AU Newsmakers
July 26 – August 9, 2013
Prepared by University Communications
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Top Story
Pentagon Urges Congress to Rein in Sequester Cuts to Defense Budget
Los Angeles Times
For the Los Angeles Times, New York Times, and USA Today, International service professor Gordon Adams analyzed Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel’s proposed 10 year military budget cuts in response to sequestration. In another USA Today article, Adams explained the necessary cuts and cited former Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney’s success at slashing the Pentagon budget. In a third USA Today article, Adams critiqued the deputy secretary’s comments on possible cuts in spending. (7/31, 8/1, 8/5)

Additional Features
Impact of 1968
C-SPAN’s Lectures in History series followed communication professor Leonard Steinhorn into his classroom for a lecture about the significance of the year 1968. The lecture focused on Vietnam, Lyndon B. Johnson’s decision not to seek re-election, and the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy. (8/3)

Measuring Non-Profit Newsroom Impact Easier Said Than Done
PBS’ Media Shift online spoke to Charles Lewis, executive editor of the Investigative Reporting Workshop, about his recent research focusing on the impact non-profit newsrooms have on local communities. (8/1)

Op-Eds/AU Authors
A Simple Solution
In a Huffington Post op-ed, international service professor Philip Brenner offered a bold proposal for solving President Obama’s Guantanamo detainee dilemma by handing Guantanamo’s naval base back to Cuba along with the prisoners. (8/3)

A Summit about Nothing
School of International Service dean James Goldgeier argued in an op-ed for POLITICO that President Obama’s postponement of a separate summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin was pragmatic given neither side has major business to accomplish. In addition, international service professor Celeste Wallander spoke to Agence France Presse about meetings in Washington, D.C. between United States cabinet secretaries and their Russian counterparts. (8/8)
Kuwait Takes a Breather
International service professor Kristin Smith Diwan wrote a *Foreign Policy* op-ed about Kuwait’s recent parliamentary election to stem protests calling for a fully elected government. (8/5)

Expertise
NASA’s Curiosity Rover Celebrates One Year on Mars
The *Associated Press* spoke to public administration professor Howard McCurdy about the one year anniversary of the Mars rover landing and how it inspired a young generation of future explorers. This article was republished by more than 265 outlets, including the *San Jose Mercury News, Fresno Bee,* and *Huffington Post.* (8/5)

Tax Rules Could Force Bezos to Play Active Role at Washington Post
*Reuters* spoke to David Kautter, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, about the tax implications surrounding Jeffrey Bezos’ purchase of the *Washington Post.* More than 40 outlets, including the *Chicago Tribune,* and *Fox Business Network,* republished this article. (8/6)

Obama’s Corporate Tax Revamp Plan Seen as Unlikely to Go Far
For *Reuters,* Patrick Griffin, assistant director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, discussed the Obama administration’s bid to cut corporate taxes and to raise the debt ceiling. More than 20 outlets republished this article, including the *Chicago Tribune* and *Sun Sentinel.* (7/30)

Google’s Science Fellows Challenge the Company’s Fund-Raising for Senator Inhofe
The *News York Times’ Dot Earth blog* cited communication professor Matthew Nisbet’s letter protesting Google’s involvement with Oklahoma Senator James Inhofe’s re-election campaign. (8/1)

Post Sale Hailed by Business Leaders
In coverage of the sale of its parent company’s newspaper to Amazon.com founder and CEO Jeffrey Bezos, the *Washington Post* spoke to journalism professors Rick Rockwell and Jill Olmstead about the significance of the sale. (8/5)

Sharks: Why we’re Obsessed with this Perfect Movie Villain, and why that’s Bad
Film and media arts professor Christopher Palmer appeared on ABC’s *Nightline* to discuss the negative portrayal of sharks in movies and on television. He also discussed with *Scientific American’s Extinction Countdown blog* how Discovery Channel’s *Shark Week* contributes to the demonization of sharks. (8/6)
How the GOP Keeps Stoking Racial Fears

On MSNBC’s *Up with Steve Kornacki*, communication professor Jane Hall talked about how the right-wing media deals with race issues. (7/28)

What Next for Wikipedia

With *CNN’s News Stream*, communication professor Andrew Lih talked about the challenges that Wikipedia will face in expanding its use of multimedia platforms. (8/7)

Apprenticeship Good for Ben Franklin Closes Skills Gap

*Bloomberg News* spoke to economics professor Robert Lerman about the lack of funding for apprenticeship programs in the United States. (8/1)

Why Do Women Allow Themselves to Be Treated Like Doormats?

With *Psychology Today*, communication professor Gemma Puglisi talked about why many women in high profile relationships put up with betrayal and cheating by their husbands. (8/5)

Manning Found Not Guilty of Aiding the Enemy, Guilty on 19 Counts

Communication professor John Watson spoke to *Truthout online* about Pfc. Bradley Manning’s motivation after he was found not guilty of aiding the enemy but guilty on 19 other counts. (7/30)

Bonus Clip

*David Gregory Bids Farewell to Meet the Press Producer Betsy Fischer*

On NBC’s *Meet the Press*, AU alumnus and host David Gregory bid farewell to his former classmate, AU alumna Betsy Fischer, on her last day as executive producer of the program she started at as an intern. (7/28)