



AU Newsmakers

September 21 – September 28, 2012

Prepared by University Communications

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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

THE CHRONICLE
of Higher Education.

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
WITH THE International Herald Tribune

[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



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)