This Week’s Newsmakers
March 18–March 25, 2011
Prepared by University Communications

Top Story
Town & Gown Relations: AU’s 10-Year Campus Plan
Through its 2011 Campus Plan, American University will strengthen its academic prestige, maintain its standing as an asset to Washington, D.C., and honor its commitment to be an amenity to the surrounding community. “The focus of our campus plan is to improve the quality of our facilities to support the academic programs and our students,” said Jorge Abud, assistant vice-president for facilities development and real estate, on WAMU’s The Kojo Nnamdi Show. David Taylor, AU president’s chief of staff, also discussed the plan on WJLA-ABC7. (3/21)

Additional Features
2011 NCAA Men’s Wrestling Championship
American University Eagles Ryan Flores, Steve Fittery, and Ganbayar Sanjaa, earned second, third, and fourth places, respectively, in the 2011 NCAA men’s wrestling championship in Philadelphia. Flores’ final championship match aired on ESPN, NCAA.com published a feature about the team and the reinvigorated wrestling program. “We’ve come a long way . . . We were number one in the classroom two of the last three years,” head coach Mark Cody said to the Philadelphia Inquirer. The Ithaca Journal, Cody’s hometown paper, featured him after he received the 2011 NCAA Coach of the Year award. (3/19-21)

Beethoven Project an Intellectual Challenge
Yuliya Gorenman, musician-in-residence in the Department of Performing Arts, reached the end of a four-year series of performances of Ludwig von Beethoven’s 32 sonatas called The Gorenman Beethoven Project. Washingtonpost.com reviewed the final installment and said her journey was “a feat of the intellect and of endurance as it is of pianism.” (3/20)

Spanish Design in “Bravos”
Dwell, a national modern design and lifestyle magazine, posted a blog entry on BRAVOS: Groundbreaking Spanish Design—a forthcoming exhibit at the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center. “The exhibit shows the remarkable diversity of styles and techniques emerging from Iberia,” read the blog. (3/21)

Op-Ed
The Dire Consequences of Saudi Intervention in Bahrain
“The [Gulf Cooperation Council’s] decision to send troops is a momentous one,” wrote Kristen Smith Diwan, assistant professor of comparative and regional studies, in an Op-Ed about Saudi troop presence in Bahrain for CNN.com. “Instead of defending the state from foreign aggression (as the military pact specifies), the GCC force is protecting a monarch from a domestic uprising – the first time the forces have been deployed this way.” (3/21)

Quotes
U.S. Foreign Aid Faces Cuts as China’s Reach Grows
Deborah Brautigam, professor of international development, spoke with the Associated Press about China’s growing influence in the global market. She said that the United States still far exceeds China in providing grants and low-interest loans in the developing world. More than 165 outlets including the Washington Post, Forbes, and FOXNews.com republished the article. (3/24)
Castro’s Retirement Ends Era, Spurs Buzz

“They could send a startling message by picking somebody young or out of the party, or somebody whose name is not easily recognized,” said Robert Pastor, professor of international politics, about Fidel Castro’s replacement in Cuba’s Communist Party to the Associated Press. More than 100 outlets including the Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, and NPR.org republished the article. (3/22)

Obama Juggles Libya War, Brazil Trade

Los Angeles Times  “He does not want to overplay this war the way in which the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have been overplayed,” said Allan Lichtman, professor of history, to the Los Angeles Times about President Obama’s challenges with Libya and Brazil. “He is better off keeping American involvement limited and low-key,” Lichtman added. Eight additional outlets, including the Chicago Tribune, republished the article. (3/21)

Why Isn’t Obama Emphasizing Regime Change?
The Washington Post  Kenneth Anderson, professor of law, discussed President Obama’s position on removing Moammar Gaddafi from power in Libya with Washingtonpost.com. “Taking part in hostilities does not require carrying a weapon or engaging directly in fighting; commanding forces is certainly enough,” said Anderson. (3/22)

Republican Tax Chiefs Cool to Cisco, EMC Offshore Proposal

Bloomberg  “Congress could say we’re going to tax 25 percent a year for four years, whether you bring it back or not. It would generate substantial revenue to keep tax reform revenue-neutral,” said David Kautter, managing director of the Kogod Tax Center, to Bloomberg News about the debate over repatriation and tax reform. San Francisco Chronicle’s Web site republished the article and the National Association of Corporate Directors referenced it in its online newsletter. (3/23)

Libya Costs Won’t Stop Spending Debate

THE HILL  “The negotiations on the budget are coming to a crossroads on the next continuing resolution whether we are in Libya or not,” said Gordon Adams, professor of U.S. foreign policy, to The Hill about Libya and the defense budget debate. (3/22)

Reader’s Review: “The Masters” by C.P. Snow

Milton Greenberg, professor emeritus of government, former provost and interim president, discussed academic politics during a review of C.P. Snow’s novel, The Masters on WAMU’s The Diane Rehm Show. “People think if they give money and mention that their grandson is a candidate for law school or medical school, that that will help. And a smart leadership will decline that,” said Greenberg. (3/23)

Cleaning Up in a Tough Economy

Leigh Riddick, a finance and real estate professor, discussed how small businesses can survive in a troubled economy with WAMU’s Metro Connection. “There are two business mottos that will help a company do well in a bad economy. One is to have a business that has a less expensive alternate for something that people need or value,” said Riddick. (3/18)

Obama Takes ‘Unprecedented’ Aim at Leakers

Law professor Daniel Marcus talked about the effects of leaking confidential government information to the public with Agence France-Press. “There’s always been a great concern in the governments about leaks of damaging national security information, and I don’t think that’s changed dramatically from one administration to another,” said Marcus. Five additional outlets, including Yahoo! News, republished the article. (3/23)