



# AU Newsmakers

## April 29–May 13, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

### Top Stories

#### American University's 125th Commencement Weekend



For the first time, a father and daughter graduated together and [WRC-NBC4](#) chronicled Michael and Glynnis Purcell's story. [Mediabistro/FishbowIDC](#) noted another first—Bob Scheiffer's commencement address being a worldwide trending topic on Twitter. [WUSA-CBS9](#) talked to graduates of the School of Communication's weekend public communication program about today's competitive job market. Finally, [WashingtonPost.com](#), [NationalJournal.com](#), and [Washington Examiner](#) published articles and photos of the ceremonies. (5/4-5/9)

#### The Death of Osama bin Laden: One Week Later



American University experts continued to appear in the media one week after Osama bin Laden's demise. **Akbar Ahmed**, chair of Islamic Studies, explained U.S.-Pakistan relations to the [New York Times](#). Ahmed also published an Op-Ed in [Foreign Policy](#) and appeared on [CNN's American Morning](#), [PBS' Religion and Ethics](#), [NPR's Interfaith Voices](#), [BBC World News](#), and [WUSA-CBS9](#). **Jane Hall**, associate professor of journalism, discussed the media coverage of bin Laden's death on [CNN's Reliable Sources](#). **Kenneth Anderson** and **Daniel Metcalfe**, professors of law, explained the legality of releasing pictures of bin Laden's corpse with [ABCNews.com](#) and [Reuters](#) respectively. More than 240 outlets republished the Reuters article. **Jordan Tama**, assistant professor of international service, reacted to a proposed "no-ride list" for Amtrak to prevent potential terrorist attacks on trains on [WRC-NBC4](#). (5/1-5/12)

### Additional Features

#### Michael Ginzberg Appointed Dean of Kogod School of Business



[National Journal](#) featured **Michael Ginzberg's** appointment as the new dean of the **Kogod School of Business**. *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Washington Business Journal*, *Washington Jewish Week* and *GMAC (Graduate Management Admissions Council) News* also noted the appointment. (5/5)

#### From Print Journalist to Multimedia Maven



The [Washington Post Express](#) featured the **School of Communication's** interactive journalism program in an article about an alumna who, through the program, took her journalism career into the digital age. **NPR** hired **Heidi Glenn** as the national producer for digital news in 2007. She recently won awards from the White House News Photographers Association and the Alliance for Women in Media. "This shows how far the NPR newsroom has come in melding the Web part with the traditional radio part," said Glenn. (5/9)

#### College Students Push to Restrict Bottled Water



The [Washington Post](#) featured **American University's** effort to reduce the use of water bottles by installing water bottle refilling stations across campus to support the university's goal to reduce waste. "The goal is not to limit the number of options students have, but to make reusable bottles the hippest choice," said **Chris O'Brien**, director of sustainability. (4/20)

## WashingtonPost.com Live Chat: Staying Healthy and Insured After Graduation

**The Washington Post**

Dan Bruey, director of the Student Health Center, answered questions about post-graduation health insurance options during a live chat for [WashingtonPost.com's Campus Overload](#). Bruey recommends that students refill all prescriptions, resolve any treatment issues, transfer from the campus health center to another provider and get a copy of their medical records. "Health care plans that are less expensive are available, but the benefits included might not be as comprehensive," said Bruey. (5/12)

## Spanish Furniture Designers Blend Peculiar with Practical

*The Washington*

**Diplomat**

The [Washington Diplomat](#) reviewed *BRAVOS: Groundbreaking Spanish Design*, one of the exhibitions at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. "The pieces at the Katzen Arts Center epitomize this blend of practical function and playful whimsy, with heavy emphasis on the latter. But this doesn't look anything like your typical IKEA showroom," read the article. (5/1)

## Op-Ed/Editorial

### Slimming Down the Military Budget

**The New York Times**

Gordon Adams, professor of international relations, offered his counsel on where Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta could "slenderize" military spending in Op-Eds for the [New York Times.com](#) and [Washington](#)

[Post](#). "Panetta has a chance to bring much-needed discipline to a Pentagon budget that has spun out of control. And the cuts could be an incentive to design a military force that is globally superior, more focused, leaner, less bureaucratic and tailored to the missions it will face," wrote Adams. (4/29, 5/8)

## Quotes

### Census Shows Age Gap Widening Among U.S. Regions



Associated Press

Leonard Steinhorn, professor of communication, discussed political implications of the widening age gap reported by the Census between U.S. regions with the [Associated Press](#). "There's a reason politicians don't run around talking that much these days about

the cost of college loans or education, which affect younger people," Steinhorn said. "The problem is when you have limited resources you end up with the potential to pit one generation against the next." More than 145 outlets including **San Francisco Examiner**, **St. Louis Post-Dispatch**, and **Yahoo! News** republished the article. (5/12)

### U.S. Debt to Dominate Congress in May



REUTERS

"I see it as a three-ring circus with the debt limit the center ring," said Patrick Griffin, associate director of public policy in the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, to [Reuters](#) about the challenge Congress faces to reduce debt and gas prices. More than

45 outlets including **Chicago Tribune**, **CNBC.com**, and **Yahoo! News** republished the article. (5/1)

### Executive and Legislative Branches at Odds over Debt



REUTERS

James Thurber, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed budget negotiations and the relationship between the Obama administration and Congress with [Reuters](#). "I don't think Obama likes Congress very much. He doesn't

know the people very well. Biden does. He loves the institution, and he has friends like McConnell who he can try to pull together compromises with." More than 35 outlets including **MSNBC.com**, republished the article. **American Public Media Marketplace** radio also featured Thurber as a guest. (5/4, 5/6)

### U.N. Dilemma: To Aid or Not to Aid Libya's Rebels



REUTERS

David Bosco, assistant professor of international service, discussed the U.N.'s decision on whether to aid Libyan rebels with [Reuters](#). "The problem for the West is that several key players on the council now feel that the authority they granted was abused and

they're not inclined to help the West extricate itself," said Bosco. More than 25 outlets republished the article. (5/9)

### Parting with Privacy for a Quick Click

**The Washington Post**

"It's the Wild West for teens when it comes to privacy online," said Kathryn Montgomery, professor of communication, to the [Washington Post](#). The article explained that teenagers are putting both their parents and personal

privacy at risk without knowing it through iPhones and Facebook. (4/28)

## How Many More Police Officers Does D.C. Need? Depends on Whom You Ask.

**The Washington Post**

**Edward Maguire**, professor of criminology, analyzed the staffing dynamic of Washington, D.C.'s police department for [WashingtonPost.com's Post Local](#) blog. "I have visited a lot of police departments in my life. I can't remember ever visiting one that didn't say they needed more cops," said Maguire. (5/5)

## Income Fell 21.5% in 2008 for Top Taxpayers

**Bloomberg**

The Internal Revenue Service reported that the 400 highest earning households suffered their first income drop since 2002. **David Kautter**, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, explained to [Bloomberg News](#) how this would affect government negotiations on tax cuts. "Democrats are focused on the top 1 percent," said Kautter. "[Their] income went down but '[they're] still in that top 1 percent.'" (5/11)

## Election 101: Ten Questions about Newt Gingrich as a Presidential Candidate

**THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR**

In the [Christian Science Monitor](#), **Allan Lichtman**, professor of history, discussed former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich's 2012 presidential bid. According to Lichtman, this is "the most wide open and most interesting" Republican candidate field in decades." (5/11)

## Commissions Grow on President Obama

**POLITICO**

**Jordan Tama**, assistant professor of international service, explained why presidents create commissions to [Politico](#). "Sometimes a commission is created because the president believes it can help him forge consensus and gain political support for moving forward with a policy," said Tama. (5/11)

## Al Qaeda Still Alive After bin Laden's Death



**Gordon Adams**, professor of international relations, discussed the future of Al Qaeda after Osama bin Laden's death on [WTTG-FOX5](#). "It's no surprise they've issued some immediate threats. That doesn't mean they're in a position to do anything," said Adams. (5/6)

## Joined by War: Women's Rights in Today's Afghanistan



**Anita McBride**, executive-in-residence in the School of Public Affairs, discussed the rights of Afghan women as a guest on [WAMU's The Kojo Nnamdi Show](#). "I think Afghan women are among the most courageous women that I've met in the world. I'm very much encouraged by the fact that Afghan women want to do this for themselves," said McBride. (5/4)

## Abundance of Digital Info Could Signal End for Newspapers



**Amy Eisman**, professor of journalism, discussed how digital news reporting will affect the future of newspapers with [Voice of America](#). "You're [going to] see many more journalists that will be sort of independent freelancers," said Eisman. (5/2)