



AU Newsmakers February 20 – February 27, 2015

Prepared by University Communications

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Top Stories

Why Digital Natives Prefer Reading in Print. Yes, You Read That Right.

The Washington Post

The [Washington Post](#) featured linguistics professor **Naomi Baron** in an article about the advantages of print vs. digital books. The article discussed her book, *Words Onscreen: The Fate of Reading in a Digital World*, her research findings and featured interviews with several AU students. The article syndicated more than 40 times. **Baron** also spoke to [CBS Radio Detroit](#) and [KAMC-FM](#). (2/22 - 2/24)

Should Iranian Students Be Banned From Some Science Programs?



For [NPR](#), president of the Association of International Educators and assistant vice president of campus life, **Fanta Aw** spoke about universities banning Iranian students from certain degree programs. **Aw** said it creates anxiety and confusion among students, and schools should focus on the value of academic learning. (2/20)

Additional Feature

Authorization to Use Military Force



International service professor **Shoon Murray** spoke to [KPFA-FM](#) about President Obama's request to Congress for an Authorization to Use Military Force (AUMF) against ISIL. **Murray** also discussed the history of AUMFs including the 2001 AUMF, declarations of war and her book, *The Terror Authorization: The History and Politics of the 2001 AUMF*. (2/25) *Interview starts at 11:40

Op-Eds

A Scientific Perspective on Politics and Science

The Washington Post

For [Washington Post's Monkey Cage](#), government professor **Elizabeth Suhay** discussed the notion that people's political values influence their views on science. The article kicked off a week of posts to the blog based on the March issue of the *ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* for which **Suhay** is the co-editor of the cover story "The Politics of Science: Political Values and the Production, Communication, and Reception of Scientific Knowledge." (2/23)

The (Ab)uses of Social Media for Understanding International Conflict

The Washington Post

For [Washington Post's Monkey Cage](#), department of justice, law & criminology professor **Thomas Zeitzoff** co-authored an op-ed examining the use of social media as a "liberation technology" for learning important information about foreign policy issues. (2/25)

Expertise

DC Leaders Legalize Pot Despite Threats From Congress



For [Associated Press](#), Law and Government Program director **Jamin Raskin** spoke about D.C.'s marijuana legalization and the negative reaction from Capitol Hill. **Raskin** said that Congress has the power of "purse" and they could financially punish D.C. The article syndicated more than 600 times. (2/26)

Obama's Expected Keystone Pipeline Veto Is Likely to Be the First in a Wave



Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies (CCPS) director **James Thurber** spoke to the [New York Times](#) about President Obama's veto of the Keystone XL pipeline bill, saying that this is a new period for the Obama administration where President Obama will use his veto to "protect his past record." CCPS academic director of the Public Affairs and Advocacy Institute **Patrick Griffin** spoke to the [Los Angeles Times](#) about the approach Republicans must take in reaction to the veto so they don't hurt their 2016 White House ambitions. (2/22 - 2/24)

US Outlines Mission to Retake Mosul from Islamic State. Why So Public a Plan?



International service distinguished practitioner-in-residence **David Barno** spoke to the [Christian Science Monitor](#) about the "perplexing" amount of detail the Pentagon disclosed about Iraqi troops' plans for retaking Mosul. International service professor **Gordon Adams** spoke to [Fiscal Times](#) and described the scenario as "a little bizarre." (2/20 - 2/21)

Should the United States Arm Ukraine? Foreign Affairs' Brain Trust Weighs In



School of International Service dean **James Goldgeier** and international service associate professor **Keith Darden** spoke to [Foreign Affairs' Snapshot](#) about whether the United States should arm Ukraine. **Goldgeier** and **Darden** were among a select group of experts making up Foreign Affairs' Brain Trust on the subject. Although **Goldgeier** and **Darden** disagree, each made strong arguments for their respective positions on whether to arm Ukraine. (2/25)

Venezuela Arrest Sparks Fears of Fresh Crackdown on Opposition



For an [International Business Times](#) article, Center for Latin American and Latino Studies research fellow **Michael McCarthy** spoke about the Venezuelan government's arrest of Caracas Mayor Antonio Ledezma, saying that the arrest "smells of desperation on the part of the government" to silence voices of dissent. (2/21)

Is Bill O'Reilly Really in Trouble? This Time, There's Plenty of Spin



Journalism division director **John Watson** spoke to [Mashable](#) about Bill O'Reilly's recent Brian Williams-like controversy. **Watson** explained the different roles of Bill O'Reilly and Brian Williams to their respective media outlets, saying that O'Reilly exists more as an opinion commentator. (2/24)

ISIS and Russia Fueling Uncertainty, Risk



Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies **Akbar Ahmed** spoke to [Sinclair Broadcasting Group](#) about the spread of global Islamic terrorism, saying that the Muslim community must fix problems like youth unemployment and other issues that drive young people to extremes. History professor **Eric Lohr** spoke to [Sinclair Broadcasting Group](#) about the threats of ISIS and Vladimir Putin. (2/23 - 2/26)

D.C. Bible Museum Will Be Immersive Experience, Organizers Say



For [NPR](#), philosophy and religion professor **Martyn Oliver** spoke about the Museum of the Bible, a new museum set to open in D.C. in 2017, and the artifacts that the museum will have on display. (2/25)

Homeland Security Controversy



Communication professor **Leonard Steinhorn** spoke to [CBS Radio](#) about the potential Homeland Security shutdown, saying that Republicans do not want their first act in the majority to result in a shutdown. (2/23)

Bonus Clip

American U. Women Get By Nemesis Army, Remain in Chase for NCAA Berth



The [Washington Post](#) featured **AU Eagles women's basketball** team in an article that highlighted the team's win over Army and their road to the NCAA tournament. (2/23)