



## This Week's Newsmakers

Nov. 5 – Nov. 12, 2010

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### Paradox: Low Turnout with Partisanship



**Curtis Gans**, director of the Center for the Study of the American Electorate, released a study on Election Day voter turnout and appeared on [MSNBC](#) and [Capitol News Connection](#) to discuss the pattern of party changeovers in recent elections. Regarding the election, he told the [New York Times](#), "the mandate was to go in a different direction and make it a better country." [NPR.org](#) and 20 additional outlets published his study. (11/5, 11/7)

#### Michelle Obama's favored candidates: 6 wins, 7 losses

#### Los Angeles Times

The [Los Angeles Times](#) interviewed **Anita McBride**, executive in residence for the School of Public Affairs, about the success rate of the candidates First Lady Michelle Obama supported during the midterm election. "Given the current environment and given the sweeping changes that took place in this election, the fact that six of the 13 candidates she helped and campaigned for won their seats is a good number," she said. [Chicago Tribune](#) and 20 additional outlets republished the article. (11/6)

### Additional Features

#### 'Butterfly' on stage at American University



[Washington Jewish Week](#) featured **Gail Humphries Mardirosian**, professor of theatre, for her production of the musical, *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*. The story centers on the children confined in the Jewish concentration camps at Terezin during the Holocaust. "I wanted to see if I could use theater as a conduit to enlighten students and the American population about Terezin," she said. "It was such an unusual phenomenon that you have these intellectually and artistically extraordinary human beings there in the [direst] of circumstances." (11/4)

#### Behind the Research: Dr. Sabiyah Prince



[The Atlanta Post](#) featured **Sabiyah Prince**, professor of anthropology, about her work regarding race, class, and culture, and a focus on African Americans in Washington, DC. "I'm writing for my book which is about how Washington, DC, is changing demographically and how African-Americans are affected by the changes, how they are interpreting the changes and how they are responding to the changes," said Prince. (11/8)

#### The Faces of NPR



[Vanity Fair](#) included WAMU 88.5 host **Diane Rehm** in a feature which matched faces to the voices of **NPR's** on-air personalities, asking 'you know these voices, but could you pick these veteran personalities out of a line-up?' A veteran of public radio since 1973, Rehm has interviewed the world's movers and shakers for an audience of more than 2.1 million a week. (11/9)

## Op-Eds & Editorials

### **Analysis: The Buck Stops with Program Managers**



**Robert Tobias**, director of the Institute for the Study of Public Policy Implementation, wrote an Op-Ed for [Government Executive](#) about how government program leaders run their respective programs. "Time and again, reports from the Government Accountability Office point to federal capital

investments that flounder because of inadequate controls over cost, schedule and technical performance," wrote Tobias. (11/5)

### **The Joyless Election**



**Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, wrote an Op-Ed for the [History News Network](#) regarding lack of election enthusiasm and ousting of the party in power in the past three congressional elections. "Never before in the history of the United States has such a sweeping victory by one political party elicited so little joy and such minimal

expectations," wrote Lichtman. (11/5)

## Quotes

### **Government Lacks Female Representation**



[CNN.com](#) and [Seattle Times](#) interviewed **Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, about the number of women who serve as elected government officials. "Our political institutions in the United States remain bastions of male

dominance," said Lawless. "It's actually unbelievable." (11/4, 11/10)

### **Parents' 'Study Circles' Aim to Close Gap on Student Achievement**



[Washington Post](#) interviewed **Mark Clark**, professor of business management, about the positive effects group study has on student achievement and productivity at school. "Yes, we want the students to

achieve," Clark said, "but honestly, even if it is just the dialogue that occurs and people gain understanding of one another, we have actually achieved a large portion of our goal." (11/9)

### **Republicans' Hard Line since Winning House Could Backfire**



The [Los Angeles Times](#) discussed the sudden increase in Republican support during the midterm election with **James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies. He said the midterm

vote was "an expression of anger and impatience," and not a sudden burst of affection for the GOP. (11/12)

### **Weighing India's Chances for Security Council Seat**



[NPR](#) interviewed **David Bosco**, professor of international service, about India earning a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council. "I think it's realistic in the longer term," said Bosco, "I think it's unrealistic in the next couple of years. The U.S. may have

decided that India is a good candidate, but broader U.N. membership has not made up its mind yet." (11/8)