



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

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AU Newsmakers

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Prepared by University Communications

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Top Story

The New Age of Algorithms: How it Affects the Way We Live



Public communication professor **Robert Lehrman** wrote the [Christian Science Monitor](#) cover story that featured communication professor **Laura DeNardis'** expertise about the most pressing concerns regarding new "Big Data" technology and Internet surveillance including, privacy and inequality. (8/11)

Additional Features

Rebranding Climate Change as a Public Health Issue



Communication professor **Matthew Nisbet** spoke to [Time Magazine online](#) about his research that shows people respond more emotionally to the issue of global warming when it is framed as a public health issue rather than an environmental or national security issue. (8/9)

The Human Costs of a More Secure Border



[Washington Post's Post TV](#) spoke to communication professor **Carolyn Brown** about her documentary, "On the Line", which looks at the struggles of undocumented migrants crossing the U.S.-Mexico border. (8/13)

AU Joins Ranks of Tobacco-Free Universities



By going tobacco- and smoke-free this week, American University is the third Washington-area campus to become a smoke-free campus for start of the new academic year, cited the [Washington Post](#). [WTOP.com](#) also highlighted AU's

new initiative. (8/16)

Expertise

Al Qaeda's Widening North African Jihad Confounds Foes



Justice, law and society professor **Stephen Tankel** spoke to [Reuters](#) about the Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb expansion into North and West Africa. [New York Times online](#) republished this article. (8/9)

IRS Extends Deadline for 'Innocent Spouse' Tax Relief Application



Don Williamson, executive director of the Kogod Tax Center, talked to [Reuters](#) about a timeframe expansion proposal for taxpayers who qualify for the innocent spouse tax program, and which types of taxpayers typically qualify for the program. (8/12)

Obama's Call for NSA Reform Drawing Strong Reaction



History professor **Allan Lichtman** appeared on [CBS Evening News](#) to discuss criticism of the Obama administration for suggesting a reform of the National Security Agency's surveillance practices. (8/10)

Does the Chief Justice Have Too Much Power?



With [The Atlantic online](#), law professor **Stephen Vladeck** discussed solutions for adjusting the balance of power in the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, which many people feel holds an abundance of power. (8/12)

The Black History of the White House



International service professor **Clarence Lusane** appeared on [WUSA-CBS9](#) to discuss the black history of the White House on the day of the release of *The Butler*, the movie chronicling an African-American's career as a White House Butler to eight U.S. presidents. (8/16)

Egypt: U.S. scraps military drills, but not aid



Director of the Peacebuilding and Development Institute **Mohammed Abu-Nimer** provided analysis of the conflict in Egypt for [WJLA-ABC7](#) and explained a negotiated peace with the Muslim Brotherhood is the best chance to quell the violence. (8/15)

Chill in US-Russia Relations Dims Disarmament Hopes



Following President Obama's press conference on U.S.-Russia relations, international service professor **Celeste Wallander** provided analysis for [CNN International TV](#) and spoke to [Agence France Presse](#) about the fleeting likelihood of the president achieving a reduction in nuclear weapon stockpiles with Russia. International service professor **Benjamin Jensen** spoke with [BBC-5 Radio](#) about a souring bilateral U.S.-Russia relations. (8/9, 8/10)