Top Stories

The Chronicle of Higher Education Features President Neil Kerwin

President Neil Kerwin was featured in the *Chronicle of Higher Education’s* second annual *Trends Report* for university leaders. President Kerwin spoke about reactive leadership as a survival skill in the age of social media when leaders can no longer totally control the campus agenda. President Kerwin credited student activists with making it clear that racial tensions on campus had to be addressed. He said that although monitoring and responding to online discourse is a labor-intensive task, it is important because it provides a window into what matters to people on campus. (3/4)

Mapping the Resegregation of Diverse Neighborhoods in Four U.S. Cities

*The Atlantic’s Citylab* featured research by Michael Bader, sociology assistant professor, on diverse neighborhoods becoming less diverse over time. Bader tracked how populations of whites, blacks, Latinos, and Asians changed between 1970 and 2010 in Los Angeles, Houston, New York and Chicago. “Neighborhoods in many major metropolitan areas of the U.S. appear integrated, simply because different races are present. But these neighborhoods are not the portrait of long-term, racially integrated neighborhoods,” Bader said. *Chicago Sun-Times* also featured the research. (3/3, 3/2)

The Power of Hashtag Activism

Communication Professor Deen Freelon talked about his new research “Beyond the Hashtags” with *Press Play with Madeleine Brand* on KCRW Radio, NPR’s flagship station for Southern California. He discussed how technology has changed the way police incidents are captured, viewed and shared, and how social media shapes the national conversation. Freelon spoke about how the hashtag #blacklivesmatter, now a household phrase, became a national movement influencing public policy and Democratic presidential campaign rhetoric. Freelon also spoke with *Mother Jones* about how “the movement was able to circulate [its perspectives] largely on their own” by removing the middleman—the mainstream media, which allowed activists to talk directly to the public. (3/3)

Additional Features

Center for Latin American and Latino Studies Annual Latino Public Affairs Forum

*C-SPAN* covered The Center for Latin American and Latino Studies’ annual Latino Public Affairs Forum. Forum panelists highlighted the importance of immigration and other issues to Latino voters, and experts predicted record voter turnout from the Latino community for the 2016 presidential contest. Government Professor William LeoGrande spoke on a panel about the Latino vote, swing states and wildcards. *NBC News Latino* also covered the event. (2/29, 3/1)

Martin Baron Speaks to American University About the Impact of “Spotlight”

In a story about “Spotlight” and its Oscar win, *International Business Times* included an event
at the School of Communication moderated by Jane Hall, communications professor. At the event, Martin Baron, executive editor of The Washington Post, discussed the impact of the film. Of the Oscar win, Hall told IBT, “I think this gives us a shot in the arm when journalists are getting bashed nightly by virtually all the presidential candidates, and offers encouragement on whether people should enter this profession.” Hall also spoke to USA Today. The Washington Post PR Blog noted the event featuring Baron. (3/2, 2/26, 3/1)

**Faculty Authors**

**Obama’s Long Game for Cubans’ Rights**

The New York Times

Government Professor William LeoGrande penned an op-ed for the New York Times on Obama’s strategy for human rights in Cuba. LeoGrande argued that Obama’s normalization is not an abandonment of human rights goals but a subtle route towards improving human rights conditions in Cuba. (3/2)

**Helping Students Find Themselves**

The Baltimore Sun

Communications Professor Chris Palmer wrote an op-ed for the Baltimore Sun about helping students prepare for their careers and lives. Palmer emphasized the power of students creating a personal mission statement as a tool to anchor their identity, meaning and purpose. (3/2)

**Expertise**

**Abortion at the Supreme Court; All Eyes on Kennedy**

CNN

For CNN, Law Professor Steve Vladeck spoke about the Supreme Court after the death of Justice Antonin Scalia. Vladeck said that whereas it was possible before Scalia’s death that the justices might have upheld the Texas law on abortion, therefore establishing a restrictive precedent on women’s reproductive rights, a 4-4 decision is more likely and won’t establish a precedent with nationwide impact. (3/1)

**Google, Facebook and Other Powerful Tech Firms Filing Briefs to Support Apple**

The Washington Post

Law Professor Jennifer Daskal spoke to the Washington Post and NPR about the tech firms, media organizations and civil liberties groups filing briefs in support of Apple’s effort to block the government from unlocking the iPhone of the San Bernadino terrorists. Daskal insisted that both sides may be overstating their arguments. Law Professor Steve Vladeck later weighed in on a decision in favor of Apple with USA Today, saying Apple’s claims were not frivolous. (2/28, 3/2)

**Reactions to Super Tuesday**

Communications Professor Leonard Steinhorn spoke with WTTG Fox 5 about his prediction for Super Tuesday. Steinhorn predicted that the most important dynamic will be momentum and discussed the importance of a win in Texas for Ted Cruz’s campaign. Steinhorn also spoke to the Washington Post about the pained facial expressions of Gov. Chris Christie as he stood behind Donald Trump during a victory speech on Tuesday night. CBS News Radio interviewed Steinhorn on Super Tuesday about Hillary Clinton’s recent pivot from talking about opponent Bernie Sanders to Donald Trump and the general election. (2/29, 3/2, 3/1)

**Colombia’s Challenging Peace Process with FARC**

Al Jazeera

For Al Jazeera, Anthropology Professor Adrienne Pine spoke about the new White House initiative, “Peace Colombia.” Pine called the new plan an “Orwellian obfuscation” because it cloaks a half-century of wrong-headed U.S. policies and economic imperialism in the region. (3/1)
Resolution to Argentina’s Debt Crisis
Arturo Porzecanski, professor in the School of International Service, spoke to BBC World Service about the recent resolution of Argentina’s debt crisis. Porzecanski said the recent decision was a gamble but a victory for the hedge funds that purchased Argentina’s debt and a wonderful day for creditor rights. (2/29)

The Rise of American Authoritarianism
Government Professor Elizabeth Suhay spoke to Vox about authoritarianism in American politics. Suhay’s research found that even non-authoritarians, if sufficiently scared, will begin to act authoritarian. Suhay also found that the type of threat matters. Physical threats such as terrorism will lead non-authoritarians to authoritarian behavior. Abstract threats, like demographic change, have less effect. (3/1)

How the U.S. Lost the Kurds
Doga Eralp, lecturer in the School of International Service, spoke to U.S. News and World Report about the Syrian Kurdish militia. Eralp said the militia, formerly a U.S. partner, now relies on Russia following the cease-fire in Syria. (3/1)

Does Mitt Romney’s Trump Attack Hurt the GOP? Speech Railing Against Front-Runner Could Do More Damage than Good
International Business Times spoke with Richard Benedetto, political science and journalism professor, about Mitt Romney’s speech about presidential candidate and businessman Donald Trump. Benedetto explained that this approach does not bode well for the Republican Party and said “the party establishment is really concerned about losing control, losing power.” (3/3)