



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

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AU Newsmakers

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Prepared by University Communications

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Top Story

President Obama Channels JFK at AU

President Obama visited American University's School of International Service this week to give a speech on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (Iran Deal). President Obama chose to speak at AU because fifty-two years ago, President Kennedy visited AU and also spoke about the subjects of peace and nuclear war. President Obama's visit resulted in more than 5,000 media placements of American University in domestic and foreign news outlets.



The [Washington Post](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [Politico](#), [MSNBC](#) and [ABC News](#), among others, covered the President's anticipated visit to AU and the historic John F. Kennedy connection. (8/4 - 8/5)



School of Public Affairs associate dean **Vicky Wilkins** talked with [Sinclair Broadcast Group](#) about how many Americans aren't following the issue closely. (8/4)

Los Angeles Times

For the [Los Angeles Times](#), Public Affairs & Advocacy Institute academic director **Patrick Griffin** discussed how the speech represented how the Iran Deal went from being an "inside-the-Beltway" topic to one in front of the American people. (8/5)



School of International Service dean **James Goldgeier** appeared on [BBC World News America](#) and provided post-speech analysis and discussion of the deal, saying that President Obama was speaking to Congressional lawmakers, the Israeli people and others who haven't yet made up their minds, seeking to persuade them to support the deal. (8/5)



Center for Israel Studies scholar-in-residence **Dan Arbell** appeared on [Al Jazeera America](#) to discuss the American Jewish community's perceptions and the Iran Deal. (8/4)

Additional Features

70th Anniversary of Hiroshima-Nagasaki Bombings Stories Feature AU



[Al Jazeera](#) featured the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Exhibition at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. Nuclear Studies Institute director **Peter Kuznick**, who helped organize the exhibit, discussed how the Japanese people have turned something negative into positive in their activism for world peace and nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. **Kuznick** also spoke to [AFP](#) about the exhibit and to [CNN](#) and [The Independent](#) from Japan about the Hiroshima museum dedicated to peace and remembrance and why he brings students there every year. The [Los Angeles Times](#) also highlighted the AU Museum exhibit. (8/4 - 8/6)

American University Experts Weigh In on Republican Debates

News media relied on American University professors for analysis and discussion about this week's first Republican primary debate. Several of AU's experts from across schools provided pre-debate analysis.



Communication professor **Jane Hall** spoke with the [New York Daily News](#) about what the republican candidates need to demonstrate to show they are a substantial contender and how to beat Donald Trump. **Hall** said, "I think the other guys have a dilemma, because if they go after him too hard... they might risk alienating people in the Republican Party who like what Trump is doing." **Hall** appeared on [WJLA's NewsChannel 8](#) on [two](#) separate occasions to discuss the candidates' debate preparation and how to stand out. CBS affiliate [KEYE-TV](#) picked up the story. She also spoke with [The Hill](#) about the genuine excitement and interest in the first GOP debate. (8/1 - 8/6)



Public communication professor **Robert Lehrman** appeared on [CBS](#) to speak about the candidates in the 'happy hour' debate, saying they still have a chance to succeed in gaining support. **Betsy Fischer Martin**, executive-in-residence in the School of Public Affairs, spoke to [Vox](#) about the 'happy hour' debate, saying it had the feel of "the Republican response to the State of the Union." (8/5 - 8/6)



Political communication professor **Leonard Steinhorn** spoke to [WBZ News Radio / CBS Boston](#) about the unpredictability of the debate and the candidates' performance goals, which are to "capture the imagination of the republican voter" and "build their campaign donor base." (8/6)



School of Public Affairs executive-in-residence **Anita McBride** spoke to [Northeast Ohio Media Group](#), saying the candidates must "command attention and have confidence" during the debate. (8/6)

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies director **James Thurber** spoke to the [Wall Street Journal](#) about the significance of the debate, saying, "It guarantees nothing but some publicity for a day unless a candidate makes a major mistake or slip of tongue." (8/2)

A Major Business Show Canceled and Its Anchorwoman's New Role (Video)



The [Washington Business Journal](#) reported **Rebecca Cooper**, anchor of “Washington Business Report” on ABC Channel 7, is transitioning to a new role at American University’s Kogod School of Business. **Cooper** will serve as executive-in-residence for the Kogod School of Business and special assistant to Dean Erran Carmel, where she will assist with the Business in the Capital initiative, a forum that will bring Washington and global leaders, executives and students together. (8/6)

Faculty Author



The Internet Design Tension between Surveillance and Security

Communication professor **Laura DeNardis** wrote an article for [Computing Now](#) about how the Internet engineering community has had to fight for privacy since the beginning of the Internet. (7/31)

Expertise

U.S. Turkey Deal on Syria a Big Gamble



School of International Service professor **Stephen Tankel** spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about Turkey’s role in fighting the Islamic State, saying “It’s no secret that Turkey has been less interested in fighting ISIL.” (8/3)

Creators of Destroyed Hitchhiking Robot Mull a Rebuild



For [Associated Press](#), School of Public Affairs professor **Richard Bennett** commented on the cultural expression of violence in the U.S. and the hitchBOT’s destruction in Philadelphia. (8/4)

Lion Killing Thrusts Light on Trophy Hunting



With [CBS News](#), government professor **Adrienne LeBas** addressed the international outcry at the death of a lion in Zimbabwe, saying discussion should include the fact that the collapse of wildlife populations has affected the livelihoods of many Zimbabweans. Law professor **Stephen Vladeck** spoke to the [Washington Post](#) and [Associated Press](#) about possible extradition of the Minnesota dentist to Zimbabwe. (7/31 - 8/1)

Clinton Calls for End to Cuba Embargo



School of International Service professor **Philip Brenner** discussed presidential candidate Hillary Clinton’s call for an end to the Cuba embargo and told [Chicago Tribune](#) that growing public pressure ultimately would have an impact on Congress’ decision. (7/31)

President Obama’s Plan to Fight Climate Change



Environmental science adjunct professor **Alexander Golub** talked with [BBC](#) about President Obama’s plan to fight climate change, saying that beyond the impact on the U.S., the plan could be an incentive for other nations to create new technologies for reducing energy consumption. (8/4)

Katie McGinty's U.S. Senate Bid Has Historic Potential

THE MORNING CALL

Government professor **Jennifer Lawless** discussed the historic potential of a U.S. Senate bid by Katie McGinty with the [Morning Call](#). A McGinty run would offer Pennsylvania voters a chance to select the state's first female U.S. senator. (8/4)

For Mobile Messaging, GIFs Prove to Be Worth at Least a Thousand Words

The New York Times

In a [New York Times](#) article about GIFs, Center for Teaching, Research and Learning director **Naomi Baron** discussed the increased use of shorthand. **Baron** said, "We're increasingly writing shorter and shorter amounts of text to be read on screens." **Baron** also appeared on [KPCC](#) to discuss reading on digital devices and spoke with [CNBC](#) about GIFs. (8/3 - 8/4)

Daughters of the American Revolution



With [BBC Radio 4](#), history associate professor **Kate Haulman** discussed genealogical lineage societies like the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Colonial Dames of America. **Haulman** talked about the relevance of the organizations in current times. (7/31)