Top Story
Billionaire Koch Brothers Have Extensive Political Influence

The New Yorker highlighted the Investigative Reporting Workshop’s two-year study which tracks the political influence of billionaire brothers David and Charles Koch, whose influence has culminated in some Congressional support of their pledge to vote against legislation relating to climate change unless it is accompanied by an equivalent amount in tax cuts. More than 25 outlets, including Columbia Journalism Review, MSNBC.com, and Huffington Post, also highlighted the study. (7/1)

Additional Features
More Fast Food, Fewer Fat Teens

New York Post highlighted sociology professor Michael Bader’s new research that suggests neighborhood retail environment may impact public health, as indicated by Bader’s discovery that in New York City, public high school students with more fast food outlets in their neighborhoods are less likely to be obese. Bader discovered the same relationship between NYC teen obesity rates and banks. (6/30)

Around Town: Washington Art Matters 1940s–1980s

WETA’s Around Town reviewed Washington Art Matters 1940s–1980s, now at the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center. Critics praised the use of vibrant colors and wide variety of artists in the exhibition. (7/6)

Op-Eds/AU Authors
In Greece, a Case Study on Islam in Europe

With the Washington Post and Al Jazeera Online, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies Akbar Ahmed, based on his recent trip to Greece, explained the growing anti-Muslim feelings in the country which is symbolized through the opposition to building a proper mosque in Athens for the large Muslim population to worship. (7/8, 7/9)

‘Fate of the States: The New Geography of American Prosperity’

In an opinion piece for the Washington Post, government professor Dante Chinni takes the author of the book Fate of the States: The New Geography of American Prosperity—about the 2008 collapse of the American economy—to task for her selective use of statistics to prop up her analysis and conclusions. (6/28)
Beauty Queens Become Trophy Wives of Drug Cartel Heads in Latin America

In an op-ed for the Huffington Post, scholar in residence Johanna Mendelson Forman wrote about the trend of Latin American beauty queens becoming trophy wives of the leaders of Columbian and Mexican drug kingpins. (6/28)

First Ladies Michelle Obama and Laura Bush Show American Compassion in Africa

With the Huffington Post, executive in residence Anita McBride wrote an op-ed about the African First Ladies’ Summit: Investing in Women: Strengthening Africa where First Lady Michelle Obama and former First Lady Laura Bush discussed the importance of empowering African women from a health, economic, and leadership perspectives. (7/3)

Expertise
In Worldwide Surveillance Age, U.S. Has Big Edge

Journalism professor Andrew Lih spoke to the Associated Press about the contrasts between the U.S. surveillance and the Chinese surveillance states. More than 260 outlets republished this article, including San Jose Mercury News, Fresno Bee, and Charlotte Observer. (7/2)

Public Rage Catching Up With Brazil’s Congress

International service professor Matthew Taylor spoke to the New York Times about Brazilian protestors spilling out into the streets in protest partially due to the inability to remove and prosecute corrupt Brazilian politicians. (6/28)

Six Reasons Why Tax Reform Won’t Happen

David Kautter, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, talked to the Washington Post about the impact of tax complexity on the average American and small business that is reflected in the high percentages of people who hire tax preparers and buy tax accounting software. (7/2)

Toxic China Lake Spurs Next Generation as Xi Eases GDP Focus

International service professor Judith Shapiro spoke to Bloomberg Businessweek about China’s struggle to maintain growth while trying to implement a new and more durable economic model that takes environmental risk factors into consideration. (7/12)

Media Boost Same-Sex Marriage Rulings

Communication professor Jane Hall appeared on CNN’s Reliable Sources to talk about how the vast coverage of the same-sex marriage rulings demonstrated the media’s bias on this issue and prematurely stopped discussion of all previous rulings. (6/30)
Egyptian Military and the Need for Change

Diane Singerman, co-director of Middle East Studies, spoke to AP Radio in two separate interviews about turbulence in Egypt following the popular uprising and military removing Mohamed Morsi as president. (7/6, 7/8)

In Case after Case, Big Wins For Big Business This Year at the Supreme Court

Law professor Stephen Wermiel talked to NBCNews.com about the Supreme Court’s consistent lean towards rulings for big business during the past year. (7/7)

U.S. Spying on Allies?

International service professor Jordan Tama appeared live in studio with WTTG-TV Fox5 to discuss U.S. spying allegations on its European allies as part of the Snowden NSA leaks. Tama added that the practice of allies gathering intelligence on allies is not unprecedented. (7/2)

Bonus Clip
Playing Music While the Nationals Play Ball

The Washington Post spoke to music wonk and professor Matthew Van Hoose about his role playing popular songs on the organ with ‘Natitude’ at Nationals Ballpark when Washington plays home games. (7/2)