Top Story
Distinguished Artist-In-Residence Talks Lack of Diversity in Oscar Nominations

Russell Williams, distinguished artist-in-residence, was on NBC Nightly News and Fox5 Good Day DC talking about the lack of diversity in this year's Oscar nominations. Speaking about the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Williams said, "It's not really a democracy; it's really more of an elite organization." On Fox, he discussed the composition of the academy and noted that since membership is for life, only attrition will significantly shift that make up. He also explained the lack of funding challenges for movies about minorities and discussed the effort and money required to get an Oscar nomination. Williams gave extensive interviews with Voice of America and BBC Radio (*Link not available). (1/21, 1/19)

Additional Feature
Stephens College Kicks Off Diversity Week, Celebrates Martin Luther King Jr.

Professor of Theater Caleen Jennings was featured in the Columbia Daily Tribune for her performance of her play "Hands Up" at Stephens College. Jennings referenced Michael Brown's death in Ferguson, MO, saying, "After 400 years, we are back to square one." The performance was a part of the college's celebration for its second annual diversity week. (1/19)

Faculty Author
The Urgent Need for Real National Strategy

James Goldgeier, dean of the School of International Service, authored an article in War on the Rocks about how the United States can promote order in an increasingly complex international system. Goldgeier wrote about the importance of creating enduring solutions rather than reacting and sometimes overreacting to events, also warning against American hyper-reactivity to threats. (1/18)

Expertise
Many 'Lost' Voters Say They Have Found Their Candidate in Trump

For Reuters, government professor Jan Leighley spoke about the group of voters who could be decisive either in the Republican primary or the general elections, many of whom have not voted for years, if ever. Leighley discussed why presidential candidate Donald Trump has an edge amongst this group of voters. (1/17)

For Nikki Haley and Other Politicians, Immigrant Ties Are a Dual-Edged Sword

Director of the Women & Politics Institute Jennifer Lawless spoke with the Washington Post about how the immigrant narrative has political cachet this election cycle. Lawless commented that in some ways Gov. Nikki Haley's focus on her immigrant roots can make some of the more hardline Republican policies on immigration and refugees more palatable. (1/17)
Retro Video Games Are Going High-Brow

*IndyStar* featured the Indie Arcade event hosted by the Smithsonian American Art Museum and American University's Game Lab. Game Designer-in-Residence Chris Totten spoke about retro arcade games. Totten discussed the trend of retro games being exhibited in art museums and criticism of the trend, saying, "With any new medium, you at one point see condemnation." The Indie Arcade was also featured in *Tech Void*. (1/19, 1/20)

Bipartisan Bill Would Revamp Maryland’s Civil Asset Forfeiture Laws

*The Washington Times* Law Professor Jamin Raskin spoke with the *Washington Times* about Maryland’s civil asset forfeiture laws. Raskin called the laws unconstitutional, as they essentially allow the seizure of property belonging to criminal suspects who then must prove their innocence. (1/19)

Iran Nuclear Deal a Win-Win

Peter Kuznick, director of the Nuclear Studies Institute, spoke with *CCTV America* about the lifting of sanctions from Iran. Kuznick described how the United States has had an incoherent nuclear policy toward Iran over the years and argued that the new policy is a win for diplomacy and the limitation of the development of nuclear arms in the region. (1/19)

Why Celebrities and Millennials Should Stop Using the Word ‘Amazing’

*Daily News* Center for Teaching, Research and Learning Director Naomi Baron spoke with *NY Daily News* about the overuse of the word ‘amazing’ among millennials and celebrities. Baron said, "We need words that have enough of a punch to them that get people's attention, but that don't get misunderstood even if we're not using them in a literal sense.” (1/19)

Tribalism, Not Islam, Is Behind Muslims’ Terrorism, Scholar Says

*Palm Beach Daily News* School of International Service Professor Akbar Ahmed spoke to the *Palm Beach Daily News* about the role that the West can play with modernists in Islamic countries to combat terrorism. Ahmed argued that there is no one Muslim world, saying, "There are only sects and nationalities with little in common.” (1/20)

For D.C. Commuters, Does Car Equal Convenience?

*The Washington Post* The *Washington Post* featured the Kogod School of Business’ Kogod Greater Washington Millennial Index in an article about the lack of commuting options in the D.C. area. The article included findings from the report that show millennials in the District are inclined to drive to work instead of bike or take public transportation. (1/15)