



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers

### Presidential Inauguration 2013: Special Edition

Prepared by University Communications

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University Communications and Marketing captured the excitement and involvement of American University students, faculty and staff participating in Inauguration Day.

## AU Homepage Features



On [Friday, January 18](#), the AU homepage featured expert analysis by CAS and SPA professors about President Obama's second term.

On [Tuesday, January 22](#), the AU homepage highlighted reflections from students and alumni who attended the day's festivities. A video accompanied the story.

## Social Media



Students, faculty, staff and alumni submitted photos of their experience for inclusion in a [university photo gallery](#) on Facebook. More than 98 photos were collected within 48 hours.

## Expert Commentary



**Clarence Lusane**, program director for Comparative and Regional Studies, appeared live on [C-SPAN Washington Journal's Presidential Inauguration Special](#). During his 90-minute appearance, he contrasted the differences in Obama's second inauguration from his first, and discussed African-Americans in the White House from President George Washington through Obama. "Four years ago will never be repeated in terms of the emotional impact, the historic significance of it, and not only because of the 1.5 million people who came to Washington DC, but the tens of millions of people around the world who watched. Just the recognition of what it meant not just here in the United States, but around the world," said Lusane. (1/21)



For an Inauguration Day special report for [Fox News Channel](#), **Anita McBride**, executive in residence, discussed the responsibility the president undertakes on Inauguration Day, "The oath is really the honor and the responsibility that is bestowed on one individual to protect the United States, its citizens, and the ideals of the Constitution," she said. For [CNN Newsroom](#), McBride discussed Obama's evolving legacy. "There is always pressure for the President to have his mark on history. Second terms usually do tend to have a

global focus so I think that will be interesting to see if there is a pivot," she said. Perched above the parade route overlooking the White House in a live appearance on [WUSA-CBS9](#), McBride explained the significance of Inauguration Day for not only Americans, but also people around the world. McBride also spoke to [BBC Mundo](#). (1/21)



In a live appearance prior to the swearing-in ceremony, Communication professor **Leonard Steinhorn** talked to [WTTG-FOX5](#) anchor and AU SOC alumnus **Tony Perkins** about past inaugurations and what to expect from the president's speech. "I do think that he's going to articulate not policies, but principles, and try and find a way, through rhetoric, to unite people," said Steinhorn. With [CBSNews.com](#), Steinhorn discussed the significance of presidential second terms thought history, and with the [Washington](#)

[Examiner](#) he talked about the president's second term. (1/19, 1/20, 1/21)



After President Obama's Inauguration speech, ambassador in residence **Constance Morella** appeared live on [WUSA9-CBS](#) to analyze Obama's inaugural address, and how he should look to build bridges within a divided Congress. "He talked about 'we the people, the inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and that this is a journey which we must take together. The whole theme is the future for America. He needs to do what he says he is going to do, and that is work with leaders in both houses and both sides of the aisle," said Morella. (1/21)



In an op-ed for the [Christian Science Monitor](#), communication professor **Robert Lehrman** wrote about the 'second term curse' and Obama's second term agenda. "Presidents often look abroad to burnish their legacy in second terms. Obama might follow that pattern. There's no shortage of tasks: blocking Iran's nuclear program without going to war, moving Arab countries toward democracies, withdraw from a stable Afghanistan, forging an arms agreement with Russia, renewing a focus on Asia that maintains relations with China," he

wrote. Lehrman also spoke to [ABCNews.com](#) and [Newsday](#) about the best and worst inauguration speeches through history, and the unimportance of most inaugural speeches. Lehrman also spoke to the [Canadian Broadcasting Corporation](#) and [Globus USA Danish Radio](#). (1/19, 1/20, 1/21)



In a pre Inauguration Day appearance on [WTTG-FOX5](#), history professor **Allan Lichtman** discussed President Obama’s plans for his second term. “Here’s the way I think Obama can accomplish something in the second term, despite the significant obstacles and daunting challenges. Change in America takes place usually when there is great crisis like the great depression or a major movement from the grassroots like the civil rights movement. He has got to get the American people behind his agenda. It’s the only way he’s going to be able to work magic with Congress,” said Lichtman. He also appeared on [BBCNews24](#) (UK) and spoke to [The Globe and Mail](#) (Canada) to discuss Obama’s intentions in his second term. (1/20)



With the [Associated Press](#), **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, talked about the adversity Obama will face in Congress throughout his second term. “It’s a formula for deadlock and difficulty for the president. I don’t think this president has even a month of political capital. Obama will have to seek consensus with a Republican-dominated House in which conservatives hold sway and moderates are no longer an endangered species but truly gone,” he said. More than **200** outlets, including the **U.S. News & World Report**, **ABC News Online**, and the **San Francisco Chronicle** republished this article. Thurber also spoke to [NBCNews.com](#) about Obama’s second term agenda. (1/21)



Government professor **David Lublin** provided commentary and answered reader’s questions for [The Globe & Mail’s](#) (Canada) live blog during inauguration ceremonies. “It’s easy to criticize from behind the scenes. But getting ANYTHING done in government is like swimming through Jello. He needs to be more focused and perhaps needs to be more willing to press the advantage when he has it until he gets close enough to his goal for him to close the deal,” wrote Lublin. (1/21)



In interviews with [Lainformacion.com](#) (Dominican Republic) executive in residence **Dotty Lynch** and communication professor **Jane Hall** discussed the tone of Obama’s inaugural address and the priorities for his second term. With [Voice of America](#), director of the Women and Politics Institute **Jennifer Lawless** spoke about the optimism for Obama’s second term. (1/21)

## Additional Highlights



The [Associated Press](#) highlighted a [swearing-in ceremony](#) held at **American University** to temporarily deputize police officers from around the country as U.S. Marshalls to supplement the Metropolitan Police Department and the Secret Service in their safety efforts on Inauguration Day. (1/20)



As part of her internship with the [Durango Herald](#), School of Communication Senior **Stefanie Dazio** wrote about her Inauguration Day experience from the trek to the National Mall to the struggle writing an article on her cell phone in the freezing cold weather. (1/21)



[The New York Times](#) and [Florida Sun-Sentinel](#) mentioned that President Obama chose former College of Arts and Sciences adjunct professor **Richard Blanco** to be the Inaugural poet for this year’s ceremony. Blanco became the youngest person to hold the title of inaugural poet, the first Hispanic poet, and also the first poet to be gay. (1/18)