



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

This Week's Newsmakers

Nov. 19 – Dec. 3, 2010

Prepared by University Communications

Top Stories

Young Guns in Power



The Kennedy Political Union hosted Majority Leader-designate **Eric Cantor** (R-Va.), Majority Whip-designate **Kevin McCarthy** (R-Calif.), and presumptive budget chairman **Paul Ryan** (R-Wisc.) for a town hall meeting. The congressmen said President Obama must agree to work with the GOP to create progress in the current lame-duck session of Congress. [C-SPAN](#) broadcasted live from the event, and re-aired the forum three times. A [two-part](#) interview with the congressmen appeared on [FOX News' On the Record with Greta Van Susteren](#). [Roll Call](#), [The Hill](#), [National Journal](#), and [National Review](#), and others

published articles. (11/29, 11/30)

Additional Features

Washington Post Chat with Bill Mayer

[washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com)

Bill Mayer, university librarian, discussed final exam preparation, navigating the library, and finding the best research sources in a [Washingtonpost.com Campus Overload](#) online chat. Mayer talked about

the university's library system and why it is a good place to study for exams. "With so many internet-enabled resources now, the library is everywhere, you have a network. We're in the dorms, we're in the classrooms, we're on the quad!" he said. (12/2)

Notable LLM Degree Programs

FINANCIAL TIMES

[Financial Times](#) highlighted the **Kogod School of Business** and the **Washington College of Law** in a feature about their joint LLM and MBA program. According to the article, the popularity of post-graduate law and business degrees is rising. (11/21)

Women Who Spoke For Presidents Say More Women Should Run

National Journal

In a bipartisan expression of concern former White House press secretaries Dee Dee Myers and Dana Perino said finding female candidates to run for office is difficult during a discussion hosted by the **Women & Politics Institute**. [National Journal](#) and [U.S. News & World Report](#) covered the event. (11/30)

Attention Getters: 40 Who Shaped 2010

WASHINGTONIAN

[Washingtonian magazine](#) included **Danielle Evans**, professor of literature, as one of 40 people in Washington, D.C. who made an impact in 2010. Evans, the only university professor and the only university

representative on the list, published "one of the year's best short story collections," *Before You Suffocate Your Own Fool Self*. (December)

Op-Eds and Editorials

Protest Power in the Philippines

The Nation.

Robin Broad, professor of international development, coauthored a three-page profile in *The Nation* about a Philippine congressman who participated in the People's Power protests against Ferdinand Marcos in 1986. Broad

accompanied the congressman to the Philippine president's state of the nation. (12/6)

Quotes

U.S. Weighs Prosecution of Wikileaks Founder



Stephen Vladeck, professor of law, discussed the implications of the case against the founder of WikiLeaks with the [New York Times](#). "The government has never brought an Espionage Act prosecution that would look remotely like this one," Vladeck said. [Christian Science Monitor](#) also quoted him, and he appeared on [Canada TV](#) and [Portland, Maine's NBC affiliate station](#). (12/1, 12/2)

College Students on Break Fix Other People's Lives



[USA Today](#) highlighted American University's alternative break program to Columbia in a story about college service trips. The article noted that many programs take place in the winter to allow for additional travel time, and student Matthew Barnes' alternative break trip. (11/29)

Early Decision Applications Are More Popular Than Ever



Greg Grauman, director of admissions, said, "The ultimate demonstration of interest is applying early decision," in a [Washington Post](#) article about college admissions. He noted that American University received 576 early decision applications this

year—a seven percent increase from last year. (11/27)

Toward a WWI Memorial



Peter Kuznick, professor of history, explained to the [Los Angeles Times](#) why there is no national monument for World War I. "It's one of those black holes in American

historical memory, in part because it was such a negative experience both at the time and even more so in hindsight," he said. Kuznick's remarks were republished in the [Chicago Tribune](#), [Orlando Sentinel](#), [AARP: The Magazine](#), among others. (11/28)

Astronauts Considered in NASA Budget Cuts



Howard McCurdy, professor of public administration, discussed with the [Los Angeles Times](#) the reason behind the temporary stop on NASA's astronaut program and the details of the

department's budget cuts. "Astronauts are expensive," he said. "Keeping them on the government payroll isn't like maintaining a couple of extra forest rangers." (12/1)

Gulf Oil Spill Offshore Drilling Firms Threaten to Go Abroad



Dan Fiorino, professor of environmental policy, talked to the [Christian Science Monitor](#) about the Obama administration's ban on offshore drilling. "Do you go for short-term economic benefits concentrated in one area or the longer-term risk of some other environmental disaster?" he asked. (11/22)

Prosecuting WikiLeaks



Daniel Marcus, professor of law, appeared on [MSNBC's The Daily Rundown](#) to discuss the case against WikiLeaks. "We don't think of WikiLeaks as being part of the mainstream press, and yet WikiLeaks is doing essentially the same thing the [New York Times](#) did when it published the information about the NSA electronic surveillance program," said Marcus. (12/1)

Explaining the DREAM Act



Alan Kraut, professor of history, discussed the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) act on [CNBC Radio](#). "We're trying to find a solution to the many unauthorized or undocumented immigrants who are coming into the United States, and so it's natural that this would be a hot topic of political debate," said Kraut. (11/30)

Palin Presidential Strategy



Lauren Feldman, professor of public communication, appeared on six **Hearst Television** stations to discuss the impact of Sarah Palin's reality television exposure on her possible 2012 presidential campaign. "For

people who aren't following politics or may only follow it when there is a big election going on, this is a way for them to build some kind of relationship with Sarah Palin," said Feldman. (11/23)

Deficit Commission Recommendations



Robert Tobias, distinguished practitioner in residence, discussed the new federal pay freeze on [Federal News Radio](#). He said the pay freeze will make it difficult for managers to motivate their employees to work towards the common goal of running a functioning office., "It will make it much more complex, especially given the age of the federal work force," Tobias said. (12/1)

Pentagon says Gays Won't Hurt Military



William Leap, professor of anthropology, discussed the Pentagon's study recommending the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" with the [Washington Examiner](#). Leap said "the conflict over the policy reflects a generational divide and wider cultural acknowledgment and awareness

of homosexuality among younger people." (11/30)