



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

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## AU Newsmakers

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Prepared by University Communications

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### Top Story

#### Is There A Small-Talk Gender Gap?



[Fast Company](#) featured Kogod School of Business professor **Alexandra Mislin's** negotiation research, which revealed a gender gap even when engaging in negotiations. **Mislin** said "We saw a boost in positive negotiation outcomes for men when they engaged in small talk before the negotiation." The article explained that when men resist the stereotype of being all business, they are viewed more positively by their conversation partner and benefit from the interaction more. (6/22)

### Faculty Authors

#### Can Wikipedia Survive?



For a [New York Times](#) op-ed, communication professor **Andrew Lih** argued that without recruiting more editors, Wikipedia could shut down. **Lih** discussed the Internet's advancement and mobile-based devices. He also suggested that Wikipedia take advantage of the opportunity for external expertise to enlarge its base of editors. (6/21)

#### What You Can Do to Stop the Theft of Your Tax Information



In an op-ed for [The Hill](#), Kogod Tax Center executive director **Don Williamson** provided a number of tips on how to minimize the risk of becoming a victim of identity theft. **Williamson** noted that as the IRS continues to develop procedures with banks and e-file providers to curtail fraud that the public can also take steps to avoid becoming a victim of tax fraud. (6/24)

#### The Clintons, Immune to Scandal



In an op-ed for [The Hill](#), journalism professor **Richard Benedetto** argued that the Clintons are immune to scandal. **Benedetto** compared the allegation that the Clintons extorted millions of dollars from speaking fees for State Department favors to the case against former Virginia Gov. Robert McDonnell and his wife taking money and subsequent convictions. The op-ed mentions other political scandals from the 1980s to recent years and probes the question why federal prosecutors are not interested in investigating the Clintons. (6/23)

## Expertise

### Smithsonian to Open 1st Wing on Innovation, Business History



sometimes succeeding and sometimes failing." (6/20)

For [Associated Press](#), history professor **Kathleen Franz** discussed the Smithsonian's new \$63 million innovation wing. **Franz**, a guest curator, said, "We show the stories here of people taking risks,

### U.S. Presidential Campaign Revs Up 17 Months Before the Vote



complex and takes time to raise for "being used in coalition building, grass roots, top roots, advertising, social media." (6/24)

For [Associated Press](#), Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies director **James Thurber** discussed the duration of the 2016 presidential campaigns. **Thurber** explained that campaign finance is

### Roof Saw His Victims as Less than People



article about the aftermath in the Baltimore community. (6/19 - 6/20)

For [Sinclair Broadcast Group](#), School of International Service professor **Cathy Schneider** discussed South Carolina church gunman Dylan Roof's motive, saying that his victims "were just not human to him...this was a cry for attention from groups that he wants to be a part of." **Schneider** also spoke to the [Baltimore Sun](#) about Baltimore police commanders' efforts to "bridge the gap between officer and residents." [Christian Science Monitor](#) featured **Robert Lerman's** research in an

### Apple Branches out



Communication professor **Andrew Lih** spoke to the [Boston Herald](#) about Apple's anticipated news app coming out this fall that will be managed by a team of journalists rather than an algorithmic process used by its rivals. **Lih** said that the new app has the potential to put Apple "in a major position to determine what people read." (6/23)

### Does Poetry Still Matter?



For [CNN](#), Creative Writing director **Kyle Dargan** discussed poetry interest in the United States, saying that poetry "puts us back in touch with our humanity." (6/25)

### Crunch Time for Greece, As Debt Payment Looms



School of International Service professor **Stephen Silvia** spoke to [CBS MoneyWatch](#) about the possibility of Greece defaulting on its debt and leaving the Eurozone as EU members met for an emergency meeting to discuss Greece. **Silvia** said that in order to reach a settlement with its creditors, Greece would have to cut its generous pension policy. (6/19)

### The New York Times

economic default. Porzecanski compared and contrasted the impact of a Greek default to Argentina's default. (6/25)

School of International Service International Economic Relations Program director **Arturo Porzecanski** spoke to the [New York Times](#) about Greece's prospect for

## After TPP Vote, What's Next for Unions?



For [NPR's Marketplace](#), economics professor **Robert Blecker** discussed how labor unions may proceed in opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement, saying that “the game is not over.” (6/24)

## Adjunct Retirement Insecurity



[insidehighered.com](http://insidehighered.com)

Department of Mathematics and Statistics professor **Mary Gray** commented on the need for better treatment of adjuncts for an [Inside Higher Ed](#) article about a new report on adjunct satisfaction and retirement confidence. (6/25)

## Parallels Drawn Between Redskins, Confederate Flag Fights



Professor of government **Steven Taylor** appeared on [WRC-NBC4](#) to discuss whether the Confederate flag issue will spill over to the Redskins name debate. **Taylor** said that he doesn't see any direct comparison because “not enough people are in day-to-day contact with Native Americans because it's a much smaller minority group.” (6/23)

## Gov. Hogan Diagnosed with Cancer



Communication professor **Leonard Steinhorn** spoke to [WTTG-FOX5](#) about Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan's announcement that he has been diagnosed with cancer. **Steinhorn** discussed Hogan's transparency and said that Hogan showed “strong leadership in his moment of personal difficulty.” (6/23)

## Christie Challenges Court Order to Release Public Record



Investigative Reporting Workshop executive director **Charles Lewis** spoke to [New Jersey Watchdog](#) about New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's refusal to release media lists created by his communications staff, saying that Christie should “make this government-prepared information public.” (6/22)

## Leadership Openings an Opportunity for Carter



School of International Service professor **Gordon Adams** spoke to [Defense News](#) about Secretary of Defense Ash Carter's time left in office and whether he can produce and enact meaningful change at the Pentagon. **Adams** said, “Carter does have a chance to bring new leadership to the top of the services, but I think his chance of having them make much of a difference is minimal.” (6/23)

## Pixar's 'Inside Out' Is a Surprisingly Accurate Look at Human Psychology



With [Business Insider](#), assistant professor of psychology **Nathaniel Herr** discussed the accuracy of the psychological concepts portrayed in the movie *Inside Out*. **Herr** also spoke to [Addiction](#) about the importance of the parent-child relationship and children regulating their emotions. (6/19 - 6/23)