EXPERT PROFILES
American University’s School of Public Affairs tackles complex issues with thoughtful research that educates, informs, and promotes change across a broad range of social and political issues. The school’s political science and policy experts are nationally and internationally renowned. From the conventions in July to the November election and beyond, the following experts are available to provide comment, context and interviews.

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General Election
For general insights about the 2016 election.

Betsy Fischer Martin
Emmy Award-winning political television producer (former Executive Producer for Meet the Press), co-host of Bloomberg’s “Masters in Politics” podcast and AU alumna. She is available to discuss elections, political media, and presidential candidates.

Jennifer Lawless
Nationally recognized expert on women and politics. Research focuses on political ambition and the barriers that impede women candidate emergence.

Jan E. Leighley
Research and teaching interests focus on American political behavior, voter turnout, media and politics, and racial/ethnic political behavior.

David Lublin
Expert on race and ethnicity, congressional elections, partisanship, redistricting, and electoral systems.

Candice Nelson
Expert on presidential and Congressional elections. Also studies voting behavior, and campaign finance.

Jim Thurber
Expert in Congressional and presidential relations, campaign management, Congressional budgeting, Congressional reform, interest groups and lobbying, Congressional ethics, and campaigns and elections.
General Election (continued)

Barbara Romzek
She is the Dean of AU’s School of Public Affairs. Her research and expertise focus on public management and accountability with emphasis on contracting and government reform.

Elizabeth Sherman
Expert on issues concerning women in public life, economic challenges facing women in the workplace, and the potential for statewide policies on family leave and comparable worth.

Vicky Wilkins
She is the Senior Associate Dean of AU’s School of Public Affairs. Her expertise includes gender and race issues, representation, diversity, deservingness and policy implementation.

Environmental Policy
For insights and commentary on environment, energy, and sustainability.

Dan Fiorino
He is available to discuss the Environmental Protection Agency, environmental policy, energy and climate change, environmental sustainability, and public management of natural resources.

National Security
For background and interviews about counterterrorism, terrorist behavior, violence, international and domestic extremism, and homeland security.

Tricia Bacon
Previously worked on counterterrorism for more than 10 years at the Department of State. She has extensive research on terrorist group cooperation and alliances around the world.

Brad Bartholomew
His research focuses on issues related to the causes and consequences of terrorism and the impacts of state and local counterterrorism policy. He is also available to discuss the impact of state and federal legislation on acts of violent protest, and community-oriented policing tactics and their impacts on crime and the fear of crime.

Joe Young
Expert in cross-national causes and consequences of political violence and extremism. Available to discuss ISIS/ISIL, threat of domestic extremism, domestic surveillance, and homeland security.
Reproductive Rights
For commentary on women's rights, and reproductive rights.

Jessica Waters
Research focuses on reproductive rights law, legal impact of women's medical decisions during pregnancy and childbirth, employment-based conscience protections for reproductive health care providers, and the reproductive rights of employees working for religiously affiliated employers.

Urbanization, Economic Hardship, and Taxes
For commentary or interviews about metropolitan issues, poverty, food insecurity, child welfare, and taxes.

Bradley Hardy
Research interests focus on labor economics, with an emphasis on economic instability, intergenerational mobility, poverty policy, and socio-economic outcomes.

Alison Jacknowitz
Expert on a wide variety of issues related to food security, poverty, and children and families.
Urbanization, Economic Hardship, and Taxes (continued)

Taryn Morrissey
Expert on a variety of public policies for children, particularly those in poverty. Her areas of research include child care, early education, food assistance, and health policy.

Education Policy
For background and interviews about K-12 education, economic influence, and new systems.

Dave Marcotte
Available to discuss the determinants of achievement in K-12 education; the importance of cost on attainment in higher education; and interventions to improve attainment science and math (STEM) education.

About AU School of Public Affairs
Established in 1934, American University’s School of Public Affairs (SPA) is top-ranked by US News and World Report, offering undergraduate, graduate and executive-level programs to build and enhance careers in public service. The school is located in the heart of Washington, DC, with world-renowned faculty and transformational research, driving progress in policy, politics and public administration. SPA is ranked third the U.S. and first in the DC area for public affairs research impact, and is the only school home to three Gauss Award recipients for a lifetime of exemplary contribution to political science and public administration.