



# AU Newsmakers

## January 10 – January 17, 2014

Prepared by University Communications  
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### Top Story

#### Tributes to Longtime American University CFO Don Myers



After his passing, [Washington Business Journal](#) paid tribute to **Don Myers**, chief financial officer, and vice president and treasurer, recounting a story where Myers, upon receiving the Journal's 2013 CFO of the Year award, told the awards committee that his proudest

moment at AU was building the university's financial health and developing the facilities to meet academic needs. *The Eagle*, AU's student newspaper, acknowledged Myers' [service to AU](#), and published an [op-ed](#) by the student trustee-elect about Myers' many contributions to AU. (1/14, 1/8, 1/9)

#### Tributes to SIS Professor Robert Pastor



[New York Times](#) reported on the death of **Robert Pastor**, director of the Center for North American Studies, highlighting **Pastor's** public service dating from the Carter administration

to the research he continued at AU. [Washington Post](#), [Atlanta Journal Constitution](#) and [The Atlantic](#) also reported on Pastor's diplomatic and academic achievements. (1/14, 1/9, 1/13)

### Additional Features

#### Think Tanks and Lobbying



[C-SPAN](#) covered Third Way's Matt Bennett, who spoke to **SPA's Public Affairs & Advocacy Institute** class about the changing role of think-tanks in the advocacy process. The class re-aired on **C-SPAN** and **C-SPAN 3**. (1/10, 1/11, 1/13, 1/14, 1/16)

### Op-Eds/AU Authors

#### Time to Get Serious at the IDB



In an op-ed for [Financial Times](#), **Arturo Porzecanski**, director of the International Economic Relations Program, argued the necessity for the Inter-American Development Bank to raise its

lending standards. (1/13) \*Login Required

#### The Interminable Wars of Fallujah



For [Newsday](#), international service professor **Benjamin Jensen** wrote an op-ed identifying the three wars taking place in Fallujah, Iraq, and the surrounding region fueled by the Sunni-Shiite conflict. (1/12)

#### Sharon's Style Missed



In a [Baltimore Sun](#) op-ed, international service professor **Guy Ziv** explained how Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu could learn from former Israeli Prime Minister Sharon's decision making style. **Ziv** also appeared on [Al Jazeera Television](#) to discuss Sharon's death. (1/15, 1/11)

## Expertise

### The Robin Hood Trap



[The Economist](#) cited government professor **Jan Leighley's** research on voting patterns contained in her book showing that those who vote tend to be more conservative when it comes to redistribution. In a follow-up [Economist](#) podcast, **Leighley** talks about her book. (1/11, 1/16)

### Greener Pastures Await Retiring Members in the Congressional Afterlife



With [ABCNews.com](#), ambassador in residence **Connie Morella** discussed the various opportunities open to retiring members of Congress. (1/16)

### TV Broadcasters vs. Aereo: Supreme Court Agrees to Hear Major Case



Kogod executive in residence **John Simson** spoke to [ABCNews Radio Online](#) about the Supreme Court's acceptance of a case involving pay service Aereo's retransmission of copyrighted television broadcasts over the Internet. (1/10)

### At 50, Michelle Obama's Next Act Could Be Raising Her Voice



With [NBC's Today online](#), SPA executive in residence **Anita McBride** talked about why Michelle Obama can become more active on issues she is passionate about during a second presidential term. (1/14)

### Federal Public Corruption Statutes Might Not Cover the Christie Bridge Scandal



[Huffington Post](#) spoke to law professor **William Yeomans** about whether aides to New Jersey Governor Chris Christie violated a federal law when they obstructed George Washington Bridge traffic. (1/13)

### Tax Shock Ahead for Wealthy



**David Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, spoke to [Politico](#) about the 2013 IRS tax hike that will affect top-earners when they file their 2013 federal income tax. (1/10)

### Experts Question Effectiveness of NSA Foreign Language Program



**Naomi Baron**, executive director of the Center for Teaching, Research and Learning, spoke to the [Hechinger Report](#) about the effectiveness of Startalk, the NSA's federal foreign language learning initiative. (1/13)

### Kerry Meets Vatican Officials on Middle East Ahead of Pope's Visit



International service professor **Hillary Mann Leverett** appeared in three separate interviews with [Voice of America Television](#) to discuss [U.S. foreign policy](#) in the Middle East and [Iran's isolation](#). (1/14)

### Christie Losing Sight of Campaign



History professor **Allan Lichtman** spoke to [BBC Radio](#) about New Jersey Governor Chris Christie's failure of leadership in the bridge scandal making him a vulnerable presidential candidate. (1/11)