



AU Newsmakers

March 7 – March 14, 2014

Prepared by University Communications

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Top Story

American Beats Top-Seed BU for Patriot League Title



For the first time in 5 years—third time in its history-- the **AU Eagles Men's Basketball Team** is headed back to the NCAA tournament after its 55-36 victory over Boston University. Coach **Mike Brennan** and team players **Tony Wroblicky** and **Darius "Pee Wee" Gardner** spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about AU's clinch of the Patriot League title. [CBS Sports Network's Inside College Basketball](#) featured the Eagles' win, the AU fans storming the BU court, player highlights and an interview with **Brennan** discussing the Eagles' remarkable

season after modest pre-season predictions. More than **400** news outlets highlighted the team's win, including the *New York Times*, [Washington Post](#), and *ESPN*. (3/12, 3/13)

Additional Features

Finding an Online Master's That Clicks With You



[Washington Post Express](#) featured the **School of International Service's IRonline master's degree program**. An IRonline student, a U.S. Navy

officer posted at NATO headquarters in Brussels, explains why she chose the program for its flexibility that a traditional program could not offer. International relations professor **Patrick Jackson** discussed the dynamic and interactive educational experience IRonline offers faculty and students to

engage. (3/10)

Latino Voters and the Republican Party



[C-SPAN](#) covered the [Center for Latin American and Latino Studies' \(CLALS\)](#) conference focusing on what the Republican Party needs to do to reconnect with Latino voters. **Eric Hershberg**, director CLALS, organized the conference and moderated one of the two featured panels. (3/7)

eRA-Electronic Enhancing Research Administration



Joseph Gesa, systems administrator in the Office of Sponsored Programs spoke with *NCURA Magazine* (National Council of University Research Administrators) about AU's effort to collaborate in many different ways to maintain the flow of financial support for research on new and existing research projects since higher

education institutions are experiencing funding cuts. **No link available*

Expertise

Crimea Referendum to Test U.S. - Russian Diplomacy



AU foreign policy and Russian experts **Keith Darden**, **James Goldgeier** and **Anton Fedyashin** discussed the ongoing diplomatic tensions in the Ukraine crisis. International service professor **Keith Darden** appeared on [CNN's Out Front with Erin Burnett](#) to discuss whether the United States has any leverage to deal with Putin in Crimea. **Darden** also appeared on [Voice of America TV](#). With [CNN International](#), **Anton Fedyashin**, director of the Initiative for Russian Culture, discussed Russia's interests and concerns in Ukraine in the lead-up to the Crimea referendum. School of

International Service dean **James Goldgeier** discussed the Crimea referendum implications and the ramifications it is likely to provoke with [Los Angeles Times](#) and [McClatchy News](#). (3/7, 3/8, 3/13)

NYC Guard-Inmate Sex Scandal Triggers Jail Review



Law professor **Brenda V. Smith** spoke to the [Associated Press](#) about the silent culture of sex, and the frequency of guard-inmate scandals triggering jail reviews across the country. More than **70** outlets, including [ABCNews.com](#), [San Francisco Chronicle](#) and

[FoxNews.com](#) republished this article. (3/9)

China Outsourcing Smog to West Region Stirs Protest



Global environmental politics professor **Judith Shapiro** spoke to [Bloomberg News](#) about the risk that China will brand Muslim environmental activists in Chinese provinces as separatists or terrorists. (3/8)

On China Trip, Michelle Obama Likely to Steer Clear of Controversy



Executive in residence **Anita McBride** spoke to the [Washington Post](#) about First Lady Michelle Obama's upcoming trip to China noting that First Lady Michelle

Obama is seizing the opportunity to educate young people rather than address controversial foreign policy issues. (3/9)

A Rift Among Senate Women: It's About Time



With the [Washington Post](#), director of the Women and Politics Institute **Jennifer Lawless** explained that policy and party ultimately trump any special bipartisanship

among female U.S. senators in passing legislation. (3/10)

Life and Happiness in Siberia's Cold



Speaking about misconceptions that Westerners have about Siberia with the [New York Times](#), **Anton Fedyashin**, director of the Initiative for Russian Culture,

explained how a recent photography exhibit at the **American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center** provided a richer look at Siberia's diverse culture and ethnic groups. (3/10)

How Will Thompson Charges Affect DC Mayoral Race?



Journalism professor **Leonard Steinhorn** appeared on [WTTG FOX-5 TV](#) to discuss how businessman Jeffrey Thompson's indictment for violating campaign finance laws in DC Mayor Vincent Gray's first campaign could imminently impact Gray's campaign for re-election. (3/10)