



# AU Newsmakers

April 8–April 15, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

## Top Story

### Colleges Catering to Curious Parents as well as Prospective Students



The [Washington Post](#) featured American University in an article about the growing trend of including parents in college recruitment strategies. “It used to be that parents were just along for the ride, but this is a generation that feels like parents are partners,” said **Sharon Alston**, executive director of enrollment. A photo of the new admissions welcome center served as the centerpiece for the article’s print and online editions. (4/12)

## Additional Features

### The Black History of the White House



**Clarence Lusane**, associate professor of international service, appeared on [C-SPAN’s BookTV](#) and [WAMU’s Metro Connection](#) to discuss his book, *The Black History of the White House*. “Part of the reason [The White House] was called that is because of the way it looks,” said Lusane on **WAMU**. “But for many in the South in particular, it also had a racial meaning to it as well.” (4/8-9)

### Graduate Programs Offer Background in Real Estate



Serving Communities in Northwest Washington Since 1967

[The Northwest Current](#) featured the **Kogod School of Business’** master’s program in real estate in its spring Real Estate edition, page R5. “What we have done is change our curriculum to reflect the

changes in the industry,” said Dawn Eisenberg, executive-in-residence in the Kogod School of Business and program director. (4/13)

### HealthyU: How Eight D.C. Area Universities are Helping Students Make Smart Choices about Food and Fitness



American University’s healthy eating and fitness options were featured in **Washington Post’s Healthy U Guide**. According to [one article](#), most university dining halls are vegetarian friendly, but AU is unique because of its vegan-friendly station. [Another article](#) recognized the Jacobs fitness center as a useful recruitment tool

because it is free for students. (4/12-13)

### Local Artist Turns Spotlight on Tenley



Serving Communities in Northwest Washington Since 1967

[The Northwest Current](#) featured *A Cultural History of My Neighborhood: Photo Collages by Gail S. Rebhan*—an exhibit of photo collages at the **American University Museum at the**

**Katzen Arts Center**—on page R27 chronicling the evolution of the Tenleytown-Friendship Heights neighborhoods. “The panels juxtapose old and new photographs and memorabilia like phone-book pages and newspaper articles,” read the article. (4/13)

## Op-Ed/Editorial

### **A Government Shutdown? Yes, Please.**



**Jennifer Lawless**, director of the Women & Politics Institute, wrote an op-ed for [CNN.com](http://CNN.com) about the government shutdown. "If we move forward with the shutdown now, then when the really tough fights occur in the coming months—over entitlements, defense spending, whether to allow the Treasury to borrow money beyond the current \$14 trillion debt limit—another stoppage will be unlikely. Shutting down the government on a regular basis is hardly a sustainable plan," wrote Lawless. (4/8)

### **Defense in Need of Fiscal Discipline**



**Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, argued in an op-ed for [The Hill](http://TheHill) that Republicans are wavering on defense spending cuts during the budget crisis representing a sharp departure from the party's

past practice. "Cutting programs without returning the money to the Treasury is not savings. Nor is it fiscally disciplined," wrote Adams. (4/12)

### **Afghan Women's Rights Still Fragile**



**Anita McBride**, executive-in-residence in the School of Public Affairs, wrote an op-ed for [The Daily Beast](http://TheDailyBeast) about the plight of Afghan women and the positive impact U.S. presence has had on their emerging yet still fragile role in society. "The world was largely ignorant to the widespread suffering of Afghanistan—especially its women and children," wrote McBride. "It was heartbreaking to see the destruction but it was uplifting to meet Afghans—particularly Afghan women

participating in the redevelopment of their country." (4/11)

## Quotes

### **Five Ways for Retirees to Save on Future Taxes**



**Associated Press**

**Don Williamson**, executive director of the Kogod Tax Center, outlined for the [Associated Press](http://AssociatedPress) some tax-planning tips for retirees. Williamson pointed out that Maryland and the District of Columbia each have \$1 million

estate tax thresholds while neighboring Virginia has no estate tax, and because of this it's not uncommon for area retirees to sell their homes and move to Virginia. **MSNBC.com, TodayShow.com, and CBS**

**MoneyWatch** republished the article. (4/8)

### **What Wal-Mart's Arrival Will Mean to D.C.**

The Washington Post



In the [Washington Post's Capital Business](http://WashingtonPost) on Wal-Mart's planned entry into Washington, D.C., **Leigh Riddick**, professor of finance, said, "Ten years ago if we were having this conversation I would have a different

opinion, even five years ago. But they are really a different company in a lot of ways than they used to be." (4/10)

### **Last Minute Budget Deal Ups the Political Ante**



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed with [USA Today](http://USAToday) the after-effects of the budget agreement reached by President Obama and congressional leaders. "It's likely we'll have deadlock right into Christmas," said Thurber. (4/11)

### **Japan Crisis Renews Interest in Anti-Nuke Movement**



**Peter Kuznick**, professor of history, analyzed the future of nuclear power after the earthquake in Japan for the [Chicago Tribune](http://ChicagoTribune). "The worst thing from the standpoint of the nuclear industry nationally is that this is going to remain in the eyes of the public for a long time," said Kuznick. (4/11)

### **Obama's Chicago Visits: Mixed Feelings on Infrequency of Trips Home**



**James Thurber**, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed where President Obama's true hometown is with the [Chicago Tribune](http://ChicagoTribune). "He's certainly a Chicago guy, but it seems to me he's

had roots in many places: Cambridge, Massachusetts, New York, especially Hawaii. And Chicago was sort of like a stopping-off point for his political career," said Thurber. (4/12)

## Defense Spending After the Budget Deal



**Gordon Adams**, professor of international service, discussed the effects of the national budget agreement on defense spending with [Foreign Policy](#) magazine and as a guest on [KCRW's To The Point](#). "The defense budget is expected to grow 12 percent over the next five years, so the reality is we're spending more in absolute dollars than we've ever spent on defense and we're right to a point where we're not getting much for it," said Adams. (4/12)

## Farewell Interview for Barack Obama, Oprah



"It's good for her ratings, and a lot of people who maybe don't like Obama but do like his wife will get to see them both," said **Jane Hall**, associate professor of journalism, to [Politico](#) about President Obama's appearance on Oprah and use of non-traditional media to reach the American public. "And I will bet you he is going to talk about the impact of Republican budget cuts on women and children," said Hall. (4/14)

## Speaking of AG's



**David Lublin**, professor of government, discussed Maryland's attorney general, Douglas Gansler, with [Washingtonian](#) magazine "People have the impression that he has improved as attorney general," said Lublin. "He's less of a show horse and more of a workhorse. Everyone expects him to run for governor in 2014." (4/11)