AU Newsmakers
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Top Stories

New Mathematics Could Neutralize Pathogens That Resist Antibiotics

Scientific American featured assistant professor of mathematics Kristina Crona’s new research that aims to help doctors deal with resistant bacteria. Crona and her colleagues tested and found a way to return bacteria to a pre-resistant state. Crona said, “We’re talking about managing evolution, trying to steer evolution. And that’s very new.” (5/26)

American University Commencement Address

C-SPAN featured College of Arts & Sciences commencement speaker, Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. An astronaut and the first American woman to walk in space, Sullivan received an honorary Doctor of Science degree at the ceremony. (5/23)

A Global Education Opens Doors, But Leaves Many Shut Out

For a Chronicle of Higher Education article about international study and the success of students in the global economy, assistant vice president for Campus Life Fanta Aw discussed the internationalization of the curriculum. Aw said that preparing internationally minded students is “a speeding train…we have to get out in front of it.” (5/29)

Expertise

Argentina, Once Shunned, Regains Its Allure

The Wall Street Journal
School of International Service distinguished economist-in-residence Arturo Porzencanski spoke to the Wall Street Journal about Argentina’s growing stock market, cautioning that investments remain risky and volatile especially with generous government subsidies and activity in the economy. (5/27)

One Out of Four Accounts ‘Dormant’ As Mobile Money Takes Over Banking

The East African
Anthropologist-in-residence Sibel Kusimba spoke to the East African about the rise of mobile money systems rivaling traditional brick-and-mortar banks in East African countries. (5/23)
For Hillary Clinton, Having Beyoncé’s Support Doesn’t Hurt. But Does It Help?

For a *Washington Post* article about political candidates and celebrity endorsements, Women & Politics Institute director Jennifer Lawless discussed the effect celebrity endorsements can have in approval of a candidate. Lawless said that endorsements “don’t change hearts or minds” but that they can “inject a level of enthusiasm” into campaigns. (5/23)

The GOP’s Congressional Progress

Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies director James Thurber spoke to *U.S. News & World Report* about the progress that the Republican-controlled Senate has made since January. Thurber discussed a number of key issues and the importance for Republicans to show that they can govern. (5/27)

Obama’s Asia Trade Deal Faces Mounting Opposition in House

Academic director of the Public Affairs & Advocacy Institute for the Center of Congressional & Presidential Studies Patrick Griffin spoke to the *Washington Times* about the acceptance of President Obama’s Asia free-trade deal within the House of Representatives. Griffin said that “it’s a hard sell” but thinks Obama will receive House passage of the measure. (5/26)

Obama on the Defense Again As Another Defense Secretary Speaks


Will This Pakistani Businessman’s 140-Foot Cross Bring Hope to the Country’s Christians?

School of International Service Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies Akbar Ahmed spoke to the *Huffington Post* about a 140-foot cross being erected in Karachi for the nation’s 1.5 percent Christian population and whether it will provoke a reaction. (5/26)

Civil Service Reform

For *Federal News Radio*, Key Executive Leadership Programs’ distinguished practitioner-in-residence Robert Tobias discussed last week’s subcommittee hearing on civil service reform and the lack of attendance. (5/26)

To Make a Big Impact, Think Small

In a column for *Inc. Magazine* about the “big-is-small” strategy and how to appeal to audiences, the columnist quoted communication professor Leonard Steinhorn, saying, “You don’t have to go on forever to be able to communicate important, fascinating and complex ideas.” (5/26)