



AU Newsmakers

September 9–16, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

Top Stories

Ten years after the 9/11 attacks, American University wonks discussed numerous aspects of the anniversary, ranging from the perception of Islam to the cost of the War on Terror. Highlights include:

Pentagon Sweats Out Budget Upheaval



REUTERS

Gordon Adams, professor of U.S. foreign policy, discussed with [Reuters](#) and the [Associated Press](#) the cost of the U.S. response since the 9/11 attacks. "This is a perfect moment to ask: 'What's the right strategy? What's the right mission? Where

can we accept greater risk?'" said Adams. More than **75** outlets, including [BostonGlobe.com](#), [BostonHerald.com](#), and [YahooNews.com](#), republished the article. (9/9)

Sept. 11, 2011: An Anniversary Dissected in the Media Unlike Any Other



W. Joseph Campbell, professor of communication, spoke to

[WashingtonPost.com](#) about the anniversary's media coverage. Campbell said that few journalists offered a "counter-narrative" to the prevailing September-11-

changed-everything paradigm, yet many facets of American life were unaffected by the event and its fallout. (9/12)

Post-Attack Unity Has Long Unraveled

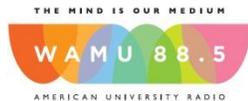
The Detroit News

Leonard Steinhorn, professor of communication, and **Allan**

Lichtman, professor of history, spoke to [DetroitNews.com](#) about the waning unity of American politicians since 9/11. "[The attacks] greatly

diminished the foreign policy debate between Republican and Democrats," said Lichtman. Steinhorn added that 10 years later, "we are living with the fiscal consequences of the borrowing caused by the wars and the unwillingness to fund them through taxation." (9/9)

Faith-to-Faith Dialogue, Ten Years Later



On [WAMU-FM's Interfaith Radio](#), **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic studies, discussed the perception of Islam and the Middle East a decade after 9/11. "I knew the challenge America would face understanding Islam, and I knew the challenge Muslims would face explaining it," said Ahmed. (9/9)

Lives Forged in the Flames of 9/11

TheNational

[The National](#), an English language newspaper in the United Arab Emirates, featured the School of Communication project *Growing Up In the Shadow of 9/11*, quoting **Amy Eisman**, director of writing programs, and graduate student Ashley

Bright. **Randa Serhan**, director of the Arab Studies Program, also shared her expertise. "[9/11] was life changing, suddenly there was a planet beyond the end of the drive way and beyond school," said Serhan. (9/11)

An International Perspective on 9/11

American University's Gordon Adams, Akbar Ahmed, Richard Benedetto, James Goldgeier, Anita McBride, Leonard Steinhorn, Jordan Tama discussed the anniversary with foreign outlets, including France's [Le Figaro](#), Brazil's [O Globo](#), Finland's [HBL](#), and [Austrian Broadcast Corporation ORF](#).

Additional Features

Going Back to School is Cool



The cover story for [The Beacon](#), a newspaper for adults older than 50, featured two non-traditional students who enrolled in **American University's** graduate programs after raising families of their own. "I feel like I have something to share," said Steven Holloway, who returned to school to earn a master's degree to become a film professor. Karen Parker Thompson, whose daughter is an AU junior, is pursuing a Master of Science in organizational development. "I thought it would really enhance the work I do in community organizing and engaging families," she said. (9/1)

Fall Exhibitions at AU Museum



"The **American University Museum** makes things easy for indecisive art lovers. Every fall, it sets out a little pu pu platter of art, an assortment of diverse—and often tasty—shows in its three floors of galleries and outdoor sculpture space," read the [Washington Post's](#) review of four of the new exhibitions showing at the AU Museum this fall. An image gallery accompanied the online review. Also, [WashingtonCityPaper.com](#) reviewed the Louise Rosskam exhibition. (9/15)

'An Israeli Love Story' – about Love and Israel



[Washington Jewish Week](#) reviewed *An Israeli Love Story*, a performance at AU's Katzen Arts Center sponsored by the **Center for Israel Studies** and **Department of Performing Arts**. Playwright Pnina Gary wrote the monodrama based on her experiences as a teenager growing up in pre-state Israel between 1942 and the 1948 Israeli War of Independence. (9/7)

Op-Ed/Editorials

"Keys to the White House" Historian Responds

The New York Times [Allan Lichtman](#), professor of history, responded to a [NewYorkTimes.com](#) columnist's critique of his "13 Keys" system, which Lichtman has used to correctly predict the outcome of U.S. presidential elections since 1984. "The theory behind the keys is that presidential elections are determined primarily by the performance of the party holding the White House. This is a very positive message: it suggests that the American electorate makes reasoned, pragmatic decisions in presidential elections and is not manipulated by the pollsters, the admen, and the consultants." wrote Lichtman. (9/12)

Obama's Jobs Strategy Should Be A North American One

Los Angeles Times In a [Los Angeles Times](#) op-ed, **Robert Pastor**, professor of international relations, argued that the United States could grow its economy by working with Mexico and Canada. "Our economies are interconnected. That means when one country has a crisis, all are hurt, but a success in one helps the others. More important, if we find new ways to relate to each other, we can lift all three countries and make the region competitive with China," said Pastor. (9/16)

Quotes

Americans Say Mistreated by U.S., Some Courts Listen

 **REUTERS** [Stephen Vladeck](#), professor of law, spoke to [Reuters](#) about whether U.S. citizens can claim constitutional protection from actions by government officials in the context of the war on terrorism. "I do think these cases are the strongest cases yet that we've seen where, if the facts as alleged are true, it would be really eye-opening if the American judicial system provided no relief," said Vladeck. More than **15** outlets, including **NPR.org**, **SanFranciscoChronicle.com**, and **YahooNews.com**, republished the article. (9/9)

Authentic? Get Real

The New York Times

Naomi Baron, professor of linguistics, spoke to the [New York Times](#) about how over use of the word 'authentic' by politicians, celebrities, and other public figures has changed the word's meaning. "It's common for some words to be used so often that they actually become devoid of meaning," said Baron. (9/11)

Top Democrat's Entrance Jolts Race

BOSTON Herald

Leonard Steinhorn, professor of communication, spoke to the [Boston Herald](#) about Elizabeth Warren's decision to run for Senate. "She's a liberal martyr in all these political wars, and she's going to be a huge contender not only because she's a name that's been in national news but because she's someone liberals feel they can stand behind," said Steinhorn. (9/14)

New Mexico Gov. Says Grandparents Immigrated Illegally, Backs Controversial Driver's License Bill

abc NEWS

Carolyn Brown, professor of communication, spoke to [ABCNews.com](#) about a controversial proposal in New Mexico banning illegal immigrants from obtaining drivers licenses. Some proponents of the bill accuse illegal immigrants of taking American jobs and social services. "I think blaming them for draining resources is usually misguided," said Brown. (9/14)

Three-Minute Fiction Round 7: Arriving and Leaving

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On [NPR's All Things Considered](#), **Danielle Evans**, assistant professor of literature and an award-winning author, explained her writing philosophy. "I still think of writing as a project of translation, as a project of explaining somebody's life in such a way that somebody else can understand it," she said. Evans will judge entries for the program's Three Minute Fiction writing competition. She challenged entrants to write stories in which someone comes to town and someone leaves town. (9/10)

An Analysis of Corporate Taxes

Forbes

David Kautter, managing director of the **Kogod Tax Center**, talked to [Forbes.com](#) for three articles about President Obama's proposed tax cuts in the American Jobs Act. The topics Kautter discussed included, [cuts in the payroll tax for employers and employees](#), [the act's impact on funding Social Security](#), and [corporate tax reform and its potential impact on small businesses](#). (9/9, 9/12)

China Builds Lead in Afghan Commodities, Adds Oil to Copper

Bloomberg Businessweek

Deborah Brautigam, professor of international service, spoke to [Bloomberg Businessweek](#) about Chinese mining companies in Africa. "Such companies mining copper in the Democratic Republic of Congo built roads and ore-processing plants paid for by the value of the copper," said Brautigam. (9/12)

Web Exclusive: Job Creation



In a [WUSA-CBS9.com](#) Web exclusive, **Meredith Persily Lamel**, executive in residence in the Kogod School of Business, analyzed job creation in the United States during the recession. "[Companies] need to see greater demand for their products, which will come from an injection of government spending into projects that will create demand for their products," said Lamel. (9/12)