



AU Newsmakers

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Prepared by University Communications

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Top Story

Will Baby Boomers Bust the Budget?



Dante Chinni, director of the American Communities Project, appeared on [MSNBC's Daily Rundown](#) to discuss his research on demographic trends related to a recent Congressional Budget Office report revealing the aging Baby Boomer population will slow U.S. economic growth over the next decade. (2/2)

Op-Eds/AU Authors

Reforming the Legal Definition of "Covert Action"



For [Washington Post online's Volokh Conspiracy blog](#), law professor **Kenneth Anderson** argues a secrecy statute is required for U.S. covert actions to

insure secrecy over time and to preserve the action's legitimacy. (2/2)

The Lavender Languages Conference Turns 21



In his op-ed for [Anthropology News](#), anthropology professor **William Leap** explains how the longest-running academic conference on LGBTQ language use retains its focus on scholarship, while also involving

activists, community organizers and citizens from around the Metro D.C. area. (2/3)

Expertise

China Pumps Up the Volume Against Japan



International service professor **Craig Hayden** spoke to the [Wall Street Journal online](#) about China's shift in public diplomacy

strategy to make its political messages more credible as recently demonstrated by its rebuke of Japan's Prime Minister Abe's visit to a WWII shrine. (2/7)

Obama Holds Up First Lady's Efforts as a Model for Policy Action



James Thurber, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, spoke to the [Los Angeles Times](#) about Obama's 'East Wing'

initiative strategy to effect change without legislation. **Thurber** cautions the strategy is more symbolic and lacks the permanence of legislation. (2/2)

Sugar Tycoon Now Open to Investing in Cuba Under 'Right Circumstances'



If Cuba wants to modernize its sugar industry to make it more efficient and productive Cuba must seek foreign investment international service professor **Philip Brenner**

told the [Washington Post](#). (2/2)

New Version of Socialism in Cuba



Government professor **William LeoGrande** spoke to [Global Finance Magazine](#) about the Cuban government's significant advances away from a centralized economy towards a new version of socialism employing market mechanisms while preserving free healthcare, education and social welfare. (2/5)

Why So Few Women in Politics? Ask Sandra Fluke



In a story about Sandra Fluke's decision not to seek an open congressional seat, [Politico Magazine](#) cited Women and Politics Institute director **Jennifer Lawless'** gender gap study on why young women choose not to run for public office. (2/5)

Do You Have Caffeine Use Disorder?



[Women's Health Magazine online](#) spoke to psychology professor **Laura Juliano** about her research examining caffeine consumption and the little-understood condition called Caffeine Use Disorder.

[EmaxHealth.com](#) also featured **Juliano's** research. (2/3, 2/5)

Republicans Calling for Immigration Reform



History professor **Allan Lichtman** appeared on [Sinclair Television](#) to discuss the Republican Party's motivation to support immigration reform. More than **30** network affiliates across the country aired this story, including outlets in San Antonio, TX and Baltimore, MD (2/3)

Pakistan Enters Into Talks with Taliban



Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies **Akbar Ahmed** spoke to [BBC World News Today](#) about Pakistan entering into informal talks with the Taliban in an effort to stem violence and unrest. **Ahmed** also predicted a long timeline will be required for building trust and advancing the talks. (2/6)