AU Newsmakers
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Prepared by University Communications
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Top Stories
C-SPAN Kicks Off 2014 Featuring American University Experts, Winter Institutes
More than 37 hours of C-SPAN programming focused on AU’s School of Public Affairs during the New Year.

Government professor Chris Edelson appeared on C-SPAN’s Washington Journal to discuss his book, Emergency Presidential Power examining how U.S. presidents have tested and pushed the limits of their emergency powers. The show re-aired on C-SPAN2 and C-SPAN Radio. (1/2, 1/3)

Women & Politics Institute director Jennifer Lawless appeared on C-SPAN’s Washington Journal to discuss the impact of women in politics, and her study revealing female candidates choosing not to run for public office. The show re-aired on C-SPAN2 and C-SPAN Radio. (1/3, 1/4)

C-SPAN covered Charlie Cook, editor and publisher of the Cook Political Report who offered a survey of the electoral landscape in 2014 for students writing campaign plans for the Campaign Management Institute. The class re-aired on C-SPAN and C-SPAN Radio. (1/2, 1/3, 1/5)

C-SPAN covered two of the Public Affairs and Advocacy Institute classes that focused on lobbying and immigration. Coverage of both classes re-aired on C-SPAN, C-SPAN3, and C-SPAN Radio. (1/3, 1/4, 1/6, 1/7, 1/8)

Additional Features
What Voter Turnout Means for Efforts to Remedy Income Inequality
Washington Post.com’s The Take column featured government professor Jan Leighley’s book Who Votes Now? Demographics, Issues, Inequality, and Turnout in the United States, and her research on demographic changes in voting patterns and trends as they relate to the question of redistributive issues. Washington Post’s Wonkblog also mentioned Leighley’s research. (1/4, 1/6)
Op-Eds/AU Author
Pakistan’s Persecuted Christians

In an op-ed for *International New York Times*, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies Akbar Ahmed discussed the role Pakistan’s minority Christian community has played in the country’s history but is now facing increased violence amid the breakdown of public order. (12/24, 12/23)

Expertise

One-Third of Americans Reject Evolution, Poll Shows

History professor Allan Lichtman spoke to *Reuters* about one-third of Americans rejecting the notion of evolution, saying that evangelical Protestants make up the majority of that segment. (12/30)

U.S. Judge Says NSA Phone Surveillance is Lawful

*Reuters* spoke to law professor Stephen Vladeck about the divergent decisions on the constitutionality of two recent NSA surveillance court cases. (12/27)

5 Critical Retirement Investing Mistakes to Avoid

In a discussion with *Wall Street Journal’s MarketWatch online*, finance professor H. Kent Baker talked about how retirees can avoid investing mistakes. (1/9)

Composite Police Sketches Waning Amid New Technology

With the *Washington Post*, communication professor John Watson discussed whether composite sketches are reliable when related to criminal matters. (12/29)

Army and National Guard Cross Swords Over Troop Cuts

International service professor Gordon Adams spoke to *USA Today* about expected U.S. Army troop cuts and explained the feasibility of relying more on National Guard units. More than 60 outlets republished the article. (12/24)

How Y’all, Youse and You Guys Talk

Journalism professor Jane Hall appeared on *MSNBC’s Up With Steve Kornacki* to discuss a linguistics poll about the differences in expressions in different U.S. regions that went viral on social media. (12/29)

First Lady Preps for Milestone Birthday

In an interview for *CBS This Morning*, executive in residence Anita McBride discussed how First Lady Michelle Obama will celebrate her 50th birthday. (1/6)
The Life of a Lobbyist in a Do-Nothing Congress
Speaking to NPR’s Weekend Edition Saturday Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies director James Thurber highlighted the uptick in executive branch lobbying. (12/20)

Food & Social Media: Beyond Instagramming Dinner
Communication professor Scott Talan spoke to WAMU 88.5’s Kojo Nnamdi Show about the changing communication dynamics between food producers and customers. (1/8)

Can Science Explain Extreme Weather?
With WAMU 88.5’s Kojo Nnamdi Show, communication professor Matthew Nisbet talked about how recent extreme weather patterns, such as the polar vortex, are creating a greater public awareness of climate change. (1/8)

Arizona’s Senior Lawmakers Retain Strong Voter Support
Ambassador in residence Connie Morella spoke to the Arizona Republic about the benefits established members of Congress generally have over their newer colleagues at the beginning of a new session. (1/6)

Australia on Track to Become World Superpower in Energy Exports
In an interview with Deutsche Welle about Australia’s energy export growth, international service professor Jeff Colgan explained the geopolitical importance of energy sales to Asia and likely competition from the United States to win these customers. (12/22)