Jewish studies, to the [Minneapolis-Star Tribune](#) about the lagging number of rabbi positions, a challenge

especially for female rabbis. "And because the typical congregant is a married family with children, then they may be looking for someone who looks very similar to them," she added. (6/27)

## Secret Weapon in Debt Limit Fight?



On [CNN's Situation Room](#), **Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, discussed how the 14th Amendment could help politicians solve the debate over the debt limit. "This is a provision that, although it's been around for 135 years, it's barely been interpreted. It's never been the center of Supreme Court decisions, and so I think all we have is speculation and guessing," said Vladeck. (7/4)

## Examining the Broadband Divide in D.C.



For [WAMU News](#), **John Dunbar**, executive director of SOC's Investigative Reporting Workshop, analyzed who has access to broadband service in Washington, D.C. "There's no question the new digital divide is about income," Dunbar said. (7/7)

## Bahrain: Small Country, Big Ally



On [WAMU's The Kojo Nnamdi Show](#), **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, discussed the state of affairs between Bahrain, the Middle East, and the United States. "At this moment in time, we are in the middle of a revolution, right across the Arab world.

We don't know how revolutions turn out, but I'm hopeful that sooner rather than later these societies will join the rest of humanity in the 21st century." (6/27)

### Four Tips for Covering Undeclared Presidential Candidates

**Poynter.** **Jane Hall**, associate professor of journalism, spoke to [Poynter.org](https://www.poynter.org) about how the media covers politicians who have not declared their candidacy for president. "Reporters are interested in finding people who may be perceived as having more charisma than the frontrunner," she said. Hall also commented on the Fox News/Media Matters feud in [Politico's \*The Arena\*](https://www.politico.com). (7/1)

### Fourth of July Facts



**James Heintze**, librarian emeritus, explained to [NationalGeographic.com](https://www.nationalgeographic.com) the history behind America's Independence Day. "Parades, speeches, music, public readings of the Declaration of Independence—those were started in the days after the declaration was adopted and continue today," said Heintze. (7/4)



## AU Newsmakers

July 8–July 15, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Who is Global?



An [Inside Higher Ed](#) article about university presidents' thoughts on what it means to be a global university featured **American University President Neil Kerwin**. Kerwin noted that AU sees viability in a network of international scholars rather than establishing international branch campuses. "If we have learned nothing else of the past year of the 'Arab spring,' is that countries presumed to be stable may not be. And when countries are unstable, American campuses are vulnerable," he said. (7/11)

### Additional Features

#### Reader's Corner: Newsman Covers 'War of the Worlds,' Other Myths



The [Idaho Statesman](#) featured journalism professor **W. Joseph Campbell's** book, *Getting It Wrong: Ten of the Greatest Misreported Stories in American Journalism*. The article focused on Campbell's findings about the 1938 Orson Welles' *War of the Worlds* radio broadcast, which Campbell argues did not cause mass hysteria as is commonly believed. (7/10)

#### First Virtual Master's Program for Persons with Disabilities in ASEAN



Thailand's [The Nation](#) featured the **American University-affiliated Institute on Disability and Public Policy's (IDPP)** new master's program on disability and public policy for students from Association of Southeast Asian Nations member countries. **Derrick Cogburn**, executive director of IDPP explained, "The master's program will provide further access to higher education for a traditionally underrepresented population." (7/14)

#### Trade Program's Renewal Sparks Mixed Feelings



[Politico](#) cited research by **Kara Reynolds**, associate professor of economics, about the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program. According to Reynolds' 2008 study, "Although the TAA program certainly provides an income safety net for displaced workers—and may mitigate protectionist sentiment in the United States—there is little evidence that it helps displaced workers find new, well-paying employment opportunities." (7/11)

### Op-Eds/Editorials

#### First Person: Chalkboard Lessons



**Angie Chuang**, professor of journalism, wrote an editorial for *Washingtonian* magazine about switching from an international journalism career to academia. "I love teaching, I love my students, I love journalism because I can teach it to young people, and I love Washington, that ever-shifting cacophony of cultures, bureaucracies, decisions-of people from everywhere and nowhere." (7/1)

### Quotes

#### Obama's Hands-On Negotiation a Political Necessity




**Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, talked to the [Associated Press](#) about President Obama's debt ceiling negotiation meetings with congressional leaders. "Obama has got to get this done. Even if people blame the Republicans in Congress, he's the president. And if things go rotten on his watch, he pays for it," said Lichtman. More than 180 outlets, including [HoustonChronicle.com](#), [SanJoseMercuryNews.com](#), and [CNBC.com](#), republished the article. (7/15)


## Analysis: Obama 'Bully Pulpit' Remarks Pose Risks

 **Associated Press** **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about President Obama's debt ceiling negotiations with Republicans. "Obama sometimes thinks his words persuade people to do things they do not want to do. I think he over relies on speeches." More than **140** outlets, including [HoustonChronicle.com](#), [SanJoseMercuryNews.com](#), and [Forbes.com](#), republished the article. Thurber also spoke to [The Hill](#) about why some freshman members of Congress have not yet introduced legislation. (7/12)


## U.N. Torture Sleuth Raps U.S. on Access to Leaks Suspect

 **REUTERS** **Juan Mendez**, professor of law and a United Nations special rapporteur on torture, told [Reuters](#) that the United States had violated U.N. rules by not allowing him to speak privately to the soldier accused of leaking secret documents to WikiLeaks. "The question of my unfettered access to a detainee goes beyond my request to meet with [Bradley] Manning—it touches on whether I will be able to conduct private and unmonitored interviews with detainees if I were to conduct a country visit to the United States," said Mendez. More than **45** outlets, including [NPR.org](#), [SunSentinel.org](#), and [YahooNews.com](#), republished the article. (7/12)


## Last Shuttle Leaves an Era Behind

 **The New York Times** **Howard McCurdy**, professor of public administration, shared with the [New York Times](#) his optimism for the future of space exploration. McCurdy said the continued investment from the private sector, and the desire of other nations to pursue space flight show the "elemental need" for space programs. (7/9)


## Iowa Democrats Plan Obama Re-Election Strategy

 **USA TODAY** **Candice Nelson**, associate professor of government, spoke to [USA Today](#) about the grassroots organization Organizing for America and its plan to reinvigorate President Obama's Iowa electoral base for 2012. "I think many of us were/are anticipating a 'It's morning again in America' message, but until the economy turns around, that message is harder to sell," said Nelson. (7/10)


## MSNBC's 'Lockup': Documentary or Reality TV?

 **The Washington Post** **Gemma Puglisi**, assistant professor of communication, discussed with the [Washington Post](#) the popularity of MSNBC's documentary show *Lockup*. "The prison is calling the shots," said Puglisi. "The prison gives access to what they want to show." (7/8)


## Phone-Hacking Scandal Highlights the Differences in British, U.S. Media

 **The Washington Post** **Laura Beers**, assistant professor of history, discussed with the [Washington Post](#) the differences between journalism practices in the United States and Great Britain. "British journalism in general is more scurrilous and partisan. It has a culture of expose," she said, noting that the differences go back further than the *News of the World* cellphone hacking scandal. (7/14)

## Even the First Lady's Allowed to Splurge on Food

 **National Journal** First Lady Michelle Obama, whose platform encourages more healthful habits among children, sparked controversy after eating a fattening fast food meal. **Stacey Snelling**, associate professor of health promotion, told the [National Journal](#) the fuss was unwarranted. "Banning foods from our lifestyle is not a message that is consistent with enjoying life. That's a message of deprivation, and that is never successful," she said." (7/12)

## A New Nation: South Sudan

 Distinguished journalist-in-residence **Nick Clooney** discussed with the [Canada Broadcasting Company](#) the challenges facing the new African country of South Sudan. "It is completely impossible for the new nation of South Sudan to grow, prosper, even to exist without the investment of the outside world," he said. (7/9)

Racism in Brazil

## The Voice of Russia

Clarence Lusane, professor of international service, discussed on [Voice of Russia Radio](#) the Brazilian government's move to eliminate racism in Brazil. "It is a racially mixed society, but it is not a racially equal society," said Lusane, co-chair of a government-to-government project to address racism in Brazil. (7/10)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers

July 15–July 22, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Experts Analyze Murdoch Scandal



**Leonard Steinhorn** and **Gemma Puglisi**, professors of communication, discussed the News Corp. scandal. Steinhorn told the [Christian Science Monitor](#), “Damage control without transparency will ultimately hurt all News Corp. products.” Puglisi told [Politico](#), “The apologies issued Friday [are] only the beginning of what Murdoch needs to do to restore his company’s reputation—and his own.”

### Op-Eds/Editorials

#### Like Water for Gold in El Salvador



**Robin Broad**, professor of international development, wrote an article for [TheNation.com](#) about an El Salvador community’s effort to ban gold mining to stem environmental degradation. “Residents of this area are fighting U.S. and Canadian mining companies eager to extract the rich veins of gold buried near the Lempa River, the water source for more than half of El Salvador’s 6.2 million people,” wrote Broad.

### Quotes

#### NY Subway Plotter May Testify in Father's Trial



**Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, talked to [Reuters](#) about the trial of a man accused of obstructing a federal investigation into his son’s plot to bomb the New York City subway around the anniversary of the September 11 attacks. “The prosecution always has a remedy—if push comes to shove, they can decide to declassify [it] if a piece of evidence is just too important to the case,” said Vladeck. More than 40 outlets including, [MSNBC.com](#), [CNBC.com](#), and [NPR.org](#), republished the article. (7/15)

#### Pentagon Braces for Much Deeper Military Spending Cuts as Part of Debt Deal



**Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, told the [Washington Post](#) that although a debt deal could severely cut the U.S. military spending budget, the Pentagon will not unduly suffer. “Even cuts of \$1 trillion over 10 years could be absorbed relatively easily,” said Adams. He also discussed military spending on [NPR’s All Things Considered](#). (7/20)

#### Congressional Support Impacts How NASA Spends



On [NPR’s All Things Considered](#), **Howard McCurdy**, professor of public administration, discussed how congressional support and contracting affects NASA’s budget. “A lot of political force behind congressional support for the space program derives from the employment opportunities that it provides,” said McCurdy. The Spanish edition of the [Houston Chronicle](#), [La Voz de Houston](#), quoted McCurdy about the end of NASA’s space shuttle program. The article syndicated to [FoxNewsLatino.com](#), [El Paso Times.com](#), and [VidaEnElValle.com](#). (7/20)

#### Bachmann’s Political Headache



**Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, commented in [The Daily Beast](#) about potential gender bias in reports suggesting Michele Bachmann’s migraines are a serious health concern that prospective voters should consider in 2012. “Whether the average person on the street would consider this a women’s issue or not, it just became one,” said Lawless. (7/19)

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## 10 Things State Fairs Won't Tell You



**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of public communication, analyzed for [SmartMoney.com](http://SmartMoney.com) why politicians are always drawn to state fairs during the electoral season. "People don't necessarily vote based on policies, a lot of it has to do with likability," said Steinhorn. (7/18)

## On The Line



On San Francisco's [KNTV-NBC's \*Comunidad Del Valle\*](http://KNTV-NBC.com), **Carolyn Brown**, assistant professor of communication, discussed her documentary, *On The Line*, about illegal Mexican immigrants. "For me, it was all about people understanding who these people are and it's about making them human," said Brown. (7/17)

## A Stiff Test for Obama



On [NewsChannel8's \*NewsTalk with Bruce Depuyt\*](http://NewsChannel8.com), **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, explained the challenges for President Obama if his proposal to raise the debt ceiling fails. "What is historically significant about this, is very rarely do you see a president go this far out on such a matter," said Lichtman. (7/20)

## Remembering Betty Ford



**Anita McBride**, executive-in-residence in the School of Public Affairs, spoke to [AnnArbor.com](http://AnnArbor.com) about the late First Lady Betty Ford. "I was very sad that she had left us, but happy for the legacy she leaves behind. She touched so many by being so brave and courageous and elevating where we could discuss issues that had generally been only whispered about," said McBride. (7/16)

## Disabled Cambodian Student Participants in SIS's New Online Master's Program



**Radio Free Asia** talked to **Huy Khy**, a Cambodian student enrolled in the School of International Service's International Disability and Public Policy master's program which began its two week residency in Bangkok on July 18. "In the future, I wish to become a human rights activist so that I can help protect human rights, especially human rights of people with disabilities," said Khy. (7/20)





## AU Newsmakers July 22–July 29, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

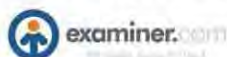
### Top Stories

#### AU Solar: Leadership by Example



A [Huffington Post](#) article penned by sustainability wonk Brian Keane, an AU alumnus, highlighted American University's commitment to solar power. "Leadership by example is one of the most effective ways to encourage others to buy solar power. AU is clearly providing the leadership. Now it's time for all U.S. colleges to follow AU's example," he wrote. (7/21)

#### AU's First 3-Year Undergraduate Degree Gets off to a Fast Start



According to the [Washington Post](#), three-year bachelor's programs are mildly successful. However, [Examiner.com](#) suggests otherwise, noting the **School of International Service's Global Scholars Program** "is possibly one of the largest in the nation." (7/23)

### Quotes

#### Washington Crippled After Long Road to Deadlock



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed with [Reuters](#) and [The Hill](#) the gridlock on Capitol Hill surrounding the debt ceiling debate. In a second [Reuters](#) article Thurber said, "We're in deep trouble. We are going to have continued gridlock. It's an era of deadlocked government during a period when the economy is not doing well and we are not doing well internationally." In a [Scripps Howard News Service](#) article about state and local lobbying efforts, Thurber explained that many lobbying activities go unreported. (7/25, 7/27)

#### Cost of Treating Veterans Will Rise Long Past Wars



**Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, discussed in the [New York Times](#) the cost of Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans' benefits incurred by the American government. "Because we have saved more peoples' lives," said Adams. "We're going to be paying that bill for some time to come." (7/28)

#### Obstacle Course Awaits Congress in Quest for Simpler Tax Code



**David Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, spoke to [Bloomberg News](#) about the difficulty of achieving government cooperation in creating a simpler tax code. "A lot of these groups are pretty well-organized, so I think this battle within the business community of who's going to win and who's going to lose is the big issue," said Kautter. (7/22)

#### Debt story Reliant on Secret Sourcing



**Wendell Cochran**, associate professor of communication, explained to [Politico](#) why more journalists are using anonymous sources to report on the debt ceiling debate. "Probably at this juncture you can't cover a story like this without letting people be unidentified because you won't have anything. But we have also gotten to a point where we have trained people that they don't have to be on the record," Cochran said. (7/25)

#### How the World Map has Changed



On [AARP's Inside E Street](#), **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, discussed the change in international politics and foreign policy during baby boomers' lifetimes. "It was a world of polarities; capitalism versus communism; the United States against the Soviet Union," said Steinhorn. This segment also aired on **PBS**. (7/22)

### Americas Strategy Designed to Earn 'Outsized Influence' with US: Cable

**EMBASSY** Eric Hershberg, director of the Center for Latin American and Latino Studies, spoke to [Embassy Magazine](#) about Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper's effort to mirror Australia's regionalism policies. Hershberg said it, "suggests a level of strategic thinking and creative thinking that [Harper and his government] ought to feel pretty good about." (7/27)

### Maid Raises Stakes in Strauss-Kahn Case



Brenda Smith, professor of law, talked to South Africa's [Independent Online](#) about the media exposure sought by the woman who accused Dominique Strauss-Kahn of sexual assault. "The timing of this is really to increase the chances that the prosecution will move forward, that there is outrage," said Smith. **Fifteen** additional outlets republished this article. (7/26)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

July 29–August 5, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### An Ethical Economist? Don't Laugh, It's Possible



[Wall Street Journal's Marketwatch.com](#) discussed with **Martha Starr**, professor of economics, why economists do not have a code of ethics.

"Economists believe that they're engaged in battles of ideas where right ideas triumph and wrong ideas fall by the wayside, and that that in itself is enough of a check," said Starr, editor of the book *Consequences of Economic Downturn: Beyond the Usual Economics*, which features an essay on economists and ethics. [FoxBusiness.com](#) also published the column. (7/29, 8/2)

### Additional Features

#### Seeking Out New Challenges



[The Hill](#) featured graduate programs offered by the **School of International Service**, **School of Communication**, and the **Washington College of Law** that appeal to Capitol Hill professionals in an article about educational

opportunities in the Washington metropolitan area. (8/2)

### Op-Ed/Editorials

#### Myths About Fair Use



[insidehighered.com](#)

**Patricia Aufderheide**, director of the Center for Social Media, authored an article for [Inside Higher Ed](#) about the myths surrounding fair use. "Some of these uses [of copyrighted materials] are unconsidered; most are uncontested. But when the uses are questioned—usually by a publisher, or a librarian, or an IT person, and often because of new media and digital platforms—academics often lack the confidence to defend their choices, because they don't know the law," wrote Aufderheide. (8/2)

#### Cooking up Some Chemistry Inside a Cell



**Matthew Hartings**, assistant professor of chemistry, authored a column for [ScientificAmerican.com](#) about chemists attempting to craft new chemistry inside cells—an extremely challenging feat. "The cell is the most complex collection of chemistry found anywhere on earth all bundled up in a teeny tiny little package. And these chemists are

using the cell as their own personal test tube," Hartings wrote. (8/2)


### Quotes

#### Defense Spending After the Debt Deal




**Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. Foreign Policy, discussed with [Reuters](#), [New York Times](#), [Los Angeles Times](#), [Bloomberg News](#), and [Huffington Post](#) how the debt deal may impact the Pentagon's defense budget. "We're not yet at the serious end game on solving the long-term deficit problem. They kicked the big issues down the road," Adams told Reuters. Adams also discussed the topic on [C-SPAN's Washington Journal](#). (8/1, 8/3, 8/4)


## Raul Castro Vows to Change Migratory Restrictions

 **Associated Press** [Robert Pastor](#), professor of international relations, explained to the [Associated Press](#) why Cuba's President Raul Castro is considering a reversal of worker migration laws. "The state of Cuba is in a genuine transition toward a new political economy and society, and it's a transition in which the people of Cuba are beginning to find their voices through independent employment," said Pastor. More than **195** outlets, including [FoxNewsLatino.com](#), [WashingtonPost.com](#), and [SanJoseMercuryNews.com](#), republished the article. (8/1)

## Obama, Bernanke Out of Ammo to Boost Jobs, Growth

 **REUTERS** [James Thurber](#), director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, spoke to [Reuters](#) about how President Obama and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke plan to boost jobs and the economy. "Obama does not have much presidential persuasion left. He is running out of capital," said Thurber. More than **50** outlets, including [CNBC.com](#), [MSNBC.com](#), and [SunSentinel.com](#), republished the article. (8/3)

## Targeting an Audience of Monkeys


 **The Boston Globe** [Alan Silberberg](#), professor of psychology, discussed with the [Boston Globe](#) the validity of an experiment aimed at discovering whether targeted advertising affects animals the same way it does humans. "The problem is that there are inevitably differences in how the experiments have been conducted in humans and in nonhumans," said Silberberg. (8/1)

## Debt Focus Turns to "Super Committee"




On [C-SPAN's Washington Journal](#), [Jamin Raskin](#), professor of law, discussed the constitutionality of the "Super Committee" created after the debt deal. "The constitutional questions that have been raised are not so much about the structure or the composition of the committee but rather some of the other requirements about the activation of different proposals that take place. For example, the balanced budget constitutional amendment," said Raskin. (8/4)

## Analyzing the U.S. Debt Deal

 **npr** [Allan Lichtman](#), professor of history, spoke to [NPR.org](#) about how the GOP's House of Representatives freshman influenced the debt ceiling debate. "I cannot recall in my own experience or in my studies this ever happening before," said Lichtman. "Such a group of backbenchers changing the debate in such a short amount of time is really incredible." Lichtman also discussed the debt deal on [Southern California Public Radio](#) and on [CTV's Canada AM](#).

## Ellis Island Immigration Museum to Document the 'Peopling' of the U.S.

 **Diverse** [Alan Kraut](#), professor of history, spoke with [Diverse Issues in Higher Education](#) about the Ellis Island Immigration Museum's plan to document the different ethnicities who immigrated into the United States. "This current [wave of] immigration promises to be the largest in American history. It struck us that this is a perfect time, not just to praise immigration as a positive force, but to tell the whole story, including the warts," said Kraut. (8/2)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

August 5–August 12, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### College Freshman Turn to Facebook to Find Roommates

**The Washington Post**

According to a front page [Washington Post](#) article, many freshmen use Facebook and other social networks to pick their roommates and **American University's** newest online system provides incoming freshman with a list of potential matches. "In the program's first year, residence hall assistants dealt with fewer roommate conflicts and requests for room changes," said **Chris Moody**, executive director of housing and dining programs. (8/5)

### Op-Ed/Editorials

#### Super Committees to the Rescue

**Newsday**

**Jordan Tama**, assistant professor of international relations, wrote an op-ed for [Newsday](#) about the bipartisan super committee created after the debt deal's passage. "Unfortunately for the new fiscal committee's prospects, independent commissions—composed at least in part of individuals who are not serving in government—tend to be more capable of forging consensus than committees composed entirely of members of Congress," wrote Tama. (8/5)

### Quotes

#### August Brings Multiple Jolts for Obama Presidency

**AP** **Associated Press**

**Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, discussed with the [Associated Press](#) the criticism President Obama received after the debt deal and whether the president's chances for reelection are dead. "You absolutely cannot judge a president's prospects by events of the moment," Lichtman said. More than **225** outlets, including **CNBC.com**, **Huffingtonpost.com**, and **Forbes.com**, republished the article. (8/11)

#### Pentagon Grocery Stores, Troops May Lose in \$825 Billion Cuts

**Bloomberg**

**Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, talked to [Bloomberg](#) about the largest cut in military spending since the end of the Cold War. "Still, as the Defense Department is forced to excise programs, it has a menu of options that several studies have identified over the years," said Adams. More than **10** outlets republished the article. (8/5)

#### New NASA Moon Rocket Could Cost \$38 Billion



**Howard McCurdy**, professor of public administration, spoke to [McClatchy News Service](#) about the debate surrounding the cost of a new moon rocket NASA will develop. "That's what is going to get [NASA officials] in trouble, if they come back hat in hand asking for money," said McCurdy. More than **20** outlets, including **SanJoseMercuryNews.com**, **PittsburghTribuneReview.com**, and **OrlandoSentinel.com**, republished the article. (8/6)

#### S Corporations, Other Small Firms Need to Join Corporate Tax Debate

**The Washington Post**

**Don Williamson**, executive director of the Kogod Tax Center, pointed out to the [Washington Post](#) the effect the corporate tax debate will have on S corporations. "Business in America is generally conducted through partnerships and S corporations," said Williamson. (8/7)

#### Newsweek's Michele Bachmann cover: Latest in a Forgettable Line of Mini-Scandals

**The Washington Post**

**W. Joseph Campbell**, professor of communication, explained controversial magazine covers of public figures to [WashingtonPost.com](#). "The shelf life of outrage for these covers tend to be brief. Most media consumers are not going to remember these," said Campbell. (8/9)

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## Mitt: Obama Can't Mind His Business



**Richard Benedetto**, adjunct professor of communication, spoke to the [Boston Herald](#) about GOP presidential candidate Mitt Romney's opinion on President Obama's economic leadership. Benedetto said of Romney, "The key will be if he can articulate policies and proposals that are credible to people in terms of being able to shape jobs." (8/9)

## Renovations at Chautauqua's Strohl Art Center Bring About New Life, Abstract Art



**Don Kimes**, professor of studio art, explained abstract art to the [Pittsburgh Post Gazette](#). "The reaction that we have to artists making abstract work is often negative. It's the same reaction Parisian society

had to the Impressionists," said Kimes, curator of *Abstraction in America: the 1940s to the 1960s*, an exhibition showing at the Chautauqua Institution. (8/7)

## Economic Recovery in America



On [CNN.com](#), **Robert Lerman**, professor of economics, discussed how apprenticeships can be a path to fulfilling careers for young people who are not college bound immediately after high school. "An apprentice who completes a program—they have genuine expertise. That gives people a sense that, 'If I mastered this field, I can continue learning,'" Lerman said. (8/5)

## Ex-Clinton Aides: Obama Lacked Clear Message During Debt-Ceiling Talks



**Patrick Griffin**, adjunct professor of government, discussed with [The Hill](#) President Obama's potential advantage as the debt debate moves forward.

"The narrative is shifting. It has gone from simply who can cut more to who has a better world view in terms of building the economy and creating jobs and that narrative works to the president's advantage," Griffin said. (8/6)

## Escalating Race Riots in London



On [WTTG-FOX5's Morning News](#), **Laura Beers**, assistant professor of history, discussed the youth riots in London. "It is related to a sense of helplessness. They [the youths] think there are no consequences to their actions," Beers said, referencing the fact rioters will not likely go to jail because of severe prison overcrowding. (8/10)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

# AU Newsmakers August 12–August 19, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

## Top Story

### New Wave of Local Journalists Sweats through Rights and Wrongs

**The Miami Herald** A [Miami Herald](#) op-ed featured *Navigating the New Ethics of Local Journalism*, a new report from the School of Communication's J-Lab. The report discusses the challenges local news sites face in balancing ethics with a new journalism environment. The article cites **Jan Schaffer**, executive director of J-Lab, "These questions are hardy perennials, and they're being answered in a setting where the threshold for what's news is lower, where stories are often reported as they unfold and where readers seem to value a journalism of engagement rather than distance." (8/14)

## Op-Ed/Editorials

### College101: Don't Fall Behind on Attendance or Assignments

**The Washington Post** **Marianne Huger**, assistant dean of students, provided advice to new freshmen as a guest columnist for [WashingtonPost.com's Campus Overload](#). "Don't become paralyzed by guilt, avoidance and self-doubt. Talk to an academic advisor, dean, professor or resident adviser. We want you to succeed; we are all on the same team," wrote Huger. (8/16)

### William Randolph Hearst: Mythical Media Bogeyman



In an op-ed for [BBC Online](#), **W. Joseph Campbell**, professor of communication, explained William Randolph Hearst's influence on journalistic practices. "Hearst is typically remembered as the irresponsible media tycoon of the late 19th and early 20th Centuries who set standards by which journalism ought not be practiced. That reputation is not altogether fair, and yet not altogether surprising," Campbell wrote. (8/13)

### Hillary for VP: Obama's Best Hope for Re-election?



In an op-ed for [RealClearPolitics.com](#), **Richard Benedetto**, adjunct professor of communication, explained why President Obama should choose Hillary Clinton as his 2012 running mate. "Clinton would add some much-needed pizzazz to a tough campaign that Biden does not. More importantly, she would shore up a shaky Democratic base, a huge part of which consists of disappointed women who still believe the secretary of state should have been president and would have done a better job than Obama," wrote Benedetto. (8/16)

## Quotes

### Republican Party Still Looking for its Frontrunner



**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, discussed the contenders for the 2012 Republican presidential nomination with the [Boston Herald](#), [The Hill](#), and on [WTTG-FOX5's News at 10](#). "They want someone who's going to express their indignation, anger, and desire for change," said Steinhorn on WTTG-FOX5. (8/14, 8/16)

### Russia Still Lags on Democracy 20 Years After Coup



**Anton Fedyashin**, assistant professor of history, talked to [Reuters](#) about the fact that 20 years after the Soviet coup, Russia is still transitioning from socialist republic to democracy. "Looking back, it was one of the most astounding examples of historical events where the result achieved was exactly the opposite of what the perpetrators set out to do," Fedyashin said about the coup led by communists as a last ditch effort to save the Soviet Union. (8/16)

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## Renewing Cuba's Entrepreneurial Spirit



On [NBC's \*Nightly News with Brian Williams\*](#), **Robert Pastor**, professor of international relations, analyzed the Cuban government's adjustments to the communist system in an effort to boost Cuba's economy. "President Raul Castro has come to understand that the Cuban economy is simply not working," said Pastor. (8/13)

## Supreme Court Ethics and Reviewing the Health Law



On [NPR's \*All Things Considered\*](#), **Howard Schwartz**, professor of law, explained why the Supreme Court needs an explicit set of ethics to review President Obama's health care law. "Not everything depends on a sanction. A lot of rules that we live by are because it's understood that there are certain things you don't do and it helps to have it laid out," said Schwartz. (8/17)

## Europe's Economic Crisis Claims Political Victims



**James Goldgeier**, dean of the School of International Service, explained to [NPR.org](#) how Europe's struggling economy will affect its member role in NATO. "They are in this deep, deep crisis that gets worse every day and they don't have any money for defense," said Goldgeier. (8/15)

## Defaulted Vitro Bond Ruling Signals Higher Yields: Mexico Credit



**Arturo Porzecanski**, professor of international economic policy, discussed with [Bloomberg Businessweek](#) Mexican glassmaker Vitro SAB's test of the country's 10-year-old revamped bankruptcy law. "There has been a fundamental questioning of what the workout process in Mexico is all about. Any corporation can write its own bankruptcy ticket," said Porzecanski. (8/17)

## Archaeological Finds Boost Profile of Arundel's Pig Point



**Joe Dent**, associate professor of anthropology, spoke with the [Baltimore Sun](#) about a prehistoric Indian archaeological site in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, that has become one of the most significant sites in the Mid-Atlantic. "If they encountered pre-Paleo [pre-Paleo Indian, roughly 10,000 to 20,000 years ago], this would be an international site. Archaeologists worldwide would beat a path to it," Dent said. (8/14)





AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers August 19–August 26, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Lack of College Completion Could Cost States Billions



Provost Scott Bass discussed with [Diverse Issues in Higher Education](#) a new report that finds that students who do not finish college impact the greater public good by costing states billions in lost income taxes. "There was a time historically when higher education was viewed as a public good for the local citizenry and that it would improve the economy of that region or state. It has shifted to a private good and something that you purchase on your own," Bass said. (8/22)

### Additional Features

#### Libyan Rebel Wears American U. Blue Crew Shirt



Washingtonpost.com's [DC Sports Bog](#) raved about the enthusiasm and well-documented global travels of AU's Blue Crew, including a "member" who appears to be a Libyan rebel as seen in footage from a [CNN Anderson Cooper 360](#) segment (see 2:55 mark). "That's unique," wrote columnist Dan Steinberg. (8/25)

#### The Root of a Good Math Teacher



Sarah Irvine Belson, dean of the School of Education, Teaching and Health, talked to [LiveScience.com](#) about the importance of Math for America—D.C., a partnership between AU and the Carnegie Institution for Science that seeks to improve math education in D.C.'s high-needs schools by providing teachers with intensive training.

"Students need to have the opportunity to engage in high-level mathematics so they can go to college—so careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics are options," she said. (8/19)

#### The Top 10 Colleges for Social Media Savvy



[Bizjournals.com](#) reported that Boston-based Her Campus Media, an online magazine for women collegiates, named American University one of its top 10 social media savvy schools. "No. 9, American University in Washington, D.C., has a Center for Social

Media on campus which showcases and analyzes media for public knowledge and action." (8/23)

### Op-Ed/Editorials

#### How Many Americans Have Money on the Line amid All the Market Volatility



In an op-ed for PBS NewsHour's [The Rundown](#), Dante Chinni, adjunct professor of government, discussed the validity of the Dow Jones industrial average as a barometer of national economic health and the impact the DJIA might have on the 2012 elections. "Should the market woes continue, though, psychological impacts could play a big role in 2012 because of the communities they hit hardest: the wealthy, swing-voting Monied Burbs where the most stockholders live by far," wrote Chinni. (8/19)

#### The Common Sense of the Fair-Use Doctrine



Patricia Aufderheide, director of the Center for Social Media, provided some fair-use dos and don'ts in her op-ed for [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#). "Many scholars, as well as members of various

professional, creative, and research communities, simply misunderstand their rights, whether they seek to use or protect a work," wrote Aufderheide. (8/21)

#### Communicating Chemistry for Public Engagement

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**Matt Hartings**, assistant professor of chemistry, and **Declan Fahy**, assistant professor of communication, coauthored a [Nature Chemistry](#) article about the need for chemists to improve how they communicate with the public. They suggest most people have a negative view of chemistry. "Chemists should draw on the reservoirs of knowledge from research in science communication to better communicate their work in a way that fosters trust, builds relationships, and creates a dialogue with multiple audiences," they wrote. (8/23)

### Human Rights Irony for the U.S. and Arab world



**Shadi Mokhtari**, assistant professor of international service, argued in her op-ed for [Al-Jazeera English](#) that 10 years after the September 11th attacks, the United States has declined in the area of human rights, whereas the Middle East has improved, as evidenced by the Arab Spring. "An unprecedented embrace of the language of human rights has been an unmistakable feature of not just Egypt's revolutionary moment, but the tide of protest and change that has swept much of the region," wrote Mokhtari. (8/25)

## Quotes

### Some See Trade Deals as Threatening States' Powers



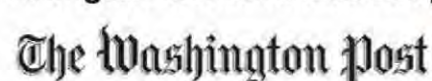
**Sean Flynn**, professor of law, told the [Associated Press](#) that a free-trade agreement between the United States and other countries in the Pacific Ocean region could impact prescription drug prices. According to Flynn, the agreements "could open an avenue for drug companies to try to appeal a state decision to exclude a drug from a list of preferred drugs and the expense of defending against such appeals could weaken states' abilities to negotiate lower prices." (8/21)

### President Obama Goes for a Reset on Jobs



**Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, explained to the [Los Angeles Times](#) why President Obama's jobs plan will likely face opposition from Republicans. "Conservatives don't want everything to get better right now. They want to hold out, elect Republicans to Congress and the White House, and then solve things their way. I can't imagine why conservatives in Congress would do anything to help the president right now," Lichtman said. (8/19)

### Arlington Memorializes Deep Throat Spot in Rosslyn



[Washingtonpost.com](#) highlighted one of journalism professor **W. Joseph Campbell's** media myths about Deep Throat's role in the Watergate scandal. Campbell noted that the marker gives Felt too much credit, because his information didn't really expose the Nixon administration's obstruction. (8/23)

### Gender Bias in Politics



**Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, discussed gender bias in politics, Sarah Palin as a feminist political role model, and gender disparity in Congress on [MSNBC's The Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell](#). "There's no question that Sarah Palin opens up the political process for women. She demonstrated you don't have to be part of the political establishment to succeed in politics," Lawless said. (8/19)

### Ramadan's Impact in Iran, Libya



In an interview with [CBS Radio](#), **Akbar Ahmed**, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies, said that in the spirit of Ramadan, Iran may decide to release the two American hikers who were recently sentenced to eight years in prison for alleged spying. **WBAL** and **WTOP** radio also aired the interview. In addition, Ahmed talked to [CNN.com](#) about why rebels in Libya redoubled their efforts during Ramadan to topple Gadhafi's regime. (8/20, 8/22)

### College Students Need to Check Digital Security



**Cathy Hubbs**, chief information security officer, advised [msnbc.com](#) on what college students should do to protect their computers and other digital devices from security threats. "At a minimum, make sure you have anti-virus and anti-spyware [software] installed [and that] your operating system firewall is turned on," she said. Hubbs also recommended that students contact their schools' IT help desks for advice. (8/22)

## Federal Agencies' Progress on Implementing Sustainability



**Dan Fiorino**, director of the Center for Environmental Policy, discussed on [Federal News Radio](#) his report *Implementing Sustainability in Federal Agencies* about the progress of federal agencies two years after the implementation of Executive Order 13514, also known as the “green” memo. “Establishing the baselines and doing the

calculations is difficult because some of these agencies have lots and lots of installations, very diverse operations and so on. Just keeping score is difficult. But, I think they’re moving in the right direction,” said Fiorino. (8/22)

## Global Land Grab



[In These Times](#) cited research by **Deborah Brautigam**, professor of international development, about China’s motivation to acquire land in Africa. According to Brautigam, China’s “embrace of [Africa] is

strategic, planned, long-term and still unfolding” and China is more concerned with economic expansion than food security. (8/22)

## Notable Alumni

### Behind the Project: Breaking Things Down



School of Communication alumnus **Michael O’Connell**, editor at [Connection Newspapers](#), describes in how his training in the Interactive Journalism Program helped him develop a multimedia review of homelessness in Fairfax County. “I was eager to incorporate some of the multi-platform skills that I had

been learning in the Interactive Journalism Program at American University. Wherever possible, I wanted to use video, audio and graphics to tell the story on the web,” wrote O’Connell. (8/22)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

August 26–September 2, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Story

#### Never-Wrong Pundit Picks Obama to Win in 2012



[U.S. News & World Report](#) featured history professor **Allan Lichtman's** prediction that President Obama will win again in 2012. "Even if I am being conservative, I don't see how Obama can lose," said Lichtman, whose renowned "13 Keys" system has allowed him to correctly predict every presidential election since 1984.

[NewYorkTimes.com](#), [MotherJones.com](#), and [Slate.com](#) also published articles. In addition, Lichtman discussed his prediction on [MSNBC's Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell](#) and [FOX News Channel's Big Five](#) mentioned the prediction. (8/30, 8/31)

### Additional Features

#### Escape to the Great Dismal Swamp



A six-page [Archaeology](#) magazine story featured the historic importance of anthropology professor **Dan Sayers'** on-site archaeological dig to uncover evidence of maroons (runaway slaves) and other disenfranchised peoples who lived in the Great Dismal Swamp between the 1600s and 1860s. "There were hardships. But working in the brutal cotton fields with overseers, not to mention life after the day's labors—compared to this? You may have to work for five hours to grow food, but there was really a self-reliant ethos," Sayers said. (9/1)

#### Move-In Day at American University



As **American University's class of 2015** moved into their residence halls, [TBD.com](#) captured the exciting first moments of the academic year. An online photo gallery chronicled three students settling into their new home. (8/31)

### Op-Ed/Editorials

#### Why Don't Scholars Have Access to Rosa Parks' Archives?

**The Washington Post**

**Julian Bond**, distinguished adjunct professor of government, coauthored an op-ed for [Washington Post](#) about the ownership of Rosa Parks' papers and scholars' limited access. "In four years, [Guernsey's Auctioneers] has not

found an individual or institution that can afford the likely cost of the Rosa Parks archive: reputedly \$8 million to \$10 million. During that time, Guernsey's has shown selected materials to prospective buyers but has refused scholars even controlled access to what it advertises as one of the most important historical collections of the civil rights era," wrote Bond. (8/29)

#### Are Candidates Religious Beliefs Fair Game?

**POLITICO**

**David Johnson**, assistant professor of communication, wrote for [Politico.com's The Arena](#) about the role of religion in political campaigns. "If candidates didn't use their religious

beliefs in their campaigns, this might be a more arguable point. But since all candidates do make some reference to their moral and religious beliefs as they appeal to potential voters, they are certainly open to reporting and discussion in the news media as far as their role is a conduit of public information," wrote Johnson. (8/31)

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## The Biology of Jargon by Gender

**NewScientist**

In [NewScientist.com](#), **Naomi Baron**, professor of linguistics, pointed out the flaws in biologist John L. Locke's forthcoming book *Duels and Duets*, which attempts to explain communication and language differences among men and women. "Time and again, Locke declares that males do this and females do that, as if all humanity can be neatly divided this way," Baron wrote, pointing out Locke's reliance on gender stereotypes instead of recognizing "the messiness that is human reality." (8/29)

## Quotes

### Hurricane Irene: Why Hurricane Hyperbole Never Goes Out of Style



**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, talked to the [Christian Science Monitor](#) about media coverage of Hurricane Irene. "There's really nothing negative about the media erring on the side of public safety, but on the other hand, the media love these sort of dramatic, exciting stories, they love the visuals of reporters sitting out there rain-drenched with wind blowing through his or her hair—it's excellent visuals, and it's a visual medium," said Steinhorn. (8/27)

### Fair Use Face-Off, Canadian Edition



**Patricia Aufderheide**, director of the Center for Social Media, discussed the Canadian copyright and fair use debate with [Inside Higher Ed](#), specifically the confusion created by publishers and copyright clearinghouses. "I think that vendors in general, and their associations, would like to represent the situation as: anything but full licensing, all the time, for every new use, is infringing. Nobody who works for a large institution wants to see that institution at risk." said Aufderheide. (8/29)

### Gloria Steinem to Headline Obama Fundraiser in New York City



A fundraiser to be headlined by the First Lady and Gloria Steinem, prompted the [Huffington Post](#) to speak to **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, about the importance of the women's vote for President Obama in 2012. "He needs the women's vote. There's no question. What's up for grabs right now is the extent to which women are energized and ready to mobilize for him," said Lawless. (8/30)

### Q&A: The Black History of the White House



In a 1-hour broadcast on [C-SPAN's Q&A](#), **Clarence Lusane**, associate professor of international service, discussed his book *The Black History of the White House*. "I began to discover just fascinating individuals, whose mark on the presidency, whose mark on the White House, was virtually unknown," said Lusane. (8/28)

### Telecommunication Freedom and Public Safety



On [C-SPAN's Washington Journal](#), **Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, explained the legal issues surrounding San Francisco's BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit) cell phone shutdown. "As more and more services are available via our telephones, I think that one of the questions the BART episode raises is whether these laws that protect access to telephone service must necessarily also protect access to social media and all the applications we have on our phones," said Vladeck. (8/26)

### History of Race Relations in the U.S.



On [C-SPAN's Washington Journal](#), **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, discussed the history and current conditions of race relations in America. "Things are far better in so many fundamental ways. This new generation coming through, it's the most inclusive generation in our nation's history," said Steinhorn. (8/28)

### Obama's Jobs Plan and the Payroll Tax



On [WUSA-CBS9](#), **David Kautter**, director of the Kogod Tax Center, discussed how a possible payroll tax cut for employers would impact hiring if it is part of President Obama's jobs plan. "It reduces the cost of hiring someone, so right now it costs you 7.65 percent to hire someone in addition to the wages you pay them. After a tax reduction of 2 percent it will only cost you 5.6 percent, so it's like anything if you reduce the cost, people tend to engage in more of that behavior," said Kautter. (8/30)

### NCAA Violations Common in College Athletics



On [Comcast Sportsnet's On The Edge](#), athletics director **Keith Gill**, explained why NCAA violations happen in college athletics. "When you look at college athletics, the complexity of the rule book and all of the rules your coaches have to keep up with, there are going to be violations, which is why there are secondary violations in the majors," said Gill. (8/28)



## AU Newsmakers

September 2–9, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### Higher Education after 9/11



For a [WAMU 88.5](#) commentary, American University President **Neil Kerwin** discussed the changes in higher education since the 9/11 attacks. “We must expand on our efforts to educate our citizens for a lifetime of global issues, challenges and opportunities. To do any less would be a disservice to our core mission. And, if we do it well, we can help to ensure the horrors of 9/11 are not repeated,” said Kerwin. (9/7)

#### 9/11 Anniversary News: Too Much or 'National Group Therapy'?



**Jane Hall** and **Leonard Steinhorn**, professors of communication, spoke to [USA Today](#) about the amount of 9/11 anniversary news coverage. “We are a media-saturated society, and media becomes a central focus for this collective remembrance,” said Steinhorn. Hall added, “I think a lot of people are going to watch a lot of coverage and not feel it was too much, because of the importance of the event emotionally and as a shared experience.” (9/4)

#### View From Ground Zero—and Beyond



**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, told [Washington Jewish Week](#) that for the millennial generation, 9/11 is comparable to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy for the baby boomers. “There’s an aura as if something fundamentally changed,” said Steinhorn. (9/7)

#### What Happened? The Story of 9/11



On [Nickelodeon’s Nick News with Linda Ellerbee](#), **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, explained Islam and Muslim culture for a special about the tenth anniversary of 9/11. “Ten years after 9/11, with so much interest in Islam, it is still a misunderstood religion and civilization,” said Ahmed. (9/1)

### Additional Features

#### The Integration of Baseball



For its ongoing series [American History TV, C-SPAN](#) recorded history lecturer **Terumi Rafferty-Osaki’s** class about the social history and integration of baseball by African-Americans, women, and Asian-Americans. “Baseball happens to be one of the greatest social forces in American society. The institution of baseball, the game, what it represents,” said Rafferty-Osaki. (9/3)

#### Whatever Happened to Shared Governance?



A number of schools, including **American University**, have become known for effective shared governance practices, suggested [University Business](#). AU “has made strides over the past decade to gain nonvoting representation on the school’s board of trustees and to give term faculty more of a voice in the faculty senate and in university issues,” read the article. (9/3)

## Sassafras the Beagle Still Missing: AU Community Assists in Search

**The Washington Post**

According to the [Washington Post](#), an AU graduate student and staff member are actively engaged in the pursuit to locate a local family's beloved missing dog. "Your initial reaction is to be amazed that someone would go to these lengths. But then you understand that there really is an emotional core involved," said student Jon Hussey. [WJLA-ABC7](#) also aired a segment. (9/2, 9/5)

## Op-Ed/Editorials

### Lashkar-e-Taiba's American Connections



Stephen Tankel, assistant professor of justice, wrote in [Foreign Policy](#) magazine about a Woodbridge, VA, terrorist suspect, with connections to the extremist group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). "One of the questions that vexes U.S. policy makers and security practitioners with regards to LeT concerns what level of training constitutes 'membership,' as it pertains to real command-and-control," wrote Tankel (9/6)

### Megabanks Growing Even More Dominant



Wendell Cochran, professor and senior editor of AU's Investigative Reporting Workshop, wrote an article for [MSNBC's BankTracker](#) about how the current financial crisis is shaping the future of American banking. "It is going to be significantly smaller, and the domination of a relative handful of behemoth institutions is going to increase," wrote Cochran. (9/8)

## Quotes

### Congress Is Back in Session, but Can It Find Compromise?

**The New York Times**

James Thurber, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, spoke on [NPR's All Things Considered](#) and to the [Kansas City Star](#) about the challenges Congress faces in its new session. "The American people have had it. They never like Congress very much unless there's a crisis. But this is worse now," said Thurber to the *Kansas City Star*. Thurber also spoke to the [New York Times](#) about the potential conflict of interest created when Rep. Shelley Berkley's official duties benefit her husband's medical practice. (9/6)

### Obama Can't Lose



Allan Lichtman, professor of history, appeared on [MSNBC's The Daily Rundown](#) to reaffirm his year-old prediction that President Obama will win in 2012. "If [Obama] loses six or more, he's out. Fewer than six, the incumbent party wins," said Lichtman, referring to his 13 Keys system. (9/6)

### In Jobs Speech, Obama Passes the Buck to Congress



David Kautter, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, discussed with [U.S. News & World Report](#) why President Obama's American Jobs Act—even with the proposed incentives— may not prompt employers to hire more workers. "Hiring is a serious decision for most businesses. Most businesses would like to see some possibility of a sustained need for the worker," said Kautter.

### Wanted: Astronauts for Missions Unknown

**NewScientist**

Howard McCurdy, professor of public administration, spoke to [New Scientist](#) magazine about NASA's astronaut corps after the retirement of the space shuttle. According to McCurdy, "it is hard to predict the number of astronauts needed because it is not clear what human space missions NASA will be asked to do in the future, or whether they will be funded." (9/6)



## What's Next for Caribbean Ecosystems?



**Kiho Kim**, associate professor of environmental science, spoke to the Water Environment Federation's [Water Environment & Technology Magazine](#) about the nitrogen pollution affecting coral reefs in Caribbean waters. "If we can determine which source is causing the greatest damage, public policy can be shaped to respond to and mitigate it," said Kim. (9/7)

## Aggressive Political Discourse Becoming the Norm



On [WUSA-CBS9](#), **Dotty Lynch**, executive-in-residence in the School of Communication, analyzed the rise in aggressive political discourse and its emergence in new forms, such as a video game in which players shoot and kill the zombie forms of conservative political and media personalities. "We have seen too many examples of that violence going into the real world," said Lynch. (9/6)

## Downgrade Latest Body Blow for an America on the Ropes

**THE BOTTOM LINE** **Mark Waldman**, executive-in-residence in the Kogod School of Business, analyzed for [The Bottom Line](#), Canada's financial planning magazine, how politicians' actions resulted in the S&P's U.S. credit downgrade. "They were just scoring points trying to prove the other guy wrong. The S&P looked at that process and said, we're never going to get out of our problem if we keep dealing with it this way," Waldman said. (9/7)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

September 9–16, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

Ten years after the 9/11 attacks, **American University** works discussed numerous aspects of the anniversary, ranging from the perception of Islam to the cost of the War on Terror. Highlights include:

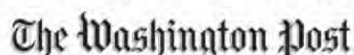
#### **Pentagon Sweats Out Budget Upheaval**



REUTERS

**Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, discussed with [Reuters](#) and the [Associated Press](#) the cost of the U.S. response since the 9/11 attacks. "This is a perfect moment to ask: 'What's the right strategy? What's the right mission? Where can we accept greater risk?'" said Adams. More than **75** outlets, including [BostonGlobe.com](#), [BostonHerald.com](#), and [YahooNews.com](#), republished the article. (9/9)

#### **Sept. 11, 2011: An Anniversary Dissected in the Media Unlike Any Other**



**W. Joseph Campbell**, professor of communication, spoke to

[WashingtonPost.com](#) about the anniversary's media coverage. Campbell said that few journalists offered a "counter-narrative" to the prevailing September-11-changed-everything paradigm, yet many facets of American life were unaffected by the event and its fallout. (9/12)

#### **Post-Attack Unity Has Long Unraveled**

### **The Detroit News**

**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, and **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, spoke to [DetroitNews.com](#) about the waning unity of American politicians since 9/11. "[The attacks] greatly

diminished the foreign policy debate between Republican and Democrats," said Lichtman. Steinhorn added that 10 years later, "we are living with the fiscal consequences of the borrowing caused by the wars and the unwillingness to fund them through taxation." (9/9)

#### **Faith-to-Faith Dialogue, Ten Years Later**



On [WAMU-FM's Interfaith Radio](#), **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, discussed the perception of Islam and the Middle East a decade after 9/11. "I knew the challenge America would face understanding Islam, and I knew the challenge Muslims would face explaining it," said Ahmed. (9/9)

#### **Lives Forged in the Flames of 9/11**



[The National](#), an English language newspaper in the United Arab Emirates, featured the School of Communication project *Growing Up In the Shadow of 9/11*, quoting **Amy Eisman**, director of writing programs, and graduate student Ashley

Bright. **Randa Serhan**, director of the Arab Studies Program, also shared her expertise. "[9/11] was life changing, suddenly there was a planet beyond the end of the drive way and beyond school," said Serhan. (9/11)

#### **An International Perspective on 9/11**

**American University's** Gordon Adams, Akbar Ahmed, Richard Benedetto, James Goldgeier, Anita McBride, Leonard Steinhorn, Jordan Tama discussed the anniversary with foreign outlets, including France's [Le Figaro](#), Brazil's [O Globo](#), Finland's [HBL](#), and [Austrian Broadcast Corporation ORF](#).

## Additional Features

### Going Back to School is Cool



The cover story for [The Beacon](#), a newspaper for adults older than 50, featured two non-traditional students who enrolled in **American University's** graduate programs after raising families of their own. "I feel like I have something to share," said Steven Holloway, who returned to school to earn a master's degree to become a film professor. Karen Parker Thompson, whose daughter is an AU junior, is pursuing a Master of Science in organizational development. "I thought it would really enhance the work I do in community organizing and engaging families," she said. (9/1)

### Fall Exhibitions at AU Museum



"The **American University Museum** makes things easy for indecisive art lovers. Every fall, it sets out a little pu pu platter of art, an assortment of diverse—and often tasty—shows in its three floors of galleries and outdoor sculpture space," read the [Washington Post's](#) review of four of the new exhibitions showing at the AU Museum this fall. An image gallery accompanied the online review. Also, [WashingtonCityPaper.com](#) reviewed the Louise Rosskam exhibition. (9/15)

### 'An Israeli Love Story' – about Love and Israel



[Washington Jewish Week](#) reviewed *An Israeli Love Story*, a performance at AU's Katzen Arts Center sponsored by the **Center for Israel Studies** and **Department of Performing Arts**. Playwright Pnina Gary wrote the monodrama based on her experiences as a teenager growing up in pre-state Israel between 1942 and the 1948

Israeli War of Independence. (9/7)

## Op-Ed/Editorials

### "Keys to the White House" Historian Responds



Allan Lichtman, professor of history, responded to a [NewYorkTimes.com](#) columnist's critique of his "13 Keys" system, which Lichtman has used to correctly predict the outcome of U.S. presidential

elections since 1984. "The theory behind the keys is that presidential elections are determined primarily by the performance of the party holding the White House. This is a very positive message: it suggests that the American electorate makes reasoned, pragmatic decisions in presidential elections and is not manipulated by the pollsters, the admen, and the consultants." wrote Lichtman. (9/12)

### Obama's Jobs Strategy Should Be A North American One



In a [Los Angeles Times](#) op-ed, **Robert Pastor**, professor of international relations, argued that the United States could grow its economy by working with Mexico and Canada. "Our economies are

interconnected. That means when one country has a crisis, all are hurt, but a success in one helps the others. More important, if we find new ways to relate to each other, we can lift all three countries and make the region competitive with China," said Pastor. (9/16)

## Quotes

### Americans Say Mistreated by U.S., Some Courts Listen



**Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, spoke to [Reuters](#) about whether U.S. citizens can claim constitutional protection from actions by government officials in the context of the war on terrorism. "I do think these cases are the strongest cases yet that we've

seen where, if the facts as alleged are true, it would be really eye-opening if the American judicial system provided no relief," said Vladeck. More than 15 outlets, including [NPR.org](#), [SanFranciscoChronicle.com](#), and [YahooNews.com](#), republished the article. (9/9)

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## Authentic? Get Real

### The New York Times

**Naomi Baron**, professor of linguistics, spoke to the [New York Times](#) about how over use of the word 'authentic' by politicians, celebrities, and other public figures has changed the word's meaning. "It's common for some words to be used so often that they actually become devoid of meaning," said Baron. (9/11)

## Top Democrat's Entrance Jolts Race

### BOSTON Herald

**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, spoke to the [Boston Herald](#) about Elizabeth Warren's decision to run for Senate. "She's a liberal martyr in all these political wars, and she's going to be a huge contender not only because she's a name that's been in national news but because she's someone liberals feel they can stand behind," said Steinhorn. (9/14)

## New Mexico Gov. Says Grandparents Immigrated Illegally, Backs Controversial Driver's License Bill

### abc NEWS

**Carolyn Brown**, professor of communication, spoke to [ABCNews.com](#) about a controversial proposal in New Mexico banning illegal immigrants from obtaining drivers licenses. Some proponents of the bill accuse illegal immigrants of taking American jobs and social services. "I think blaming them for draining resources is usually misguided," said Brown. (9/14)

## Three-Minute Fiction Round 7: Arriving and Leaving

### n p r

On [NPR's All Things Considered](#), **Danielle Evans**, assistant professor of literature and an award-winning author, explained her writing philosophy. "I still think of writing as a project of translation, as a project of explaining somebody's life in such a way that somebody else can understand it," she said. Evans will judge entries for the program's Three Minute Fiction writing competition. She challenged entrants to write stories in which someone comes to town and someone leaves town. (9/10)

## An Analysis of Corporate Taxes

### Forbes

**David Kautter**, managing director of the **Kogod Tax Center**, talked to [Forbes.com](#) for three articles about President Obama's proposed tax cuts in the American Jobs Act. The topics Kautter discussed included, [cuts in the payroll tax for employers and employees](#), [the act's impact on funding Social Security](#), and [corporate tax reform and its potential impact on small businesses](#). (9/9, 9/12)

## China Builds Lead in Afghan Commodities, Adds Oil to Copper

### Bloomberg Businessweek

**Deborah Brautigam**, professor of international service, spoke to [Bloomberg Businessweek](#) about Chinese mining companies in Africa. "Such companies mining copper in the Democratic Republic of Congo built roads and ore-processing plants paid for by the value of the copper," said Brautigam. (9/12)

## Web Exclusive: Job Creation



In a [WUSA-CBS9.com](#) Web exclusive, **Meredith Persily Lamel**, executive in residence in the Kogod School of Business, analyzed job creation in the United States during the recession. "[Companies] need to see greater demand for their products, which will come from an injection of government spending into projects that will create demand for their products," said Lamel. (9/12)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

September 16–23, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### U.S. Underwhelmed With Emerging Powers At U.N.



On [NPR's Weekend Edition](#), David Bosco, assistant professor of international politics, discussed the need for U.S. multilateral diplomacy at the annual UN General Assembly meeting. "They have to think about not only how do we cultivate Washington, but how do

we cultivate all the other small and midsized states around the world that are going to determine what the shape of the new Security Council will be," said Bosco. (9/17)

#### Pressure on Israel from Turkey and Palestinian Gambit at UN



Josef Olmert, adjunct professor in the School of International Service, spoke about two prominent foreign policy issues confronting Israel—the Palestinian gambit for statehood at the UN General Assembly meeting

and Turkey's more aggressive stance in the region. For Canada's [Sun News](#), Olmert predicted that "behind closed doors there might be a formula whereby the Palestinians will present their application to the General Assembly or Security Council but there won't be a quick decision so that there will be time for the Americans to try to arrange negotiations between Netanyahu and Abbas." Olmert also discussed Palestinian actions at the UN on [Talkline](#), America's Jewish Radio and TV. In addition, he wrote an op-ed for the [Jerusalem Post](#) and discussed Turkey on [Russia Today's Crosstalk](#). (9/18, 9/20, 9/21)

### Additional Features

#### Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum Takes the Theme of "Community & Creativity" to the Next Level



According to [WashingtonPost.com](#), the Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum's 44th anniversary luncheon featured two digital story projects created by students in AU's Community Voice Project, a collaboration

between the School of Communication and Department of Anthropology. (9/15)

#### AU Community Reacts to Troy Davis' Execution



On [WUSA-CBS9](#), Gemma Puglisi, assistant professor of communication, discussed demonstrations in response to Georgia death row inmate Troy Davis' execution. Puglisi, who for several years has engaged the AU community in efforts on Davis' behalf, is "convinced the Davis case has started a movement to abolish the death penalty." [WAMU-88.5](#) also spoke with Puglisi. [MarylandTheatreGuide.com](#) reviewed the Department of Performing Arts' upcoming production of *Dead Man Walking*. The production will use Davis' recorded words at its beginning and end. (9/20, 9/21)

### Op-Ed/Editorials

#### Beyond NAFTA: U.S. Should Work With Canada and Mexico



In op-eds for the [San Francisco Chronicle](#) and [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Robert Pastor, professor of international relations,

discussed the need for the United States to work closely with Canada and Mexico during tumultuous global economic times. "We can expand our trade fastest with our neighbors, and it benefits us more because the three North American countries make products together, meaning that a much higher percentage of our imports are composed of American exports," wrote Pastor. (9/19, 9/20)

## Expertise

### Do Social Safety Net Programs Shrink Gap in U.S. Economic Inequality?



During a 10-minute segment on [PBS' Newshour](#), **Robert Lerman**, professor of economics, discussed economic inequality in America. "A good part of wealth is embodied in the right to your Social Security flow of income and also to the guaranteed health insurance that you get. That's worth hundreds of thousands of dollars to a typical person," said Lerman. He also discussed unemployment among young adults on [American Public Media's Marketplace](#).

### Europe's Debt Crisis Casts Cloud over U.S. Economy



On [NPR's Morning Edition](#), **Robin Lumsdaine**, professor of international finance, discussed how the United States should help its European counterparts in a struggling global economy. "The more confident one is in the strength of a relationship, the less time one feels one needs to spend to coddle that relationship," said Lumsdaine. (3/23)

### Rep. Barney Frank Calls for Less Bank Industry Influence at Federal Reserve



**Martha Starr**, associate professor of economics, spoke to [ABCNews.com](#) about Rep. Barney Frank's plan to reduce the influence of the U.S. bank industry on the Federal Reserve by requiring the Senate to confirm all members of the Federal Open Market Committee, policymakers responsible for setting interest rates. "It would also be good to

make sure that the elected representatives agree that they're able to serve in the public interest and not just in the interest of the banking sector," said Starr. (9/15)

### Bachmann May Be Romney's Top Asset in Race



**Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, spoke to [Reuters](#) about the benefit Mitt Romney gained in the Republican presidential race from Michele Bachmann's constant attacks on frontrunner Rick Perry. "The biggest threat that she

poses to Rick Perry is not because she necessarily displaces him in any way, but because he is going to have two people fighting against him," said Lawless. More than **50** outlets, including [HuffingtonPost.com](#), [SunSentinel.com](#), and [YahooNews.com](#), republished the article. (9/16)

### Setback for BP over Gulf Oil Spill Liability



**Dan Jacobs**, executive-in-residence in the Kogod School of Business, opined about the legal fate for BP's oil spill disaster in the Gulf of Mexico last year for [Financial Times](#). "If

industry practice is generally negligent, that's not a legal defense. If other companies were also culpable, that should not affect BP's guilt or innocence in the eyes of the law," said Jacobs. (9/16)

### FTC Proposes Kids' Online Privacy Rule Update



**Kathryn Montgomery**, professor of communication, spoke to [Reuters](#) about a new policy from the Federal Trade Commission concerning online privacy for children.

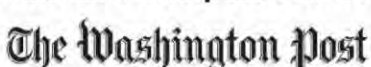
"One of the biggest changes is the rapid growth of mobile and how quickly it has penetrated into the children's marketplace," said Montgomery. (9/16)

### 'Rogue' Negative Book May not Affect Sarah Palin



**Gemma Puglisi**, assistant professor of communication, discussed with [USA Today](#) the controversial book, *The Rogue: Searching for the Real Sarah Palin*, and the prediction that it would not affect Palin's political career. "If Palin doesn't run for president, the book is unlikely to harm or help her," said Puglisi. (9/16)

### Fairfax Principals Want Indoor School Cameras



**Lynn Addington**, associate professor of justice, spoke to the [Washington Post](#) about the effectiveness of video surveillance cameras deterring school violence.

Addington said, "the number of schools using cameras has ballooned since Columbine, but that there is little evidence they make schools safer or change student behavior." (9/18)

## Sample This! Authors Say Use of Fair Use is Growing

**THE KANSAS CITY STAR.** The [Kansas City Star](#) cited the book *Reclaiming Fair Use* by **Patricia Aufderheide**, director of the Center for Social Media, and **Peter Jaszi**, professor of law, in an article about satirists' growing reliance on copyright fair use. According to the book, "today's digital artists are finding that they can use valuable media properties without being served cease-and-desist letters or subpoenas from their owners." (9/19)

## Death of the Political Center

**THE HILL** **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, explained to [The Hill](#) the decline of moderate politicians in a sharply divided Congress. "One of the structural problems of our democracy right now—and one of the reasons we have deadlock—is that we've got a bimodal distribution of ideology and nobody in the middle," said Thurber. (9/20)

## Reactions to Facebook Changes



On [WUSA-CBS9](#), student reactions to new features on Facebook ranged from "confusing" and "disorganized," to "it's here to stay." The reporter also asked assistant professor of communication and social media expert, **David Johnson** to explain the changes. "We can all easily think social media is just a party, so as soon as the guests start to leave the party, the value is not there," said Johnson. (9/21)

## Campaign Ad Breakdown: President Zero



For [BBC.com](#), **Larry Engel**, associate professor of film, analyzed a presidential campaign ad by Republican presidential candidate Rick Perry. "This very simple before-and-after display reinforces Obama's otherness. He's not an American, he's not one of us," said Engel. (9/21)



## AU Newsmakers

### September 23–30, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### What Kind of Sound Does a 1,500-Sound-Effect Donation Make?

**The Washington Post** *Washington Post's* Sunday Style section featured adjunct professor of communication **Greg Smith's** donation of more than 1,500 sound effects to AU's library. Smith collected the sounds during his 30-year career and assembled them in an 8-hour collection for his SOC master's thesis. "After I finished this project, I thought, 'It doesn't make sense to me to return it to a shelf. A sound effect is a living thing. It runs, pops, squeaks, rumbles, roars. For it to sit on a shelf in CDs and collect dust doesn't make sense,'" said Smith. (9/25)  
[http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/what-kind-of-sound-does-a-1500-sound-effect-donation-make/2011/09/19/gIQAiDDjqK\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/what-kind-of-sound-does-a-1500-sound-effect-donation-make/2011/09/19/gIQAiDDjqK_story.html)

### Additional Features

#### U.S. News Ranking: AU Produces the Most Interns

**U.S. News & World Report** With nearly 85 percent of its 2010 graduating seniors working as interns, **American University** topped **USNews.com's** ranking of the Top-10 national universities producing the most interns. AU boasts more interns than Dartmouth College and George Washington University. (9/27)  
<http://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/the-short-list-college/articles/2011/09/27/10-national-universities-producing-the-most-interns>

#### Compassionate Photographer

**WASHINGTON JEWISH WEEK** *Washington Jewish Week* featured *Re-viewing Documentary: The Photographic Life of Louise Rosskam*, one of six exhibitions at the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center. "The subjects tended to trust her, there is a deep compassion - you feel the photographer's compassion for the subject," said Laura Katzman, exhibition cocurator referring to Rosskam's rapport with the people she photographed. (9/28)  
<http://washingtonjewishweek.com/main.asp?SectionID=27&SubSectionID=25&ArticleID=15800&TM=39849.27>

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### The Fine Line between Marriage and Divorce

**THE HUFFINGTON POST** **Iris Krasnow**, assistant professor of journalism, wrote a column for **HuffingtonPost.com** about her forthcoming book *The Secret Lives of Wives: Women Share What It Really Takes To Stay Married*. The book, based on 200 interviews with wives, explores why some women are able to make their marriages last, despite the inevitable challenges. "Who stays married and who doesn't is a question not always about commitment or deep abiding love—it's about endurance," wrote Krasnow. (9/24)  
[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/iris-krasnow/the-fine-line-between-mar\\_b\\_959372.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/iris-krasnow/the-fine-line-between-mar_b_959372.html)

#### Do Muslims Really Care About Somalia?

**FP Foreign Policy** **Akbar Ahmed**, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies, and research assistant Franki Martin, wrote an article for **ForeignPolicy.com** suggesting except for Turkey, Somalia's rich Muslim neighbors have ignored famine in Somalia. "Other Muslim leaders, however, are conspicuous by their absence, ignoring the Quranic command to show charity and compassion to the poor and needy," observed Ahmed and Martin. (9/28)  
<http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2011/09/28/somalia%20famine%20muslim%20countries>



## Expertise

### Government Shutdown Averted, but Philosophical Divide Still Exists



Associated Press

**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential studies, explained to the **Associated Press** the partisanship that took Congress to the brink of government shutdown this week. "There are very few people in the middle who are moderate and who can bring about compromises. And that creates an environment where you have this crisis approach to even fairly small issues." More than 325 additional outlets republished the article, including **WashingtonPost.com** and **ChicagoTribune.com**. (9/28)

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US\\_FED\\_UP?SITE=NVREN&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_FED_UP?SITE=NVREN&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT)

### Ohio Mosque Designed to Blend in, not Stand out



Associated Press

**Akbar Ahmed**, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies, explained to the **Associated Press** why a Muslim community in Ohio decided to build a mosque with a more rural American motif than a traditional mosque with minarets. According to Ahmed, the local Islamic community may have chosen the unorthodox motif saying to itself, "Look, we are a distrusted community and we are vulnerable and we need to hide our identity." More than 180 additional outlets republished the article, including **USAToday.com**, **HoustonChronicle.com**, and **CBSNews.com**. (9/24)

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/religion/story/2011-09-25/ohio-mosque-noor/50540774/1?csp=YahooModule\\_News](http://www.usatoday.com/news/religion/story/2011-09-25/ohio-mosque-noor/50540774/1?csp=YahooModule_News)

### U.S. Says Russia "Reset" to Last, Putin Fuels Doubts



REUTERS

**James Goldgeier**, dean of the School of International Service, spoke to **Reuters** about whether Vladimir Putin might again become Russia's president in 2012 and how that may impact relations with the United States. "There will be a businesslike relationship, but not a warm one," Goldgeier said, noting shared interests in containing China and boosting the global economic recovery. (9/26)

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/09/26/us-russia-putin-whitehouse-idUSTRE78N27S20110926>

### Write Off Your Job Hunt

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

**David Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, provided expert tax advice for job hunters in a front page article for **Wall Street Journal's** Weekend Investor

section. "By starting a consulting practice, taxpayers may convert limited write-offs into full deductions," advised Kautter, who also warned against taking deductions for dry cleaning, haircuts, or cosmetic facelifts. (9/24)

<http://online.wsj.com/article/0,,SB10001424053111904563904576587260790642434,00.html?mod=vocus>

### Rand African First Ladies Initiative Fosters Leadership Among Political Wives

The Washington Post

**Anita McBride**, executive-in-residence in the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed with the **Washington Post** the power of first ladies at the Rand African First Ladies Initiative. "You are married to the

leader; why wouldn't you use that platform? No one gives you more unfiltered advice than the spouse of a leader," said McBride, who serves as codirector of the initiative.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/rand-african-first-ladies-initiative-fosters-leadership-among-political-wives/2011/09/24/gIQAAd4INxK\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/rand-african-first-ladies-initiative-fosters-leadership-among-political-wives/2011/09/24/gIQAAd4INxK_story.html)

### Appeals Court Judges Skeptical of Health Care Law's Defense



**Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, discussed with **ABCNews.com** the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia's hearing of a lawsuit contesting the health care law's constitutionality. "Traditionally, the D.C. Circuit is thought of as the most powerful court in the country after the Supreme Court itself, and so even if it's not the only court to speak to an important federal question, its views are often given even higher prominence than that of its sister circuits,"

Vladeck said. (9/23)

<http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/politics/2011/09/appeals-court-judges-skeptical-of-obama-administrations-defense-of-health-care-law/>

### U.S. Colleges Seek Greater Diversity in Foreign-Student Enrollment

THE CHRONICLE  
of Higher Education

**Evelyn Levinson**, director of international admissions, explained to **Chronicle.com** how U.S. universities could increase their diversity of foreign student enrollment by travelling overseas to build upon

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relationships with faculty, former students, and high school counselors in a targeted country. "It's all about trust, relationships, and eyeball contact," Levinson said, noting that AU has sought to be more deliberate about maintaining its diversity. (9/25)

<http://chronicle.com/article/US-Colleges-Seek->

[Greater/129098/?key=SD13KAVpbH1PMH9qbDcQNjZcanVuOEIhaycQbnB3blpdEw%3D%3D](http://chronicle.com/article/US-Colleges-Seek-Greater/129098/?key=SD13KAVpbH1PMH9qbDcQNjZcanVuOEIhaycQbnB3blpdEw%3D%3D)

## Obama's Plan for Your Pension

# FEDERALTIMES

**Robert Tobias**, director of the Institute for the Study of Public Policy Implementation, analyzed for **FederalTimes.com** the Obama

administration's proposal to increase federal employee pension contributions. Tobias said the proposed increase could hurt the federal workforce down the road since employees who are near or at retirement age will leave rather than pay higher amounts. Tobias also talked to

**FederalTimes.com** about federal employee satisfaction. (9/26)

<http://www.federaltimes.com/article/20110926/BENEFITS02/109260304/1001/AGENCY04>

<http://www.federaltimes.com/article/20110926/PERSONNEL02/109260303/1001/AGENCY04>

## How Greece's Economy Can Affect the U.S.



**Arturo Porzecanski**, distinguished economist in residence, explained to **WTTG-FOX5's News at 5** how the Greek debt crisis could impact the United States. "Europe makes up over a quarter of our exports and the more those economies slow down, the more they might tip us into a recession," explained Porzecanski. (9/26)

<http://mediacenter.tveyes.com/downloadgateway.aspx?UserID=83473&MDID=783047&MDSed=6665&Type=Media>

## Analyzing Abbas



On Canada's **Sun News Network's Right Now**, **David Bosco**, assistant professor of international politics, discussed the multiple audiences targeted by Palestinian leader Abbas and Israel's Netanyahu at the UN General Assembly meeting. "While both leaders Abbas and Netanyahu are addressing the General Assembly and addressing other world leaders, they

are also addressing domestic constituencies," said Bosco. (9/23)

<http://www.sunnewsnetwork.ca/video/featured/news/868018287001/analyzing-abbas/1178593477001>

## Time to Reboot?



**Jill Klein**, executive-in-residence in the Kogod School of Business, assessed for **Virginia Business** magazine the impact a smaller federal budget will have on IT spending in Northern Virginia's tech corridor. "There are ups and downs in IT, and these companies know it. These businesses are sustainable over the long haul

because they have leadership teams that have made them valuable. You can't run around and be Chicken Little," said Klein. (9/29)

<http://www.virginiabusiness.com/index.php/news/article/time-to-reboot/314373/>

## Has "Breaking Bad" Made The Reputation Of Chemistry Worse?



**Science2.0.com**, a science issues news Web site, cited chemistry professor **Matt Hartings'** and communication professor **Declan Fahy's Nature Chemistry** article on why chemistry has a negative public image and how *Breaking Bad*, a hit TV show about a high school chemistry teacher turned crystal meth dealer,

plays into that. "*Breaking Bad* is an entertaining and truly fantastic show. Unfortunately, the show plays into our preconceived notions that chemists are mad scientists and that chemicals are bad for you," Hartings said. (9/26)

[http://www.science20.com/news\\_articles/has\\_breaking\\_bad\\_made\\_reputation\\_chemistry\\_worse-83005](http://www.science20.com/news_articles/has_breaking_bad_made_reputation_chemistry_worse-83005)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

# AU Newsmakers September 30–October 7, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

## Top Stories

### Napolitano Confident More Suspected Criminals Will Be Deported this Year



In a policy speech at **American University**, Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano discussed smart, sensible immigration enforcement. The [Associated Press](#), [CNN's John King USA](#), [New York Times](#), [Washington Times](#), [WAMU 88.5](#), and more than 25 other national and international news outlets attended, resulting in more than 800 news stories mentioning her speech at AU. Following the speech, **Dean Bill LeoGrande**, and professors **Jayesh Rathod**, **Carolyn Brown**, **Alan Kraut**, and **Jordan Tama** provided post-speech reaction to [Univision](#), [Cronkite News Service](#), [Notimex](#)

[Mexican Newswire](#), [VOA](#) and [Capital News Service](#). (10/5)

## Additional Features

### FDR and the Modern Presidency



During an hour-long broadcast of his class on [C-SPAN's American History TV](#), **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, discussed Franklin Delano Roosevelt's life and impact on the modern American presidency. "FDR always wanted to make his mark in politics. He didn't want to be an intellectual. He didn't want to study the law—didn't want to litigate. And he had a very meteoric rise in politics," Lichtman said. The class aired three times the weekend of October 1 and 2. A second hour of the class will air October 8. (10/1)

### Several New Reports on Obesity Place Blame on Food Marketing



An [Atlantic.com](#) column about several new reports on the influences of food marketing cited the latest edition of *Kogod Now*, the Kogod School of Business' magazine, for taking "a tough look at how targeted marketing of foods and beverages contributes to the obesity crisis, especially among minority children and adolescents."

(10/5)

### Hodgepodge of Life, from Subterra Australia to 1940s D.C.



[Washington Diplomat](#) reviewed three exhibitions at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**, praising museum director and curator **Jack Rasmussen's** bold approach for showing several, unrelated exhibitions at once.

"Ever since the Katzen Arts Center arose by Ward Circle, Rasmussen seems to

have plunged himself into an almost subversive process of creating and assembling a panoply of exhibitions that don't readily connect to one another, but together make up some of the most fascinating, cutting-edge shows in town," read the review. (9/30)

## Op-Ed/AU Authors

### Overturing Lee Kuan Yews Legacy in Singapore



In his [Foreign Affairs](#) article, **Amitav Acharya**, the UNESCO Chair in Transnational Challenges and Governance, explained Singapore's recent elections results and how they may shape the country's democratic future. "In pursuing greater political openness in two elections this year, they [the Singapore voters] are challenging one of Lee's most deeply ingrained beliefs: that development and stability do not necessarily go hand in hand with

democracy," Acharya wrote of the legacy of Singapore's first prime minister Lee Kuan Yew, who introduced his nation to stability and prosperity beginning in 1959. [CNN.com](#) republished the column. (9/28)

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## Expertise

### Some Fear Cuts May Hurt U.S. Defense Industry Base



REUTERS

**Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, told [Reuters](#) in response to the outcry over projected defense spending cuts, "Anybody who says \$1 trillion (in spending reductions) is the end of Western civilization doesn't understand that \$1 trillion is just 16 percent of (the Defense Department's) projected resources. Properly managed, it's a cake walk." The article syndicated to more than **65** outlets. (9/30)

### BRICS' Power Seen in "Double Veto" of UN Syria Text



REUTERS

**David Bosco**, assistant professor of international politics, explained to [Reuters](#) that Russia and China's veto in the UN Security Council to condemn Syria can partly be attributed to "continuing frustration on the part of the BRICS [Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa] about the way the Libya situation operation played out." (10/5)

### Cain's 9-9-9 Arithmetic Raises Revenue Generation Questions

**Bloomberg Businessweek**

**David Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, explained to [Bloomberg BusinessWeek](#) that the revenue calculation for GOP presidential hopeful Herman Cain's 9-9-9 tax plan is dependent on whether exemptions would be permitted under the national sales tax. "The revenue estimate is largely dependent on the rate and what's subject to tax. When you pull out housing, clothing and food, the amount you raise drops by a lot," Kautter said. (10/5)

### Wolf Questions Norquist's Associations, Calls Him Obstacle

**Bloomberg**

With [Bloomberg](#). **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed U.S. Representative Frank Wolf's (R-Virginia) attack on anti-tax advocate Grover Norquist. "The Republicans need maneuvering room on

taxes. This is a nuclear bomb on the guy who is forcing everybody to not compromise," said Thurber. The article was also published on [BusinessWeek.com](#). (10/4)

### The Future of U.S.-Pakistan Relationship



In a 35-minute segment on [C-SPAN's Washington Journal](#) **Stephen Tanel**, assistant professor of justice, law and society, discussed the future of U.S.-Pakistan relations. He analyzed former Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Mike Mullen's testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee, Pakistan's reaction, and the work of the Pakistan army and its intelligence agency in anti-terrorist activity. "There's certainly no doubt the Haqqani network has been the most lethal insurgent group active in Afghanistan, or that they continue to enjoy safe haven in Pakistan. The big question is the level of day to day control or influence that Pakistan's ISI, its intelligence agency, has over the Haqqani network," said Tanel. (10/3)

### Job Seekers with Consulting Businesses Reap Richer IRS Deductions



**David Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, appeared on [Fox News Channel's America's News HQ](#) where he explained the benefits for job seekers to establish consulting businesses. "If you set up your own consulting business you're allowed to deduct expenses that you would otherwise be limited in deducting were you not self employed," said Kautter. (10/2)

### The Secret Lives of Wives



On [CBS' Early Show](#), **Iris Krasnow**, assistant professor of communication, discussed her new book, *The Secret Lives of Wives*, and what it takes to maintain a successful marriage. "There is no gold standard to which [couples] should aspire. Everyone will rewrite their own marriage rules according to their needs—financial and emotional—and their expectations," she said to the [New York Post](#). Krasnow also penned an opinion column for [Huffington Post's Weddings](#) section as part of her national book tour. (10/6, 10/7)

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### Debate Erupts over Legality of Awlaki's Killing



On [NPR's All Things Considered](#), **Ken Anderson**, professor of law, discussed the debate over the legality of the U.S. airstrike in Yemen that targeted and killed U.S.-born cleric Anwar al-Awlaki. "The U.S has always seen somebody who is planning attacks against the United States as a lawful target," Anderson said. (9/30)

### 3rd Quarter Campaign Donations off the Mark



**Candice Nelson**, associate professor of government, commented for [NPR's Morning Edition](#) on the third quarter fundraising efforts of the presidential candidates. About Perry's reported \$10 million quarter she said, "He's only been in the race for six weeks and he's raised 10 million, which was more than any candidate, other than Romney, raised in the second quarter." (10/4)

### Experts Predict Positive Public Reaction to Amanda Knox's Freedom



**Gemma Puglisi**, assistant professor of public communication, discussed with the [Boston Herald](#) the verdict in the Amanda Knox trial and commented that now that she's free, Knox has to be a model citizen. "She needs to welcome that found freedom, be there for her supporters, live a decent life and give back to people who helped her and be grateful for it," said Puglisi. (10/4)

### The Impact of Governor Christie's Decision not to Run



On [WTTG-Fox 5](#), **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, discussed New Jersey governor Chris Christie's decision not to run for president and how that will impact the GOP field. "I think the Republican voters are not ready to marry Mitt Romney, they are looking to date all of these candidates. They've dated Rick Perry, they were thinking of dating Chris Christie. Now it seems as if Herman Cain may be somebody that they're interested in. Mitt Romney does not excite their passions, but he still may be the last one standing at the dance," said Steinhorn. (10/3)

### Occupy Wall Street Protests Spread



**Danny Hayes**, assistant professor of government, discussed with [Hearst Television](#) the Occupy Wall Street protests. "I think it's difficult to say at this point whether Occupy Wall Street or some offshoot of that protest movement will turn into something that is as politically influential as the Tea Party appears to have been," said Hayes. (10/6)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers

October 28–November 4, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

### Top Stories

#### Turning Halloween into a Science



[Education Week's Beyond School](#) online column featured AU's first **Science Spooktacular**, a science-themed haunted house for high school students and the community. "This event was part of a broader effort to recruit and retain science students at American University. We hope students from local schools are encouraged by having science-based fun at the college level," said **Nathan Harshman**, associate professor of physics. The **Northwest Current** also ran a front-page photo of a spooky learning station. (10/31)

#### WAMU 88.5 Celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



On WAMU 88.5's 50th anniversary, [NPR.org](http://NPR.org) reflected on the station's history. Current NPR staff members and reporters, including Susan Stamberg and Jean Cochran, whose careers began at WAMU, reminisced about the station's early days. [Washington Life](#) and [Georgetown](#)

[Dish](#) published a photo gallery and article about the anniversary gala. (10/28, 11/1)

### Additional Features

#### AU Students Raise Money, Awareness for Southeast Children's Fund

##### The Washington Post

[Washingtonpost.com's The Root DC Live](#) column featured a project spearheaded by students in professor **Gemma Puglisi's** public communication class. The students, whose goal was to raise money and

awareness for a nonprofit that assists D.C. residents in Wards 7 and 8, planned an event at which First Lady Michelle Obama's hairstylist and a WRC-NBC4 traffic reporter read to Anacostia community center preschoolers. (10/28)

#### AU among Universities Attractive to Nontraditional Grad Students



In a trend story focused on nontraditional graduate psychology students, doctoral student **David Neale-Lorello** talked to [gradPSYCH](#) magazine (American Psychological Association's graduate student publication) about pursuing his PhD in clinical psychology at AU. "I decided to do something I was passionate about,"

Neale-Lorello said. (11/1)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### Is What's Good for MetLife Good for Us All?

##### AMERICAN BANKER

In a commentary for [AmericanBanker.com's Big Think](#) section, **Robin Lumsdaine**, professor of international finance, discussed MetLife's quarterly earnings and regulation as a bank holding company by the Federal Reserve.

"For insurance providers like MetLife that are also bank holding companies, the regulatory capital requirements associated with derivatives-based hedging could create challenges that will likely drive them to exit or curtail involvement in a number of important markets," she wrote. (10/28)

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## No Saif Harbor



In an opinion piece in [Foreign Policy](#), **David Bosco**, assistant professor of international politics, discussed the difficulty the International Criminal Court may have in prosecuting Saif Qaddafi. "Though he was widely seen as heir to his father's power, Saif held no formal leadership position, no military rank, and no government title," wrote Bosco. (10/31)

## How the Government Can Solve the Housing Crisis



In a coauthored [CNN.com](#) op-ed, **Robert Lerman**, professor of economics, explained how homeownership vouchers or turnkey programs could help the government solve the housing crisis while simultaneously jumpstarting the economy. "Scaling up either homeownership initiative would be a move in the right direction, and either approach would help millions of middle income and near-poor families limit their housing costs," he wrote. (10/28)

## The Halloween Myth of the War of the Worlds Panic



In his piece for [BBC News Magazine](#) online, **W. Joseph Campbell**, professor of journalism, debunked the media myth that Orson Welles' 1938 Halloween eve CBS Radio broadcast of 'War of the Worlds' caused mass hysteria. "Sure, some Americans were frightened or disturbed by what they heard. But most listeners, overwhelmingly, were not. They recognized it for what it was—a clever and entertaining radio play," Campbell wrote. (10/29)

## Expertise

### Senators Say United States Losing Sway in Africa as China Rises



For the [Associated Press](#), **Deborah Brautigam**, professor of international development, countered the arguments of some U.S. Senators about China's growing investment in Africa threatening human rights and democracy efforts. "Chinese investment was often perceived to have a negative impact on human rights and democracy, principally because of Beijing's support of Zimbabwe and Sudan," said Brautigam. The article syndicated to more than **200** outlets, including [msnbc.com](#), [CBSNews.com](#), and the [Atlanta Journal Constitution](#). (11/2)

### Tax Breaks for Students

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.** **David Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, explained to the [Wall Street Journal](#) why some working professionals with established careers are interested in taking advantage of education tax incentives. "Many of our students are older and already working, but have gone as far as they can with existing skills," said Kautter. (10/29)

### Fight over Argentina's Inflation Rate Pits Government against Private Economists

**The Washington Post** **Arturo Porzecanski**, distinguished economist in residence, explained to the [Washington Post](#) the ramifications of Argentina under-reporting its inflation figures during the last several years. "The controversy over the inflation numbers is part of larger problems in Argentina: a lack of transparency in handling the economy and an unwillingness to abide by international obligations," he said. In a second [Washington Post](#) article, Porzecanski compared Greece's financial crisis to that of Uruguay's and Argentina's handling of their respective debt crises a decade ago. (10/31, 11/3)

### The Art of the Flip Flop



**Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, explained on [MSNBC's Daily Rundown](#) why "flip-flopping," though a pejorative term often used to describe politicians who seem to change their minds on specific issues, can be pulled off with success, as evidenced by presidents Lincoln, Kennedy, and FDR. "Being flexible as a president is absolutely essential to success," Lichtman said. (10/28)

## Private Meetings and Back-Room Deals Can Pay Off



**Jordan Tama**, assistant professor of international relations, talked to [NPR's Talk of the Nation](#) about why the super committee's private meetings are critical to finding a deficit reduction compromise. "The people who are criticizing this congressional super committee are generally people who are on the liberal or conservative end of the spectrum who don't want to see a kind of centrist grand bargain," said Tama. (11/1)

## Sexual Harassment Settlements: Cost of Doing Business



Speaking to [CNN.com](#) about the sexual harassment scandal surrounding presidential hopeful Herman Cain, **Caren Goldberg**, assistant professor of management, explained why companies may prefer to settle allegations rather than fight them. "It doesn't take many attorney hours to incur five digits' worth of fees. That could be a low-cost settlement right there that makes the problem go away and swears everyone to secrecy," she said. [WTTG-FOX5's NewsEdge at 6 p.m.](#) also talked to Goldberg. (11/1, 11/3)

## Statue of Liberty Turns 125; Old Immigration Attitudes Alive as Well



In an article about the Statue of Liberty's 125th anniversary, **Alan Kraut**, University Professor of History, talked to [U.S. News & World Report](#) about the United States' mixed response to immigrants throughout history. "There's an old immigrant saying: America beckons, but Americans repel," said Kraut, also chair of Ellis Island Foundation's History Advisory Committee. (10/28)

## SPOOKY: U.S. Debt to Surpass GDP on Halloween



**Mark Waldman**, executive in residence in Kogod, spoke to [TheDailyCaller.com](#) about the ramifications of U.S. debt exceeding its Gross Domestic Product (GDP). "The reason that's important [debt exceeding GDP] is if we try to sell new debt and roll the old debt over at higher interest rates, then the cost of carrying the debt gets higher and higher and starts squeezing out other spending," explained Waldman. (10/28)

## Herman Cain's 'Spin' Turns Accusations into Campaign Dough



Republican presidential hopeful Herman Cain experienced a financial windfall in the wake of allegations that he sexually harassed women while head of the National Restaurant Association, but **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of public communication, told the [Boston Herald](#) that the Cain campaign should not count on donor sympathy and dollars. "If other stories come out, then things begin to cascade. If I were in the Cain campaign, I'd be worried about what's next," he said. (11/2)

## Defense Spending Cuts Small in Context of History



In an interview with [Federal News Radio](#), **Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, explained the impact of proposed defense spending cuts and how they fit into an historical context. "Defense budgets go up and they go down, and they have gone up and gone down every 20 years or so ever since the second World War," said Adams. (11/1)

## G20 Could Mark Shift in Economic Power



**Daniel Bradlow**, professor of law professor, told [Agence France Press](#) that China, Russia, Brazil, India and South Africa's would be contributions to the ailing European Union would be "a first in modern history that developing countries would be directly bailing out their advanced counterparts." More than 20 outlets including, [Bangkok Post](#) and [Yahoo! News](#), republished the article. (10/31)





## AU Newsmakers

### October 7–October 14, 2011

*Prepared by University Communications*

### Top Story

#### Learn to Earn



**Matt Boerum**, studio manager and instructor of audio technology, described for [Audio Solutions](#) magazine the Audio Technology Program's new, state-of-the-art facility and how the curriculum prepares students for a wide range of audio career options. "A classic approach is taken to broaden their audio knowledge. It's very well rounded," Boerum said. A photo of the new main control room graced the magazine's cover. (10/12)

### Additional Features

#### Who Will Win the 2012 Race?



On [Fox News Channel's Fox & Friends](#), **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, discussed his "13 Keys" system and prediction that President Obama will win in 2012. "Whenever you have major policy change, historically, that gives you something to run on—something to present to the American people," Lichtman said in reference to counting the healthcare law as one of the nine keys in Obama's favor of winning a second term. (10/8)

#### Ex-Iran Prisoners Lunch with American University Professor Who Helped Them



On [WRC-NBC4 News at 11 p.m.](#), **Akbar Ahmed**, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies, spoke about a private lunch he and other Muslim leaders hosted for the U.S. hikers released from Iran. This group of leaders had helped the hikers in their fight for freedom. "What we saw were three humans with a great spirit surviving and emerging almost unscathed; and ready now to give to share with the whole world their sense of compassion," said Ahmed. [NBCWashington.com](#) featured a nine minute interview with Ahmed.

#### AU Students Produce Stage Fright!



[NBCWashington.com](#) will air 'Stage Fright!', a 10-part ghost-comedy Web series developed, written, shot, and edited by AU students in communication professors **Claudia Myers'** and **Kyle Brannon's** Creating Webisodes class. The show is scheduled to run on the [NBCWashington.com](#) beginning October 10, rolling out one

episode a day (Monday-Friday) during a two-week period. The show will be up in its entirety after October 21 and remain on the site through Halloween and beyond. (10/10)

#### American Forum: Julian Bond Town Hall



As part of its Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial dedication content this weekend, [NBCWashington.com](#) will feature the **American Forum** with associate professor of communication **Jane Hall** as moderator and guest **Julian Bond**, distinguished adjunct professor of government. The program, a discussion of civil rights with Bond and AU

students, will also air over the weekend on WRC-NBC4's Digital Channel 4.2, Comcast 208, Verizon FIOS 460, Cox 803, and RCN. (10/13)

## Op-Eds/AU Authors

### Iranian 'Plots' and American Hubris



**Hillary Mann Leverett**, professor of foreign policy, coauthored an op-ed for [CNN.com](http://CNN.com) cautioning the United States against using isolation to punish Iran for the plot to assassinate Saudi Arabia's ambassador to the United States. "The Obama Administration mistakenly believes it can exploit the accusations for strategic advantage. In fact, they are likely to play to Iran's advantage, not America's," wrote Mann Leverett. (10/13)

### Shalit Deal—Egypt's Role



In a [Huffington Post](http://Huffington Post) op-ed, **Josef Olmert**, adjunct professor of international relations, analyzed Israel's release of hundreds of Palestinian prisoners in exchange for Hamas' release of an Israeli soldier—a deal Egypt brokered. "Here again, we are confronted with a basic rule regarding the Palestinian-Israeli conflict; nothing is as simple as it may look

at first sight as the words of a famous Israeli song suggest, 'what we see from here, is not what we see from there,'" wrote Olmert. (10/12)

### This World Food Day Is not a Time for Celebration, but a Time for Action



In a [Huffington Post](http://Huffington Post) op-ed, assistant professor of public communication **Caty Chattoo** wrote about the global hunger crisis, World Food Day, and an upcoming documentary, *ViewChange: Africa's Last Famine*, she produced for Link TV in association with Oxfam America. "Without continued calls for funding and media attention, we'll continue to see

cycles of drought and famine and more, as the planet struggles to cope with the population explosion and extreme weather patterns," wrote Chattoo. (10/13)

### USAID Fight for Reproductive Rights Should Focus on Contraception



**Rachel Sullivan Robinson**, assistant professor of international relations, wrote a letter to the editor of [Conscience](http://Conscience) magazine about an article criticizing the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for ineffectively promoting

access to safe abortion around the world. In her letter, Robinson argued that in sub-Saharan Africa, "USAID would do better to focus its efforts on improving access to contraception rather than fighting battles about the legality of abortion." (10/12)

## Expertise

### Power 30: The World's Most Influential Players



**Arturo Porzecanski**, distinguished economist in residence, spoke to [SmartMoney](http://SmartMoney) magazine for its Power 30 cover story about what International Monetary Fund managing director Christine Lagarde must do to succeed. "She will need her considerable diplomatic and political eclat to avoid appearing Euro-

centric, even as she helps shepherd the continent through its sovereign debt crisis," he said. Porzecanski also spoke to [CNN.com](http://CNN.com) about the new Colombian, Panamanian, and South Korean free trade agreements Congress passed this week. (10/12, 10/14)

### Study at USAEE Suggests OPEC "Fair Price" Has Limited Market Impact



[AOL Energy News](http://AOL Energy News) cited research coauthored by **Michel Robe**, associate professor of finance, on OPEC's fair pricing pronouncements. "We find that fair price pronouncements add little to pre-existing information and have little

impact on the futures market price of crude oil," said Robe. (10/11)

### Defining "Fair Use" for the Digital Age



[Columbia Journalism Review's Page Views](http://Columbia Journalism Review's Page Views) blog lauded *Reclaiming Fair Use: How to Put Balance Back in Copyright*, a new book by **Patricia Aufderheide**, director of the Center for Social Media, and law professor **Peter Jaszi**. "As the authors write in the introduction, the book's purpose is to understand copyright, to 'give strategies to deal with

some copyright policy problems' and to reframe the copyright debate. *Reclaiming Fair Use* indeed lives up to its purpose and answers many of the questions you may have," read the review. (10/12)

## Film, Music, Art, & the Public Domain: Copyright Controversy

AU064604



On [WAMU 88.5's \*Kojo Nnamdi Show\*](#), **Michael Carroll**, professor of law and director of AU's Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property, discussed copyright and the public domain as they apply to works created by foreign artists. Until 1994, such works were not copyrighted in the United States. Now, a movement is challenging the law that gave copyright to those works. "The Constitution itself says Congress only has power to give out these rights for a limited time. Why is that? Precisely because these works have to become part of our common cultural heritage. They have to be available to all of us for use," Carroll said. (10/13)

### Iranian Assassination Plot



On [WRC-NBC4's \*News4 Midday\*](#), **Jordan Tama**, assistant professor of international relations, discussed Iran's plot to assassinate Saudi Arabia's ambassador to the United States. "I think it is further evidence that Iran does not follow international rules of behavior, whether it's with respect to their nuclear program, international terrorism, or the way they treat their own citizens. This is another piece of evidence and we should have a firm response, but also we should avoid overreacting," said Tama. (10/12)

### Renter's Paradise



**Martha Starr**, associate professor of economics, explained to [Washingtonian](#) magazine why D.C.–area residents who can afford to buy homes are instead choosing to rent luxury apartments. "Attitudes towards buying homes have shifted in a more prudent direction. Renting offers more protection against risk than buying," she said, noting that this especially applies at the upper end of the market, which saw the biggest price drops. (10/10)

### The Politics of Inequality



**Robert Lerman**, professor of economics, suggested to [Harvard Political Review](#) online that in the battles to reduce the deficit and income inequality in the United States, legislators may need reign in the costs of the largest entitlement programs to save the smaller ones. "The proposed budget cuts to programs like the Home Energy Assistance Program illustrate the U.S.'s failure to deal with Medicare and Social Security, which are crowding out lots of other programs—a big portion of [which] assist low income people," he said. (10/12)

### Debate Maneuvering



**Danny Hayes**, assistant professor of government, previewed Tuesday night's Republican presidential primary debate for Canada's [Sun News Network](#). "Presidents really have a limited influence on the economy overall, so what we hear from the candidates tonight, we should probably take with a grain of salt if they are promising to be able to turn the economy around," said Hayes. (10/11)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers

November 11–18, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemedial.cfm>

### Top Story

#### Professor's Artistic Work Epitomizes Scholar-Teacher Ideal



**TBD.com** reviewed art professor **Andy Holtin's** new exhibition, pointing out how it reflects his teaching philosophy—to get his students to experience works of art rather than obsess over artist intent or the message a particular piece communicates. The three works in the exhibition

involve video of performers doing ordinary things and elaborate mechanisms that make the videos (shown on separate screens) move and interact with each other. "It fakes a narrative. It's about our desire to understand what's going on," said Holtin of his intent keep his audience guessing. (11/15)

### Additional Features

#### Northwest Washington: Tales From West of the Park



**Mark Ozer**, a lecturer with AU's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, talked to the **Washington Examiner** about *Northwest Washington: Tales From West of the Park*, his new book chronicling the transformation of northwest Washington, D.C. "It's become

a much more sophisticated city. When I moved here I lived in Bethesda and the city had gone through a period of decay. I live in the District now and it's an exciting place," said Ozer. (11/11)

#### Sex and Identity Symposium: AU Hosts Area Universities' Joint LGBT-Issues Conference



**Metro Weekly**, a Washington, D.C., based LGBT magazine, featured an inter-university LGBT-issues conference that will take place at **American University** this weekend. "It's really a great opportunity for us to make sure the community, both

locally and across the U.S., is aware of what's going on with LGBT people here and abroad," said **Jacob Wilson**, a graduate assistant at the GLBTA Resource Center. (11/17)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### We're Neglecting Our North American Neighbors



**Robert Pastor**, professor of international relations, wrote an op-ed for the **Miami Herald** criticizing President Obama's Trans-Pacific Partnership strategy presented at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit. Pastor

argued that the United States should place more importance on growing the interdependent economy shared with Canada and Mexico. "The best path to freer trade in China and Asia is, paradoxically, for the United States to build on the region in which we draw our greatest strength—North America," wrote Pastor. (11/14)

#### Give Students a Break—An Election Break



In a **HuffingtonPost.com** op-ed, **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, suggested a new kind of school break as a solution to young voters' lack of involvement. "Many colleges already have fall breaks, but these are typically in October. Why not shift it a few weeks later and

call it a civic break? Changing the dates would be an easy administrative matter," wrote Steinhorn. (11/11)

## Expertise

### Right-to-Know Laws Often Ignored

**AP** Associated Press **Daniel Metcalf**, professor of law, explained to the [Associated Press](#) why right-to-know laws regarding government investigations are often ignored. "Having a law that's not being obeyed is almost worse than not having a law at all. The entire credibility of a government is at stake," said Metcalf. More than **340** outlets, including [NewYorkTimes.com](#), [ABCNews.com](#), and [NPR.org](#), republished the article. (11/17)

### Cain's Trouble with Women Voters Threatens GOP Bid

**AP** Associated Press **Karen O'Connor**, distinguished professor of government, spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about Gloria Cain's efforts to help stabilize her husband's controversy-stricken presidential campaign. "Every woman who finds out her husband is a harasser has a hard time believing it. This is another 'stand by your man,'" said O'Connor. More than **300** outlets, including [WashingtonPost.com](#), [HoustonChronicle.com](#), and [MSNBC.com](#), republished the article. (11/15)

### Despite Title, Supreme Court Not Always Last Word

**AP** Associated Press **Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, discussed with the [Associated Press](#) how federal appellate courts found ways to undermine Supreme Court rulings. "One does not have to look hard to see fairly outright challenges to the Supreme Court's authority," Vladeck said. More than **250** outlets, including [USAToday.com](#), [SanJoseMercuryNews.com](#), and [CBSNews.com](#), republished the article. (11/13)

### Lawmakers Scrutinize U.S. Foreign Aid to China

**AP** Associated Press Speaking to the [Associated Press](#), **Deborah Brautigam**, professor of international development, advocated for U.S. development aid to China after the House Foreign Aid Committee scrutinized such foreign aid. "The aid we have given to China is minuscule and clearly in support of our interests," said Brautigam. More than **170** outlets, including [MiamiHerald.com](#), [BostonGlobe.com](#), and [SanFranciscoExaminer.com](#), republished the article. (11/15)

### Tweets Become New Spin Room in 2012 Race

**AP** Associated Press **Matthew Nisbet**, associate professor of communication, spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about how social networking sites give citizens a voice during presidential election debates. "It's no longer a passive audience experience, watching commentators and political strategists discussing what is being seen on the screen. Now people can hear it from a more diverse range of voices, and potentially from their peers," said Nisbet. More than **75** outlets, including [ChicagoTribune.com](#), republished the article. (11/12)

### Is Cain the Anti-Women Candidate?



On [CNN's Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer](#), **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, analyzed presidential candidate Herman Cain's insensitive remarks toward women. "It's one thing to relate to people and demonstrate that you're not the average politician, but it's another thing to do that by using statements that are overtly sexist," said Lawless. Lawless also spoke to the [Christian Science Monitor](#) about Gloria Cain's effort to help her husband, and to [HuffingtonPost.com](#) about why women matter in the 2012 elections. (11/14, 11/15, 11/16)

### Perry's 'Oops' Moment Recalls Earlier Presidential Debate Gaffes

**Bloomberg** **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, discussed with [Bloomberg News](#) presidential candidate Rick Perry's debate mishap when he failed to identify the third government agency he would eliminate as president. Steinhorn compared Perry's gaffe to former governor Michael Dukakis' "cold and bloodless" answer on capital punishment in the 1988 democratic presidential debate that made him appear to be a technocrat detached from emotion. (11/10)

### At Open-Access Meeting, Advocates Emphasize the Impact of Sharing Knowledge

**THE CHRONICLE** of Higher Education **Michael Carroll**, professor of law, spoke to the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) about the importance of unhindered access to research results. "I think it's time to get in authors' faces a little bit and say, 'When you choose to sign that agreement without amending it, you're slamming the door on some readers,'" said Carroll. (11/11)

## To Win, Gingrich Needs Cash and Discipline



**Candice Nelson**, academic director of the Campaign Management Institute, discussed with [USNews.com](http://USNews.com) Newt Gingrich's comeback in the Republican presidential primary in the wake of his colleagues' recent campaign blunders. "He's got a little more political savvy than someone like Herman Cain or Michele Bachmann or Rick Perry, who haven't been on the national stage," said Nelson. (11/16)

## Secure Communities Program Confusing to FBI



**Alan Kraut**, professor of history, spoke to the [Washington Times](http://WashingtonTimes.com) about a confusing and controversial federal initiative aimed at cracking down on illegal immigrants. "It's about local jurisdictions trying to preserve their autonomy from the federal government," said Kraut about local governments trying to opt out of the program. (11/10)

## GOP Struggles to Find Frontrunner



On [WTTG-FOX5](http://WTTG-FOX5.com), **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, [analyzed](http://analyzed.com) the lack of a Republican frontrunner in the 2012 presidential primary. "They have an economy that's sluggish right now, they have a president that has low approval ratings, there's high unemployment, and yet they can't seem to rally behind a single candidate," said Steinhorn. (11/15)

## This Week's Bonus

### Top 10 Plays of the Day



A half court shot at the halftime buzzer by the AU's men's basketball team earned the 8<sup>th</sup> spot on [ESPN SportsCenter's](http://ESPN.com) Top 10 Plays of the Day segment. (11/16)



## AU Newsmakers

November 18–December 2, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

### Top Story

#### Thanksgiving Foods Are Some of the Healthiest

**UPI.com** [United Press International](#) newswire featured health and fitness expert **Stacey Snelling's** commentary about how traditional favorite holiday foods can be healthful choices. "Several foods we consume this time of year are actually good for you when prepared with minimal added fat, sugar and salt, and consumed in moderation," she said. The *Washington Examiner* and [DailyRx.com](#), a consumer health news website, also published the article. (11/17, 11/22)

### Additional Features

#### Bleary-Eyed Students Can't Stop Texting, Even to Sleep, a Researcher Finds

**THE CHRONICLE** of Higher Education **Naomi Baron**, executive director of the Center for Teaching, Research and Learning, spoke to the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) about how today's faster, high-tech forms of communication, such as texting, have drastically altered the college experience. "My major concern about this continual connectivity is that students are being deprived of this wonderful opportunity that college used to give," said Baron, who has researched technology's impact on society. (11/20)

#### Seeking Sikh-Muslim Peace

**The Washington Post** American University student **Dylan Kaplan** wrote an article for [WashingtonPost.com's Guest Voices](#) about the Sikh holiday, honoring Guru Nanak, the revered founder of Sikhism. On this holiday, Kaplan's mentor, **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic Studies, became the first Muslim to speak at a local Sikh Temple. "To witness such a degree of commitment to religious pluralism as was shown at the Sikh temple was very moving," wrote Kaplan. (11/22)

#### 3 Ways to Use Foursquare To Connect With Your College

**U.S. News & World Report** [U.S. News & World Report](#) cited **American University's** use of historical AU facts on the location-based social network Foursquare to foster school pride among students. "It's a really cool way to interact with the campus," said senior **Chloë Troia**, president of AU's Social Media club. While developing the AU location network, **Jon Hussey**, web communications manager said, "I actually reached out to a lot of students to get their insider tips on campus." (11/29)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### N.Y. Bomb Plot: What Radicalizes Some Converts to Islam?

**The Washington Post** In the wake of a recent bomb plot in New York City, **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic Studies, explained in a [WashingtonPost.com](#) op-ed that more contemporary American converts to Islam became extremists because of increased Islamophobia and the lack of good Muslim leadership post-9/11. "In the absence of a clear message emphasizing the peace and compassion which lie at the heart of Islam, the strong messages of confrontation and violence coming from religious leaders like Anwar al-Awalaki filled the void," wrote Ahmed. (11/21)

## 8 Lessons in the Art of Teaching Journalism Online



In an article for [PBS.org's Mediashift](#), **Amy Eisman**, director of writing programs in the School of Communication, emphasized how important it is for journalism professors to adapt and rethink their online teaching methods. "Online journalism educators should be *good* at teaching journalism online. After all, we are comfortable communicating clearly, are early adapters of technology, and we like being first," wrote Eisman. (11/17)

## It is Time for Discipline, Defense



In an op-ed for [U.S. News & World Report](#), **Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, discussed the need for a leaner, disciplined military budget. Adams wrote, "At this moment of transition out of Iraq, we need to re-look at how we use the military. We should not be asking the military to 'do more with less,' we should be asking them to do less with less, to set mission priorities in a safer world." [Bloomberg News](#) and [Bloomberg Businessweek](#) also cited Adams' defense budget expertise.

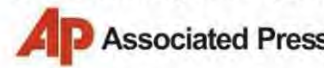
## How Occupy Is Transforming Our National Conversation



**Robin Broad**, professor of international development, co-authored an article for [CommonDreams.org](#) that analyzed how the Occupy Wall Street demonstrations have changed America's 30-year-old economic narrative. "Occupy has already succeeded in challenging the old, faulty dominant story spread by the 1 percent and replacing it with another one that resonates with what most Americans know to be true," wrote Broad. (11/23)

## Expertise

### UN Bashing Is Popular among Republican Candidates



**David Bosco**, assistant professor of international politics, explained to the [Associated Press](#) that if elected, presidential candidates who bashed the United Nations eventually end up cooperating with the legislative body. According to Bosco, the change of heart is, "simply because there's a lot of stuff the UN does that is useful to the United States." More than **335** outlets, including [Wall Street Journal](#) (online), [WashingtonPost.com](#), and [MiamiHerald.com](#), republished the article. (11/19)

### Help Wanted USA: Hiring Hotspots Emerge, but Mobility an Issue



**Robert Lerman**, professor of economics, spoke to [Reuters](#) about areas across the country offering abundant employment opportunities, suggesting that much of the hiring has been in places like North Dakota and Iowa and in industries that support energy and agriculture. More than **55** outlets, including [ChicagoTribune.com](#), [MSNBC.com](#), and [CNBC.com](#), republished the article. (11/21)

### Developments in U.S.-Pakistan Relations



On [CBS Evening News](#), **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic Studies, discussed how recent NATO strikes in Pakistan would affect the relationship between the United States and Pakistan. "I think Pakistan, certainly the establishment, including the military establishment, understands the importance of a close alliance with the United States," said Ahmed. With [Voice of America](#), he also talked about Pakistan's new ambassador to the United States. (11/23)

### Syria Showdown



On [FOX News Channel's Fox Report with Shepard Smith](#), **Josef Olmert**, adjunct professor of international service, discussed the Syrian citizens' call for the end of military rule. "We should see the downfall of this regime [Bashar al-Assad] in the near future," said Olmert. (11/18)



## Challenges in the 2012 Elections



**Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, analyzed major changes that could affect the 2012 congressional and presidential elections. He talked to the [Chicago Tribune](#) about how redistricting in Illinois could benefit Latino voters and discussed with [Hearst Television](#) whether Herman Cain will continue as a Republican presidential candidate. (11/18, 11/29)

## To Imagine a Gingrich Presidency, Look to the 90's



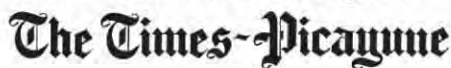
On [NPR's Morning Edition](#), **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed what a Newt Gingrich presidency would look like. "He was a person who got a lot accomplished with the president—a balanced budget for the first time since 1969; the 100,000 cops bill; welfare reform; and a variety of other things," said Thurber of Gingrich's track record in the 90's. (11/18)

## Relationship Sours after Airstrikes in Pakistan



On [NPR's Talk of the Nation](#), **Stephen Tankel**, professor of justice, explained the effect recent NATO airstrikes in Pakistan could have on the country's relationship with the United States. "Pakistan is an ally in some regards and in others is not. And I think it's no secret, you know, that Pakistan and the U.S. have different strategic objectives," said Tankel. (11/29)

## David Duke Plans to Fight Arrest in Germany



For the New Orleans' [Times-Picayune](#), **Stephen Silvia**, associate professor of international service, discussed the importance of David Duke's arrest in Germany before he could deliver a radical speech to extremists. "It is a difficult thing for Americans to grasp, because we have such a tradition of free speech. But when you put it in the context of Europe in general and Germany in particular with the history of the Nazis, the idea there are certain boundaries of speech that one should not cross, it makes sense," said Silvia. (11/30)

## Will Police Officer's Manslaughter Trial Bring Greater Accountability in Caribbean?



**Richard Bennett**, professor of justice, spoke to the [Christian Science Monitor](#) about police accountability after accusations of unjustified killings by police in the Caribbean. "You're not going to see a lot of changes in the police until you see change in the approach of government towards crime, and I think in Trinidad and Tobago you're in that kind of netherland where government has not yet made a strong commitment," said Bennett. (11/17)

## Clinton's Global AIDS Fight May Be Hurt by U.S. Trade Initiative



**Sean Flynn**, professor of law, explained to [Bloomberg News](#) how Secretary of State Clinton's AIDS foundation will help with battling the disease. Flynn said the U.S. trade office "defines 'access' without regard to affordability, and therefore its ultimate effect will be to raise, not lower, excessive medicine prices in poor countries." (11/21)

## Why Losing Presidential Candidates Stick It Out



**Danny Hayes**, assistant professor of government, discussed with [U.S. News & World Report](#) why unsuccessful presidential candidates like Senator Rick Santorum and Congressman Ron Paul keep trying their luck in every election cycle. "There's just been an unsettled nature to the race in which even also-rans and long-shot candidates like Santorum don't see anyone pulling away and so why not stay in the race as long as you can afford to do so?" said Hayes. (11/23)

## Squabbling While the World Burns



**Matthew Nisbet**, professor of communication, spoke to the [Financial Times](#) about why climate change is controversial. "Climate change has joined gun control, taxes and abortion as a form of social identity marker," said Nisbet. (11/25)

## Michelle Obama Rallies Female Voters Behind Her Husband



**Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, spoke to the [Washington Examiner](#) about Michelle Obama's efforts to gain female voters' support for her husband's re-election campaign. "Everyone is questioning right now whether Obama can mobilize the energy among women that was present in 2008, and Republicans are banking on that," said Lawless. (11/17)

## This Week's Bonus

### The Backward Pianist



American University sophomore political science major **Evan Petrone** appeared on [The Ellen DeGeneres Show](#) to showcase his 'Hidden Audience Talent'—his double jointedness that allows him to play the piano backwards. (11/28)



## AU Newsmakers November 4–11, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

### Top Story

#### Art of the State: Collection Depicts an Israel Beyond the Conflict



A [New Jersey Jewish News](#) cover story featured The Rothfeld Collection of Contemporary Israeli Art, a recent gift to the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center** from former long-time New Jersey resident Donald Rothfeld. “The Rothfeld gift helps us build a collection that will encourage this free, continuing discussion of ideas, beliefs, and values in the region [the Middle East]—exactly what is needed today,” said **Jack Rasmussen**, American University Museum director and curator. Several images of works in the collection ran with the article. (11/09)

### Additional Features

#### Internships Becoming Necessary for D.C. Grads



Internships “can allow students to make connections with employers and colleagues that could lead to other jobs down the road. They can also help students figure out what they don’t want to do after graduation,” said **Francine Blume**, director of experiential learning to [WAMU-88.5](#) about the importance of students completing internships before

graduation. (11/08)

#### Taking on Obama



To illustrate the change in attitudes among millennials toward the president since he took office, [Canada Broadcasting Company](#) suggested that the jubilant atmosphere at the Kennedy family’s endorsement of then-candidate Obama at a 2008 rally at **American University** would be much different today. “In the first election I was campaigning and knocking on doors, but now I don’t know if I have the same faith in him as I once did,” said one AU student. (11/06)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### Fair Representation for All



**Jamin Raskin**, professor of law, wrote an op-ed for the [Baltimore Sun](#) calling for a more balanced congressional redistricting process in Maryland.

“Used in many national elections and in a growing number of American cities, methods of fair voting (also called proportional voting) allow like-minded voters to pool their votes to elect representatives in numbers mirroring their level of public support. It puts voters, rather than partisan mapmakers, in charge of their representation in every election; citizens essentially ‘district’ themselves by voting,” wrote Raskin. (11/07)

#### From Sarkozy to the IAEA—How Netanyahu Gets Stronger



In an op-ed for [HuffingtonPost.com](#), **Josef Olmert**, adjunct professor of international service, suggested that despite recent criticism from some allies of Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel’s Prime Minister continues to gain his country’s support. “Any action on his part will require a large

measure of public support among his compatriots. He seems to have it now, and for the good of Israel he is expected to do his best not to lose it, as well as to win more international support,” wrote Olmert. (11/09)

## New Data Show a Few Less Children, More Seniors in Poverty



Kat Aaron, project editor for *What Went Wrong* at the Investigative Reporting Workshop, wrote an article for [NewAmericaMedia.org](http://NewAmericaMedia.org) about the picture of poverty in America according to a new measure used by the U.S. Census Bureau. "At a time when many benefit programs are facing deep cuts, the data show that the social safety net is having a big impact, particularly for children," wrote Aaron. (11/08)

## Expertise

### Nicaragua Is Poised to Re-Elect Ortega



Robert Pastor, professor of international relations, and Philip Brenner, professor of foreign policy, spoke to the [New York Times](http://NewYorkTimes.com) and [Bloomberg Businessweek](http://BloombergBusinessweek.com), about Nicaragua's re-election of Daniel Ortega. For the

*New York Times*, Pastor described Ortega's decision to seek re-election a "setback for democracy in Central America." Despite sidestepping the constitution, Brenner told *Bloomberg Businessweek* that "Ortega's a new man, he's transformed himself, and people believe him." (11/07)

### Presidential Crystal Balls



Allan Lichtman, professor of history, spoke to the [Los Angeles Times](http://LosAngelesTimes.com) about his "13 Keys" system for predicting who will win the White House and

his prediction that Obama will be reelected in 2012. "It's conceivable that Obama could lose if the economy goes into another recession or if he gets hit by a major scandal, but I don't see it," said Lichtman. More than 20 outlets, including the *Chicago Tribune*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and the *Sacramento Bee*, republished the article. (11/06)

### Ship for Carrier Classic Raises Scholarly Questions



Akbar Ahmed, chair of Islamic Studies, explained to [USA Today](http://USAToday.com) why there should be no controversy over playing a college basketball game on the aircraft carrier deck used to transport Osama bin Laden's body for its at-sea burial. "Osama bin Laden was not buried on that ship. He was not a religious saint or figure. His followers saw him as a religiously inspired freedom fighter but not as a saintly figure," said Ahmed. (11/07)

### Experts Analyze Herman Cain Scandal



Several media outlets asked American University political analysts to discuss the impact alleged sexual harassment charges might have on Republican presidential candidate Herman Cain's campaign. Leonard Steinhorn, professor of public communication, spoke to [ABCNews.com](http://ABCNews.com) and

[WTTG-FOX5](http://WTTG-FOX5.com), and Dotty Lynch, executive-in-residence in the School of Communication, appeared on [WUSA-CBS9](http://WUSA-CBS9.com). Jennifer Lawless, director of the Women & Politics Institute, and Richard Benedetto, professor of journalism, discussed the scandal in [separate Boston Herald](http://BostonHerald.com) articles. (11/04, 11/08, 11/09)

### Anger in the Streets



On [ABC's World News with Diane Sawyer](http://ABC.com), Jennifer Lawless, director of the Women & Politics Institute, explained the backlash toward Occupy Wall Street protestors over recent violent incidents. "Even if there are small segments of what's happening, the smallest amounts of violence could be enough, ultimately, to stop a movement," said Lawless. (11/4)

### GOP View of Mitt Romney's Electability May Get Him Past Rivals in End



[NPR.com's It's All Politics](http://NPR.com) blog featured research from Jill Rickershauser Carvalho, assistant professor of government, in a post about Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney's electability factor in the upcoming election. According to Rickershauser, the candidates' issue positions and voter perceptions of their electability both factor into voters' decisions. (11/07)

### Sex Harassment Prevalent



Caren Goldberg, professor of management, discussed with the [Detroit Free Press](http://DetroitFreePress.com) why workplace sexual harassment is still prevalent even though claims have been declining for more than a decade. "When the economy is doing

poorly, people are much more afraid of initiating a claim of any sort," said Goldberg. (11/09)

## Religion and Government Must not Mix in America



**Jamin Raskin**, professor of law, discussed the separation of church and state in America at a National Press Club forum covered by [McClatchy News Service](#). Raskin noted, "the Constitution allows people to follow whichever religion they desire, but that government should make its decisions based on logic and science." More than **25** outlets, including the [MiamiHerald.com](#) and [SacramentoBee.com](#), republished the article. (11/08)

## "Getting It Wrong" Finally Gets the Story Right for William Randolph Hearst, Others



FM 88.1 Chattanooga

On Chattanooga's NPR affiliate [WUTC-FM](#), **W. Joseph Campbell**, professor of communication and author of *Getting It Wrong: Ten of the Greatest Misreported Stories in American Journalism*, discussed the myth of William Randolph Hearst instructing his photographer to paint a false picture of a non-existent Cuban insurrection against Spain to sell papers. "The story of Hearst sending this message is most certainly apocryphal," said Campbell. (11/09)

## Rookie GOP Candidates Lead to Campaign Blunders



**Danny Hayes**, assistant professor of government, spoke to [U.S. News & World Report](#) about the campaign errors and scandals involving current Republican presidential candidates. "Because many of the other candidates remain viable, the campaign mishaps or these scandals are more of interest to the news media and political observers than they might be in an election where there was a more clearly defined frontrunner," said Hayes. (11/05)

## Cuba's Castro Names Former Rebel Fighter as Defense Minister



**Philip Brenner**, professor of foreign policy, analyzed for [Bloomberg Businessweek](#) Cuban President Raul Castro's decision to name an ex-rebel fighter as his defense minister in light of potential economic unrest. "People are going to be out of jobs and have to figure out new ways to organize their daily lives, so there could be disorder," said Brenner. (11/09)

## Ex-Pelosi Aide's Turnabout Work



**Patrick Griffin**, academic director of the Public Affairs and Advocacy Institute, talked to [Politico](#) about Brendan Daly's transition from aide to former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to lobbyist representing interests at odds with his former boss. "It might not look kosher to the outside, but it's not really that big of a deal," said Griffin. (11/6)

## Proposal to Cut Federal Workforce Raises Concerns



On [Federal News Radio](#), **Robert Tobias**, distinguished practitioner-in-residence in the School of Public Affairs, explained how cuts in the federal work force could do more harm than good. "The assumption is somehow, someday, that 10 percent of the workforce is mere surplus. They are sleeping on the job, and getting rid of them will have no impact on services provided. I think that's wrong," said Tobias. (11/07)

## This Week's Bonus

### AU Staff Member Wins on *The Price Is Right*



On his way to winning the Showcase Showdown on [CBS's The Price Is Right](#), **Bernard Schulz**, special assistant to the vice president of Campus Life, gave a shout out to his colleagues at [American University](#). (11/09)



## AU Newsmakers

December 16–22, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthedia.cfm>

### Top Stories

#### D.C. Debuts Live Near Work Pilot Program



Washington, D.C.'s Mayor Gray announced a new pilot program with **American University** to encourage employees to live within a few miles of work, creating a stronger tax base, healthier communities, and fewer cars on the road. [WAMU 88.5](#), [WUSA-CBS9](#), [WRC-NBC4](#), *Washington Business Journal*, and *Northwest Current* reported on the partnership. **Linda Argo**, assistant vice president of external relations, told the *Washington Business Journal*, "It's a wonderful opportunity to avoid the glazed look of the hordes of commuters who travel every day in and out of the District of Columbia." (12/20)

#### Post 200: A Guide to the Region's Largest Businesses



*Washington Post Capital Business* included **American University** in its 2011 guide to the region's top businesses. The article highlighted the opening of the Kogod Tax Center and plans to improve campus facilities. (12/19)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### Presidents Have Strayed From Framers' Vision



In an opinion piece for the *New York Times'* online **Room for Debate** section, **Jeffrey Crouch**, assistant professor of American politics, wrote about how the presidential power of clemency has strayed from the founding fathers' intentions. "The world has changed, and largely in the past three decades or so. Recent presidents have little or no motivation to pardon anyone," wrote Crouch. (12/18)

#### Voting Rights: Which Side Are You On?



In an op-ed for the *Chicago Tribune*, **Julian Bond**, distinguished adjunct professor of government, argued that state attempts to require voters to show government IDs and limits on early voting essentially tax some members of society, such as the poor. "This is a direct assault on democracy and the biggest threat voters have faced since the passage of the Voting Rights Act.," wrote Bond. (12/18)

#### The Reluctant Firewall



**David Bosco**, assistant professor of international politics, wrote an article for *Foreign Policy* magazine about the European economic crisis. Bosco argued the United States must take a more active leadership role to contain the crisis should European leaders fail. "The critical question is not whether Europe is to blame but whether outsiders can step in where Europe has failed," wrote Bosco. (12/16)

### Expertise

#### In Islamic Law, Gingrich Sees a Mortal Threat to U.S.



**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, talked to the *New York Times* about GOP presidential hopefuls propagating Islamic law as a threat to the United States. "Most American Muslims have no enthusiasm for replacing federal and state law with Shariah, as some conservatives fear, let alone adopting such ancient prescriptions as stoning for adulterers," said Ahmed. (12/22)

## Secrecy Defines Obama's Drone War

**The Washington Post**

**Kenneth Anderson**, professor of law, spoke to the [Washington Post](#) about the legality of a CIA drone program in Pakistan to eliminate government targets, but the identities of those killed remain classified. "I believe this is the right policy, but I don't think [the administration] understands the degree to which it looks way too discretionary," said Anderson. (12/19)

## Shakespeare Theatre's 'Much Ado' raises question of Latino stereotypes

**The Washington Post**

**Ana Serra**, associate professor of language and foreign studies and an expert on modern Cuba, talked to the [Washington Post](#) about the Shakespeare Theatre Company's Cuban spin on the play *Much Ado About Nothing*. "For me, it was shocking that it was set on a Cuban plantation and there was only one character who was non-white," said Serra. (12/19)

## Liberal Sites Dominate Facebook Political News



**Jane Hall**, associate professor of communication, spoke to [FOXNews.com](#) about Facebook's top 40 political stories of 2011. She said, "Many of the articles on the list are items that people strongly agree or disagree with so it makes sense that Facebook users would share or disseminate them. I would say it has more to do with contention than news source or ideology." (12/20)

## \$1 Trillion in Defense Cuts? Big Deal.



**Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, spoke to [U.S. News & World Report](#) online about the clamor surrounding upcoming military budget cuts. "You get some version of this every time you get a builddown. For me, all the hair-pulling and rending of garments is a bit excessive, given the slope that we're on," said Adams. (12/21)

## FDIC Takes Cues From Banks for New Risk-Management Office

**AMERICAN BANKER.**

In *American Banker* magazine, **Robin Lumsdaine**, professor of international finance, discussed the FDIC's new risk-management office and its role to identify internal risk for its board. "In this case, given the FDIC's supervisory role, a natural question that arises is how much information sharing will be allowed to pass between the risk management and supervision sides of the business?," said Lumsdaine. (12/13)

## A D.C. Writer on the Rise



On [WAMU-FM 88.5's The Kojo Nnamdi Show](#), **Danielle Evans**, assistant professor of literature and author of the critically acclaimed book *Before You Suffocate Your Own Fool Self*, discussed how the city of Washington inspired her new project. "The book that I'm working on now is very much a D.C. book. There are so many different D.C.s—currently, historically. They all kind of co-exist. And sometimes, they get written about as if they exist in these really separate spheres, but the truth is most people are kind of moving between them constantly," Evans said. (12/19)

## Faking Wildlife Scenes Not Uncommon in BBC Documentaries

**THEBLAZE**

**Chris Palmer**, director of the Center for Environmental Filmmaking, spoke to [TheBlaze.com](#) about staged scenes in the BBC documentary *Frozen Planet*. "BBC's actions in not disclosing the staged scenes more obviously in the film violated a sense of trust audience members have in documentary films. When people look at a documentary, there is an implied promise that what you're seeing is real." (12/20)

## Bonus Clip

### AU Wishes Holiday Card Earns Kudos

**THE CHRONICLE**  
of Higher Education.

The [Chronicle of Higher Education's](#) online **Tweed** column featured American University's 2011 holiday card in a round-up of video greeting cards enjoyed by the editors this holiday season. (12/20)



# AU Newsmakers December 2–9, 2011

Prepared by University Communications  
For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

## Top Story

### Renewed Political Interest for Newt Gingrich



Two American University political wonks analyzed the resurgence of Newt Gingrich in the Republican presidential primary race. **Danny Hayes**, assistant professor of government, spoke to the *Boston Globe* about Gingrich's ongoing political feud with Congressman Barney Frank. **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed with *NPR's All Things Considered* Gingrich's health care consultancy. He also spoke to *HuffingtonPost.com*. (12/5, 12/6)

## Additional Features

### Use it, or Lose it



*Publishers Weekly* featured **Patricia Aufderheide**, University Professor of communication, and **Peter Jaszi**, professor of law, and their book, *In Reclaiming Fair Use: How to Put Balance Back in Copyright*. "The book, brimming with highly readable, real world examples, is a true interdisciplinary effort," read the article. (12/2)

### American History On-Site in Washington, DC



In an article for *Smithsonian Magazine's Around the Mall* blog, **Amy Henderson**, professor of history, discussed her class in which students experience American history by visiting museums and historical sites in the District of Columbia. "At each place, the central question—who are we?—is consistent, but the ways history can be transmitted to 21st century audiences varies enormously," wrote Henderson. (12/6)

### AU Exhibit Spotlights Unsung Photographer



A *Northwest Current* front page feature highlighted *Re-viewing Documentary: The Photographic Life of Louise Rosskam*, an exhibit at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. In the article, exhibit co-curator Laura Katzman described her working relationship with the late Rosskam and her effort to create an exhibition to celebrate Rosskam's work. (12/7)

## Op-Eds/AU Authors

### A Cuban Conundrum



In an op-ed he co-authored for the *Los Angeles Times*, **William LeoGrande**, dean of the School of Public Affairs, explained the negotiations between the United States and Cuba for the release of Alan Gross, an American held for espionage in Cuba. "Republicans are already referring to Gross as a 'hostage' and excoriating Obama for not forcing Cuba (somehow) to release him. From a strictly political calculus, Obama would be better off securing Gross' release and getting the issue off the electoral agenda," wrote LeoGrande. (12/6)



## What Influences Public Views on Iran Action?

**The Washington Post**

For the [WashingtonPost.com's Behind the Numbers](#) blog, **Danny Hayes**, assistant professor of government, wrote about America's renewed interest in government action in Iran. "While many Americans see Iran as an 'enemy,' recent polling data shows little public support for an attack," wrote Hayes. (12/1)

## Analyzing Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's ABC Interview

**THE HUFFINGTON POST**

In an op-ed for [HuffingtonPost.com](#), **Josef Olmert**, adjunct professor of international relations, discussed ABC News correspondent Barbara Walters' interview with Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad during which he skirted the issue of political upheaval in his country. "Bashar Assad used ABC in order to talk to the Hague International Court, starting his defense case. It is not me, it is my generals," wrote Olmert. (12/7)

## Expertise

### Obama Invokes Theodore Roosevelt Against GOP

**The Washington Post**

**Allan Lichtman**, distinguished professor of history, spoke to the [Washington Post](#) about how President Obama is attempting to rise above his Republican rivals by aligning himself with past Republican presidents. Lichtman said Obama was "trying to show how far the Republican Party has strayed, trying to draw a contrast between a narrow, cramped, corporate Republican party and the party of Lincoln and Roosevelt that sought liberty and represented ordinary people." (12/5)

### In 2011, Fewer Bills, Fewer Laws and Plenty of Blame

**The Washington Post**

**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed with the [Washington Post](#) what little progress Congress accomplished this past year. Thurber described the small number of bills passed into law as, "Exhibit A in showing how dysfunctional the Congress has become." (12/5)

### Latin and Caribbean Leaders Challenge US Role in Region

**The Miami Herald**

**Sally Shelton-Colby**, ambassador-in-residence in the School of International Service, spoke to the [Miami Herald](#) about the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, or CELAC, which held its inaugural meeting without inviting Canada or the United States to participate. "People have been predicting the demise of the OAS [Organization of American States] for a very long time. Has it disappointed? Yes. But it's still there," said Shelton-Colby. (12/1)

### A German Tea Party with a French Pastry

**AMERICAN PUBLIC MEDIA**  
**Marketplace**

On [American Public Media's Marketplace](#) radio, **Matthias Matthijs**, assistant professor of international service, analyzed German Chancellor Angela Merkel's and French President Nicolas Sarkozy's proposal to solve the European economic crisis. "It's what I would like to call a 'German tea party' with a French pastry. But the German tea is the substance and the pastry is the French sweetener. It's all austerity again," said Matthijs. (12/7)

### Conflict, Theology and History Make Muslims More Religious than Others, Experts Say

**CNN**

**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic Studies, spoke to [CNN.com's Belief](#) blog about what makes the Muslim religion seem more devout than others, suggesting many Muslims feel a deep personal connection to the founder of their faith. "Muhammad isn't simply a historical figure to them, but rather a personal inspiration to hundreds of millions of people around the world today," he said. (12/3)

### DoD Could Slash 150K Jobs

**FEDERAL TIMES**

**Gordon Adams**, professor of foreign policy, explained to the [Federal Times](#) how employment cuts at the Department of Defense may be part of future budget plans. "I think it's inevitable that we will see a defense build-down accompanied by a corresponding drop in ranks of civilian employees," said Adams, who also spoke to [Defense Daily](#) and the [Fiscal Times](#) about changes in defense spending. (12/4, 12/6, 12/7)

## Ethics and Money in Local Politics



On [WAMU 88.5's \*The Kojo Nnamdi Show\*](#), **Jamin Raskin**, professor of law, talked about a rise in ethical violations among local government officials. "There is a kind of structure to these waves of political corruption that takes place. They tend to follow financial bubbles—like real estate bubbles or bubbles in the stock market—where there's lots of money to be made," said Raskin. (12/7)

## Tax Hike Countdown



On [WUSA-CBS9](#), **Dave Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, discussed competing Democratic and Republican proposals to extend the payroll tax cut. "What the Democrats are proposing is to reduce both the employer and the employee tax in half. Republicans would only continue the current two percent reduction for employees," said Kautter. (12/1)

## Indefinite Detention without Trial for U.S. Citizens? Ask the President, Senate Says

### INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TIMES

**Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, spoke to the [International Business Times](#) about a Congressional

impasse on proposed legislation that would allow the government to hold without trial any American citizens captured on U.S. soil. "Even as Congress passed lots of other legislation related to the war on terror they left the really central question untouched, and now they seem on the verge of saying the war on terror is really a global war, one doesn't really need to be directly related to the 9/11 attacks to be the subject of military force," said Vladeck. (12/5)

## US Missile Shield Program



On [China Radio International English](#), **James Goldgeier**, dean of the School of International Service, described the differences between the U.S. missile shield programs under former President Bush and President Obama. "Although both the Bush and Obama administrations have both been pursuing missile defense, they are two very different systems," said Goldgeier. (12/6)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers December 9–16, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthedia.cfm>

### Top Story

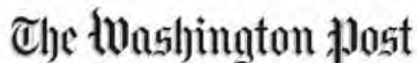
#### When Two Are Better Than One



The [Washington Post Express' Getting Ahead](#) (linked PDF/pg. 15) section featured several of **American University's** dual degree programs. "Law school has taught me a lot about one side of the government and how we operate our society. Then the policy school fills in a lot of the gaps and speaks to a lot of the political and economic realities of how our society is organized and run," said **Winfield Wilson**, a JD/MPP student. **Jonathan Tubman**, vice provost for graduate studies, added, "There are things a dual-degree holder can do and career opportunities they wouldn't have [had] if they had one just one degree or another." The article also highlighted AU's new MA/MPA or MBA degree through a Teach for America partnership. (12/12)

### Additional Features

#### At American U., the Next Barry Levinson?



[Washington Post](#) profiled School of Communication student **Jason Fraley** whose 'Liberty Road' master's thesis short film about life in a small town Maryland crab shack won him a CINE Golden Eagle award. Fraley's advisor,

professor **Claudia Myers**, said the film is, "very dense but in a good way. That's exactly what he wanted. He wanted to pack all this stuff in. It's a unique film. It tells a different kind of story. I think it's really strong, and it has a good chance of getting a lot of attention." (12/9)

#### At American U., an In-Depth Look at Strange, Stark Spaces



The [Washington Post](#) reviewed *Courtney Smith: Insatiable Spaces* and *Wayne Barrar: An Expanding Subterra*, two exhibitions at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. Additionally, [Washington City Paper](#) ranked Barrar's exhibition and *Re-Viewing Documentary: The Photographic Life of Louise Roskam* as two of D.C.'s top 10 photo exhibits of 2011. (12/7, 12/15)

#### Law Students Going Door-to-Door to Spread Word About Foreclosure Rights

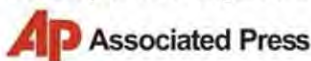


[Capital News Service](#) featured *Take Back Your Home*—a student-run outreach program at the **Washington College of Law** in which students educate Prince George's County, Md. residents about their rights in regards to pending foreclosures.

"One foreclosure happens, and that's a very unfortunate thing, but it's very matter of fact. When millions of foreclosures are happening at the same time, something is incredibly wrong," said student founder **Bradford Voegeli**. (12/14)

### Expertise

#### AU Expert Analyzes 2012 Presidential Race



**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about why it is advantageous for presidential candidates to appear on late night talk shows and other news outlets. "The campaigns are using free media as an amplifier

and it's smart, especially for those who don't have much money," said Steinhorn. More than **390** outlets including, the websites of [Wall Street Journal](#), [New York Times](#) and [Washington Post](#), republished the article. Also, on [CBS Radio](#) and [WTTG-FOX5](#), Steinhorn discussed Newt Gingrich's resurgence as a serious presidential contender.

(12/11, 12/10)

AU066243

## Supreme Court Immigration Case a Federal-State Test



**Stephen Wermiel**, professor of law, explained for [Reuters](#) how a controversial Arizona immigration law will test the boundaries between state and federal jurisdictions. "The argument that the state is not just helping, but pursuing its own agenda, seems a weightier argument," said Wermiel. More than **55** outlets, including **Chicago Tribune** online, republished the article. (12/14)

## Defense Secretary to Discuss Strategic Review



**Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, spoke to [Reuters](#) about next month's announcement by Defense Secretary Leon Panetta about the results of the U.S. strategic review of the Pentagon's military budget cuts. "The secretary managed to take \$260 billion out of the five-year plan and still provide for growth, including some that appears to be real growth in the out years," said Adams. More than **45** outlets, including **Chicago Tribune**, republished the article. Adams also talked to [Federal News Radio](#) about military spending. (12/9)

## U.S., Russia Resetting "Reset" Button in Relations



**James Goldgeier**, dean of the School of International Service, discussed with [Reuters](#) the strain on U.S.-Russia relations after the United States weighed in on Russia's disputed parliamentary elections. "We're looking at a less-happy period in relations, but neither side want to let things fall apart," said Goldgeier. (12/9)

## The Canvas of Tom Green's Life is Almost Complete



**Jack Rasmussen**, director and curator of the American University Museum, spoke to the [Washington Post](#) about the legacy of Washington, D.C., artist Tom Green, who is battling Lou Gehrig's disease. "He comes a little bit out of the Washington color school. He was never really a part of it, but it's obviously an influence. [He] always stayed figurative, even at his most abstract," said Rasmussen. (12/9)

## Government Sanctioned Mass Protests in Moscow



On [NBC's Nightly News](#), **Anton Fedyashin**, associate director of AU's Initiative for Russian Culture, discussed the significance of government-sanctioned protests in Russia after the highly contested parliamentary elections. "This is a sign that the government is recognizing that steam needs to be let off. That there is an enormous amount of discontent." (12/10)

## State vs. Federal Law in Arizona over Immigration



On [NBC's Nightly News](#), **Jayesh Rathod**, professor of law, analyzed the battle between state and federal jurisdictions in relation to a controversial Arizona immigration law. "The Supreme Court is looking at the power that the states have with respect to the apprehension and removal of non-citizens," said Rathod. (12/12)

## Immigration Detainees Seek Prison-Rape Protection



On [NPR's All Things Considered](#), **Brenda Smith**, professor of law, discussed the call from human rights advocates for a law to protect immigration detainees from sexual assault. "Immigrant detainees are moved from facility to facility, and just from the point of view of equal protection and also for consistency, whether you are protected from abuse at the hands of someone who is supposed to be your custodian should not differ whether you are in a jail, a prison or in a [Homeland Security] facility," said Smith. (12/13)

## Plan B Backlash: Women's Groups Sour on Obama



**Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, spoke to [HuffingtonPost.com](#) about President Obama's upcoming decision to limit access to Plan B, a form of birth control, despite criticism by women's groups who supported him during the 2008 election. "When you then make a decision like this, or support Kathleen Sebelius' decision, and you don't alert any of these groups who mobilize your constituents for you that you're going to do that, that undercuts the notion that you care," said Lawless. (12/14)

## Five Ways to Spot a Bad Boss in an Interview

**Forbes**

**Caren Goldberg**, assistant professor of management, spoke to [Forbes.com](http://Forbes.com) about how a job candidate can spot a bad supervisor during an interview. Goldberg said, "a key 'tell' is vague answers to your questions." She added, "You should also question turnover rates, how long people stay in given roles, and what their career path has been." (12/11)

## Pakistan Prime Minister Speaks on Strained Relations with U.S.

**BBC  
WORLD  
SERVICE**

On [BBC Radio's Newshour](http://BBC Radio's Newshour), **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic Studies, discussed the Pakistani Prime Minister's statement about strained relations with the United States. "The question is how do we set about it [improving relations] if we all are locked up in this tit-for-tat, blaming each other?" said Ahmed. (12/11)

## Bonus Clip

### American's Hinkle Stepping Out of the Shadows

**The  
Examiner**

The [Washington Examiner](http://Washington Examiner) profiled basketball player **Charles Hinkle**, ranked fifth in the nation for scoring—an unexpected turn of events for the senior who has been a support player most of his career. "It's something, you know. I've truly been blessed this year. I'm just trying to keep my head down, do what I'm supposed to do and try to perform," said Hinkle. (12/10)

# **Sharon Alston Declaration**

## **Exhibit 211**



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

January 6-13, 2012

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

### Top Stories

#### Fresh Eyes on the Primaries



In two articles, the *Concord Monitor* highlighted 34 American University undergraduate and graduate students who traveled to cover the New Hampshire primary as part of the joint School of Communication and School of Public Affairs *Communicating the 2012 Election* class. The [first](#) article described how students used Twitter to document their coverage from moment to moment, and the [second](#) highlighted exit polling the students conducted for the Concord Monitor on primary day. (1/10)

#### Gender Imbalance on the Campaign Trail



Dotty Lynch, executive-in-residence in the School of Communication, discussed with the *Columbia Journalism Review* online the gender imbalance that exists in the reporters covering the primary elections. Lynch said that women are intrigued by the political field, but attributed the smaller number of female journalists to the fact that “the people at the top doing the hiring are still mostly white men.” (1/12)

### Additional Features

#### Predicting the Presidential Election: 2012



[HuffingtonPost.com](#) featured distinguished professor of history Allan Lichtman’s 13 keys to the presidency in an article about the 2012 presidential elections. “According to Lichtman, if the incumbent party (that is, the political party that is currently in the White House) can claim eight of the ‘13 Keys,’ then they can be assured of victory in the next election. If, on the other hand, they hold seven or less, they are headed for defeat,” the article explained. (1/7)

#### Piecing it together: to create exhibitions, museum curators round up the artists—and the funding.



[Washington Post Express](#) (linked PDF/pg. 24) included American University’s fine arts degree program as part of the *Continuing Education and Career Advancement Guide*. The article highlights American University as an institution where people can earn a degree as a museum curator and have a job like the successful curator featured in the article. (1/9)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### Face it, Romney is Way Out in Front



In an op-ed for [CNN.com](#), Jennifer Lawless, director of the Women & Politics Institute, critiques the media’s downplaying Romney’s victories in Iowa and New Hampshire to rather focus on his vulnerabilities and candidates who could potentially upset him in upcoming primaries. “As someone genuinely concerned with the consequences of the 24-hour news cycle, I am struck and disappointed by the disconnect between what the voters have said and how the media have covered their sentiments,” wrote Lawless. (1/10)

## Drama Lighting Up Iraqi Lives



**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic Studies, wrote an op-ed for [Al-Jazeera.com](http://Al-Jazeera.com) about the contemporary play he authored, *Noor*, which is now being performed in Iraq by Iraqi students under the direction of their American professor. "The staging of the play itself has become a test of the young American's character and that of his students. It has become a drama within a drama. They even have ambitious plans to stage *Noor* in the Green Zone in Baghdad, perhaps even in Washington D.C.," wrote Ahmed in his reaction to his plays staging. (1/9)

## Expertise

### Against Business? GOP Split on Romney's Practices



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, spoke to the [Associated Press](http://Associated Press) about GOP attacks on frontrunner Mitt Romney's business practices. "It's strange for Republicans to go after a colleague who's successful in business. The arguments by Newt Gingrich could be made by the far left of the Democratic Party," said Thurber. More than **225** outlets, including the online versions of the *Boston Globe*, *Houston Chronicle*, and *Seattle Times*, republished the article. Thurber also spoke to the [Boston Globe](http://Boston Globe) about the GOP field in the primaries. (1/11)

### New Pentagon Strategy Stresses Asia, Cyber, Drones



**Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, spoke to [Reuters](http://Reuters) about President Obama's new defense strategy that will expand the U.S. military presence in Asia while attempting to slash a half a trillion dollars from the defense budget to combat the deficit. "This is a classic resource-driven strategy document," said Adams. More than **20** outlets republished the article. (1/6)

### "Electability" Gives Romney a Boost



[WashingtonPost.com's Post Politics](http://WashingtonPost.com's Post Politics) blog featured an **Associated Press Television** interview with **Danny Hayes**, assistant professor of government, where he discussed GOP candidate Mitt Romney's electability in the primaries. "I think it's going to be difficult for any candidate to stop the momentum he's been able to put together after New Hampshire and Iowa," said Hayes. He also spoke to [U.S. News & World Report](http://U.S. News & World Report) online about the GOP primaries. (1/11)

### Michelle Obama Rejects 'Angry Black Woman' Label



**Anita McBride**, executive-in-residence in the School of Public Affairs, explained for the [Chicago Tribune](http://Chicago Tribune) Michelle Obama's response to being labeled an "angry Black woman." According to McBride, the First Lady is taking the issue head on. "I don't know if it's wise or unwise, but she's trying to dispute it," said McBride. (1/12)

### Analyzing the GOP Primaries



**Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, spoke to several media outlets providing analysis on the GOP primary campaigns and results. On [NPR's Morning Edition](http://NPR's Morning Edition), Lawless discussed how wives of candidates support their husbands on the campaign trail. She also explained Congressman Ron Paul's effect to the [Christian Science Monitor](http://Christian Science Monitor) and the [Washington Times](http://Washington Times) online, defined the difference between a primary and a caucus for [WRC-NBC4](http://WRC-NBC4), and analyzed the GOP's views of Mitt Romney on Canada's [Sun News Network](http://Sun News Network). (1/6, 1/10, 1/12)

### Cybersecurity: Playing it Safe



**Brian Forst**, professor of justice, law and society, spoke to the [Washington Post](http://Washington Post) [Express](http://Express) (linked PDF/page 20), about growing career opportunities in counterterrorism and homeland security. "Having an undergraduate or even advanced degree with applied skills is important, but there's more to homeland security than getting your ticked punched," said Forst. (1/9)

### Ball in Islamists' Court



**Clovis Maksoud**, director of the Center for Global South, spoke to [Gulf News](http://Gulf News) about the rise of genuine Islamic political parties in Egypt after the Arab Spring in 2011 and the role of youth in toppling authoritarian regimes but failure to seize power. "It might seem paradoxical that those who organized the pressure to remove the [Arab] dictatorships were not able to advance the clarity of their policies considering that they are 'allergic to excessive dogmas,'" said Maksoud. (1/12)





AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers

January 11 – January 18, 2012

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemedial.cfm>

### Top Story

#### American University Poll Reflects Youth Attitude toward Guns



**WUSA9-CBS** featured Women and Politics Institute director **Jennifer Lawless'** nationwide poll which revealed that more than half of 'depressed' high school and college-age students plan on owning a gun in the future. The poll of more than 4,000 students also showed that high school students who regularly play video games for more than 4 hours per day are 50 percent more likely than those who do not typically play video games to report plans to own a gun. More than **60** TV stations nationwide and **USA Today online** aired the segment. (1/15)

### Additional Features

#### The Buck Stopped Here

#### **The New York Times Magazine**

With the **New York Times Magazine**, international service professor **Gordon Adams** spoke about the fear of proposed

government cutbacks, especially at the Pentagon, and the potential effect on Washington, D.C.'s economy. "People are saying, 'We're going to lose a million jobs here,' that's not going to happen, and it's not going to happen because contractors are working on existing contracts financed with prior-year dollars. We're going to be working through this for some time, and there's going to be a very slow roll to actual projects. The implications aren't for current work, but the next round of work," said Adams. (1/13)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### The GOP's Disappearing Diversity in Congress



In an op-ed for **McClatchy-Tribune Media**, international service professor **Clarence Lusane** talked about the lack of diversity within the GOP in the U.S. Congress. "Overwhelming and growing black and Latino support for Democrats has

terrified some in the GOP who believe there is no future for the party unless it can recruit support from communities of color. Like Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., [South Carolina Sen. Tim] Scott is the counter to charges that the Republican Party (and its Tea Party engine) is lily-white and cares little for people of color," wrote Lusane. **Ft. Worth Star Telegram**, **Kansas City Star online**, and **Minneapolis Star Tribune online** republished the op-ed. (1/14)

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## Expertise

### Second Presidential Terms



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies, spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about challenges President Obama will likely face in his second term.

"The American people have gotten to know the president very well. The enthusiasm of his first election is long gone. That limits the possibility of great success in the second term," said Thurber. More than 250 outlets, including the **Sacramento Bee**, **Houston Chronicle**, and **Palm Beach Post**, republished the article. Executive in residence **Anita McBride** also spoke to [USA Today](#) about Obama's second term. (1/17)

### The Future of an Obama Presidential Library



Executive in residence **Anita McBride** spoke to [FoxNews.com](#) about the amount of fundraising President Obama needs to raise to build his presidential library. "The sheer magnitude of raising so much cash requires a specific plan that includes a president telling donors exactly what he wants to accomplish with their money," said McBride. (1/12, 1/15)

### Uncertainty Looms For Pentagon in Obama's Second Term



With [NPR's All Things Considered](#), international service professor **Gordon Adams** discussed the growth of the Pentagon budget over the last decade, and the looming cuts likely to occur during Obama's second term. "If you start in the year where we were spending the most, and went 10 years out, you found that we had reduced the defense budget 30 percent every single time. Right now, we haven't yet significantly reduced the defense budget at all. We don't face an existential threat [and] we don't face a major power that can extend its power to the United States," said Adams. (1/13)

### Brave new world of Cuba travel begins Monday



With the [Miami Herald](#), international service professor **Robert Pastor** discussed Cuba's new migration and travel policy which took effect this week. "I think there will be a large number of Cubans who will want to leave. This will be a real test for the Cuban lobby to retain the Cuban Adjustment Act," said Pastor. (1/14)

### Put Down That Energy Drink



Psychology professor **Laura Juliano** spoke to [Women's Health Magazine](#) about potential health risks associated with high amounts of caffeine found in many energy drinks. "They're unregulated, so there can be any amount of caffeine, and that varies tremendously from one brand to the next. Too much caffeine in general can lead to a host of different types of problems," said Juliano. (1/11)

### Kuwaiti Opposition Loses Momentum



International service professor **Kristin Diwan** spoke to [Financial Times](#) about Kuwait's fragile opposition movement against the ruling family led by tribal leaders, youth activists, and Islamists. "Kuwait is a wealthy country and people have a lot to lose. I'm pretty convinced that it's a long game in Kuwait – you may see ups and downs but the political activity will continue," said Diwan. (1/15)



## AU Newsmakers January 13-20, 2012

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

### Top Story

#### Women's Underrepresentation in Politics



The media turned to **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute for expert analysis after the release of her report, *Men Rule: The Continued Under-Representation of Women in U.S. Politics*, which identifies seven factors discouraging women from seeking elected office. On **C-SPAN's Washington Journal**, Lawless discussed what can be done to counteract the trend. With **Agence France Presse**, she explained a woman's role in supporting her candidate husband and family during a presidential campaign. Lawless also spoke to **Elect Women Magazine** online and **Asia News International** about the reasons why women defer running in elections. (1/14, 1/16)

### Additional Features

#### Death of Poetry? Not in D.C.



In an online video on **WashingtonPost.com**, **Kyle Dargan**, assistant professor of literature, discussed Washington's poetry community and the connection between poetry and government. "In some ways they're very similar in a sense that poetry and government, when operating at optimum capacity, are entities that really hold the world together quietly," said Dargan. (1/12)

#### Readers' Review: "The Day of the Jackal"



On **WAMU 88.5's The Diane Rehm Show**, **Peter Starr**, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, discussed Frederick Forsyth's *The Day of the Jackal*, a book about a hitman out to assassinate French President Charles de Gaulle. "I'm a literature professor. I teach literature. I teach people to understand and appreciate literature.

One of the things that's remarkable about this novel is how true it is," said Starr. (1/18)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### Obama Mirror's Bush in Signing Statements



In an op-ed for **Roll Call**, **Jeffrey Crouch**, assistant professor of American politics discussed President Obama's failure to follow through on a campaign promise to change policies past presidents enacted to expand executive powers. "Whether the initiation of

military engagement in Libya without Congressional consent or a variety of secrecy practices, the president has acted on a number of occasions in ways that enable him to direct policy without engaging in the deliberative process with lawmakers," wrote Crouch. (1/19)

### Expertise

#### Obama Bid to Cut the Government Tests Congress



**Beryl Radin**, scholar-in-residence in the School of Public Affairs, spoke to the **New York Times** about President Obama's decision to shrink the size of the federal government. "Just because it's one fish doesn't mean it needs

to be regulated by one agency," said Radin in regards to Obama's often cited multiple agencies salmon regulation example. (1/13)

## Agreement Nears on a Chicago Ward Remap



After being brought in by city council leaders as a national expert to consult on Chicago's redistricting process, **Allan Lichtman**, distinguished professor of history, told the [Chicago Tribune](#) that the dueling groups of aldermen need to show that population variances among wards were designed to protect African-American and Latino voters and preserve racial harmony. (1/17)

## Mitt Romney Tax Returns Unlikely To Change Race



**Danny Hayes**, assistant professor of government, spoke to [U.S. News & World Report](#) online about whether the controversy surrounding GOP presidential candidate Mitt Romney's tax returns would affect his campaign. "It's a little bit concerning because it provides the Obama campaign another piece of information they can point to as they can try to paint Romney as out-of-step with ordinary Americans, but I don't think in the long run that matters that much," said Hayes. (1/17)

## What the Internet Could be Like if SOPA Passes



Two AU experts discussed the potential Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA). **David Johnson**, assistant professor of communication, talked to [U.S. News & World Report](#) online about the effects the act may have on public websites such as Wikipedia. **Andrew Yarrow**, professor of history, suggested to [Forbes Magazine](#) that Washington needs to focus on more on the national debt than SOPA. (1/18)

## Political Unrest in Pakistan and Afghanistan



**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, analyzed the tumultuous situations in Pakistan and Afghanistan. On [BBC World News](#), he discussed the recent conflict between the legislative, military, and judicial branches of the Pakistani government. For [China Radio International](#), Ahmed explained why the U.S. military is turning to talks with the Taliban for help to end military violence throughout the country. (1/13, 1/18)

## Race Raised in U.S. Election Year



On [Australian Broadcasting Corporation's AM with Tom Eastley](#), **Jan Leighley**, professor of government, talked about whether race is a focus of GOP presidential candidate Newt Gingrich's campaign. "I don't think his focus is on race as much as it is hooking these voters. He knows what those voters are like and what motivates them," said Leighley. (1/18)

## This Week's Bonus

### AU Eagles Serve Community on MLK Day



[Comcast Sportsnet](#) highlighted the **AU men's basketball team** for their volunteer work on Martin Luther King Day to support Samaritan's Feet, a non-profit that provides shoes for the poor. (1/19)



## AU Newsmakers January 20-February 3, 2012

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthedia.cfm>

### Top Story

#### President Clinton Named Wonk of the Year



"Thousands of **American University** students gathered in the basketball arena Friday night to present Bill Clinton with their inaugural Wonk of the Year award, and after accepting the award Clinton spoke about the work of his foundation and 'embracing our common humanity,'" stated [Washington Post's Campus Overload](#) in its coverage of the event. "He is the first person who comes to mind when you say wonk," said Alex Kreger, student director of the Kennedy Political Union, who presented the award on behalf of students. [ABCNews.com](#), [Washington Post's Post Local online](#), [Examiner.com](#) and *Northwest*

*Current* also highlighted this inaugural award. (1/27, 1/28, 1/30)

#### A New Home for WAMU



[Washington Business Journal online](#) and [Washington City Paper online](#) covered the news that **American University** has signed a contract to purchase a building to become the new home for **WAMU 88.5**. "We are pleased that WAMU will soon be housed in a facility to meet its current and future space needs, and provide an environment for future programming growth to better serve our listeners," President Neil Kerwin said in a statement picked up by all outlets. [CityBizList.com](#) and [DCRTV.com](#) also reported the announcement. (2/2)

### Additional Features

#### What You Can Learn From Mitt's Tax Return

## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

For [Wall Street Journal's Weekend Investor](#) section, a trio of Kogod's Tax Center experts including **Don Williamson**, executive director;

**Dave Kautter**, managing director; and Center member **Tom Ochenschlage**, analyzed Mitt Romney's tax returns. "The only schedules missing [from the Romneys' return] are the ones for fishermen, farmers and the elderly," said Kautter. Williamson added, "The credit [for \$1 General Business Credit] could be for hiring a disadvantaged youth or qualified veteran and it flowed through from an investment partnership." Kautter also spoke to [Bloomberg](#) about President Obama's tax plan and with the [Wall Street Journal's Total Return blog](#) about Mitt Romney's tax preparation. (1/26, 1/28, 2/1)

#### Rethinking College Admissions



**Sharon Alston**, vice provost for undergraduate enrollment, appeared on [WAMU 88.5's The Kojo Nnamdi Show](#) to discuss college admissions and the characteristics universities seek in applicants. "We are very much using our campus visitor center to connect students to what we think is most important for them to know about AU, and that we're looking for students who are smart, passionate, focused and engaged," said Alston. (2/2)

## Op-Eds/AU Authors

### **Fear Itself: Time to Build Down**



For [National Journal's National Security Experts Blog](#), **Gordon Adams**, professor of U.S. foreign policy, explained both from an historical context and fiscal standpoint the necessity for the current defense build down as the Iraq War has ended and Afghanistan War is wound down. Adams argues further defense cuts are warranted beyond what's already been announced. "The real challenge the Pentagon faces is that this first round of build down is only a start," wrote Adams. (1/31)

## Expertise

### **China's Workers Are Targeted as Its Overseas Reach Grows**

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**

**Deborah Brautigam**, professor of international service, spoke to the [Wall Street Journal](#)\* about the recent kidnappings of Chinese workers in

Sudan and Egypt. "This will be seen—by the [Chinese] government anyway—as part of the learning curve and the price to be paid in 'going global,'" said Brautigam. (2/1) (\*subscription required)

### **Brazil's President Flexes Clout in Cuba Trip**

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**

For [Wall Street Journal](#), **Matthew Taylor**, assistant professor of international service, analyzed Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff's trip

to Cuba where Brazilian economic assistance was announced in addition to engagement on other issues. "This is about growing Brazil's soft power on the international scale and raising Brazil's role in the world," said Taylor. (2/1)

### **Analysis: Wall St. Cash Flows to Romney Over Obama**



**REUTERS**

**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, spoke to [Reuters](#) about Wall Street bankers retreating from their 2008 support for President Obama in favor of Mitt Romney in 2012. "Romney is one of them so they can feel comfortable with him," said Steinhorn. (2/2)

### **Paper Sacks Yale Quarterback**



Appearing on [CNN's Reliable Sources](#), **Jane Hall**, associate professor of communication, discussed a *New York Times* article about the Yale quarterback informally accused of sexual assault. "There are anonymous sources, there is incomplete information, and then they ran a follow-up. The story seems very murky to me," said Hall, suggesting that the *New York Times* should have done more due diligence before publishing their story. (1/29)

### **EU Drafts New Rules Amid Greece Debt Talks**



For [PBS's Nightly Business Report](#) and [American Public Media's Marketplace](#), **Matthias Matthijs**, assistant professor of international service, analyzed last weekend's European summit where German backed austerity measures remained a contentious issue. "If you can grow an economy, then we can bring down the debt- to-GDP ratio also. I think that's a big misunderstanding. America never paid back the big World War II debt. They grew out of it. That seems to be a much more attractive solution to the problem," said Matthijs on the *Nightly Business Report*. (1/30).

## Carstens Beats Tombini as Yield Curves Diverge: Mexico Credit

# Bloomberg

For **Bloomberg Arturo Porzecanski**, distinguished economist in residence, compared the Brazilian and Mexican bond market activity. As compared to Brazil, “[Mexico’s] central bank has a much better

track record of keeping inflation very low and that explains why Governor Carstens’s conservative approach is welcomed by the bond market,” said Porzecanski. (1/30).

## Do All the GOP Debates Matter?



“The debates have really become a focal point,” says Dotty Lynch, director of American University’s political communication program, to [U.S. News & World Report online](#) who questioned the need for more than 260 Republican presidential debates this campaign season. (1/27)

## College Presidents Want to Make Campuses Greener



[Greenwire](#), a newswire service for environmental issues, highlighted American University as a school dedicated to expanding its involvement in the American

College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment. AU’s partnership with ACUPCC “is what is prompting these internal explorations and these programs,” said Chris O’Brien, director of sustainability. (1/30)

## Muslim America Moves Away From the Minaret



**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, discussed with [BBC News Magazine](#) the sensitivity and angst Muslims in the United States face in a post 9/11 world in building mosques where controversy over construction is forcing architectural concessions. “For non-Muslims [the mosque] has become the symbol of Islam and therefore a target,” said Ahmed. (2/1)

## Analysts: Difficult Dialogue with Nigeria’s Violent Boko Haram Essential



[Voice of America](#) talked to **Carl LeVan**, assistant professor of international service, about the escalation of violence in Nigeria between the government and Boko Haram, an Islamic radical group in Northern Nigeria. “A strategy that militarizes the conflict and reduces the opportunities for negotiations will, in fact,

facilitate the internationalization of the conflict,” cautioned LeVan. (1/30)

## Africa Policy Watchers Lose Hope in President Obama



For [Voice of America](#), **Kwaku Nuamah**, assistant professor of International Peace and Conflict Resolution, discussed the disappointment of some that Africa was not elevated to a higher priority in the first three years of the Obama administration. “I did not think the traditional contours of American foreign policy

were going to change because there was somebody in the White House with ties to Africa, but of course a lot of people expected that,” said Nuamah. (1/28)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

February 3 – February 10, 2012

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

### Top Story

#### Survey Reveals Common Tax Reform Goals for Businesses of All Sizes

**Bloomberg  
BNA**

For [Bloomberg BNA Daily Tax Report](#), David Kautter, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, presented survey results from advisers with small, medium, and large businesses regarding 15 tax reform issues affecting business including a national sales tax and extending 100 percent expensing. "A notable

finding of the survey was the remarkable similarity between the views of advisers to small businesses and those to mid- and large-size businesses when it came to rating the potential tax reform proposals as 'extremely important,'" wrote Kautter. The Kogod Tax Center and Bloomberg BNA jointly sponsored the study. (2/8)

### Additional Features

#### For Business Schools, Entrepreneurship is a Bridge to Other Parts of Campus



The [Washington Post's Capital Business](#) featured American University in a trend story on business school entrepreneurship programs extending their reach to other academic disciplines on campus. "We think they'll come out with a much richer understanding of the business skills and competencies they'll need to be successful if they start a new media venture," said **Stevan**

**Holmberg**, chair of the department of management, of the types of students the school wants to enroll in the proposed degree in media entrepreneurship in SOC and Kogod. (2/5)

#### After Words: Deborah Scroggins, "Wanted Women," hosted by Akbar Ahmed



**Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, served as guest host on this week's [C-SPAN Book TV's After Words](#). In the hour long program, Ahmed probed Deborah Scroggins about her new book *Wanted Women*. "I found that taking these two women [Somali Ayaan Hirsi Ali and Pakistani Aafia Siddiqui] who both in their own ways have made such a mark on our times that you are creating two poles in the Muslim tent as it were," observed Ahmed to Scroggins. (2/4)

#### American Basketball Finds a Gem in Transfer Charles Hinkle

**The Washington Post**

[The Washington Post](#) featured AU Men's Basketball player **Charles Hinkle** who has blossomed into one of the nation's finest scorers. Currently ranked 18th in the nation for scoring Hinkle's growth this season has been remarkable considering last year he only averaged 4.5 points per game. (2/8)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors



#### Solving Sudan's Nuba Crisis

In the second op-ed of a series for [Al Jazeera.com](#), **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, and his research fellow, Frankie Martin, discuss Sudan's minority Nuba population and the ongoing crisis in Southern Kordofan region after the partition of Sudan. "Southern Kordofan, on the 2011 partition border with South Sudan, has become a potential battleground between the North and South that could become an African version of Kashmir," wrote Ahmed. (2/6)

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## Story of the Most Famous Seven Words in US Journalism



On the 115th anniversary of the first appearance of the *New York Times*' trademark phrase, 'All the news that's fit to print,' **W. Joseph Campbell**, professor of communication, revealed the history and importance of the phrase in an Op-Ed for **BBC online**. "In the years since, the phrase has been admired as a timeless statement of purpose, interpreted as a war cry for honest journalism, and scoffed at as pretentious, overweening and impossibly vague," wrote Campbell. (2/9)

## Expertise

### US Archives unveils Magna Carta after repairs



**Associated Press**

For the unveiling of a restored copy of the Magna Carta at the National Archives, **Stephen Vladeck**, professor of law, discussed with the **Associated Press** the importance of the 715-year old document. "We really have the Magna Carta to thank for the legacy of what we could call in American law due process — the idea that the government should act fairly and should act at least rationally in all cases," said Vladeck. More than 100 outlets including, *The Houston Chronicle*, *CQ Today*, and **MSNBC.com** republished the article. (2/3)

### The 'Responsibility to Protect' In Syria And Beyond



**David Bosco**, assistant professor of international politics, discussed the responsibility to protect on **NPR's *Talk of the Nation***. Bosco explained the potential application of the doctrine in Syria and more broadly how such intervention has been applied in Libya and other parts of the world. "The other thing that's important to note about responsibility to protect, I think it's an enormously powerful idea, but it also asks that people kind of de-politicize what are inherently political situations," he said. **Reuters** also quoted Bosco about Russia's UN veto concerning Syria. (2/6, 2/8)

### SpaceX launch will be a key test for NASA



**Howard E. McCurdy**, professor of public affairs, spoke to **USA Today** about the private sector taking responsibility for space flight in the United States. The SpaceX commercial launch is expected in April—the first since NASA's conclusion of the shuttle program. "The government is deeply committed to the commercial approach," said McCurdy. (2/5)

### Obama's Policies are Marxist, Romney Supporter Says



For **U.S. News & World Report**, **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies, analyzed a Romney spokesperson's characterization of President Obama's policies as Marxist. "It's like calling someone a communist. It's something we don't like in the United States and it's really a red flag, it's a short term for identifying somebody with extreme politics," said Thurber. (2/7)

### Gas Price Rise Effect on Elections and D.C.



**Danny Hayes**, assistant professor of government, and **Jeff Colgan**, assistant professor of international service, discussed oil prices with **U.S. News & World Report** and **WAMU 88.5** respectively. Hayes discusses the implications of rising gasoline prices on the 2012 election suggesting, "It's something they're definitely going to talk about, because for anything that's bad for the economy Republicans will try to attach to Obama." Colgan explained the geopolitical issues which could affect oil prices in the D.C. region, stating "19 million barrels of oil per day flow through the Strait of Hormuz and if it gets restricted that could drive up gasoline prices around the world, including obviously here in DC." (2/6, 2/7)

## US Campaigners' Wives Play 'Humanising' Role

**FINANCIAL TIMES**

**Jennifer Lawless**, director, Women & Politics Institute, spoke to the [Financial Times](#) about the role spouses play in presidential campaigns. "Ms Romney has been 'humanizing' her husband, in

the same way that Michelle Obama made Barack Obama seem more normal, and that resonates with the average voter," said Lawless. (2/3)

## Could Komen Have Avoided the Firestorm?



**Lewis Faulk**, assistant professor of public administration, discussed with [WTOP Radio](#) and [WRC-TV NBC4](#), the controversy surrounding the Susan G. Komen Foundation's decision to cut off and then subsequently restore funding to Planned Parenthood affiliates. "Because of their [Komen's] reliance on donations, they had to know that this kind of decision would go against many of their donors across the country and many of their affiliates," said Faulk. A web news story also appeared on [WTOP.com](#). (2/3, 2/4)

## Under Fire, Venture Capitalists Hit Back



For [Agence France Presse](#), **Robert Sicina**, executive-in-residence in the Kogod School of Business, rebuffed negative criticism aimed at private equity and GOP candidate Mitt Romney's profiting from his work in the private equity market. "People who have a negative reaction to Romney and his past don't understand what private equity does," said Sicina. (2/9)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers

February 10 – February 17, 2012

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthedia.cfm>

### Top Story

Local colleges Fare Well on 'LGBT-friendly' Index

**The Washington Post**

**American University** received a five star ranking from the Campus Climate Index's LGBT-friendly schools. In its review of how local colleges fared, [Washington Post's College, Inc](#)

observed, "The five-star rating puts AU in the company of several Ivies, top liberal arts schools and sprawling public flagships." (2/15)

### Additional Features

After Words: Eric Klinenberg, "Going Solo," Hosted by Kim Blankenship



**Kim Blankenship**, director of AU's Center on Health, Risk & Society, served as guest host on this week's [C-SPAN Book TV's After Words](#). In the hour long program, Blankenship talked to Eric Klineberg about his new book *Going Solo* which explores the growing trend in America of adults of all ages choosing to live alone. "The concept of living along varies by country and I was struck by the Northern European society example of the way they live," observed Blankenship. (2/12)

Investigating Germs on Touch Screens



How clean are touch screens? [WTTG-FOX5](#) put touch screens to the test to determine which are the worst. A reporter brought iPhone, self-checkout and ATM machine swab samples to AU where **Nancy Zeller**, director of biology labs, tested the materials for bacterial growth. "There are a lot of people using the same surfaces, there's always a chance for bacteria to be left behind from somebody who is sick," observed Zeller. (2/15)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

Buy North American and Save Ourselves

**THE GLOBE AND MAIL**

In his [Toronto Globe and Mail](#) op-ed, **Robert Pastor**, director of AU's Center for North American Studies, proposed that the United States, Canada, and Mexico

harmonize their trade and economic cooperation rather than act at the expense of each other to escape the recession and compete globally. "If Canada would join with Mexico to promote 'Buy North American' instead of each country seeking an exemption, Canadians might do more than change the policy. We might awaken the U.S. to the continent's promise," wrote Pastor. (2/11)

## Bahrain's Unfinished Revolution Holds Lessons for the West

**FINANCIAL TIMES**

In her op-ed for the [Financial Times](#), **Kristin Diwan**, assistant professor of comparative and regional studies, analyzed the continuing strife in Bahrain between the Sunnis and Shias on the anniversary of protests in Pearl roundabout. "The Saudi and Bahraini leadership have unleashed an onslaught of sectarianism, dividing Gulf publics along Sunni and Shia lines, when unity is needed to correct the real problem: a lack of representation," wrote Diwan. (2/13, *subscription required*)

## Expertise

### Redistricting by Citizens' Panel Sparks Competitive California Congressional Races

**San Jose Mercury News**

To the [San Jose Mercury News](#) **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, explained California's congressional redistricting impact on the 2012 elections after citizen panels rather than the partisan state legislature redrew districts. "This year's action in California once again shows what can happen when the members don't draw the lines themselves," said Thurber. (2/12)

### Government hopes to help create new solutions through data release

**SCRIPPS HOWARD FOUNDATION WIRE**

"The government's decision to release data for anyone to use and to promote crowdsourcing is good news and a good trend, said **Scott Talan**, associate professor of communication, to [Scripps Howard Foundation Wire](#) about federal agencies promoting data use and data understanding to spur innovation. (2/10)

### Objections to Reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act

**WAMU 88.5**  
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY RADIO

**Amy Myers**, director of the domestic violence clinic at the Washington College of Law, spoke to [WAMU 88.5's The Diane Rehm Show](#) about the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the threat to its reauthorization. "We've seen reporting of domestic violence go up during the time that VAWA has been in place, and I think that might not reflect an increase in domestic violence, but an increase in women and men survivors seeking services," said Myers. (2/13)

### Dos and don'ts of online communications

**Federal Computer Week**

For [Federal Computer Week online](#) **Naomi Baron**, executive director at the Center for Teaching Research and Learning, provided several tips for better online communication. "It's important to remember that your audience may be far larger than you have anticipated," Baron cautioned. (2/10)

### United Nations' General Assembly Non-Binding Syria Resolution



**David Bosco**, assistant professor of international politics, appeared on [BBC World News](#) to discuss the United Nations General Assembly's overwhelming non-binding condemnation of Syria's Bashar al-Assad's brutal crackdown on protestors in contrast to action taken by the UN Security Council's action against Libya earlier this year. "I don't think the West has any appetite for intervention here [Syria]. Russia and China by blocking things is giving the West a pass," said Bosco. (2/16)

### Putin's Views for a Better Russia

**The Voice of Russia**

**Anton Fedyashin**, associate director of AU's Initiative for Russian Culture, spoke to [Voice of Russia](#) about Prime Minister Vladimir Putin's recent op-ed outlining his views for a better Russia through various reforms. "Putin seems to recognize that it's time for the government to begin to respond to a new, powerful, and increasingly vocal middle class that is beginning to demand its rights from the government," said Fedyashin. (2/13)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

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### Top Story

#### Quran Burning in Afghanistan Ignites Fury



On [CNN's Situation Room](#) and ABC's [World News Tonight with Diane Sawyer](#), Akbar Ahmed, chair of Islamic studies, discussed the significance and proper handling of the Quran after the burning of the Quran at an American base in Afghanistan. "For Muslims, the Quran is the word of God. When Muslims see it desecrated, they see this as an attack on Islam and they get angry and upset," explained Ahmed. (2/21)

### Additional Features

#### Graduate Degrees, Certificates and Enrichment Programs

##### The Washington Post

The *Washington Post Sunday Magazine's* quarterly **Education Review** highlighted American University three times. In an [article about graduate education](#), Jonathan

Tubman, vice provost for graduate studies talked about how universities have a stake in marketplace outcomes. "There is incredible pressure to help students succeed," he says. An article about [enrichment classes](#) highlighted AU's **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute**, and an [online supplemental article](#) on certificate programs again quoted Tubman. (2/19)

#### Jewish LGBT students celebrate identity



A [Washington Jewish Week](#) article highlighted the National Union of Jewish LGBT Students conference hosted this year at American University. "After coming to AU and going to my first NUJLS conference last year, I really wanted to make it bigger. There's nothing else like this for students, and it really is a testament to the ongoing inclusivity within the Jewish community," said AU junior Jonathan Lipton, the conference's organizer. (2/22)

#### American University Musical Deals with Gay Bullying



**Carl Menninger**, director of theatre and musical theatre, and **Matthew Ingraham**, a sophomore musical theatre major, appeared on [WTTG FOX5](#) to discuss the community outreach they are doing for the department's production, **BARE...A Pop Opera**, to bring awareness to the impact of gay bullying. "With this show, we have a platform. We have an avenue in which to bring awareness to this issue." said Menninger. (2/23)

## Expertise

### Climate Scientist Admits Duping Skeptic Group to Obtain Documents

**The Washington Post**

**Matt Nisbet**, professor of communication, discussed with the [Washington Post](#) how politics and climate change are intersecting after a scientist admitted to falsifying his identity

to obtain documents. "Climate change is trapped in this larger polarization process that's happening in U.S. politics, and scientists are part of that. What you're seeing happening is some scientist activists and some climate leaders are actively mobilizing the scientific community, not just in the context of climate change, but in the context of the election," said Nisbet. (2/21)

### Few in Ariz. Donating to Super PACs



In response to why Arizona had only a few super PAC contributors, **Candice Nelson**, professor of government, explained to [USA Today](#) that the majority of super PAC contributions come from states where presidential candidates have personal and political connections. "If [Arizona Senator John] McCain was running, my guess is there would be a super PAC for him and there would be Arizona donors," said Nelson. (2/17)

### First Lady Michelle Obama Surprises White House Tourists



**Anita McBride**, executive in residence in the School of Public Affairs, spoke to [CBS This Morning](#) about First Lady Michelle Obama's surprise visit with White House tourists. "The best role for a first lady during an election year is, do no harm and spread as much good will as you possibly can. And, of course, get out on the campaign trail and raise a lot of money," said McBride. (2/17)

### Rising Gas Prices: Should the White House Worry?



[CBS Radio](#) talked to **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, about why rising gas prices may be a political liability for the White House. "They [gas prices] are a tangible sign of pain for

the American people. The White House should be worried about anything that might slow down the economic recovery," said Steinhorn.

### Six Reasons We're Feeling Debate Fatigue



"The American people are not especially interested in politics. Just over 50 percent of adult citizens vote in presidential elections and less than 50 percent in midterm elections. So debate fatigue is to be expected," said **Allan**

**Lichtman**, distinguished professor of history, to [NPR.org](#) about the lack of interest in debates this campaign season. (2/22)

### 2012: The Year of 'Birth Control Moms'?



**Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, spoke to [Politico](#) about the elevation of contraception as a prominent political issue and the potential for a backlash on Republicans. "If women feel they are

being targeted again, that women's health is on the line—that's not an argument you want to make in an election year," said Lawless. (2/22)

### Just in the Nick of Time



Speaking to [The Hill](#), **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, disagreed with the characterization of Congress as a group of procrastinators. "It's deadlock. It's gridlock, but I would not describe it as procrastination," countered Thurber. (2/22)

## Deepwater Case May Hold Many Twists for BP

**FINANCIAL TIMES**

For the [Financial Times](#) **Dan Jacobs**, director of the sustainability management program, analyzed BP and its co-defendants' willingness to cut settlements as the civil case begins. "As a Justice Department attorney, this is the kind of case you dream of trying for any number of reasons—not the least of which is that the defendants are shooting at each other," said Jacobs. (2/21) \*subscription required

## The rise and popularity of lists on the Web



**Amy Eisman**, director of writing programs in the School of Communication, talked to [WJLA-ABC7](#) about the popularity of lists. "The web encourages busy people to prioritize and that's why easy-to-digest lists have exploded online. If it's big, thick paragraphs of text, your eye skips it and you say, ah, that looks like homework. If it's a list with either numbers or bullets, it's really easy to absorb," said Eisman. (2/20)

## Putin and Russia's Military Power : A View from America



For [Voice of America](#) **Anton Fedyashin**, associate director of the Initiative for Russian Culture, analyzed a recent article by Russia's Vladimir Putin. "Of the six recent articles by Putin, this is the most professional and detailed. It seems that this article tries to justify everything that was done over the past four years and will be done by the Ministry of Defense," said Fedyashin. (2/21) \*Original in Russian; use Google Translator.



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers July 20 – July 27 2012

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

### Top Story

#### The Best 4—Or 3 Years in Your Life?



In a trend story on three year degree programs, [USA Today online](#) featured the School of International Service's Global Scholars Program and its accelerated international service track. **Leeanne Dunsmore**, associate dean of Graduate Admissions & Program Development, distinguished AU's program suggesting that unlike other three year degree programs, "Our goal was to build a cohort of students

who would engage in community-based learning, service and research through their living-learning community and co-curricular activities." (7/20)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### Alawi Split from Syria Would Spell Disaster



In an op-ed for [Financial Times](#), **Benjamin Jensen**, assistant professor of international service, warns of the implications of establishing an Alawi break-away state in Syria. "The international community should be mindful of the risks inherent in the fragmentation of Syria. Any intervention, whether diplomatic or military, that further splits Syria is liable to end with the creation of a rogue Alawi state," said Jensen. (7/22)

#### A Five Star Global Investment in Women: The Power of Mentor Relationships



In a [Huffington Post](#) column, **Constance Morella**, ambassador-in-residence in the School of Public Affairs, discusses her advocacy for and personal involvement in mentoring women to run for political office domestically and internationally. "My experience with The Women & Politics Institute, The 2012 Project and the Global

Ambassadors Program exemplifies the outstanding influence that mentoring can have on promoting the skills and resources necessary for developing women into progressive, effective leaders, regardless of where they call home or what their goals are for the future," wrote Ambassador Morella. (7/26)

#### Sharing is Caring: Containing Terrorism in South Asia



**Stephen Tankel**, assistant professor of justice, law and society, in his third in a series of four columns on [Foreign Policy online](#), addressed terrorism in South Asia and the importance of countries sharing information in combatting terrorism. "In the absence of a policy that succeeds in convincing, cajoling or compelling Pakistan to change its behavior, it has become essential to devise mechanisms to mitigate the external threats from

Pakistan-based and Pakistan-supported militants," observed Tankel with respect to Pakistan's unwillingness to share information.

### Expertise

#### We're All Climate-Change Idiots



The [New York Times](#) talked to **Matthew Nisbet**, associate professor of communication, about people's perception of climate change. "Research also suggests public health is an effective frame: few people care

passionately about polar bears, but if you argue that closing coal-burning plants will reduce problems like asthma, you're more likely to find a receptive audience," he said. Nisbet also discussed the science of communication in his op-ed for [The Scientist](#). (7/22, 7/23)

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## Boot Camp Teaches Girls How to be Politicians



[Jennifer Lawless](#), director of the Women and Politics Institute, spoke to *Medill News Service* about a workshop designed for teenage girls with a passion for pursuing political office. "Political recruitment is another way we can get women involved in politics. When women receive the perception they should run, they are more likely to respond favorably to that recruitment," said Lawless. The story syndicated to more than 20 newspapers, including the *Miami Herald*, *Charlotte Observer*, and *Sacramento Bee*. Lawless also talked to the *Huffington Post* online about increasing women candidates in the state legislature. (7/24, 7/26)

## A Different Road to Work, Bypassing College Dreams



[Robert Lerman](#), professor of economics, spoke with NPR's *All Things Considered* about his research on apprenticeships in the American workforce. The discussion brought up the idea that young adults can reach new career goals without the high costs of higher education. "I do not understand why there isn't a much bigger push toward shifting funding toward apprenticeship programs," said Lerman. (7/26)

## Virginia Receives a Failing Grade in Access to Public Information



On *WAMU 88.5's Kojo Nnamdi Show*, [Daniel Metcalfe](#), professor of law, discussed freedom of information laws and public access to police records in Virginia. "There's a basic principle that is applicable in the federal law, in state laws, just across the board that, although there are privacy exemptions that an agency can withhold information, the disclosure of which could reasonably expect to damage the personal privacy interests of the individual, you'd never invoke that exemption, an agency would not, to protect the individual from him- or herself," said Metcalfe. (7/23)

## Obama Counts on Virginia's Black Voters



The *Washington Examiner* quoted [Jan Leighley](#), professor of government, on African-American support for Obama in Virginia. "What's different this year is with the economy, and as much as the white population is unhappy about their economic fortunes, African-Americans are probably hurt more," said Leighley. (7/22)

## African Union Elects First Woman Chair



Baltimore's *Afro-American* newspaper quoted [Carl LeVan](#), assistant professor of international service, about the African Union's election of its first female chairperson and the challenges she faces. "(Her) election comes at a critical time for the African Union as they're dealing with a number of immediate, pressing concerns including the conflict in Mali and the very unusual historical development of a new state, Southern Sudan," said LeVan. (7/24)

## This Week's Bonus Clip

### DC Monuments: Monumental Mysteries



[David Johnson](#), assistant professor of communication, appeared on the *Travel Channel's DC Monuments: Monumental Mysteries* documentary. He spoke about his background as a Mason and the masonry of monuments in Washington, D.C. (7/19)



## AU Newsmakers August 31– September 7, 2012

Prepared by University Communications  
For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

### Top Story

#### AU Wonks Analyze Democratic National Convention



National and regional media outlets turned to AU's political wonks for expert analysis of the Democratic National Convention. **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women and Politics Institute, talked to [CBS News online](#) about the Democrats' focus on LGBT rights and to the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) about why female voters should prefer President Obama. History professor **Allan Lichtman** spoke to the [Charlotte Observer](#) about which issues voters find most important. Communication professor **Leonard Steinhorn** talked to the [Associated Press](#) about the drawbacks of President Obama

delivering his speech outside even if it rains and to [WJLA-ABC7](#) about how the president can refute criticism about his economic policies. Journalism professor **Jane Hall** spoke to [U.S. News & World Report](#) about the key topics President Obama should address in his convention speech. (8/31-9/6)

### Additional Features

#### Campaign U 2012



Each week from now until election day, [WTTG-FOX5](#) will be live in AU's **Campaign U classroom** on campus and will provide live steaming coverage of the discussions, which are taught every four years in the fall before a presidential election. In this week's Campaign U discussions, **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of public communication, involved his students in a discussion about the Republican and Democratic national conventions. Topics included the importance of female

voters, the most impactful speeches, and first steps the candidates should take if they are elected. (9/6)

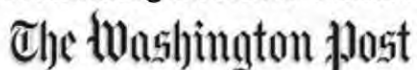
#### Thanks to Scholarship, Saudi Students Return to U.S. in Droves



For a trend story about the increase of Saudi students studying in the United States, [Washington Diplomat](#) talked to **Fanta Aw**, assistant vice president of Campus Life and director of International Student and Scholar Services, about the influence the country's King Abdullah Scholarship Program has had on students

enrolling at American University. "With the exception of one or two students, all of the 62 Saudi students enrolled at the university this fall are recipients of the scholarship and a third of those students are female," said Aw. (8/31)

#### Celebrating an Avant-Garde Influencer



The [Washington Post](#) and [Washington Post's Express](#) highlighted **American University's** participation in the **John Cage Centennial Festival**. The university will host a series of Cage-focused events Friday

and Saturday, September 7 and 8. (8/31, 9/6)

### Expertise

#### Where'd the Time Go? Obama Girls Now Young Women



In an interview with the [Associated Press](#), executive in residence **Anita McBride** discussed the lives of first children Sasha and Malia Obama and the first family's efforts to keep the girls happy and grounded.

"Whether you support this president or not, you want to know that it's healthy and grounding and going well at home. They clearly are a family that's got it together," said McBride. More than 200 outlets republished McBride's comments, including the [Wall Street Journal](#), [Charlotte Observer](#), and [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#). McBride also talked to [USA Today](#) about the influential role of the first lady as the guardian of the first family's lives. (9/7)

## 35 Years Later, Voyager 1 is Heading for the Stars



Speaking to the [Associated Press](#), **Howard McCurdy**, professor of public affairs, discussed the longevity of the Voyager 1 spacecraft, and its value entering the uncharted territory of interstellar space. "They took the funds and built

spacecraft robust enough to visit all four gas giants and keep communicating beyond the solar system," said McCurdy. (9/4)

## Women Failing to Get Hired in U.S. Seen in Childcare Woes



**Barbara Bergmann**, professor emerita of economics, discussed with [Bloomberg News](#) the current lack of demand for childcare and its direct link to women not being able to find jobs. "Every time a child is

withdrawn and childcare workers get laid off, that obviously impedes the recovery. The recovery depends on increasing the demand for goods and services, and the industry's decline has a particularly negative impact because childcare is extremely expensive," said Bergmann. (9/6)

## Time Zones and the International Workforce



**Erran Carmel**, information technology professor, spoke to [Inside Higher Ed's Academic Minute](#) about his research on the impact of time zones on the global work force. "We human beings still need to interact in real time; in fact, research shows that making progress on complex tasks requires high interactions between individuals – to generate ideas, to resolve disagreements, to clarify differences," said Carmel. (9/4)

## Record-Setting Partisan Divide



In an interview with [PolitiFact.com](#), **James Thurber**, director for the Center for Presidential and Congressional Studies, discussed the limited accomplishments on Capitol Hill during President Obama's presidency because of Congressional gridlock. "The parties have found common ground on small bore things, such as reforming the Food and Drug Administration

and reaching a free-trade agreement with South Korea, Colombia and Panama," said Thurber. (8/31)

## U.S. Pressures Pakistan on Terror Group



salon.com

In a [Salon.com](#) article about the United States' recent designation of the Pakistan based Lashkar organization as a terrorist group, **Stephen Tankel**, Department of Justice, Law and Society assistant professor, explained the intent of the increased pressure on Pakistan to enforce a crack down on Lashkar. "This is part of an ongoing strategy. It is intended to make Lashkar's domestic and international operating environment just a bit more difficult and to put additional pressure on Pakistan to take serious action," said Tankel. (9/2)

## Bonus Clip:

### President Kerwin's Nationals Appearance



The front page of [The Northwest Current](#) featured a photo of **President Kerwin** throwing out the first pitch at AU Night at Nationals Park on Friday, August 31. (9/5)



## AU Newsmakers

September 14 – September 21, 2012

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthedia.cfm>

### Top Story

#### As Full-Time MBA Enrollments Decline, Specialized Master's Degrees on the Rise

*The Washington Post*

Lawrence Ward, associate dean for academic programs at the Kogod School of Business, talked to the [Washington Post's Capital Business](#) about the trend of more graduate students pursuing specialized master's degrees or enrolling in part-time MBA programs at

business schools rather than signing up for full-time MBA programs. "Business schools have to be responsive to what the consumer is telling us. And increasingly they're saying, 'I don't see enough value in a traditional two-year program,'" said Ward. The article also cited Kogod's newest specialized master's degree program, the MS in sustainability management. (9/16)

### Additional Features



Each week in School of Communication professor **Leonard Steinhorn's Campaign 2012: Inside the War Room and the Newsroom** class, [WTTG-FOX5](#) brings a camera into the classroom as part of the station's election coverage. Each Thursday, the class is live-streamed on the station's website from 9:15–11:45 a.m. Additionally, the station's [Morning News](#) show airs a segment each week about the class. This week focused on Mitt Romney's latest gaffe and how it may affect his campaign. Tune in next week to see AU's most politically active students engage in discussions on the pressing issues of the day. (9/20)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### Sequestering the Jury



**Gordon Adams**, professor of foreign policy, wrote an op-ed for [Foreign Policy](#) about the newest Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) report of upcoming cuts. "What OMB has done is to dodge the political bullet by producing a dry and minimal analysis of what across-the-board budget cuts would look like—without saying which specific programs would feel the most pain," Gordon wrote. (9/14)

### Expertise

#### Prophet Mohammed Cartoons in France



Appearing on [CNN's Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer](#) to discuss the latest Muslim outrage to the depiction of the Prophet Mohammed in a French cartoon, **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, explained why the depiction is so controversial. "In Islam, the worship of god is completely indivisible from anything. It is just god," explained Ahmed. He also appeared on [CNN International](#) and [BBC News America](#). (9/18, 9/19, 9/20)

#### Why Are 5 Million Kids on Facebook if It Doesn't Want Them?



[Reuters](#) talked to **Kathryn Montgomery**, communication studies professor, about Facebook's claims of banning children 12 or younger from its site when recent studies show that about 3.5% of Facebook users fall in this age group. "What we hoped to do with these kinds of rules is to get companies to act responsibly toward

kids. It's not easy to do," said Montgomery. (9/19)

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## Creativity and the Patent Wars



Law professor **Jorge Contreras** talked to [WAMU's Kojo Nnamdi Show](#) about Apple's controversial case against Samsung for allegedly infringing on Apple's patented mobile technologies, winning Apple more than \$1 billion. "People have talked a lot in the U.S. of having what's called a working requirement for patents. You get a patent on something. The idea is then you should use the invention, make the invention and not just take the patent around to sue other people," said Contreras. (9/17)

## Latest Developments on Anti-Islam Film Protests



**Asiya Daud**, international service professor, appeared on [WTTG-FOX5](#) to discuss the developments in the anti-Islam protests and the latest reports of connections to terrorist group cooperation in the attack on the U.S. Embassy in Libya. "The situation is more volatile in Afghanistan and in Pakistan, the calm has been restored in Cairo; and in Libya in investigations are still going. There was evidence of preplanned attacks and that there was cooperation with Al Qaeda," said Daud. (9/17)

## Obama Holds Narrow Lead Two Months before Election



**Dotty Lynch**, professor of public communication, outlined for [AFRO online](#) what President Obama needs to do to capitalize on the boost his campaign received in the wake of the Democratic National Convention. "They [the Obama campaign] definitely helped themselves with the convention, but whether they can get their key supporters to come out and vote is the question. And that's where Obama's campaign needs to focus," Lynch said. (9/18)



## AU Newsmakers

September 21 – September 28, 2012

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthedia.cfm>

### Top Story

#### Tax Wonks Analyze Mitt Romney's Tax Return



REUTERS

In two different [Reuters](#) articles, **David Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, discussed the portion of Mitt Romney's tax return that showed Romney's foreign investments generated considerable income.

"What this tells you is that his foreign investments are doing better than

his domestic ones," said Kautter in [one of the articles](#). In a live in-studio interview on [WUSA's 9 News Now](#), **Donald Williamson**, executive director of the Kogod Tax Center, discussed the relatively low overall tax rate of Romney's returns. "We have a very wealthy man who gives a lot to charity," said Williamson. Kautter also spoke about the tax returns with the [Wall Street Journal](#) and [The Atlantic online](#). (9/21, 9/22, 9/26)

#### United Nations Meeting Convenes



As the United Nations General Assembly convened, **David Bosco**, assistant professor of international relations, provided analysis of the annual meetings. "We're in the height of an election season, and spending time at the United Nations simply doesn't do a candidate much

good," he said to the [Washington Examiner](#) about President Obama's short visit with assembly members.

With [The Times of London](#), Bosco discussed the UN's focus on the Middle East, with [UN Dispatch](#) he discussed Palestine seeking official membership to the council, and with [Australian Broadcasting](#), Bosco discussed Australia's seat on the UN Security Council. (9/24, 9/25, 9/24, 9/21)

### Additional Features

#### A 3-year B.A. Program in High Demand



In a letter to the editor responding to a negative [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) article about 3-year degree programs, School of International Service professors Patrick Thaddeus Jackson and Sarah Cleeland Knight revealed that most of the students in

AU's 3-year programs enter for the program's academic rigor, as opposed to cost savings, and that AU's program "represents an innovative and effective path to completion." (9/23)

#### US-Pakistan Women's Council Launched



[The Express Tribune](#) highlighted the State Department's announcement that it is partnering with **American University** to create the U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council. The council, which will be housed in the School of International Service, will promote the economic advancement of women in

Pakistan and be co-chaired by President Neil Kerwin.

#### CampaignU: Inside the War Room and the Newsroom



Each week in School of Communication professor **Leonard Steinhorn's Campaign 2012: Inside the War Room and the Newsroom** class, [WTTG-FOX5](#) brings a camera into the classroom as part of the station's election coverage. Each Thursday, the class is live-streamed on the station's website from 9:15–11:45 a.m. Additionally, the station's [Morning News](#) show airs a segment each week about the class. This week focused on the accuracy of polling and its accuracy in predicting

November's outcome. Tune in next week to see AU's most politically active students engage in discussions on the pressing issues of the day. (9/27)

## **Expertise**

### **U.S. Unease over Drone Strikes**

#### **THE WALL STREET JOURNAL**

With the [Wall Street Journal](#), Ken Anderson, professor of law, talked about the Obama administration's decisions regarding the legal path defending controversial weapons. "Strategic ambiguity is a real bad long-term policy because it eventually blows up in your face, it is not stable," said Anderson. (9/26)

### **Phone Home: Tech Draws Parents, College Kids Close**



**Jon Gould**, director, Washington Institute for Public and International Affairs Research, talked with [NPR's Morning Edition](#) about the relationship between millennial college students and their parents. "When I talk to students, they're not offended that their parents call them; they actually enjoy the fact that their parents are involved. But, the real challenge is for parents to realize where the dividing line is of being involved and concerned, and taking control of their students' lives," said Gould. (9/25)

### **SNL's Political Skits May Sway the Presidential Election, Academics Argue**

#### **THE HUFFINGTON POST**

THE INTERNET NEWSPAPER: NEWS BLOGS VIDEO COMMUNITY

With the [Huffington Post](#), **Lauren Feldman**, assistant professor of communication, analyzed the influence late night comedy programs have historically had on Presidential elections. "Appearances on late-night comedy programs have become an essential part of campaign strategy and, increasingly, political strategy more generally," said Feldman. (9/21)

### **Foreign Policy and the Elections**



**Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, discussed with [WTTG-FOX5](#) the importance of what the presidential candidates say and how they say it in their discussions on foreign policy. "They look at your handling of foreign policy and your ability to stand on the national stage as a sign of the confidence they might have in you and your credibility as a leader," said Steinhorn. (9/25)

### **The No-Votes**



In an interview with [New Hampshire Public Radio](#), government professor **Jan Leighley** discussed the demographics of the millions of Americans who will likely choose not to vote in the Presidential election. "Nationally, the groups of people who do show up at the polls are quite different from those who show up at the polls. We have big issues about healthcare, the role of the state, and government budget issues and the outcome at the polls will reflect," said Leighley. (9/22)

### **USAID Democracy Programs Can Complicate International Relations**



Following Russia's mandate that United States close its USAID operations, **James Goldgeier**, dean of the School of International Service, talked to [VOA News](#) about why some countries are critics of U.S. democracy programs. "The United States in general tends to support democracy, a market economy, rule of law and protection of human rights. So if those things are at odds with what a particular government might be promoting then there will be a conflict," said Goldgeier. (9/21)

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AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

November 16 – November 30, 2012

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

### Top Story

#### **New Crab Species Discovered by, Named for Biology Professor**

**ScienceDaily**

Your source for the latest research news

[ScienceDaily.com](http://www.sciencedaily.com) featured biology professor **Christopher Tudge's** discovery of a new species of hermit crab off the coast of Belize. Tudge's colleagues published an article about his discovery in the journal *Zootaxa* and named the new species *Areopaguristes tudgei* after Tudge. "Given this cryptic habitat and the relatively minute size of the specimens, it is not surprising that these populations have gone unnoticed during extensive sampling programs that have previously taken place," the authors wrote. More than 25 news outlets, including science-focused outlets [PHYS.org](http://www.phys.org) and [Bio-Medicine.org](http://www.biomedicine.org), republished the story.

### Additional Features

#### **Untold History**

**The New York Times Magazine**

A [New York Times Magazine](http://www.nytimes.com) feature described history professor **Peter Kuznick's** influence on *The Untold History of the United States*, a *New York Times* bestselling book and Showtime series, on which he collaborated with director Oliver Stone. "We [the United States] actually came very close to having a very different kind of history. We want to give people the ability to think in a utopian fashion again," Kuznick said about his and Stone's goal to highlight pivotal moments in history when better decisions could have been made. The [Associated Press](http://www.associatedpress.com), [Salon.com](http://www.salon.com) and [Harper's](http://www.harper.com) also wrote about Kuznick's recent work. More than 250 outlets, including [ABC News Online](http://www.abcnews.com), [Charlotte Observer](http://www.charlotteobserver.com), and [The Fresno Bee](http://www.fresnobee.com) republished the AP article. (11/21, 11/22, 11/26)

A [New York Times Magazine](http://www.nytimes.com) feature described history professor **Peter Kuznick's** influence on *The Untold History*

#### **Late Fall Exhibitions at the AU Museum**

**The Washington Post**

[Washington Post](http://www.washingtonpost.com) reviewed the late fall exhibitions at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. "With a lively fleet and flexible exhibition program that focuses equal attention on local, national and international art--and a healthy respect for the past and the present--the museum delivers only one thing with great consistency: surprise," read the review. (11/23)

[Washington Post](http://www.washingtonpost.com) reviewed the late fall exhibitions at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. "With a lively fleet and flexible exhibition program that focuses equal attention on local, national and international

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### **Latinos Need Immigration Reform, Not Crumbs**

**Los Angeles Times**

In an op-ed for the [Los Angeles Times](http://www.losangelestimes.com), Center for Latino and Latin American Studies fellow John Ackerman wrote about the shortcomings of immigration reform and the need for Latinos to drive the debate. "Instead of waiting for the politicians in Washington to hammer out a new bipartisan coalition behind closed doors, Latinos should reach out to each other, organize and construct a new society-based coalition that has the power to literally change the face of the United States," wrote Ackerman. (11/20)

In an op-ed for the [Los Angeles Times](http://www.losangelestimes.com), Center for Latino and Latin American Studies fellow John Ackerman wrote about the shortcomings of immigration reform and the need for Latinos to drive

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## Sorry, Senators. An independent Panel is the Best Way to Investigate Benghazi

**The Washington Post**

In an op-ed for the [Washington Post](#), U.S. foreign policy professor **Jordan Tama** wrote about the Senate committee set up to investigate the Benghazi attack. "Congress has every right to look hard at what went wrong with U.S. security in Benghazi,

and lawmakers have raised valid questions about the troubling events. But recent history suggests that the most important investigation won't take place on Capitol Hill. It will be conducted by an independent commission that has already been established, albeit with much less fanfare," wrote Tama. (11/16)

## Expertise

### Argentina Hopes to Reverse NY Debt Ruling

**AP** Associated Press

The [Associated Press](#) spoke to International Economic Relations Program director **Arturo Porzecanski** about Argentina's efforts to reverse a billion dollar debt ruling. "The endgame is here and the Argentine authorities and bondholders who went into the exchange

are just refusing to acknowledge this reality. If they don't put that money in the escrow account, chances are the Argentine economy and financial system will start grinding to a halt," said Porzecanski. More than 140 outlets, including *U.S. News & World Report*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *Washington Post* republished this story. (11/26)

### Good Weather this Black Friday Gives U.S. Retailers No Excuses

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**

Economics professor **Martha Starr** spoke to the [Wall Street Journal](#) about whether inclement weather impacts sales on Black

Friday. "Given how often business analysts attribute unexpectedly high or low sales to unusual weather, I've been surprised at how difficult it is to tease such effects out of the data. It seems like, whether the holiday-season weather is sunny and mild or stormy and cold, we still have to schlep to the mall to fulfill our holiday gift-giving obligations," said Starr. (11/23)

### FDA Probes Whether Deaths Linked to Energy Shots



[USA Today](#) talked to psychology professor **Laura Juliano** about the FDA's investigation into 5-hour Energy and alleged caffeine-related deaths. "When manufacturers add caffeine to products, I believe that they should be required to indicate the amount of caffeine on product labels. This way consumers can make an informed choice and be aware of their caffeine exposure," said Juliano (11/16)

### Pundits Predicted Romney Win



Communication professor **Jane Hall** appeared on [CNN's Reliable Sources](#) to talk about the lack of penalties for media pundits who consistently make bad predictions, specifically those who predicted Romney would win this year's Presidential contest. "There is no penalty for being wildly wrong, and in fact you continue to be asked to 'punditize' again. The interesting thing is that if you were a viewer of FOX [News], including Romney, you apparently had trouble believing what reality really was because you were so snowed and I think that is a problem," said Hall. (11/25)

### Study: Men and Women Candidates Treated Equally in Media Coverage



Women & Politics Institute director **Jennifer Lawless** appeared on [MSNBC's Jansing & Co.](#) to discuss her new research on gender bias in politics. "We've known for a long time that when women run for office, they fare as well as their male counterparts in terms of vote totals and fundraising receipts. But there now seems to be evidence that the campaign trail they navigate is quite similar as well. Both in terms of public opinion and media coverage, we uncovered no differences in how male and female candidates were treated," said Lawless. (11/28)

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## Fiscal Cliff Siren: Meet the Man Behind The Curtain



With [NPR's All Things Considered](#), James Thurber, director of the Center of Congressional and Presidential Studies, spoke about the fiscal cliff debate largely driven by businessman and former U.S. Secretary of Commerce Peter G. Peterson. "I would call him the conductor of an orchestra of many people and events, that have put a focus on debt and the deficit since the mid-'80s," said Thurber. (11/19)

## Is That A Budweiser In Your Hand? Product Placement, Booze, and Denzel Washington



For [National Public Radio's](#) website, marketing professor Cristel Russell discussed the potential implications of product placement in films and television. "If a company produces a commercial, they know exactly what's going to be in the commercial. Product placement is very different. The movie people will always claim creative freedom," said Russell. (11/27)

## Egyptian Unrest



[WUSA-CBS9](#) interviewed international service professor **Asiya Daud** about Egypt and the differences between former President Mubarak and current President Morsi. "Morsi gave himself executive power, essentially over the judicial body in Egypt. No judge or lawyer can overturn Morsi's decrees. This is problematic firstly because it defies the checks and balances system," said Daud. (11/26)

## Unhealthy Dieting Can Lead to Changes in Brain Function



Center for Behavioral Neuroscience director **Terry Davidson** appeared on [WUSA-CBS9](#) to discuss his research about how the Western diet can lead to brain damage that impacts a person's ability to resist thinking about, and likely consuming, more high fat, high sugar foods. "Food is a very powerful memory, very powerful in our lives. If we reduce this inhibitory ability it's going to be more likely that those things are going to be on your mind more," said Davidson. (11/21)

## U.S. Firms Drawing a Line on After-Hours Email



Information technology professor **Gwanhoo Lee** discussed how too many emails in the workplace may lead to a decrease in productivity with [Agence France Presse](#). "There is a growing sentiment that email is not very productive, and actually decreases productivity. A typical manager receives hundreds of emails a day, and that consumes a substantial amount of work hours. Some organizations are trying to move away from email in favor of instant messaging or social media," said Lee. (11/17)

## Friend or Foe? Chevron, Brazil Struggle with Relationship



In [Rigzone](#), an oil and gas industry trade publication, international business professor Frank Dubois spoke about Brazil's shaky relationship with the major foreign petroleum companies, particularly Chevron, following last year's spill on Brazilian shores. "Brazilians are paranoid about a BP-style oil spill occurring in their waters, given their dependency they have on their tourist industry and the sanctity of their clean beaches. It would be horrible if something of that magnitude happened there," said Dubois. (11/23)

# **Sharon Alston Declaration**

## **Exhibit 212**



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers

February 15 – February 22, 2013

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemedial.cfm>

### Top Story

#### AU Profs on Book TV's College Series



For its college series, C-SPAN's Book TV interviewed ten AU professors about their books. The segments featuring [Akbar Ahmed](#), Ibn Khaldun chair of Islamic Studies, and Women in Politics Institute director [Jennifer Lawless](#) aired first. **Ahmed** discussed his book *The Thistle and the Drone*, while **Lawless** discussed her book *Becoming a Candidate*. In the coming weeks Book TV will feature additional professors. (2/17)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### Jensen: Seeds Sown in Middle East for the Next Revolution



In an op-ed for the [Washington Times](#), international service professor **Benjamin Jensen** analyzed the struggle to consolidate power post-Arab Spring in countries like Egypt. Jensen predicts violence and unrest will continue throughout 2013. (2/17)

### Expertise

#### Juggling Priorities, Pentagon Tries to Protect War Funding, Troops



REUTERS

International service professor **Gordon Adams** spoke to [Reuters](#) about defense budget cuts and sequestration. More than 30 outlets, including the *Chicago Tribune*, *Orlando Sun Sentinel* and *Morning Call* republished this article. Adams also spoke to the [Boston Globe](#)

about defense budget cuts and their potential impact on Massachusetts employment. (2/15, 2/20)

#### U.S.: Hacking Attacks are Constant Topic of Talks with China



Law professor **Melanie Teplinsky** spoke to [McClatchy Newspapers](#) about cyber-law issues and the government's stance on hacking. More than 25 outlets, including the *Sacramento Bee* and *Charlotte Observer* republished this article. (2/19)

#### Neil deGrasse Tyson Tweets for Science Literacy



Communication professor **Declan Fahy** talked to [USA Today](#) about high-profile scientist Neil deGrasse Tyson's advocacy for scientific thinking. (2/19)

## Crippled Cruise Draws Major Coverage



Communication professor **Jane Hall** appeared on [CNN's Reliable Sources](#) to discuss whether CNN's extensive cruise ship coverage was appropriate. (2/17)

## The Path to Violence



In a segment about containing people who pose strong safety threats to the public for the [PBS Frontline documentary \*The Path to Violence\*](#), law professor **Robert Dinerstein** spoke to about the inability to accurately identify these people and the civil rights violations posed by locking up individuals before a crime is committed. (2/20)

## Bond Default Endgame Nears in Argentina



With [Bloomberg News](#), International Economic Relations Program director **Arturo Porzecanski** discussed the Argentine government's movement of money through banks to avoid creditors. (2/15)

## First Ladies: Influence and Image



**Anita McBride**, executive in residence, spoke to [WTTG Fox5's Morning News](#) about her involvement in [C-SPAN's First Ladies Series](#) which highlights the history of America's first ladies. (2/18)

## Sequestration Impact on Local Economy



**Mark Waldman**, executive in residence, spoke to [WTTG Fox5's Morning News](#) about how sequestration and furloughs might impact the D.C. economy. (2/20)

## Controversial Names: Redskins



Journalism professor **Angie Chuang** appeared live on [NewsChannel8's News Talk](#) for a roundtable discussion about the controversial names of professional sports teams. (2/15)

## White House Reporters Get Flak

### **The Washington Times**

[The Washington Times](#) spoke to communication professor **Richard Benedetto** about President Obama's narrow media-access restrictions as compared to the more relaxed access former presidents allowed. (2/19)

## Microsoft PAC Backs Broad Slate

### **SPOKESMANREVIEW**

With the [Spokesman-Review](#) (WA) **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, talked

about how Microsoft employee political contributions supporting both sides of the aisle represent the political diversity within the huge corporation. The article syndicated to the **Chicago Tribune and Orlando Sun Sentinel**. (2/16)

## Bonus Clip



[ESPN's Sports Center](#) top plays of the day featured a game winning buzzer shot allowing AU men's basketball team to beat rival Holy Cross. (2/17)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

April 26 – May 3, 2013

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

### Top Story

Kogod Tops for Sustainability

## Bloomberg Businessweek

[Bloomberg Businessweek](#) named **Kogod School of Business** as the best undergraduate business school for sustainability. The ranking is based on student responses to questions asking them to rank their business school's sustainability offerings. (4/29)

### JFK at AU

JFK Remembered by Veteran Broadcasters



During a live broadcast on [C-SPAN](#), journalist Tom Brokaw and distinguished journalist-in-residence **Nick Clooney**, shared their memories of John F. Kennedy's presidency and *A Strategy of Peace* speech delivered 50 years ago at AU's commencement ceremony. **AU's School of Communication** and the Newseum sponsored the discussion. [WTTG-FOX5](#) also highlighted the event. (5/1)

### Additional Features

Student Entrepreneurs Transition Straight From School to Start-Ups

## The Washington Post

In a trend story about new graduates kicking off their careers in start-ups, [Washington Post's Capital Business](#) profiled Kogod School of Business MBA student **Tim Richards**.

Richards and several AU students founded Reefcam, a start-up that broadcasts video from coral reefs. (4/26)

AU Appoints New Men's Basketball Coach



Director of athletics and recreation **Billy Walker** announced **Mike Brennan** as the new men's basketball coach. [Associated Press](#), [Washington Post](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [WRC-NBC4](#), [WTTG-Fox5](#), [WJLA-ABC7](#) and [Comcast SportsNet](#) covered the appointment. (4/30, 5/1)

### Op-Ed/Faculty Author

Obama, Peña Nieto Must Save a Vital Part of Effort to Fight Drug Trafficking



In an op-ed for the [Christian Science Monitor](#), timed for Presidents Obama and Peña Nieto's meeting this week in Mexico, international service professors **Carolyn Gallaher** and **Daniel Schneider** question what the future holds for U.S.-Mexican cooperation in reducing drug trafficking under the Mérida Initiative. (5/2)

## Expertise

Are You Ready for the New Investment Tax?

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**

investment income. (4/27)

**David Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, spoke with the [Wall Street Journal](#) about the new 3.8% tax on

Court Ruling Takes a Stand on Essential High-Tech Patents

**The New York Times**

about the same issue. (4/26, 4/28)

With the [New York Times](#), law professor **Jorge Contreras** talked about the court case rulings on high-tech patents for smart phones, tablets, and online game consoles. Contreras also spoke to [Bloomberg](#)

Boston Bombings Show a Changing Face of U.S. Terrorism

**The Washington Times**

With the [Washington Times](#), justice law and society professor **Joseph Young** discussed the changing face of terrorism moving away from internationally financed efforts to more radical lone-wolf types of attacks like in Boston. (4/29)

'Latino/US Cotidiano' Exhibit Breaks Boundaries of Stereotypes



World languages and cultures professor **Carlos Tapia** talked to [McClatchy Newspapers](#) about photographer Dulce Pinzon's new exhibition and book *Latino/US Cotidiano* which depicts everyday Latinos the way their families see them. (4/30)

Furlough Reversal for FAA Lets Child Health Cuts Stand

**Bloomberg**

**Robert Tobias**, Key Executive Leadership Programs director, spoke to [Bloomberg](#) about efforts to reverse sequestration in light of the recent FAA furlough roll back. (4/29)

Want to Analyze Your Brain?



For [National Geographic Channel's Brian Games](#) psychology professor **Arthur Shapiro** discussed new ways to think about how the human brain processes motion. (4/29)

How Can LivingSocial Get Its Mojo Back?

**WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL**

The [Washington Business Journal](#) spoke to information technology and management professor **Gwanhoo Lee** about probability problems facing companies like Living Social (4/26)





AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

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## AU Newsmakers

August 9 – August 16, 2013

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemedial.cfm>

### Top Story

#### The New Age of Algorithms: How it Affects the Way We Live



Public communication professor **Robert Lehrman** wrote the [Christian Science Monitor](#) cover story that featured communication professor **Laura DeNardis'** expertise about the most pressing concerns regarding new "Big Data" technology and Internet surveillance including, privacy and inequality. (8/11)

### Additional Features

#### Rebranding Climate Change as a Public Health Issue



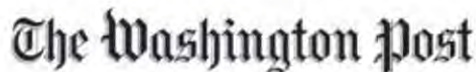
Communication professor **Matthew Nisbet** spoke to [Time Magazine online](#) about his research that shows people respond more emotionally to the issue of global warming when it is framed as a public health issue rather than an environmental or national security issue. (8/9)

#### The Human Costs of a More Secure Border



[Washington Post's Post TV](#) spoke to communication professor **Carolyn Brown** about her documentary, "On the Line", which looks at the struggles of undocumented migrants crossing the U.S.-Mexico border. (8/13)

#### AU Joins Ranks of Tobacco-Free Universities



By going tobacco- and smoke-free this week, American University is the third Washington-area campus to become a smoke-free campus for start of the new academic year, cited the [Washington Post](#). [WTOP.com](#) also highlighted AU's

new initiative. (8/16)

### Expertise

#### Al Qaeda's Widening North African Jihad Confounds Foes



REUTERS

Justice, law and society professor **Stephen Tankel** spoke to [Reuters](#) about the Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb expansion into North and West Africa. [New York Times online](#) republished this article. (8/9)

#### IRS Extends Deadline for 'Innocent Spouse' Tax Relief Application



REUTERS

**Don Williamson**, executive director of the Kogod Tax Center, talked to [Reuters](#) about a timeframe expansion proposal for taxpayers who qualify for the innocent spouse tax program, and which types of taxpayers typically qualify for the program. (8/12)

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## Obama's Call for NSA Reform Drawing Strong Reaction



History professor **Allan Lichtman** appeared on [CBS Evening News](#) to discuss criticism of the Obama administration for suggesting a reform of the National Security Agency's surveillance practices. (8/10)

## Does the Chief Justice Have Too Much Power?



With [The Atlantic online](#), law professor **Stephen Vladeck** discussed solutions for adjusting the balance of power in the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, which many people feel holds an abundance of power. (8/12)

## The Black History of the White House



International service professor **Clarence Lusane** appeared on [WUSA-CBS9](#) to discuss the black history of the White House on the day of the release of *The Butler*, the movie chronicling an African-American's career as a White House Butler to eight U.S. presidents. (8/16)

## Egypt: U.S. scraps military drills, but not aid



Director of the Peacebuilding and Development Institute **Mohammed Abu-Nimer** provided analysis of the conflict in Egypt for [WJLA-ABC7](#) and explained a negotiated peace with the Muslim Brotherhood is the best chance to quell the violence. (8/15)

## Chill in US-Russia Relations Dims Disarmament Hopes



Following President Obama's press conference on U.S.-Russia relations, international service professor **Celeste Wallander** provided analysis for [CNN International TV](#) and spoke to [Agence France Presse](#) about the fleeting likelihood of the president achieving a reduction in nuclear weapon stockpiles with Russia. International service professor **Benjamin Jensen** spoke with [BBC-5 Radio](#) about a souring bilateral U.S.-Russia relations. (8/9, 8/10)



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

## AU Newsmakers

November 8 – November 15, 2013

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthemediacfm>

### Top Story

#### Conservatives Face Tougher Time in Elections as Urban Burbs Take on City Trends



In post-election analysis, [Washington Post online's Govbeat blog](#) and [PBS Newshour](#) featured American Communities Project director **Dante Chinni's** research which identifies 15 types of counties in America including the suburbs, exurbs, college towns, big cities and the aging farmlands and how the populations in these districts tend to vote. Chinni used these designations to explain how recent candidates used their knowledge of these counties to win their elections. (11/8, 11/12)

### Additional Features

#### AU Museum's "Siberia Through the Eyes of Russian Photographers" Reviewed



The [Washington City Paper](#) reviewed the "Siberia through the Eyes of Russian Photographers" exhibit at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. The exhibit features Siberian life through photographs spanning more than 150 years—from the 1860s to 2011. (11/8)

#### Open Doors 2013 Report: Growth in Foreign Students in the U.S.



In a segment about how Saudi Arabia is among the top 5 countries sending its students to the United States to study, [KSA2 Kingdom of Saudi Arabia English TV](#) highlighted the services that **American University** provides to assure that the Saudi students adapted well at the university. (11/13)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### Argentina Threw Its Creditors Under the Bus



For [Financial Times](#), international service professor **Arturo Porzecanski** wrote an op-ed explaining Argentina's heavy handed tactics in dealing with bondholders after its default. \*Login Required

#### From War Protester to Teaching the Vietnamese How to Write Speeches



In an op-ed for the [Christian Science Monitor](#), communication professor **Robert Lehrman** wrote about teaching speechwriting to a group of young Vietnam diplomats. (11/10)

#### How It Sounds: To Be A Sound Guy



For [NPR online](#), communication professor **Greg Smith** recorded sounds for an experimental storytelling piece which reflected his new role as a professor, and what his life sounds like now that he is teaching in a college classroom. (11/8)

## Expertise

### India Fears More Militants as U.S. Quits Afghanistan



Associated Press

Justice, law and society professor **Stephen Tankel** spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about the likelihood of increased unrest in India's border region with Pakistan from transnational terrorist groups such as Lashkar-e-Taiba. More than **125** outlets, including **Atlanta Journal Constitution**, **San Francisco Chronicle**, and **Washington Post** republished this article. (11/9)

### Charities Try Provocative Ads to Attract Attention



In a trend piece about provocative nonprofit ad campaigns, [New York Times](#) spoke to communication professor **Wendy Melillo** about nonprofit organizations using guerrilla marketing efforts to raise brand awareness. (11/7)

### Guantanamo Bay Detainees Seek Answers



With [NPR's National Newscast](#) law professor **Stephen Vladeck** talked about how Guantanamo Bay detainees are arguing there is no justified reason to keep them prisoner when the U.S. is withdrawing from Afghanistan. (11/13)

### President Clinton Chimes In



Communication professor **Leonard Steinhorn** spoke to [CBS Radio](#) about former President Bill Clinton's recent comments in the media concerning the Affordable Healthcare Act. The segment aired nationally on CBS radio affiliate stations. (11/13)

### Ted Cruz Unilateralism a Prelude as Party Loyalty Falters



With [Bloomberg Businessweek](#), **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential studies, talked about how Senator Ted Cruz's access to the media and an independent source of money is making it hard for the Republican Party to control him. (11/8)

### Europe's Right Turn



HARVARD POLITICAL REVIEW

International service professor **Clarence Lusane** spoke to [Harvard Political Review](#) about a resurgence of racism and extreme nationalism in

European countries. (11/10)

### Getting Aid Relief Right in the Philippines



cbcradio

**Carola Weil**, dean of the School of Professional and Extended Studies, spoke to [CBC Radio's The Current](#) to discuss the humanitarian aid efforts in the Philippine cities affected by Typhoon Haiyan. (11/12)