



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

AU Newsmakers

May 22 – May 29, 2015

Prepared by University Communications

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

Top Stories

New Mathematics Could Neutralize Pathogens That Resist Antibiotics

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

[Scientific American](#) featured assistant professor of mathematics **Kristina Crona's** new research that aims to help doctors deal with resistant bacteria. **Crona** and her colleagues tested and found a way to return bacteria to a pre-resistant state. **Crona** said, "We're talking about managing evolution, trying to steer evolution. And that's very new." (5/26)

American University Commencement Address



[C-SPAN](#) featured College of Arts & Sciences commencement speaker, Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. An astronaut and the first American woman to walk in space, Sullivan received an honorary Doctor of Science degree at the ceremony. (5/23)

A Global Education Opens Doors, But Leaves Many Shut Out

THE CHRONICLE
of Higher Education

For a [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) article about international study and the success of students in the global economy, assistant vice president for Campus Life **Fanta Aw**

discussed the internationalization of the curriculum. **Aw** said that preparing internationally minded students is "a speeding train...we have to get out in front of it." (5/29)

Expertise

Argentina, Once Shunned, Regains Its Allure

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

School of International Service distinguished economist-in-residence **Arturo Porzecanski** spoke to the [Wall Street](#)

[Journal](#) about Argentina's growing stock market, cautioning that investments remain risky and volatile especially with generous government subsidies and activity in the economy. (5/27)

One Out of Four Accounts 'Dormant' As Mobile Money Takes Over Banking

The EastAfrican

Anthropologist-in-residence **Sibel Kusimba** spoke to the [East African](#) about the rise of mobile money systems rivaling traditional brick-and-mortar banks in East African countries. (5/23)

For Hillary Clinton, Having Beyoncé's Support Doesn't Hurt. But Does It Help?

The Washington Post

For a [Washington Post](#) article about political candidates and celebrity endorsements, Women & Politics Institute director **Jennifer Lawless** discussed the effect celebrity endorsements can have in approval of a candidate. **Lawless** said that endorsements “don’t change hearts or minds” but that they can “inject a level of enthusiasm” into campaigns. (5/23)

The GOP's Congressional Progress

U.S. News & World Report

Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies director **James Thurber** spoke to [U.S. News & World Report](#) about the progress that the Republican-controlled Senate has made since January. **Thurber** discussed a number of key issues and the importance for Republicans to show that they can govern. (5/27)

Obama's Asia Trade Deal Faces Mounting Opposition in House

The Washington Times

Academic director of the Public Affairs & Advocacy Institute for the Center of Congressional & Presidential Studies **Patrick Griffin** spoke to the [Washington Times](#) about the acceptance of President Obama's Asia free-trade deal within the House of Representatives. **Griffin** said that “it’s a hard sell” but thinks Obama will receive House passage of the measure. (5/26)

Obama on the Defense Again As Another Defense Secretary Speaks

The Washington Post

School of International Service practitioner-in-residence Lt. Gen. **David Barno** spoke to the [Washington Post](#) about Iraqi forces losing Ramadi to ISIS and the Obama Administration's defense strategy. School of International Service distinguished scholar-in-residence **Nora Bensahel** spoke to the [Washington Times](#) about Iraqi troops retaking Ramadi. **Bensahel** also spoke to [Tribune News Service](#). (5/26)

Will This Pakistani Businessman's 140-Foot Cross Bring Hope to the Country's Christians?

THE HUFFINGTON POST

School of International Service Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies **Akbar Ahmed** spoke to the [Huffington Post](#) about a 140-foot cross being erected in Karachi for the nation's 1.5 percent Christian population and whether it will provoke a reaction. (5/26)

Civil Service Reform

FEDERAL NEWS RADIO
1500 AM

For [Federal News Radio](#), Key Executive Leadership Programs' distinguished practitioner-in-residence **Robert Tobias** discussed last week's subcommittee hearing on civil service reform and the lack of attendance. (5/26)

To Make a Big Impact, Think Small

Inc.

In a column for [Inc. Magazine](#) about the “big-is-small” strategy and how to appeal to audiences, the columnist quoted communication professor **Leonard Steinhorn**, saying, “You don’t have to go on forever to be able to communicate important, fascinating and complex ideas.” (5/26)