AU Newsmakers
July 11 – July 18, 2014
Prepared by University Communications
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Top Story
D.C.-Area Sociologists Discuss How They See America
For the PBS television series This is America & the World, sociology professor Celine-Marie Pascale participated in an expert, academic panel with host Dennis Wholey for a broad discussion about topical sociological issues such as changing the name of Washington, D.C.’s, NFL football team to distractions in society and racism. (7/18)

Additional Features
Game On
Lindsay Grace, director of AU's Game Lab, spoke to the Baltimore City Paper about Gamescape, one of the East Coast’s hottest gatherings for local game developers. Grace discussed how self-publishing gives game creators more autonomy and how bypassing the need to purchase a $30,000 license to publish games increases their earning potential. The article also mentions Grace’s game from last year’s Gamescape, Big Huggin. (7/15)

Fostering Equality in the Boardroom
In a feature Q&A about leadership and fostering equality in the boardroom for Media Planet’s Empowering Women, Jill Klein, assistant dean of the Digital Initiatives and New Programs, discussed the challenges that modern businesswomen face in the workplace. (7/14)

Op-Eds/AU Authors
How E-Reading Threatens Learning in the Humanities
In an op-ed for the Chronicle of Higher Education, Naomi Baron, director of the Center for Teaching, Research & Learning, discussed her research and how the shift from reading in print to reading on digital devices—e-readers, tablets, and smartphones—is further reducing students’ pursuit of work in the humanities, a field based on long-form reading. (7/14)

Is Ranking Failed or Fragile States a Futile Business?
For the Washington Post’s Monkey Cage, government professor Joe Young co-authored an article discussing critiques and ways to improve the annual Fragile States Index—the most recent of which was just released—to make it a more useful tool. (7/14)

Rockets and Bombs Make Israelis and Palestinians Less Willing to Compromise
For the Washington Post’s Monkey Cage, assistant public affairs professor Thomas Zeitzoff discussed his research looking at the effect of terrorism on voting in the Israeli elections from 2003 through 2009 based on the variation in the range of rockets from Gaza to Israel. (7/16)
How Low-Income Commuters View Cycling
In her Atlantic’s CityLab article, international service professor Eve Bratman discussed her research examining residents of Washington, D.C.’s working poor communities and their attitudes toward bicycle commuting versus other forms of transportation. (7/15)

Expertise
Analysis: Why Is the US Silent on German Spying?
International service professor Jordan Tama spoke to the Associated Press about Germany’s expulsion of the United States’ CIA station chief in Berlin and how it served as a way for the German government to take a stand and to put the issue behind them quickly. (7/15)

If Argentina Setstle Debt Dispute, More Claims Could Come
In a discussion about Argentina’s debt dispute with bond holdouts, the Wall Street Journal spoke to international service professor Arturo Porzecaski about the three different categories of holdout creditors and how a settlement with one group could impact Argentina’s payout to the rest. (7/16)

How 160,000 Intercepted Communications Led to Our Latest NSA Story
Law professor Stephen Vladeck talked to the Washington Post about his support for the NSA’s rules and procedures, which he says cannot be judged without an objective look at what the NSA does with the information it collects. Vladeck also spoke to the Los Angeles Times about the conviction of an Osama Bin Laden aide. (7/11, 7/14)

What Fox’s Time Warner Bid Means for You
Patricia Aufderheide, communication studies professor, spoke with MarketWatch about the unsolicited bid by 21st Century Fox for Time Warner, expressing concerns about the potential concentration of ownership and control. (7/16)

Texas Family Killed: In Domestic Violence Cases, More Focus on Red Flags
In a Christian Science Monitor piece about a high-profile domestic assault case, literature professor Rachel Louise Snyder discussed how the murder of family members of domestic violence victims is on the rise across the country. Yahoo! News republished the article. (7/11)

Will Congress Ever Crack Down on Corporate Tax Abuse?
David Kautter, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, spoke to the Fiscal Times about the need for corporate tax reform, especially as it pertains to multinationals trying to avoid paying U.S. taxes in favor of lower foreign taxes if they relocate. (7/17)

House Hearing Considers Cash Accounting for Small Biz
Accounting Today published quotes from executive director of the Kogod Tax Center Don Williamson’s testimony to the House of Representatives’ Committee on Small Business subcommittee hearing about the value of using a simplified cash accounting method for small businesses. (7/11)
Is Ground War Possible in Mideast Crisis?

International service professor Hillary Mann Leverett appeared on MSNBC’s Melissa Harris-Perry as part of a three segment panel to talk about the escalating violence taking place between Israel and Palestinians. (7/12)

Is Ukraine on the Brink of Economic Disaster?

International service professor Neil Shenai appeared on Fox News online’s Defcon 3 to discuss Ukraine’s current economic state of affairs, and Ukraine’s future economic prospects. (7/15)

King or President?

History professor Allan Lichtman appeared on Sinclair Television to talk about the GOP’s allegations that President Obama is acting more like a king than a president. Lichtman explains that Obama compared to his predecessors at this point in his presidency has issued fewer executive orders than former presidents George W. Bush or Bill Clinton. (7/15)