



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
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## AU Newsmakers

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Prepared by University Communications

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### Top Story

#### 2015 Most Entrepreneurial Research Universities

For its 2015 Top Entrepreneurial Research Universities list, [Forbes](#) ranked **American University** number 24. The ranking is based on the number of students and alumni who have identified themselves as founders and business owners on LinkedIn. (7/29)

### Additional Features

#### A New Push for Apprenticeship as a Path to Employment



For [WAMU's The Diane Rehm Show](#) on NPR, economics professor **Robert Lerman** joined a panel to discuss presidential candidates calling for more apprenticeship funding. **Lerman** explained that currently demand outpaces the supply of apprenticeships in the United States. He also discussed how apprenticeships can lead to college. (7/28)

#### African-Americans and the Atomic Bomb



For [WAMU's The Koyo Nnamdi Show](#), Research, Nuclear Studies Institute director **Vincent Intondi** explained the history of race in regard to efforts to curtail use of nuclear weapons and the response after the Hiroshima-Nagasaki atomic bombing. (7/27)

### Faculty Authors

#### Don't Just Close Bases at Home, Close Them Overseas

In an op-ed for the [New York Times](#), anthropology professor **David Vine** argued that while some progress has been made in closing domestic U.S. military bases, more U.S. foreign military base closings should be considered. **Vine** explained, "Shuttering overseas installations should be easy compared with the political challenge of closing domestic bases. After all, United States politicians have few constituents abroad facing a loss of local employment or income." (7/27)

## **Expertise**

### **Film Portrays a Bonobo's Rescue**

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**

Director of the Center for Environmental Filmmaking **Chris Palmer** spoke to the [Wall Street Journal](#) about the film

*Bonobos: Back to the Wild*, a story of Beni, a bonobo ape captured by poachers, then rescued and raised in a sanctuary before being released to the wild. **Palmer** spoke about the decision to express insights into Beni's life, through voice-overs saying, "as long as people don't leave the theater thinking that bonobos can talk—which I don't think anyone would—then I think it's fine." (7/30)

### **Shooting Could Spur New Gun Legislation**



In response to the shooting in Lafayette and President Obama's subsequent news conference, history professor **Allan Lichtman** appeared on [CNN](#) to discuss the barriers to passing gun legislation. **Lichtman** also said that there are loopholes in our laws that allow "virtually everyone" to get access to guns. (7/25)

### **Obama Sets Aside Some Human Rights Issues to Try to Build Up Africa**

**Los Angeles Times**

Associate professor of government **Steven Taylor** spoke to the [Los Angeles Times](#) about President Obama's trip to Africa and his engagement with authoritarian leaders. Specifically, **Taylor** explained that Ethiopia's Prime Minister Desalegn's support is necessary to combat terrorist groups such as Al Shabaab, ISIL and Al Qaeda despite. (7/28)

### **A Republican's Curious Attempt to Oust Speaker Boehner, Explained**

**The Washington Post**

Public Affairs & Advocacy Institute academic director

**Patrick Griffin** spoke to the [Washington Post's The Fix](#) about Rep. Mark Meadows' motion to unseat House

Speaker John Boehner. **Griffin** said that the challenge's lack of clarity makes it difficult for Boehner to respond. (7/29)

### **Donald Trump's Anti-Immigrant Demagoguery Works Because It's Not about Jobs. It's about Fear**

**Vox**

Professor of government **Matthew Wright** spoke to [Vox](#) about the public's perception of illegal immigrants, saying that "People who reject all illegal immigrants but not legal ones are simply, dispositionally, more likely to see the rule of law and honesty as very important traits." (7/29)

### **A Mother's 29-Year Quest for Justice**

**The Washington Post**

In a [Washington Post](#) article about Veronica De Negri and the killing of her son in Chile during the 1973 coup, AU chaplain and friend **Joseph Eldridge** discussed Veronica

De Negri's demeanor and effect on others in seeking justice. (7/26)

### **Brace Yourself: The Presidential Election Is Going to Be All About Anger**

**npr**

For [NPR](#), communication professor **Leonard Steinhorn** spoke about the economy and the upcoming presidential elections, saying that "We're still trying to figure out how wealth gets distributed." (7/26)

## New Gitmo Plan Would Relocate Some Detainees To U.S.



For [NPR](#), law professor **Stephen Vladeck** discussed the plan to relocate Guantanamo Bay detainees to the United States. **Vladeck** discussed the detainees' constitutional rights, saying, "There's nothing Congress can do to take away whatever constitutional rights the detainees would acquire by virtue of being moved into the U.S." (7/29)

## Why Joyce Mitchell Helped the N.Y. Convicts Escape and the 'Rose-Tinted' Romances of Prison Life



The [Washington Post](#) quoted law professor **Brenda Smith** in an article about relationships that develop between inmates and prison guards. **Smith** said, "Relationships between inmates and guards are neither as unthinkable nor as pathological as we may think." (7/29)

## Terrorism in Sub-Saharan Africa



For [Voice of America Radio](#), Justice, Law and Society assistant professor **Tricia Bacon** spoke about Somali militant group Al Shabaab on the occasion of President Obama's visit to Kenya and Ethiopia. **Bacon** discussed the possibility of Al Shabaab trying to capture headlines after being weakened in the last several weeks by carrying out some act to demonstrate it's still viable and a threat. (7/24) \*Link unavailable