AU Newsmakers
February 22 – March 1, 2013
Prepared by University Communications
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Top Story
AU Appoints New Athletics Director
At a press conference, AU president Neil Kerwin announced the appointment of Billy Walker as the university’s 14th director of athletics and recreation. Associated Press, Washington Examiner, Comcast SportsNet, WUSA-CBS9, WTOP 103.5FM, 99.1FM WNEW, and WUSA.com provided coverage of this announcement. (2/28)

Additional Features
AU Wonks on BookTV’s College Series
For its college series, C-SPAN’s Book TV interviewed ten AU professors about their books. The segments featuring Patricia Aufderheide, co-director, Center for Social Media, and law professor Kenneth Anderson aired this week. Aufderheide discussed her book, Reclaiming Fair Use: How to Put Balance Back in Copyright, while Anderson discussed his book, Living in the UN: American Responsibilities and International Order. In the coming weeks Book TV will feature additional AU professors. (2/24)

D.C. College Students Build Home for Wounded Veteran
WRC-NBC4 highlighted the School of Communication’s partnership with two D.C. universities as the students kicked off the construction of their energy-efficient home—designed to compete in the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon. (2/27)

Op-Eds/AU Authors
We Still Need the Voting Rights Act
In a U.S. News & World Report op-ed, government professor Julian Bond wrote about the importance of this week’s oral arguments before the Supreme Court on the constitutionality of the Voting Rights Act. (2/26)
The Kabyle Berbers, AQIM and the Search for Peace in Algeria

For Al Jazeera, Akbar Ahmed, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies, traced the centuries old conflict between Kabyle Berbers and central governments in Algeria. Ahmed highlighted the addition of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb and U.S. operations adding to the struggles. (2/24)

Sequester Debate Distorted By Media

In a USA Today op-ed, communication professor Richard Benedetto wrote about the mainstream news media’s exaggeration of sequester cuts. More than 15 outlets republished the op-ed. (2/27)

Expertise

Argentina’s NY Court Showdown on Default Debt

Associated Press spoke to law professor Anna Gelpern about Argentina’s debt crisis. More than 175 outlets, including the San Antonio Express, San Francisco Chronicle, and El Paso Times, republished.

How Sequester Cuts are Made Can Be Telling

International service professor Gordon Adams spoke to the Los Angeles Times and the Atlantic Wire about sequester cuts and the tough job Chuck Hagel will face as secretary of defense. (2/25, 2/26)

Cuba’s Apparent Successor to Castro was Carefully Groomed

Government professor William LeoGrande spoke to the Christian Science Monitor, and international service professor Robert Pastor spoke to Los Angeles Times and Miami Herald about Raul Castro’s announcement he would step down after his current term and his potential successor. (2/25, 2/26)

Oscar Winner Tells All

WashingtonPost.com’s The Fold talked to distinguished artist in residence, and two time Academy Award winner Russell Williams about his career and this year’s Oscar picks. (2/25)

Anonymous Sources, Take Five!

Communication professor W. Joseph Campbell spoke to the Washington Post about using anonymous sources in investigative journalism. (2/26)

Male Nurses Becoming More Commonplace — and Higher Paid

Management professor Caren Goldberg discussed with Yahoo! Finance why it is common for men to earn more than their female coworkers in women dominated fields. (2/26)
Pete Peterson’s Long Campaign Against the National Debt
With American Public Media’s Marketplace radio, James Thurber, director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, talked about the Campaign to Fix the Debt’s influence on the political debate. (2/25)

Disputes in Asia Pose Challenge to Obama
Washington Times talked to international service professor Ji-Young Lee about U.S. foreign policy challenges in Japan, South Korea, and China especially in light of new leaders in those countries. (2/25)

Low Morale? You're Not Alone, New Federal Survey Shows
With Federal News Radio, Robert Tobias, director of Key Executive Leadership Programs, discussed the increasingly low morale of federal employees and its impact. (2/28)

Bonus Clip
Overlooked Colleges and Programs: AU’s School of Communication
Newsweek’s The Daily Beast invited readers to tell them which schools or programs they overlooked in their best colleges ranking. Master’s student Shannan Bowen nominated AU’s School of Communication for the innovative Master’s in Media Entrepreneurship program, which combines business with an entrepreneurial focus and media. (2/28)