



# AU Newsmakers

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Prepared by University Communications

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## Top Story

### AU Launches Online International Relations Graduate Program



The School of International Service announced it will offer American University's first, broad-based, online graduate degree program.

[Associated Press's](#) coverage focused on AU's collaboration with higher education technology firm, 2U, to offer a master's in international relations. "It will be a high-quality program. Anyone in the world can earn the two-year degree for about the same tuition as students on campus," said Dean James Goldgeier. [The Financial Times](#), [Washington Post online](#), [Baltimore](#) and [Washington Business Journals](#), [WAMU 88.5](#), [WRC-TV NBC4](#) and [NewsChannel8](#), also reported the announcement. (12/11)

## Expertise

### New Taxes to Take Effect to Fund Health Care Law



For the [New York Times](#), [David Kautter](#), managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, provided a hypothetical example illustrating how much more high income earners will have to pay in taxes

because of new levies related to the Affordable Care Act that go into effect in January. (12/8)

### FTC Investigates Mobile Apps Makers on Children's Privacy



Communication studies professor [Kathryn Montgomery](#) spoke to the [Los Angeles Times](#) about mobile apps, their effect on children, and COPPA, the

Children's Online Privacy Protection Act. "In the rapidly growing children's mobile market, companies are seizing on new ways to target children, unleashing a growing arsenal of interactive techniques, including geo-location and use of personal contact data. It is clear that there is an urgent need for the FTC to update its COPPA," said Montgomery. [Chicago Tribune](#) and [Baltimore Sun](#) also republished the article. (12/11)

### Fed Adds QE4, Drops Date Guidance



Finance professor [Robin Lumsdaine](#) spoke to [U.S. News and World Report](#) about the potential fourth round of quantitative easing to be conducted by the Federal Reserve, and whether the previous rounds have had any positive impact. "Everyone wants to pick their favorite economic

indicator and use that to evaluate 'Does it work?'," said Lumsdaine. (12/12)

### Sequestration and the Nation's Defense Budget



Foreign policy professor [Gordon Adams](#) appeared on [C-SPAN's Washington Journal](#) to discuss sequestration of the defense budget and how a defense builddown would not jeopardize national security. "The fiscal reality is that a sequester is going to take something around 10 percent away from existing accounts in the department of defense. But there are a number of things that are built into it in the way that defense does business and the way that the law if written, that alleviates some of the problems. For example,

military personnel are not affected by sequester," said Adams. (12/10)

## You're Hired! Apprenticeships and Unemployed Youth



**Robert Lerman**, economics professor, talked to [NPR's Tell Me More](#) about solving youth unemployment through apprenticeships. "In terms of long term development, as well as short term jobs, apprenticeship could play a significant role. We're seeing manufacturers and others claim that they have a skills shortage, and so on the one hand we have this high youth unemployment rate. On the other hand, people are claiming they have a skills shortage," said Lerman. (12/11)

## Supreme Court Takes Up Same-Sex-Marriage Cases



[NPR's All Things Considered](#) spoke to law professor **Stephen Vladek** about the Supreme Court's announcement that it will deliberate the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). "The decision to take the Proposition 8 case shows the justices are finally ready to tackle this head-on. A good sign for those who support gay marriage," said Vladeck. (12/7)

## Bonus Clip

### PRWeek Awards Finalists 2013



[PRWeek](#) named the **School of Communication's Public Communication program** a top five finalist in the 'PR Education Program of the Year' awards category. The winner will be decided by a group of more than 75 judges, and announced in March 2013. (12/11)