



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

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## AU Newsmakers

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Prepared by University Communications

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### Top Story

#### Experts Weigh-in on Petraeus Scandal



Professors from the School of Public Affairs, School of International Service, and the Kogod School of Business provided expertise on the risks and implications surrounding former CIA director General David Petraeus. Foreign policy professor Jordan Tama spoke to [Associated Press Radio](#) about Petraeus' resignation. "I think intelligence officials do have to be held to a different standard when it comes to adultery because of that fact that adultery could lead them to be blackmailed," said Tama. This radio interview also aired on **NPR**, **KCRW Radio** (Los Angeles), and **KNPR Radio** (Las Vegas). Law professor **Stephen Vladek** spoke to [ABCNews.com](#). "The million dollar question is why, before it became clear that General Petraeus was involved in this investigation, was it such a high priority for the FBI in the first place?" said Vladek. In addition, foreign policy professors **David Mislán** and **Gordon Adams**, and management professor **Mark Clark** spoke to [WNEW](#), [CTV News Canada](#), and [Washington Business Journal](#), respectively. (11/12, 11/13, 11/14)

### Additional Features

#### Beetles Invasion: One Artist's Take on the Insect



[Smithsonian.com](#) reviewed *Inside the Underworld: Beetle Magic*, one of the new exhibitions at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. "Some people think they are absolutely beautiful, and others think, oh my God, beetles, creepy crawlies. I kind of like that dual reaction, between beauty and horror. They are beautiful, but strange," said artist Joan Danziger about her metal-and-glass beetle sculptures. [Washington Post](#) and [Washington City Paper online](#) also ran brief reviews of the museum's new exhibitions. (11/2)

#### The Untold History of the United States: Facts through a New Lens



[Washington Post](#) interviewed history professor **Peter Kuznick** and director Oliver Stone about their recent collaboration on the book and television series *The Untold History of the United States*. An anecdote Kuznick shared with Stone in 1996 about former agriculture secretary Henry Wallace inspired the project. "[The Wallace episode] was a dark and difficult story, really good. It stayed with me. I said [to Kuznick], 'Look, I can't get that story out of my mind. Let's do a documentary,'" said Stone, who has also contributed to Kuznick's history course "Oliver Stone's America." Kuznick and Stone also discussed the project in-studio on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#). (11/11, 11/12)

#### First Ladies Conference Set at LBJ Library



Executive in residence **Anita McBride** talked to the [Associated Press](#) about the *The Enduring Legacies of America's First Ladies* conference, sponsored by **American University's School of Public Affairs**. "It's a unique position, and we're trying to unlock some of the mystery. We really do hope to shine a light on the work they've done and how important it is," said McBride, about the series being a way to take a closer look at the role of the first lady. (11/15)

## Expertise

### U.S. Senate Leader McConnell a Big Loser on Election Day



REUTERS

James Thurber, Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies director, talked to [Reuters](#) about Senate minority leader Mitch McConnell, and the shift in the Republican Party. "McConnell will be in the middle of a battle for the heart of the party. The Republican

Party is shifting to the right under his feet. He may not survive," said Thurber. More than **25** outlets including, *Chicago Tribune* and [MSNBC.com](#), republished this article. With [HuffPost Live](#), School of Communication executive in residence **Dotty Lynch** also spoke about the shift in the Republican Party. (11/12)

### With Their Big Political Win, the New American Electorate Has Arrived



With [CNN.com](#), Women and Politics Institute director **Jennifer Lawless** explained how the Democrats were able to influence female voters. "Because of very clear and specific targeting, Democrats were able to win women. That, however, doesn't mean that is how they govern. Moving forward in the direction that will improve women's social, economic and political autonomy takes time," said Lawless. (11/10)

### A Trail of Clicks, Culminating in Conflict



Communications professor **Kathryn Montgomery** spoke to [The New York Times](#) about how companies, like IHOP, use videogames to advertise to children. "Until there are some rules, marketers will continue to

use what they have to penetrate children's lives. Without constraints, it could easily get out of hand," said Montgomery. She also spoke to the [Washington Post](#) about the same subject. (11/5)

### Sharp Dallas Police Cuts Leave Fewer Detectives Working Violent Crimes



Justice professor **Ed Maguire** spoke to [Dallas Morning News](#) about Dallas' police cuts and how it may impact law enforcement. "This idea of taking people out of investigative units and putting them on the streets in anything less than extreme circumstances is extremely disruptive to the operation of the agency, and the costs are probably going to be incurred by victims and others," said Maguire. (11/4)

### Microsoft, Motorola Set to Square off in Court over Patent Payments



Law professor Jorge Contreras talked with [The Seattle Times](#) about the MicroSoft v Motorola Federal Court case. "Maybe the most important thing that Judge [James] Robart can do is outline his view of a methodology for assessing reasonable royalties. There are lots of competing theories but no court has given a hint what they will be looking for," said Contreras. More

than **10** outlets, including **Bloomberg News**, *Chicago Tribune*, and the *South Bend Tribune* (WA), republished the article. (11/10)

### Expert: El Paso Voters Back Leaders' Vision for City



Center for Congressional and Electoral Studies fellow **Dante Chinni** spoke to the [El Paso Times](#) about how voting demographics in El Paso have changed. "In 2000, 81 percent of the voters were white. In 2012, the white vote was 72 percent. This 9 percent drop over a period of 12 years is substantial. What

really surprised me this time is the turnout of the 18- to 29-year-old group -- there was an uptick of 2 points over the turnout in the 2008 election," said Chinni. (11/12)

## Maryland: A Lonely State for Republicans

### **The Washington Times**

**Constance Morella**, ambassador in residence, spoke to the [Washington Times](#) about the national and Maryland Republican parties losing touch with women, minorities, and social issues. “It’s time for [Republicans]

to realize that our state is becoming more minority than majority. They have got to show that they are part of the community and care,” said Morella. (11/8)

## 1 in 6 retired Lawmakers Get Six-Figure Pensions

### **FEDERAL TIMES**

With [Federal Times](#), public policy professor **Robert Tobias** talked about why some D.C. lawmakers receive large pensions. “There are three factors that likely resulted in such large pensions: the higher base salary lawmakers receive, the larger rate used to calculate their

pension and years—sometimes decades—of cost-of-living adjustments to pensions that reached as high as 5.8 percent over the last 30 years,” said Tobias (11/5)