



AU Newsmakers

May 1 – May 8, 2015

Prepared by University Communications

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

Top Stories

Show Your Worth



[Council for Advancement and Support of Education's CURRENTS Magazine](#) (CASE) featured American University's **We Know Success** website, highlighting its post-graduation outcome data from more than 75 percent of AU's newest alumni. Vice president of communication **Teresa**

Flannery said that "we need to mine and share data to understand where we are succeeding as an institution." (5/1)

Scientists Found a Way to Make Drug-Resistant Bacteria 'Evolve Backwards'

[THE HUFFINGTON POST](#) [Huffington Post](#) featured new research by assistant professor of mathematics **Kristina Crona** that aims to help doctors deal with resistant bacteria. **Crona** spoke about the role of mathematics to create algorithms that can deliver results so doctors can make better use of many kinds of antibiotics. [Motherboard](#), [GenomeWeb](#), [Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News](#) and [Examiner](#) also featured stories about the research. (5/6 - 5/7)

10 Filmmakers to Watch in 2015: Claudia Myers

[THE independent](#) [Independent Magazine](#) featured communication professor **Claudia Myers** as one of the top 10 filmmakers of 2015. The article goes into the process and themes in **Myers'** latest film *Fort Bliss*, which is about a single military mother's difficult adjustment to civilian life after returning from the Iraq War. (5/1)

The Rise of the Celebrity Scientist



Declan Fahy assistant professor of communication appeared on [NPR's Science Friday](#) to discuss his new book, "The New Celebrity Scientists" and top scientists who are also public figures such as Carl Sagan, Neil deGrasse Tyson and Steven Hawking. **Fahy** spoke with about how superstar scientists have used their celebrity to influence society and science. (5/1)

Faculty Authors

Five Myths about Riots



For the Sunday [Washington Post's Five Myths](#), international service professor **Cathy Schneider** set up five common myths about riots and debunked them based on her research. For example, **Schneider** refuted the myth that riots accomplish nothing, explaining that "riots are sometimes the only way those living in marginalized neighborhoods are heard." The article syndicated to the *Chicago Tribune*, *Denver Post* and several other outlets. (5/1)

We Must Question the 2016 Candidates on Presidential Power



For his op-ed in the [New Hampshire Union Leader](#), government professor **Chris Edelson** urged the American public and media to question presidential hopefuls early on their views on presidential power. **Edelson** argued that executive authority is a fundamental constitutional checks and balances issue about which to question candidates and to hold them accountable for later if elected to office. The National Constitution Center's [Constitution Daily](#) blog and [Yahoo! News](#) republished the op-ed. (5/4 - 5/8)

3 Big Questions about 'Interactive' at the Tribeca Film Festival



[Mediashift](#) republished Center for Media & Social Impact director **Patricia Aufderheide's** article about the Tribeca Film Festival. **Aufderheide** highlighted the interactive exhibitions at the festival and discussed digital technology. (5/4)

Foreign Students Not A Threat, But an Advantage



In an op-ed for the [Conversation](#), School of Education, Teaching and Health associate professor **Cynthia Miller-Idriss** argued that the increase of international students enrolling in U.S. colleges is an advantage to the education system. **Miller-Idriss** traced the demographic trends from the late 19th century to the present showing how higher education has transformed from one of elite, white men to a more inclusive environment. She urged concerned U.S. parents and students to contact colleges about student enrollment data. (5/7)

Expertise

Victory in Europe: Old Wounds Ache 70 Years After VE Day



Carmel Institute of Russian History and Culture executive director **Anton Fedyashin** spoke to [Scripps News Service](#) about VE Day, calling World War II the "most destructive and the bloodiest conflict in the history of our species." (5/7)

Why Don't More Women Run For Office?



The [Los Angeles Times](#) cited Women & Politics Institute director **Jennifer Lawless's** research on whether women with children is a factor in whether they will run for office. **Lawless's** research suggests that having children plays no role for women with or without children. **Lawless** also provided [International Business Times](#) a more sobering point of view about the fact that two women are candidates for president and the unlikelihood equal pay and maternity leave would be core themes for their campaigns. (5/3 - 5/7)

Clinton Shuns Reporter Questions, Unlike Her Presidential Rivals



Communication professor **Leonard Steinhorn** spoke to [McClatchy](#) about the 2016 presidential candidates' lack of cooperation with the media. **Steinhorn** said that the media need to take some responsibility. (5/8)

Obama Unveils Program to Help Young Men and Boys of Color to Succeed



Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies director **James Thurber** spoke to the [Los Angeles Times](#) about President Obama's launch of the nonprofit organization My Brother's Keeper Alliance. **Thurber** said that many presidents feel the urge to finish work they couldn't complete in office. (5/4)

The Cyber Gold Rush



Economics assistant professor **Gabriel Mathy** spoke to *the [Christian Science Monitor](#)* about the future of the cybersecurity industry, saying that if solutions become too effective and “the threats disappear, the industry will not do that well.” (5/3)

ISIS Propaganda Machine Is Sophisticated and Prolific, U.S. Officials Say



Communication professor **Scott Talan** appeared on *[ABC News' Nightline](#)* to discuss the quality and sophistication of ISIS recruitment videos, saying that “It is Madison Avenue meets documentary filmmaking meets news channel with sensibilities and marketing value.” (5/7)

Five Challenges for New Joint Chiefs Nominee



International service distinguished scholar-in-residence **Nora Bensahele** spoke to the *[Hill](#)* about President Obama's choice of Gen. Joseph Dunford to lead the Joint Chiefs of Staff. **Bensahele** said that

Dunford will have to deal with various crises while also trying to accomplish the Obama administration's goal of making a strategic pivot toward Asia to counter China. (5/7)

Millennials in Today's Workforce



For *[WAMU's The Diane Rehm Show](#)* on NPR, public administration and policy professor **Meredith Persily Lamel** spoke about how millennials work-life balance views are shaking up today's employers and how they relate to them. **Persily Lamel** discussed the challenges that other generations in the workforce face when working with millennials. (5/7)

First Latina in Maryland Legislature Sets Sights on New Goal: Congress



For *[WAMU](#)*, government professor **David Lublin** discussed the challenges Maryland Delegate Ana Sol Gutierrez faces in trying to win a congressional seat. **Lublin** explained name recognition within her state delegate district may not be enough in the much larger congressional district. (5/1)

The Best Illusions of 2014



A story for the Illusion Chasers blog of *[Scientific American](#)* noted Collaborative for Applied Perceptual Research & Innovation director **Art Shapiro's** illusion in 2014 that was a top-ten finalist. (5/7)

7 Unconventional Food Classes That Scream College



[Mashable](#) featured the **School of International Service's** “gastrodiplomacy” course in an article about unconventional college food courses. International service scholar-in-residence **Johanna**

Mendelson-Forman teaches the course, “Conflict Cuisines: An Introduction to War and Peace through Washington's Ethnic Restaurants.” (5/4)

Oxford English Dictionary Addition of Gender-Neutral Honorific



Anthropology professor **William Leap** appeared on [HuffPostLive](#) to discuss the significance of Oxford English Dictionary's addition of a gender-neutral honorific. (5/7)

New Israeli Government



International service professor **Guy Ziv** appeared on [BBC World News](#) to discuss the new coalition reached between Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the Jewish Home Party. **Ziv** spoke about the foreign policy implications and the future of the coalition. (5/6)

Bonus

People on the Move



Washington Business Journal highlighted the Department of Accounting and Taxation executive-in-residence **Caroline Bruckner's** appointment to serve as the Kogod Tax Center's

managing director. (5/8) *Link unavailable