



AU Newsmakers May 3 – May 10, 2013

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Top Story

Two Sides of Painting at American University



[Washington Post](#) reviewed *Lee Haner: Mischief* and *Timothy App: The Aesthetics of Precision: 45 Years*, both showing at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center** through May 26. While Haner's and App's works vary widely on the use of color, lines, and shapes, the critic noted that neither are purely abstract.

Additional Feature

As MOOC Debate Simmers at San Jose State, American U. Calls a Halt



[The Chronicle of Higher Education online](#) spoke to Provost **Scott Bass** about his memo announcing a moratorium on launching any MOOC (massive open online course) programs until the university approves a policy. (5/8)

JFK @ AU

Meet the Press at SIS



The School of International Service hosted a *Meet the Press at SIS* style discussion between **NBC's Meet the Press** moderator and AU alumnus David Gregory and Israeli Ambassador to the United States Michael Oren to commemorate John F. Kennedy's famous AU commencement address, "A Strategy of Peace." **Press Pass**, the official blog of [NBC's Meet the Press](#), featured the interview which focused on whether peace in the Middle East could be achieved as former President Kennedy envisioned. (5/6)

Op-Ed/AU Author

Apprenticeships Could Help U.S. Workers Gain a Competitive Edge



In an op-ed for the [Washington Post](#), economics professor **Robert Lerman** wrote about how apprenticeship programs could close the unemployment gap and put more young adults to work in the United States. Lerman also discussed this topic on

[WAMU's Diane Rhem Show](#), broadcast nationally on **NPR**. (5/3)

Expertise

Kerry's Visit to Russia a Chance to Talk Syria, Mend Fences



International service professor **Celeste Wallander** spoke to [NPR's Morning Edition](#) about Secretary of State John Kerry's trip to Moscow to seek cooperation in resolving the ongoing civil war in Syria and post-Assad Syria. (5/6)

Russian City Visited by Boston Bomber a Nest of Terror, Violence



Executive director of the Initiative for Russian Culture **Anton Fedyashin** talked to [FoxNews.com](#) about the Boston bombing suspect's six month visit to Dagestan's capital, Makhachkala. (5/3)

In Myanmar, Classrooms Provide Litmus Test of Change



In [two](#) separate articles, School of Professional and Extended Studies dean **Carola Weil** spoke to the [International Herald Tribune](#) about the many challenges faced in efforts to reform Myanmar universities. (5/5)

Women Less Likely to Get Involved in Politics, Seek Office



Jennifer Lawless, director of the Women and Politics Institute, spoke to the [Washington Times](#) about the lack of young women who view themselves as qualified to run for elected office, compared to their male counterparts. (5/6)

Secretary of State Kerry Heads to Russia to Talk to Russian President Putin



[NBC NewsChannel](#), the network's news distribution service, spoke to School of International Service dean **James Goldgeier** about Secretary of State John Kerry's trip to Moscow and what it will take to change Russia's attitude towards Syria's President Assad. (5/7)

Keystone XL's Hired Guns Have John Kerry Connections, But Does It Matter?



In a [New Republic](#) article focusing on intense lobbying efforts to win approval for the trans-border Keystone XL pipeline, international service professor **Jordan Tama** explained how the advocacy atmosphere in U.S. Congress is routine; whereas Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies director **James Thurber** distinguished the extremely rare direct advocacy efforts aimed at the U.S. Department of State. (5/9)

A Life Prison Sentence is 'Death by Incarceration,' Expert Says



[Harrisburg Patriot News](#) (PA) spoke to justice, law and society professor **Robert Johnson** about his recent testimony in a case where prosecutors are seeking a death sentence rather than a life in prison sentence. (5/3)