



AU Newsmakers

November 16 – November 30, 2012

Prepared by University Communications

For prior weeks, go to <http://www.american.edu/media/inthedia.cfm>

Top Story

New Crab Species Discovered by, Named for Biology Professor



Your source for the latest research news

[ScienceDaily.com](http://www.sciencedaily.com) featured biology professor Christopher Tudge's discovery of a new species of hermit crab off the coast of Belize. Tudge's colleagues published an article about his discovery in the journal *Zootaxa* and named the new species *Areopaguristes tudgei* after Tudge. "Given this cryptic habitat and the relatively minute size of the specimens, it is not surprising that these populations have gone unnoticed during extensive sampling programs that have previously taken place," the authors wrote. More than 25 news outlets, including science-focused outlets [PHYS.org](http://www.phys.org) and [Bio-Medicine.org](http://www.biomedicine.org), republished the story.

Additional Features

Untold History



A [New York Times Magazine](http://www.nytimes.com) feature described history professor Peter Kuznick's influence on *The Untold History of the United States*, a *New York Times* bestselling book and Showtime series, on which he collaborated with director Oliver Stone. "We [the United States] actually came very close to having a very different kind of history. We want to give people the ability to think in a utopian fashion again," Kuznick said about his and Stone's goal to highlight pivotal moments in history when better decisions could have been made. The [Associated Press](http://www.associatedpress.com), [Salon.com](http://www.salon.com) and [Harper's](http://www.harper.com) also wrote about Kuznick's recent work. More than 250 outlets, including **ABC News Online**, *Charlotte Observer*, and *The Fresno Bee* republished the AP article. (11/21, 11/22, 11/26)

Late Fall Exhibitions at the AU Museum



[Washington Post](http://www.washingtonpost.com) reviewed the late fall exhibitions at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center**. "With a lively fleet and flexible exhibition program that focuses equal attention on local, national and international art--and a healthy respect for the past and the present--the museum delivers only one thing with great consistency: surprise," read the review. (11/23)

Op-Eds/AU Authors

Latinos Need Immigration Reform, Not Crumbs



In an op-ed for the [Los Angeles Times](http://www.losangelestimes.com), Center for Latino and Latin American Studies fellow John Ackerman wrote about the shortcomings of immigration reform and the need for Latinos to drive the debate. "Instead of waiting for the politicians in Washington to hammer out a new bipartisan coalition behind closed doors, Latinos should reach out to each other, organize and construct a new society-based coalition that has the power to literally change the face of the United States," wrote Ackerman. (11/20)

Sorry, Senators. An independent Panel is the Best Way to Investigate Benghazi

The Washington Post

In an op-ed for the [Washington Post](#), U.S. foreign policy professor **Jordan Tama** wrote about the Senate committee set up to investigate the Benghazi attack. "Congress has every right to look hard at what went wrong with U.S. security in Benghazi,

and lawmakers have raised valid questions about the troubling events. But recent history suggests that the most important investigation won't take place on Capitol Hill. It will be conducted by an independent commission that has already been established, albeit with much less fanfare," wrote Tama. (11/16)

Expertise

Argentina Hopes to Reverse NY Debt Ruling



The [Associated Press](#) spoke to International Economic Relations Program director **Arturo Porzecanski** about Argentina's efforts to reverse a billion dollar debt ruling. "The endgame is here and the Argentine authorities and bondholders who went into the exchange

are just refusing to acknowledge this reality. If they don't put that money in the escrow account, chances are the Argentine economy and financial system will start grinding to a halt," said Porzecanski. More than 140 outlets, including *U.S. News & World Report*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *Washington Post* republished this story. (11/26)

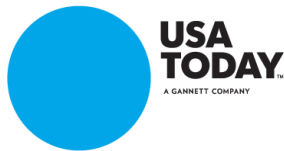
Good Weather this Black Friday Gives U.S. Retailers No Excuses

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Economics professor **Martha Starr** spoke to the [Wall Street Journal](#) about whether inclement weather impacts sales on Black

Friday. "Given how often business analysts attribute unexpectedly high or low sales to unusual weather, I've been surprised at how difficult it is to tease such effects out of the data. It seems like, whether the holiday-season weather is sunny and mild or stormy and cold, we still have to schlep to the mall to fulfill our holiday gift-giving obligations," said Starr. (11/23)

FDA Probes Whether Deaths Linked to Energy Shots



[USA Today](#) talked to psychology professor **Laura Juliano** about the FDA's investigation into 5-hour Energy and alleged caffeine-related deaths. "When manufacturers add caffeine to products, I believe that they should be required to indicate the amount of caffeine on product labels. This way consumers can make an informed choice and be aware of their caffeine exposure," said Juliano (11/16)

Pundits Predicted Romney Win



Communication professor **Jane Hall** appeared on [CNN's Reliable Sources](#) to talk about the lack of penalties for media pundits who consistently make bad predictions, specifically those who predicted Romney would win this year's Presidential contest. "There is no penalty for being wildly wrong, and in fact you continue to be asked to 'punditize' again. The interesting thing is that if you were a viewer of FOX [News], including Romney, you apparently had trouble believing what reality really was because you were so snowed and I think that is a problem," said Hall. (11/25)

Study: Men and Women Candidates Treated Equally in Media Coverage



Women & Politics Institute director **Jennifer Lawless** appeared on [MSNBC's Jansing & Co.](#) to discuss her new research on gender bias in politics. "We've known for a long time that when women run for office, they fare as well as their male counterparts in terms of vote totals and fundraising receipts. But there now seems to be evidence that the campaign trail they navigate is quite similar as well. Both in terms of public opinion and media coverage, we uncovered no differences in how male and female candidates were treated," said Lawless. (11/28)

Fiscal Cliff Siren: Meet the Man Behind The Curtain



With [NPR's All Things Considered](#), James Thurber, director of the Center of Congressional and Presidential Studies, spoke about the fiscal cliff debate largely driven by businessman and former U.S. Secretary of Commerce Peter G. Peterson. "I would call him the conductor of an orchestra of many people and events, that have put a focus on debt and the deficit since the mid-'80s," said Thurber. (11/19)

Is That A Budweiser In Your Hand? Product Placement, Booze, and Denzel Washington



For [National Public Radio's](#) website, marketing professor Cristel Russell discussed the potential implications of product placement in films and television. "If a company produces a commercial, they know exactly what's going to be in the commercial. Product placement is very different. The movie people will always claim creative freedom," said Russell. (11/27)

Egyptian Unrest



[WUSA-CBS9](#) interviewed international service professor Asiya Daud about Egypt and the differences between former President Mubarak and current President Morsi. "Morsi gave himself executive power, essentially over the judicial body in Egypt. No judge or lawyer can overturn Morsi's decrees. This is problematic firstly because it defies the checks and balances system," said Daud. (11/26)

Unhealthy Dieting Can Lead to Changes in Brain Function



Center for Behavioral Neuroscience director Terry Davidson appeared on [WUSA-CBS9](#) to discuss his research about how the Western diet can lead to brain damage that impacts a person's ability to resist thinking about, and likely consuming, more high fat, high sugar foods. "Food is a very powerful memory, very powerful in our lives. If we reduce this inhibitory ability it's going to be more likely that those things are going to be on your mind more," said Davidson. (11/21)

U.S. Firms Drawing a Line on After-Hours Email



Information technology professor Gwanhoo Lee discussed how too many emails in the workplace may lead to a decrease in productivity with [Agence France Presse](#). "There is a growing sentiment that email is not very productive, and actually decreases productivity. A typical manager receives hundreds of emails a day, and that consumes a substantial amount of work hours. Some organizations are trying to move away from email in favor of instant messaging or social media," said Lee. (11/17)

Friend or Foe? Chevron, Brazil Struggle with Relationship



In [Rigzone](#), an oil and gas industry trade publication, international business professor Frank Dubois spoke about Brazil's shaky relationship with the major foreign petroleum companies, particularly Chevron, following last year's spill on Brazilian shores. "Brazilians are paranoid about a BP-style oil spill occurring in their waters, given their dependency they have on their tourist industry and the sanctity of their clean beaches. It would be horrible if something of that magnitude happened there," said Dubois. (11/23)