Top Story
Fair to Muslims?

“There is a generalized sense of Islamophobia floating around, and the hearings are not doing anything to assuage Muslim fears,” said Akbar Ahmed, chair of Islamic studies, to CNN.com about congressional hearings addressing radical Islam. He said the hearings could either encourage or diffuse a growing sense of suspicion aimed at Muslims in America. Ahmed wrote an op-ed for The New York Times, appeared on FOX News Channel’s The O’Reilly Factor and BBC, was interviewed on WAMU’s The Diane Rehm Show, and spoke with the Washington Post. (3/7-10)

Additional Features
To LOL, or Not to LOL? That Is the Question

The Associated Press interviewed Naomi Baron, professor of linguistics, about the changing use of LOL—laughing out loud—in everyday communication, and mentioned her book Always On: Language in an Online and Mobile World. “One of the things that’s pretty clear—whether LOL is in or passe—it depends on your social circle,” Baron said, citing her research in to how day-to-day language changes with the times. More than 190 outlets including the Washington Post, USA Today, Seattle Times, Huffington Post, and Yahoo! News published the article. (3/6)

Reviewed: Grand Avenues and STAIN at the AU Museum

Washington City Paper reviewed Grand Avenues and STAIN, two exhibits at the American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center. The review noted how perfectly Grande Avenues, an exhibition focused on D.C.’s traffic circles, fit with the museum given that nearby Ward Circle is included in the exhibit. (3/7)

Op-Eds
David Broder: An Appreciation

“He wasn’t out to indoctrinate or proselytize his readers. He was out to provide them with solid and well-researched information with which they could make decisions for themselves,” wrote Richard Benedetto, professor of communication, in an editorial for FOXNews.com about the late Washington Post reporter David Broder. (3/9)

Quotes
New Book Sheds Light on Lincoln’s Radical Views

The Associated Press talked to Phillip Magness, adjunct professor of public administration, about a new book he coauthored on President Abraham Lincoln’s colonization views. According to Magness, Lincoln’s original draft of the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation encouraged slaves to relocate to Central America. "It makes his life more interesting, his racial legacy more controversial," said Magness of Lincoln. More than 200 outlets including the Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, CBSNews.com, and FOXNews.com published the article. (3/4)

UN Probe Opened into Torture by Gadhafi Forces

Juan Mendez, visiting professor of law and part of a U.N.-sanctioned team investigating Moammar Gadhafi’s use of torture on Libyan government opposition, talked to the Associated Press. "We wrote a joint communication to the government of Libya on allegations that we received. It was an urgent action." More than 165 outlets including Houston Chronicle, Boston Globe, and CBSNews.com republished the article. (3/9)
In Kuwait, a Long Battle to Oust the Prime Minister

Kristen Smith Diwan, assistant professor of international service, analyzed demonstrations in Kuwait for the Washington Post. "It's like a little Athens," said Diwan in reference to the democratic nature of Kuwait's political climate. "The men have a lot of free time, and they spend their time discussing politics." (3/6)

Turning the Lens on Home Videos and the Right to Privacy

Patricia Aufderheide, director of the Center for Social Media, told the Washington Post that according to the center's study on documentary filmmaking and ethics, filmmakers believe they have an obligation to protect their subjects from themselves. The obligation "is something that the filmmaker really needs to think about, whether it's a parent of a professional," Aufderheide said, in reference to the debate swirling around films for which parents are the filmmakers and children are the subjects. (3/10)

The Slow Decline of North America

"We need to start over with a big North American idea, one based on the simple premise that all three countries benefit when one succeeds, and we are all hurt when one fails," said Robert Pastor, professor of international relations, to the Miami Herald about relations between the United States, Canada, and Mexico. (3/4)

Groups Seek 2012 Repeat of ‘Year of the Woman’

Jennifer Lawless, director of the Women & Politics Institute, discussed with Roll Call how redistricting might affect the likelihood of new female representation in Congress. "It creates more open seats, and it induces more incumbent retirement. And so any time that you’ve got a white-male-dominated political institution that sees an upsurge in retirements, any marginalized group stands to benefit," she said. (3/8)

Surprising Jobs Women Are Taking Over

Women are increasingly landing jobs that have typically been perceived as male-dominated, including those in finance such as financial managers, budget analysts, and insurance underwriters. Caren Goldberg, assistant professor of management, told Forbes.com the sharp increase of female business school graduates—a 75% jump in the last decade—is likely behind the trend. (3/7)

Defense: A Question of Scale

"Is is simply not credible to describe a reduction of even perhaps $23 billion from the 2011 defense budget as the end of the world—it is about three percent of the department's resources from last year," said Gordon Adams to Financial Times about Pentagon budget cuts. (3/6)

Does ACLU Have A Case Against Metro’s Bag Searches?

"It's certainly not a frivolous lawsuit, although I do think it is an uphill battle for the ACLU," said Stephen Vladeck, professor of law, on WAMU 88.5 about the constitutionality of bag searches in the Washington, D.C., metro system. Vladeck says this case could go a long way toward defining exactly how far law enforcement can go in the name of preventing terrorism. (3/4)

White House Should Heed Lessons of Reorganizations Past

Two policy wonks in the School of Public Affairs, Robert Tobias, distinguished practitioner-in-residence, and Beryl Radin, scholar-in-residence, discussed how the Obama administration should handle government reorganization on Federal News Radio. "We’ve forgotten politics and we’ve forgotten federalism. I think that one of the real difficulties we haven’t given enough space to the trade-offs we have to make among the different goals," said Radin. (3/9)