Features

This North Korean Art is More Than Propaganda

National Geographic featured American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center and its exhibit of North Korean art, which was curated by Georgetown University artist-professor BG Muhn. Jack Rasmussen, Art Museum director, said that he doesn’t think that the art cannot be both propaganda and art. Rasmussen noted that “Most of the history of Western art was propaganda for the church.” (7/21)

Higher BMI Means Higher Cancer Risk

Katie DeCicco-Skinner, associate professor of biology, was interviewed for an article in HealthLine. Skinner said that the study, for which she is the lead author, shows that “Once a person with cancer is out of the normal weight category, their BMI is contributing to multiple myeloma growth and progression.” (7/21)

Faculty Authors

To Prevent More Attacks Like Nice, We Must Integrate Muslims, Not Simply Bomb ISIS

For The Huffington Post, Ambassador Akbar Ahmed, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies, authored an article about the recent attack in Nice, France. Ahmed wrote that “The reality is that while ISIS may influence these Muslims in a general way, their animus is coming from their position as unwanted immigrants in Europe, especially in France, where they are still not treated French even if they are born there.” (7/18)

This One Chart Shows What Americans Believe About Protests and Police Responses

For The Washington Post Thomas Zeitzoff co-authored an article about protests and police responses. The article analyzed Americans’ beliefs on the proportionality of police response to protest. (7/18)

Top Story

AU Experts Offer Analysis on the Republican National Convention

Anita McBride, executive-in-residence at the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, spoke to USA Today about the Republican National Convention. McBride said that a nominee’s spouse can be a priceless campaign asset. McBride also spoke to several news outlets, including KNX-AM Los Angeles, MSNBC, CTV America and CNN, and offered her analysis of Melania Trump’s speech and discussed the controversy around it. (7/19)
David Lublin, professor of government, spoke to USA Today preceding the Wednesday night speech of Governor Mike Pence. Lublin said that “Instead of letting Pence project that he’s his own man, Trump seemed to have him on a leash.” (7/20)

Eric Schnure, adjunct professor of public communication, spoke to CBC News about the controversy over Melania Trump’s speech. Schnure questioned the initial defense of the speech’s content by the Trump campaign. He also told Roll Call that traditionally preparation for a speech of this magnitude would have included reviewing the remarks of previous spouses at conventions. Schnure also spoke to The Cleveland Plain Dealer about the speech. (7/19)

Robert Lehrman, adjunct professor of public communication, spoke to Vice News about Melania Trump’s speech. Lehrman said that the plagiarism of Michelle Obama’s speech is a serious offense. (7/19)

James Goldgeier, dean of the School of International Service, spoke to The Washington Post about presidential nominee Donald Trump’s recent comments about NATO. Goldgeier said of Trump’s comments that “there’s no question the NATO allies could be doing more, but nobody ever said we’re going to pick and choose who we’re going to defend based on how much they’re spending. The alliance would unravel if everyone did that.” (7/21)

Jennifer Lawless, director of the Women and Politics Institute, spoke to Reuters about the convention. Lawless said that, even with the attempted softening of his image with a spouse’s speech, Trump would probably not rehabilitate his image with most women. She also spoke to USA Today about the Republican National Convention, saying that “people are probably viewing it as the most current reality TV show.” (7/18, 7/19)

Allan Lichtman, history professor, spoke to WSLS Roanoke about the locations of the Republican and Democratic conventions. Underscoring the importance of the location choices, Lichtman said: “Where else would you want to put your convention other than in a critical swing state?” (7/17)

Law professor, Michael Carroll spoke to The Christian Science Monitor about Melania Trump’s speech and how to define plagiarism. Carroll said that “in professions, there might be a code of conduct that we can all agree on, but in politics it’s not clear that we have an agreed-upon code of conduct, so the ethics almost blend sort of directly into the politics.” (7/20)

Leonard Steinhorn, professor of public communication, spoke to CBS News Radio about night one of the Republican National Convention. Steinhorn said that although the “dump Trump” movement wanted to give it a shot, the goal of the convention is to unite the party. (7/18)

Professor of government, Candice Nelson, spoke to The Christian Science Monitor about campaign finance. Nelson said that “despite what voters say in polls, campaign funding really isn’t an issue for most voters, and it’s particularly not a voting issue.” (7/19)

Expertise
Scholars Argue Prosecutions Against Muslim Liberals Don’t Follow Islamic Teachings

For NPR, Ambassador Akbar Ahmed Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies spoke about Islam. Ahmed said that “very often, pre-Islamic customs come into Islam, for example, honor killings. These are tribal customs which have come into Islam. So tribes which are Muslim will practice these in their societies. And they will say these are Muslim because we are Muslim. In fact, these are not Islamic, and they come from outside Islam.” (7/17)

Democrats Embrace Price on Carbon While Clinton Steers Clear of Carbon Tax

Director of the Center for Environmental Policy, Dan Fiorino, spoke to Inside Climate News about a carbon tax. Fiorino said that he prefers a carbon tax, but that it could cost the Democrats the election. (7/15)

Presidential Power in the Post 9-11 Era

Chris Edelson, professor of government, spoke with BBC Radio about the expanding purview of presidential power and the use of military force in the post-9/11 era. Speaking about President Obama’s legacy on transparency, Edelson said that he is disappointed. He was hopeful that President Obama’s administration would change course from some of the practices of the Bush administration on transparency but largely has not. (7/18)

Bonus Clip

Pokémon Goes To College (And Terrorizes Mascot)

The Washington Post covered the Pokémon Go game app trend happening across college campuses, including American University. AU has gotten in on the fun by producing a map of the 30 places the popular creatures can be found on campus as well as the Pokémon “gym”. The video shows students celebrating their successful Pokémon captures at the JFK Memorial. American University’s campus is a Pokémon GO paradise. Gotta catch ’em all! (7/21)