



AU Newsmakers

July 8–July 15, 2011

Prepared by University Communications

Top Story

Who is Global?



insidehighered.com

An [Inside Higher Ed](#) article about university presidents' thoughts on what it means to be a global university featured **American University President Neil Kerwin**. Kerwin noted that AU sees viability in a network of international scholars rather than establishing international branch campuses. "If we have learned nothing else of the past year of the 'Arab spring,' is that countries presumed to be stable may not be. And when countries are unstable, American campuses are vulnerable," he said. (7/11)

Additional Features

Reader's Corner: Newsman Covers 'War of the Worlds,' Other Myths



IdahoStatesman.com

IDAHO'S #1 WEBSITE FOR NEWS AND INFORMATION

The [Idaho Statesman](#) featured journalism professor **W. Joseph Campbell's** book, *Getting It Wrong: Ten of the Greatest Misreported Stories in American Journalism*. The article focused on Campbell's findings about the 1938 Orson Welles' *War of the Worlds* radio broadcast, which Campbell argues did not cause mass hysteria as is commonly believed. (7/10)

First Virtual Master's Program for Persons with Disabilities in ASEAN



THE NATION IN

INDEPENDENT

Thailand's [The Nation](#) featured the **American University-affiliated Institute on Disability and Public Policy's** (IDPP) new master's program on disability and public policy for students from Association of Southeast Asian Nations member countries.

Derrick Cogburn, executive director of IDPP explained, "The master's program will provide further access to higher education for a traditionally underrepresented population." (7/14)

Trade Program's Renewal Sparks Mixed Feelings



POLITICO

[Politico](#) cited research by **Kara Reynolds**, associate professor of economics, about the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program. According to Reynolds' 2008 study, "Although the TAA program certainly provides an income safety net for displaced workers—and may mitigate protectionist sentiment in the United States—there is little evidence that it helps displaced workers find new, well-paying employment opportunities." (7/11)

Op-Eds/Editorials

First Person: Chalkboard Lessons



WASHINGTONIAN

Angie Chuang, professor of journalism, wrote an editorial for *Washingtonian* magazine about switching from an international journalism career to academia. "I love teaching, I love my students, I love journalism because I can teach it to young people, and I love Washington, that ever-shifting cacophony of cultures, bureaucracies, decisions-of people from everywhere and nowhere." (7/1)

Quotes

Obama's Hands-On Negotiation a Political Necessity



AP Associated Press

Allan Lichtman, professor of history, talked to the [Associated Press](#) about President Obama's debt ceiling negotiation meetings with congressional leaders. "Obama has got to get this done. Even if people blame the Republicans in Congress, he's the president. And if things go rotten on his watch, he pays for it," said Lichtman. More than **180** outlets, including [HoustonChronicle.com](#), [SanJoseMercuryNews.com](#), and [CNBC.com](#), republished the article. (7/15)

Analysis: Obama 'Bully Pulpit' Remarks Pose Risks



James Thurber, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about President Obama's debt ceiling negotiations with Republicans. "Obama sometimes thinks his words persuade people to do things they do not want to do. I think he over relies on speeches." More than **140** outlets, including [HoustonChronicle.com](#), [SanJoseMercuryNews.com](#), and [Forbes.com](#), republished the article. Thurber also spoke to [The Hill](#) about why some freshman members of Congress have not yet introduced legislation. (7/12)

U.N. Torture Sleuth Raps U.S. on Access to Leaks Suspect



Juan Mendez, professor of law and a United Nations special rapporteur on torture, told [Reuters](#) that the United States had violated U.N. rules by not allowing him to speak privately to the soldier accused of leaking secret documents to WikiLeaks. "The question of my unfettered access to a detainee goes beyond my request to meet with [Bradley] Manning—it touches on whether I will be able to conduct private and unmonitored interviews with detainees if I were to conduct a country visit to the United States," said Mendez. More than **45** outlets, including [NPR.org](#), [SunSentinel.org](#), and [YahooNews.com](#), republished the article. (7/12)

Last Shuttle Leaves an Era Behind



Howard McCurdy, professor of public administration, shared with the [New York Times](#) his optimism for the future of space exploration. McCurdy said the continued investment from the private sector, and the desire of other nations to pursue space flight show the "elemental need" for space programs. (7/9)

Iowa Democrats Plan Obama Re-Election Strategy



Candice Nelson, associate professor of government, spoke to [USA Today](#) about the grassroots organization Organizing for America and its plan to reinvigorate President Obama's Iowa electoral base for 2012. "I think many of us were/are anticipating a 'It's morning again in America' message, but until the economy turns around, that message is harder to sell," said Nelson. (7/10)

MSNBC's 'Lockup': Documentary or Reality TV?



Gemma Puglisi, assistant professor of communication, discussed with the [Washington Post](#) the popularity of MSNBC's documentary show *Lockup*. "The prison is calling the shots," said Puglisi. "The prison gives access to what they want to show." (7/8)

Phone-Hacking Scandal Highlights the Differences in British, U.S. Media



Laura Beers, assistant professor of history, discussed with the [Washington Post](#) the differences between journalism practices in the United States and Great Britain. "British journalism in general is more scurrilous and partisan. It has a culture of expose," she said, noting that the differences go back further than the *News of the World* cellphone hacking scandal. (7/14)

Even the First Lady's Allowed to Splurge on Food



First Lady Michelle Obama, whose platform encourages more healthful habits among children, sparked controversy after eating a fattening fast food meal. **Stacey Snelling**, associate professor of health promotion, told the [National Journal](#) the fuss was unwarranted. "Banning foods from our lifestyle is not a message that is consistent with enjoying life. That's a message of deprivation, and that is never successful," she said. (7/12)

A New Nation: South Sudan



Distinguished journalist-in-residence **Nick Clooney** discussed with the [Canada Broadcasting Company](#) the challenges facing the new African country of South Sudan. "It is completely impossible for the new nation of South Sudan to grow, prosper, even to exist without the investment of the outside world," he said. (7/9)

Racism in Brazil

The Voice of Russia [Clarence Lusane](#), professor of international service, discussed on [Voice of Russia Radio](#) the Brazilian government's move to eliminate racism in Brazil. "It is a racially mixed society, but it is not a racially equal society," said Lusane, co-chair of a government-to-government project to address racism in Brazil. (7/10)