



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

AU Newsmakers

March 6 – March 13, 2015

Prepared by University Communications

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Top Stories

Not Just All Talk

WASHINGTON
BUSINESS JOURNAL

[Washington Business Journal](#) featured School of Public Affairs executive-in-residence **Betsy Fischer-Martin**. The in-depth executive profile traced **Fischer-Martin's** path from an AU internship at Meet the Press to executive producer and managing editor for NBC News Political Programming. The Q&A format delved into her giving back to AU, some fun facts, and her new role at *More* Magazine, where she hopes to create a discussion about important political issues facing women. (3/13) (Subscription Required)

Say Goodbye to the Clipboard, City Surveyors

NEXT
CITY

[Next City](#) featured a story about sociology professor **Michael Bader's** development of a web application, known as Computer Assisted Neighborhood Visual Assessment System (CANVAS). **Bader** and his colleagues used CANVAS to rate neighborhoods for their physical characteristics. The article noted the time and costs savings associated with the application and how in sociology the “efficiency of a data collection technique could greatly expand the boundaries of research — and our understanding of cities.” (3/10)

Confessions of a Wildlife Filmmaker: Misinformation, Abuse, and a Need for Change

[THE HUFFINGTON POST](#) [Huffington Post](#), [Red Orbit](#) and [Take Part](#) featured Center for Environmental Filmmaking director **Chris Palmer** and his book, *Confessions of a Wildlife Filmmaker: The Challenges of Staying Honest in an Industry Where Ratings Are King*. In the book, he advocated for animal welfare and encouraged change in the industry that is filled with unethical practices. In the book, **Palmer** confessed to the mistakes he made during his early days as a wildlife filmmaker and called for viewers to air their concerns. (3/11 - 3/13)

Op-Eds

Fuzzy Line Between Politics & Public Service



For [USA Today](#), journalism professor **Richard Benedetto** argued that the Hillary Clinton email imbroglio is reminiscent of past Clinton controversies, saying “And now that the secret has been revealed...the Clintons are finally stepping forward to set the record straight.” (3/10)

Spare Annapolis the Dysfunction of D.C.



In an op-ed for the [Baltimore Sun](#), government professor **David Lublin** argued in support of legislation in Maryland to establish a Blue Ribbon Commission on Voting, Openness, Transparency and Equality (VOTE) to examine Maryland campaign finance and electoral system practices to avoid the same “dysfunctional junction that plagues Capitol Hill.” (3/10)

Why Do We Tolerate a Gap in Leadership on Women’s Rights?



For the [Globalist](#), SIS scholar-in-residence **Johanna Mendelson-Forman** argued “power is what the struggle for women’s equality is all about. Keeping women from school, restraining them as second-class citizens and not seeing them as persons in the eyes of the law guarantee a life of misery with no end in sight.” **Mendelson-Forman** urged for action to put reform into practice over hashtags. (3/8)

Expertise

Arts Leaders Ask Mayor to Discuss Decision to Kill Agreement for Arts Center



Jack Rasmussen, director and curator of the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**, spoke to the [Washington Post](#) about Mayor Muriel E. Bowser’s cancelation of the proposed Institute for Contemporary Expression project. For a separate [Washington Post](#) article, **Rasmussen** commented on the Jane Haslem Gallery’s impending closure after 55 years. (3/6)

Escalating Tensions between the U.S. and Venezuela



For [WAMU’s The Diane Rehm Show](#) on NPR, Center for Latin American and Latino Studies research fellow **Michael McCarthy** spoke about the Obama administration’s declaring Venezuela a national security risk and imposing sanctions against top Venezuelan officials. (3/11)

Will Clinton’s Experience Be a Liability?



Women & Politics Institute director **Jennifer Lawless** spoke to the [Washington Post](#) about the Hillary Clinton email controversy, saying that it has gained traction because it reminds people of the Clinton presidency scandals. Law professor **Daniel Metcalfe** spoke to the [Canadian Press](#) about the lack of transparency. (3/8 - 3/11)

How the White House Decides Whose Death Is Worth Presidential Notice



SPA executive-in-residence **Anita McBride** spoke to the [Washington Post](#) for a front-page article uncovering how presidential administrations from Reagan to Obama recognize the passing of significant figures from Leonard Nimoy to world leaders. **McBride** explained reaction time and preparation are critical factors. (3/13)

Federal Civil Rights Investigations in Ferguson, Missouri



Washington College of Law practitioner-in-residence **William Yeomans** appeared on [C-SPAN’s Washington Journal](#) to discuss racial discrimination and the Justice Department’s civil rights investigation of the Ferguson Police Department. (3/7)

Grad School's Marquee Matchup: Part-time vs. Full-time Degrees

The Washington Post

Associate dean of graduate studies **Michael Keynes** spoke to [Washington Post Express](#) about graduate school at AU and the distinction between part- and full-time programs. (3/9)

The Evolution of Black Leaders and Black Leadership in America

WNYC

Government professor **Julian Bond** spoke to NPR affiliate [WNYC](#) about the Selma March's 50th anniversary, Voting Rights Act and the continuing disparities of race in America. (3/9)

Battle Over \$534 Defense Budget Could Get Ugly

THE FISCAL TIMES

For [Fiscal Times](#), international service professor **Gordon Adams** discussed the \$534 billion proposed defense budget and the likelihood of Congress reaching an agreement. **Adams** explained that Capitol Hill has seen this before and said, "it's obvious we're headed toward some agreement on the hill." (3/10)

Oscar-Winning Film Professor Reflects on Academy Picks



Film professor **Russell Williams** appeared on [Voice of America Television](#) to discuss the Academy Awards and the criteria for winners. **Williams** explained the business of Hollywood and said, "The Oscars' ceremony and its winners are the window dressing of the American movie industry while blockbusters pay the bills." (3/10)

GOP Senators Probably Broke Law with Iran Letter

U.S. News & World Report

For [U.S. News & World Report](#), law professor **Stephen Vladeck** discussed the Senate open letter to Iran and the Logan Act of 1799, saying that the 47 senators probably broke the law, but the last indictment using the law was in 1803. (3/10)

Islamic State Destroys Iraq Heritage



Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies **Akbar Ahmed** appeared on [BBC World News](#) to discuss the Islamic State's destruction of monuments in the ancient city of Nimrud, saying that it is an act of desperation and pure meanness. (3/7)

Putin Reveals Secrets of Russia's Crimea Takeover Plot



School of International Service dean **James Goldgeier** appeared on [BBC World News](#) to discuss Vladimir Putin's Crimea annex documentary. **Goldgeier** explained that it was an act of propaganda and also showed the operation was deliberate to return Crimea to Russia. (3/9)