



AU Newsmakers

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Prepared by University Communications

Top Stories

AU Solar: Leadership by Example



A [Huffington Post](#) article penned by sustainability wonk Brian Keane, an AU alumnus, highlighted American University's commitment to solar power. "Leadership by example is one of the most effective ways to encourage others to buy solar power. AU is clearly providing the leadership. Now it's time for all U.S. colleges to follow AU's example," he wrote. (7/21)

AU's First 3-Year Undergraduate Degree Gets off to a Fast Start



According to the [Washington Post](#), three-year bachelor's programs are mildly successful. However, [Examiner.com](#) suggests otherwise, noting the **School of International Service's Global Scholars Program** "is possibly one of the largest in the nation." (7/23)

Quotes

Washington Crippled After Long Road to Deadlock



James Thurber, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed with [Reuters](#) and [The Hill](#) the gridlock on Capitol Hill surrounding the debt ceiling debate. In a second [Reuters](#) article Thurber said, "We're in deep trouble. We are going to have continued gridlock. It's an era of deadlocked government during a period when the economy is not doing well and we are not doing well internationally." In a [Scripps Howard News Service](#) article about state and local lobbying efforts, Thurber explained that many lobbying activities go unreported. (7/25, 7/27)

Cost of Treating Veterans Will Rise Long Past Wars



Gordon Adams, professor of U.S. foreign policy, discussed in the [New York Times](#) the cost of Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans' benefits incurred by the American government. "Because we have saved more peoples' lives," said Adams. "We're going to be paying that bill for some time to come." (7/28)

Obstacle Course Awaits Congress in Quest for Simpler Tax Code



David Kautter, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, spoke to [Bloomberg News](#) about the difficulty of achieving government cooperation in creating a simpler tax code. "A lot of these groups are pretty well-organized, so I think this battle within the business community of who's going to win and who's going to lose is the big issue," said Kautter. (7/22)

Debt story Reliant on Secret Sourcing



Wendell Cochran, associate professor of communication, explained to [Politico](#) why more journalists are using anonymous sources to report on the debt ceiling debate. "Probably at this juncture you can't cover a story like this without letting people be unidentified because you won't have anything. But we have also gotten to a point where we have trained people that they don't have to be on the record," Cochran said. (7/25)

How the World Map has Changed



On [AARP's Inside E Street](#), **Leonard Steinhorn**, professor of communication, discussed the change in international politics and foreign policy during baby boomers' lifetimes. "It was a world of polarities; capitalism versus communism; the United States against the Soviet Union," said Steinhorn. This segment also aired on **PBS**. (7/22)

Americas Strategy Designed to Earn 'Outsized Influence' with US: Cable

EMBASSY Eric Hershberg, director of the Center for Latin American and Latino Studies, spoke to [Embassy Magazine](#) about Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper's effort to mirror Australia's regionalism policies. Hershberg said it, "suggests a level of strategic thinking and creative thinking that [Harper and his government] ought to feel pretty good about." (7/27)

Maid Raises Stakes in Strauss-Kahn Case



Brenda Smith, professor of law, talked to South Africa's [Independent Online](#) about the media exposure sought by the woman who accused Dominique Strauss-Kahn of sexual assault. "The timing of this is really to increase the chances that the prosecution will move forward, that there is outrage," said Smith. **Fifteen** additional outlets republished this article. (7/26)