

AU Newsmakers

September 11 – September 18, 2015

Prepared by University Communications

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Top Story

University Website Offers Access to Student Outcomes Data



The National Association of Colleges and Employers [Spotlight For Career Services Professionals](#) featured executive director of the American University Career Center **Gihan Fernando** and American University's **We Know Success** website. **Fernando** underscored that the four years of data powering the site "is enough data to report outcomes and gives us a better sense of trends." (9/16)

Additional Features

Homo Naledi: The Discovery of a New Human-Like Species



AU Anthropology Ph.D. candidate **Becca Peixotto** appeared on [NPR's The Diane Rehm Show](#) to discuss her experience as a member of the excavation team for the Rising Star Expedition, which recovered fossils that are evidence of a new species of human ancestor, *Homo naledi*. (9/14)

Faculty Authors



The U.S. Must Raise the Cap for Syrian Refugees
For [The Hill](#), **Carl LeVan** made a strong case for the United States to abandon its parsimonious stance on accepting refugees. **LeVan** warns that "the refugee admissions are also part of larger geopolitical pivots that the U.S. seems to be missing." (9/16)

A Global Plan for Responding to the European Refugee Crisis



Global Governance, Politics and Security Program director **Michael Schroeder** in [The Hill](#) argued in a co-authored commentary that U.S. policymakers should adopt a global program to handle the current refugee crisis. **Schroeder** outlined three crucial elements required for a global framework. (9/16)

Expertise

NBC's Chuck Todd settling in after year at 'Meet the Press'



Communication professor **Jane Hall** spoke with the [Associated Press](#) about Chuck Todd's one-year anniversary at "Meet the Press" and his efforts to reimagine the show from traditionally long feature interviews with Washington insiders. **Hall** noted that under Todd, efforts to reach beyond Washington officials have yielded a positive change. (9/11)

Why Russians Hate America. Again.



School of International Service associate professor **Keith Darden** spoke to the [New York Times](#) about the soured U.S.-Russia relations. **Darden** likened it to a divorce where a couple splits and pursues separate courses. (9/12)

Women: Candidates and Constituents



For [Washington Post's The Fix](#) column, Women & Politics Institute director **Jennifer Lawless** discussed why Hillary Clinton's poll numbers among women

have fallen in recent weeks. **Lawless** explained Clinton's polling out of the stratosphere early on in the race fueled a distortion. **Lawless** also spoke to [Mashable](#) about the GOP's treatment of Carly Fiorina. (9/16-9/17)



Lawless also appeared on PBS's [NewsHour](#) to discuss why women voters lean more for supporting Democrats rather than Republican presidential candidates. (9/14)

Harriet Tubman for New \$10 Note, Say Historians

Bloomberg With [Bloomberg](#), History professor **Alan Kraut** discussed why abolitionist Harriet Tubman deserved to be the new face of the \$10 bill, saying "Tubman was a remarkable reformer." (9/11)

The Current Rage About Political Correctness

The Washington Post For [Washington Post's Civilities](#) column, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies adjunct professor **Robert Connelly** commented on the language of political correctness, saying "People who argue that political correctness is hijacking candid, unabashed observations aren't considering how their words are being perceived by all rather than just some others." (9/14)

Pope Faces Challenge Persuading U.S. Catholic Leaders on Climate Change

theguardian Philosophy and Religion associate professor **Evan Berry** talked with [The Guardian \(U.S.\)](#) about Pope Francis' U.S. visit and how U.S. bishops will perceive his message. **Berry** also spoke with **Associated Press Video** and **Yale Environment 360**. (9/16, 9/14, 9/15)

National Geographic Contributors Embrace Fox Deal with Ample Caution

theguardian Communication professor **W. Joseph Campbell** spoke with [The Guardian \(U.S.\)](#) about 21st Century Fox expanded partnership with the National Geographic Society to form a for-profit joint venture. **Campbell** pointed out both successful and unsuccessful acquisitions by Rupert Murdoch and said "...it remains to be seen what Fox will do to it." (9/16)

Why Should Candidates Show Up To the 'Kids' Table' Debate?

npr Center for Congressional & Presidential Studies director **James Thurber** appeared on [NPR's All Things Considered](#) to discuss the second tier of Republican presidential hopefuls. **Thurber** said the candidates "still get something from just being in any debate, with all the lights and cameras." He also did not dismiss the ego factor. (9/15)

Politics Never Really Stopped at Water's Edge

Bloomberg A [Bloomberg View](#) article cited School of International Service's assistant professor **Jordan Tama's** research demonstrating that there is a spirit of bipartisanship on foreign policy issues in Congress despite there being partisan rancor in other areas. (9/17)

Bonus

Get Schooled on the D.C. Area's Division I University Campuses

The Washington Post [Washington Post's Going Out Guide](#) looked at D.C.'s top university neighborhoods including local hot spots for AU students to consider whether for a first date or a place to bring parents. **Lori McCue**, a 2013 alumna and entertainment editor for *Washington Post Express*, wrote the AU portion of the article. (9/17)