



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers

May 10 – May 17, 2013

Prepared by University Communications

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### Top Story

#### Inside Look: Student Centers



[University Business](#)' May cover story took an inside look at student centers and featured AU's University Center among eight universities that created visual appeal and flexible space as a way to build culture and community with students. (May)

### Additional Features

#### Mother, Daughter Graduate From AU On Mother's Day



[WUSA-CBS9](#) highlighted Karen Parker-Thompson and her daughter Ariell, after receiving degrees from the School of Public Affairs and the Kogod Business School, respectively. [WashingtonPost.com](#), [WRC-NBC4](#) and [WNEW 99.1](#) also highlighted AU's commencement. (5/11, 5/12)

#### MOOCs Meet Resistance

### Bloomberg

[Bloomberg News](#) talked to Provost Scott Bass about the cost/benefits of offering massive open online courses and the university's decision to declare a moratorium on these courses. (5/15)

### JFK @ AU

#### JFK's Wisdom for Graduates



An opinion column in the [Boston Globe](#) suggested that anyone giving a commencement address this spring should look to former President John F. Kennedy's *A Strategy of Peace* speech given at AU's 1963 commencement for its wise words of moral courage and strong sense of idealism. (5/12)

### Expertise

#### US Senator Probing Why IRS Revealed Mistakes at Lawyer Meeting



With [Reuters](#), communication professor Scott Talan discussed problematic attempts by the IRS to fend off Congressional criticism after revealing that it targeted conservative groups. More than 10 outlets, including the *Orlando Sun Sentinel*, *Chicago Tribune*, and *Baltimore Sun*, republished this article. (5/14)

## Coming Clean on Your Taxes



Executive director of the Kogod Tax Center **Don Williamson** spoke to [Reuters](#) about what causes people to not file their income taxes. (5/14)

## Despite Convictions, Brazil Corruption Case Drags On



most powerful political figures convicted for a vote buying scheme (5/10)

## Multiple Controversies Suddenly Plague Obama



[McClatchy Newspapers](#) spoke to history professor **Allan Lichtman** about the controversies plaguing President Obama's second term. More than 30 outlets, including the **Sacramento Bee**, **Miami Herald**, and **Charlotte Observer**, republished this article. (5/14)

## Controversies Risk Starving Obama's Agenda of Air



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, spoke to [NPR's It's All Politics](#) about the cloud of White House controversies and the risks to President Obama's second term agenda. (5/14)

## Guatemalan Dictator's Genocide Conviction A First



Law professor **Diane Orentlicher** discussed with [NPR's Talk of the Nation](#) the significance of former Guatemalan dictator General Efrain Rios Montt's genocide conviction. (5/14)

## After *The Office*, Dunder Mifflin Will Live on in Every Office



[Time](#) magazine spoke to marketing professor **Cristel Russell** about Quill, a subsidiary of office supply chain Staples, using the brand recognition of Dunder Mifflin, the fictitious employer in NBC's sitcom *The Office*, to sell real paper and office products. (5/16)

## Amid Security Worries, Student Visas Come Under New Scrutiny



Following safety concerns after the Boston bombings, assistant vice president of campus life **Fanta Aw** talked to the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) about renewed scrutiny surrounding student visas and the impact changed regulations may have on international student enrollment. (5/10)