



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

## AU Newsmakers

April 10 – April 17, 2015

Prepared by University Communications

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### Top Stories

#### Wonk of the Year



[ABC's This Week with George Stephanopoulos](#) featured former First Lady Laura Bush's acceptance of AU's 2015 Wonk of the Year Award for her dedication to education and public health issues. Bush is the first woman and inaugural First Lady to receive the award. (4/12)

#### Leif Ulstrup Shares Insights from His New Dual Roles as Prime Hook CEO and American University Professor

##### WashingtonExec

Kogod School of Business Information Technology Department executive-in-residence **Lief Ulstrup** spoke to [WashingtonExec](#) about millennials' roles in the changing IT landscape. **Ulstrup** discussed his role in developing the Master of Science in Analytics program and the impact millennials will have on industry trends. (4/13)

#### A-Bomb Panels' Washington Debut to 'Educate' Americans About 'War Crime': Organizer

##### The Japan Times

In an article for the [Japan Times](#), Nuclear Studies Institute director **Peter Kuznick** spoke about American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center's forthcoming art exhibit on the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. **Kuznick** explained it's an opportunity to educate Americans about the effects and aftermath. For a separate article about Americans' viewpoints about the bombings, **Kuznick** spoke to the [Japan Times](#). (4/15)

#### 1995 and the Emergence of the Internet



[C-SPAN's Book TV](#) aired communication professor **Joseph Campbell's** discussion of his book, *1995: The Year the Future Began*, which depicted many pivotal moments of the decade. The piece originally aired January 1, and re-aired April 13. (4/13)

#### United States Newly Popular After Cuba Rapprochement at Summit Meeting

##### The New York Times

Center for Latin American & Latino Studies director **Eric Hershberg** spoke to the [New York Times](#) about President Obama and the United States' increased credibility at the Summit of the Americas. **Hershberg** said that normalizing relations with Cuba and Obama's executive action on immigration contributed to the credibility. **Hershberg** also spoke to the [Christian Science Monitor](#) and appeared on [Hearst TV](#). (4/10 - 4/12)



For [NPR's All Things Considered](#), government professor **William LeoGrande** discussed the United States removing Cuba from the state sponsor of international terrorism list, saying that the delisting is mostly symbolic since Cuba stopped supporting foreign revolutionaries in 1992 after the collapse of the Soviet Union. **LeoGrande** also spoke to [WTOP](#) about the delisting and the [Miami Herald](#) the new atmosphere for the United States at the Summit of the Americas. (4/10 - 4/15)



For [CBS News](#), international service professor **Philip Brenner** discussed how Cuba will be allowed access to banking services if removed from the sponsor of terrorism list. (4/10)

## Faculty Author

### Is Hillary 2016 All About Electing a Woman?



Women & Politics Institute director **Jennifer Lawless** in her op-ed for [CNN](#) explained how Clinton will be the barometer by which the American public assesses gender equality in the United States. **Lawless** argued "the minute Clinton announced her candidacy, she became the official litmus test for true gender equality in the United States. That's a label that no female candidate should have to wear." **Lawless** also spoke to [CNN](#) for an article on the topic that syndicated more than 90 times. (4/12 - 4/15)

### Taste, Sickness, and Learning



Center for Behavioral Neuroscience director **Terry Davidson** and Psychopharmacology Laboratory director **Anthony Riley** authored a feature article for [American Scientist](#) magazine about taste aversions and the implications for treating obesity and drug use. **Riley** and **Davidson** explained the modern history of taste aversion learning

experiments and their research, including findings that show adult rats exposed to nicotine as adolescents find alcohol less aversive than adults exposed to alcohol alone. It's an effect, they say, that can shift the reward/aversion balance of alcohol and increase its use and abuse. (4/13)

## Expertise

### Hillary Clinton's Formal Entry into 2016 Race for the White House

Following Hillary Clinton's formal announcement to seek the Democratic presidential nomination, news media looked to American University professors for analysis and insight.



History professor **Allan Lichtman** appeared on [BBC World News](#) to discuss Clinton's 2016 announcement compared to her announcement in 2008. **Lichtman** praised Clinton's video, and pointed out examples of past candidates who failed the first time out but won the presidency after campaigning for a second time. (4/12)

### Los Angeles Times

Government professor **Carrie Giddins** spoke to the [Los Angeles Times](#) about Hillary Clinton's 2008 Iowa campaign and what she needs to improve during this campaign. **Giddins** suggested that the advisors running Clinton's Iowa campaign "know Iowa" and need to be allowed to do their jobs. (4/12)



Communication professor **Leonard Steinhorn** appeared on [Associated Press TV](#) to discuss Hillary Clinton's experience in political office, saying that she is admired and feared and that a presidential run is the final act. **Steinhorn** also spoke to [WNEW CBS Washington Radio](#). (4/12 - 4/13)



For [WUSA-CBS9](#), communication professor **Jane Hall** discussed Hillary Clinton's strategy of announcing her presidency through a YouTube video. (4/12)



For [C-SPAN's Washington Journal](#), SPA executive-in-residence **Anita McBride** spoke about the influence that political spouses have on presidential candidates. **McBride** discussed the 2016 presidential candidates, including Hillary Clinton, Rand Paul, Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz. She specifically recalled former President Clinton's role in Hillary Clinton's 2008 campaign in the role of spouse rather than candidate. (4/12)

## Bloomberg

Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies director **James Thurber** spoke to [Bloomberg](#) about Republicans investigating Clinton's response to the 2012 Benghazi, Libya, attack, saying that the investigation is "continued hardball...with little impact." (4/12)

## SpaceX Rocket Fails to Survive Landing

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.** Public affairs professor **Howard McCurdy** spoke to the [Wall Street Journal](#) about SpaceX's efforts to successfully construct reusable rockets and the benefits for creating the rockets. **McCurdy** expressed skepticism about the cost advantages. (4/14)

## The Sequestration Monster Myth

**POLITICO** For [Politico](#), international service professor **Gordon Adams** discussed the Pentagon's 2016 budget and the intentional invocation of the term sequester, saying that it has become a "boogeyman you can scare everyone with." (4/13)

## The First 100 Days of Congress

**MORNING CONSULT** Sociology professor **Judy Lubin** spoke to [Morning Consult](#) about Congress' first 100 days on health care issues, saying that the Affordable Care Act will be an important target for Republicans in the run-up to the presidential election. (4/12)



For [WAMU's The Diane Rehm Show](#) on NPR, Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies director **James Thurber** analyzed the first 100 days of the Republican-led Congress and the rare bipartisan legislation that resulted. (4/16)

## A New Chapter in the Century-Old Debate over the Massacre of Armenians



For [WAMU's The Diane Rehm Show](#) on NPR, international service professor **Hrach Gregorian** discussed the charged and emotional issue surrounding the Turkish massacre of more than a million Armenians in 1915. **Hrach** and the panel discussed the slow progress to recognize the history, but say things have begun to move in a more positive direction. (4/14)

## How to Say 'Yes' (by Not Saying 'Yes')



Center for Teaching, Research and Learning director **Naomi Baron** spoke to the [Atlantic](#) about the waning use of the word "yes" in American language. (4/10)

## New Grandmas More Likely to Retire Early



[Psych Central](#) and [University Herald](#) featured international finance professor **Robin Lumsdaine's** research, showing that women who have new grandchildren are nine times more likely to retire early than women without new grandchildren. (4/13 - 4/14)

## Is 'Washington Editor' a Bucket List Title for D.C. Power Women?



School of Public Affairs executive-in-residence **Betsy Fischer Martin** spoke to the [Washington Post](#) about how her role as contributing editor for *More* magazine came to fruition. (4/15)

## These Devastating Videos Shatter Every Stereotype About the Homeless



The [Washington Post](#) featured an American University [study](#) in an article about the stereotypes of homelessness. The study shows that the average age of a homeless person in the District of

Columbia is 9 years old. (4/16)

## Affordable Housing Crisis: Families Face Hard Choices



Kogod Tax Center executive director **Don Williamson** spoke to the [Patriot Ledger](#) about the housing crisis resulting from the rising number families facing increased rent and stagnant wages.

**Williamson** discussed proposed homeowner tax reform that would increase tax revenue for rental assistance. The article syndicated to more than 50 outlets. (4/13)