Top Stories

Media Seeks SIS Expertise on Kunduz & Its Aftermath

School of International Service distinguished practitioner-in-residence Lt. Gen. David Barno appeared on PBS NewsHour to discuss events in Kunduz including the U.S. attack on the Doctors Without Borders hospital. Barno also expressed his concern over the Taliban’s offensive in northern Afghanistan where insurgent activity had been rare. (10/6)

For CNN Politics, School of International Service distinguished scholar-in-residence Nora Bensahel discussed the Taliban’s strategic surprise in Kunduz, and the difficult decision President Obama faces in whether to bring back nearly all U.S. troops from Afghanistan. (10/6)

Additional Features

Dual-Language Programs Are On The Rise, Even for Native English Speakers

For a New York Times story about the growth of dual-language immersion programs and what research shows about benefits to students, School of Education associate professor Jennifer Steele discussed her findings from examining Portland, Oregon’s dual-language program. Steele’s research finds academic performance increases for both native English speakers and English-language learners in some grades and certain subjects once they reached late elementary school. (10/8)

Expertise

50 Years Later, 1965 Immigration Act Seen As Symbol of a Changing Nation

History professor Alan Kraut spoke with Associated Press for a story about the 50th anniversary of the Immigration Act. Kraut said one aspect of the law is that it led to the contemporary issues of immigrants in the United States without legal documentation. (10/3)

Amid the Would-Be Speakers, Paul Ryan Sticks to His ‘No’

Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies director James Thurber spoke to the New York Times about the Speaker of the House’s waning influence compared to the Tip O’Neill and Sam Rayburn eras. Thurber commented, “They could direct appropriations to people’s districts, they could remove people from committees, things like that. You can’t pull people together as in the old days.” (10/7)
‘The Martian’: A Look at the Hopeful Messages of Recent Sci-Fi Movies
With Christian Science Monitor, Humanities Lab director Despina Kakoudaki discussed the new film “The Martian” and other recent science fiction movies, saying “They give us realistic settings for great moments of heroism.” Kakoudaki also spoke with Lifezette.com about the new movie. (10/2, 10/8)

Illegal Immigrants Could Elect Hillary
Politico Magazine cited communication professor Leonard Steinhorn’s research on state electoral votes based on citizen only calculations versus total population calculations that include non-U.S. citizens. (10/3)

Sanders, Clinton Need to Take Obama's Fundraising Playbook to the Next Level
Campaign Management Institute director Candice Nelson spoke to Fortune about Democrat presidential hopefuls fundraising over the Internet. Nelson explained that the Obama campaign through “massive testing” and development of a trade secret algorithm in 2012 determined that the magic figure to ask for was 3 dollars. (10/3)

Hillary Clinton's Wall Street Reform Plan: History of Cozy Relationships and Big Campaign Checks Cast Shadow Over Position
Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies academic director Patrick Griffin spoke to the International Business Times about Hillary Clinton’s more aggressive position concerning Wall Street reform. Griffin concluded in his analysis, “They’re not going to support Bernie, that’s for sure.” (10/8)

A Different Take on Race
Government professor David Lublin spoke to U.S. News & World Report about GOP presidential hopeful Ben Carson's "validation for positions held by [white] Republicans" that structural racism doesn’t exist, or are uncomfortable with a black president insisting it does.” (10/2)

Yaaass, You Have Black Drag Queens to Thank for the Internet’s Favorite Expression
With Mic.com, Linguistics professor William Leap discussed the origins of the popular Internet word "yaaass," saying that if it has been appropriated by users, it wouldn’t be the first time, as many other words before entered popular culture this way. (10/7)

Bonus Clip
When New Professors Need Housing, Colleges Are No Help
A Chronicle of Higher Education article highlighted AU's joining the District of Columbia’s Office of Planning in its “Live Near Your Work” program—an “outlier” in terms of what little support other universities provide according to the article. The program offers grants of up to $12,000 to full-time faculty and staff members who want to buy homes in the city. (10/4)