



AU Newsmakers

September 23–30, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

Top Stories

What Kind of Sound Does a 1,500-Sound-Effect Donation Make?

The Washington Post

Washington Post's Sunday Style section featured adjunct professor of communication **Greg Smith's** donation of more than 1,500 sound effects to AU's library. Smith collected the sounds during his 30-year career and assembled them in an 8-hour collection for his SOC master's thesis. "After I finished this project, I thought, 'It doesn't make sense to me to return it to a shelf. A sound effect is a living thing. It runs, pops, squeaks, rumbles, roars. For it to sit on a shelf in CDs and collect dust doesn't make sense,'" said Smith. (9/25)

http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/what-kind-of-sound-does-a-1500-sound-effect-donation-make/2011/09/19/gIQAiDDjqK_story.html

Additional Features

U.S. News Ranking: AU Produces the Most Interns



With nearly 85 percent of its 2010 graduating seniors working as interns, **American University** topped **USNews.com's** ranking of the Top-10 national universities producing the most interns. AU boasts more interns than Dartmouth College and George Washington University. (9/27)

<http://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/the-short-list-college/articles/2011/09/27/10-national-universities-producing-the-most-interns>

Compassionate Photographer



Washington Jewish Week featured *Re-viewing Documentary: The Photographic Life of Louise Rosskam*, one of six exhibitions at the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center. "The subjects tended to trust her, there is a deep compassion - you feel the photographer's compassion for the subject," said Laura

Katzman, exhibition cocurator referring to Rosskam's rapport with the people she photographed. (9/28)

<http://washingtonjewishweek.com/main.asp?SectionID=27&SubSectionID=25&ArticleID=15800&TM=39849.27>

Op-Eds/AU Authors

The Fine Line between Marriage and Divorce



Iris Krasnow, assistant professor of journalism, wrote a column for **HuffingtonPost.com** about her forthcoming book *The Secret Lives of Wives: Women Share What It Really*

Takes To Stay Married. The book, based on 200 interviews with wives, explores why some women are able to make their marriages last, despite the inevitable challenges. "Who stays married and who doesn't is a question not always about commitment or deep abiding love—it's about endurance," wrote Krasnow. (9/24)

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/iris-krasnow/the-fine-line-between-mar_b_959372.html

Do Muslims Really Care About Somalia?



Akbar Ahmed, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies, and research assistant Franki Martin, wrote an article for **ForeignPolicy.com** suggesting except for Turkey, Somalia's rich Muslim neighbors have ignored famine in Somalia. "Other Muslim leaders, however, are conspicuous by their absence, ignoring the Quranic command to show charity and compassion to the poor and needy," observed Ahmed and Martin. (9/28)

<http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2011/09/28/somalia%20famine%20muslim%20countries>

Expertise

Government Shutdown Averted, but Philosophical Divide Still Exists



Associated Press

James Thurber, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential studies, explained to the **Associated Press** the partisanship that took Congress to the brink of government shutdown this week. "There are very few people in the middle who are moderate and who can bring about compromises. And that creates an environment where you have this crisis approach to even fairly small issues." More than 325 additional outlets republished the article, including **WashingtonPost.com** and **ChicagoTribune.com**. (9/28)

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_FED_UP?SITE=NVREN&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT

Ohio Mosque Designed to Blend in, not Stand out



Associated Press

Akbar Ahmed, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies, explained to the **Associated Press** why a Muslim community in Ohio decided to build a mosque with a more rural American motif than a traditional mosque with minarets.

According to Ahmed, the local Islamic community may have chosen the unorthodox motif saying to itself, "Look, we are a distrusted community and we are vulnerable and we need to hide our identity." More than 180 additional outlets republished the article, including **USAToday.com**, **HoustonChronicle.com**, and **CBSNews.com**. (9/24)

http://www.usatoday.com/news/religion/story/2011-09-25/ohio-mosque-noor/50540774/1?csp=YahooModule_News

U.S. Says Russia "Reset" to Last, Putin Fuels Doubts



REUTERS

James Goldgeier, dean of the School of International Service, spoke to **Reuters** about whether Vladimir Putin might again become Russia's president in 2012 and how that may impact relations with the United States. "There will be a businesslike relationship, but not a warm one," Goldgeier said, noting shared interests in containing China and boosting the global economic recovery. (9/26)

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/09/26/us-russia-putin-whitehouse-idUSTRE78N27S20110926>

Write Off Your Job Hunt

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

David Kautter, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, provided expert tax advice for job hunters in a front page article for **Wall Street Journal's** Weekend Investor

section. "By starting a consulting practice, taxpayers may convert limited write-offs into full deductions," advised Kautter, who also warned against taking deductions for dry cleaning, haircuts, or cosmetic facelifts. (9/24)

<http://online.wsj.com/article/0,,SB10001424053111904563904576587260790642434,00.html?mod=vocus>

Rand African First Ladies Initiative Fosters Leadership Among Political Wives

The Washington Post

Anita McBride, executive-in-residence in the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed with the **Washington Post** the power of first ladies at the Rand African First Ladies Initiative. "You are married to the

leader; why wouldn't you use that platform? No one gives you more unfiltered advice than the spouse of a leader," said McBride, who serves as codirector of the initiative.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/rand-african-first-ladies-initiative-fosters-leadership-among-political-wives/2011/09/24/gIQAd4INxK_story.html

Appeals Court Judges Skeptical of Health Care Law's Defense



Stephen Vladeck, professor of law, discussed with **ABCNews.com** the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia's hearing of a lawsuit contesting the health care law's constitutionality. "Traditionally, the D.C. Circuit is thought of as the most powerful court in the country after the Supreme Court itself, and so even if it's not the only court to speak to an

important federal question, its views are often given even higher prominence than that of its sister circuits," Vladeck said. (9/23)

<http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/politics/2011/09/appeals-court-judges-skeptical-of-obama-administrations-defense-of-health-care-law/>

U.S. Colleges Seek Greater Diversity in Foreign-Student Enrollment

THE CHRONICLE
of Higher Education.

Evelyn Levinson, director of international admissions, explained to **Chronicle.com** how U.S. universities could increase their diversity of foreign student enrollment by travelling overseas to build upon

relationships with faculty, former students, and high school counselors in a targeted country. "It's all about trust, relationships, and eyeball contact," Levinson said, noting that AU has sought to be more deliberate about maintaining its diversity. (9/25)

<http://chronicle.com/article/US-Colleges-Seek->

[Greater/129098/?key=SD13KAVpbH1PMH9gbDcQNjZcanVuOEIhaycQbnB3blpdEw%3D%3D](http://chronicle.com/article/US-Colleges-Seek-Greater/129098/?key=SD13KAVpbH1PMH9gbDcQNjZcanVuOEIhaycQbnB3blpdEw%3D%3D)

Obama's Plan for Your Pension



Robert Tobias, director of the Institute for the Study of Public Policy Implementation, analyzed for **FederalTimes.com** the Obama administration's proposal to increase federal employee pension

contributions. Tobias said the proposed increase could hurt the federal workforce down the road since employees who are near or at retirement age will leave rather than pay higher amounts. Tobias also talked to

FederalTimes.com about federal employee satisfaction. (9/26)

<http://www.federaltimes.com/article/20110926/BENEFITS02/109260304/1001/AGENCY04>

<http://www.federaltimes.com/article/20110926/PERSONNEL02/109260303/1001/AGENCY04>

How Greece's Economy Can Affect the U.S.



Arturo Porzecanski, distinguished economist in residence, explained to **WTTG-FOX5's News at 5** how the Greek debt crisis could impact the United States. "Europe makes up over a quarter of our exports and the more those economies slow down, the more they might tip us into a recession," explained Porzecanski. (9/26)

<http://mediacenter.tveyes.com/downloadgateway.aspx?UserID=83473&MDID=783047&MDSeed=6665&Type=Media>

Analyzing Abbas



On Canada's **Sun News Network's Right Now**, **David Bosco**, assistant professor of international politics, discussed the multiple audiences targeted by Palestinian leader Abbas and Israel's Netanyahu at the UN General Assembly meeting. "While both leaders Abbas and Netanyahu are addressing the General Assembly and addressing other world leaders, they are also addressing domestic constituencies," said Bosco. (9/23)

<http://www.sunnewsnetwork.ca/video/featured/news/868018287001/analyzing-abbas/1178593477001>

Time to Reboot?



Jill Klein, executive-in-residence in the Kogod School of Business, assessed for **Virginia Business** magazine the impact a smaller federal budget will have on IT spending in Northern Virginia's tech corridor. "There are ups and downs in IT, and these companies know it. These businesses are sustainable over the long haul

because they have leadership teams that have made them valuable. You can't run around and be Chicken Little," said Klein. (9/29)

<http://www.virginiabusiness.com/index.php/news/article/time-to-reboot/314373/>

Has "Breaking Bad" Made The Reputation Of Chemistry Worse?



Science2.0.com, a science issues news Web site, cited chemistry professor **Matt Hartings'** and communication professor **Declan Fahy's Nature Chemistry** article on why chemistry has a negative public image and how *Breaking Bad*, a hit TV show about a high school chemistry teacher turned crystal meth dealer,

plays into that. "*Breaking Bad* is an entertaining and truly fantastic show. Unfortunately, the show plays into our preconceived notions that chemists are mad scientists and that chemicals are bad for you," Hartings said. (9/26)

http://www.science20.com/news_articles/has_breaking_bad_made_reputation_chemistry_worse-83005