Top Story
Malia Obama Announcement Prompts Discussion About Gap Year
In light of Malia Obama’s decision to take a gap year before attending Harvard University School, School of Professional and Extended Studies Dean Carola Weil spoke to CBS Evening News with Scott Pelley about the trend among high school seniors. Weil commented that the gap year is not a remedial step, but rather can be very structured and challenging. Student Joe Palekas discussed how he spent a gap year studying Arabic in Morocco before enrolling at AU. The story aired on more than 100 CBS affiliates nationwide. (5/2)

Chicago Tribune Anita McBride, executive-in-residence at the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, spoke to Chicago Tribune about Malia Obama’s plan. McBride said that a gap year allows students to do something different to enhance their educational experience. (5/1)

Additional Features
Children with ADHD May Benefit From Increased Water Consumption
NATURE WORLD NEWS Nature World News featured new research by Kathleen Holton, health studies professor, on health behaviors and children with ADHD. Holton found children with ADHD follow few recommended healthy lifestyle behaviors and may benefit from improving lifestyle choices such as increasing water consumption and getting at least one hour of physical activity per day. (5/4)

Oliver Stone Critical of American History Lessons
Daily Herald covered a presentation by Nuclear Studies Institute Director Peter Kuznick and filmmaker Oliver Stone during their visit to a suburban Chicago high school. Kuznick and Stone discussed their project on U.S. history. Kuznick said that when people learn the “real history” they will “move forward with a little bit clearer vision.” (5/5)

Survey: College Students Support Trigger Warnings, But Some Fear Speaking Up
NBC-4 Washington covered Communications Professor Amy Eiseman’s Writing and Editing for Convergent Media class project called “Voice-less.” AU students surveyed more than 300 of their peers to gauge their opinions about free speech on campus, political correctness and trigger warnings. A project partner, NBC-4 Washington provided students with guidance and editorial input. (4/29)

Faculty Authors
Analysis: Congress Must Weigh In On Sending Troops to Syria
Chris Edelson, director of the Politics, Policy, and Law Scholars Program, wrote an article for MSNBC on President Obama’s announcement to send 250 Special Forces soldiers to Syria. Edelson argued Obama has waged an extraconstitutional war and that Congress needs to take up its duty in oversight of military action. (4/30)
The Catastrophic Success of the U.S. Air Force

David Barno, distinguished practitioner-in-residence, and Nora Bensahel, distinguished scholar, both of the School of International Service, authored an article for War on the Rocks about the U.S. Air Force. “The Air Force’s immense success resulting from the courage, skill, and technological superiority of American airmen has now perversely made the service much less ready to fight the next big war,” they wrote. (5/3)

Expertise

Puerto Rico Makes Its Most Significant Default Yet

School of International Service Professor Arturo Porzecanski spoke to Reuters about Puerto Rico’s debt. Porzecanski said of Puerto Rico’s deteriorating financial situation, “The government has known the GDB was a ticking time-bomb and yet nothing constructive was done to forestall a default.” (5/1)

Presidential Candidates Offer Aggressive Strategies To Combat ISIS

Nora Bensahel, scholar-in-residence at the School of International Service, spoke with NPR about presidential candidates’ strategies to combat ISIS. Bensahel said, “Trump has been very consistent on the campaign trail about the need to defeat ISIS, mostly talking about an air campaign, but also saying that if the generals recommended an increase in troops on the ground, that he, as president, would be supportive of that.” (5/4)

How Donald Trump Took Hold of the Republican Party

Director for the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies James Thurber spoke to AFP about Donald Trump. Explaining how voter rage became central to Trump’s unlikely run, Thurber said, “The overarching environment here is anger on the far right.” Thurber also spoke to the Associated Press about Trump’s unconventional campaign style and tactics. (5/4)

Is This Maduro’s Final Year in Office in Venezuela?

Michael McCarthy, research fellow at the Center for Latin American and Latino Studies, spoke to the Miami Herald about Venezuela. McCarthy said, “Chavismo’s core support has a high melting point, and that allows them to stay active as an organized political movement and have a base from which to build on during electoral periods.” (4/29)

Steinhorn Gives Analysis of Presidential Primaries

Public Communication Professor Leonard Steinhorn offered analysis before and after Tuesday’s primary contests. Steinhorn told WBZ Boston that Indiana would be the last stand for Ted Cruz, if he could not stop Donald Trump’s delegate march. After the primary, Steinhorn spoke with WHAM Rochester. (5/3)

We Ain’t Seen Nothing Yet

Director of the Women and Politics Institute Jennifer Lawless spoke with U.S. News & World Report about the upcoming matchup between candidates Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. Lawless said, “If [Clinton] avoids weighing in on Trump’s character or temperament and instead focuses on the lack of detail and specificity he’s conveyed, then she will come across as the qualified, even-keeled leader.” (5/4)

War Complicates Food Aid Delivery

School of International Service Professor Johanna Mendelson Forman spoke to Lancaster Farming about U.S. food aid. Forman said the responsibility for food security is spread across a number of agencies. “No one owns food security in the U.S. government,” Forman noted. (5/2)
**Bonus clip**

**Would Trump Be Most ‘Unpresidential’ President Ever?**

James Thurber, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, spoke to *McClatchy* about whether or not Donald Trump is presidential. Thurber said, "The president needs to have a certain presence and respect and not when they don't like things, say crazy things. You have to have discipline and I don't know that he does." (4/28)