



**AMERICAN INFORMATION
RESOURCE CENTER
Ankara, Turkey**

**E-Documents
April 2010 – Issue 1**

■ **Electronic Journals – all e-journals**



Vast gardens surround a futuristic city in a 21st-century landscape imagined by artist Kauko Helavuo. © Getty Images

**21st Century
Agriculture**

Humanity's longest struggle has been to feed itself. This *eJournal USA* explores how 21st century technical prowess and agricultural skill hold the key to feeding the growing populations of the future.

■ **IIP Publications – all publications**



**American Lives: A
Brief Look**

This picture book depicts Americans at every stage of life, from children to senior citizens, at work, home, and play.

■ **Ask America**

Ask America allow foreign audiences to interact with American citizens on wide range of topics using a chat tool over the Internet. U.S. government and private sector subject experts, academics, journalists, and everyday citizens are brought on as guests to do webchats on USINFO. You may visit the [Ask America HomePage](#) to see upcoming ones, and read the transcripts of the previous webchats.

■ **Podcasts**

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/podcast.html>

Audio files and transcripts from America.gov

■ **Videos**

<http://www.america.gov/multimedia/video.html?videoid=1498976413>

Video files on foreign policy, U.S. politics, American life, democracy, science and health.

■ **Videos on Youtube**

videos are also divided up into playlists (Diversity / Green Economy / Young America / Democracy and Elections) to make the list a little easier to navigate. And all our videos are copyright-free, so no problems with distribution.

<http://www.youtube.com/american.gov>

■ **Communities**

<http://www.america.gov/communities.html>

Blogs at America.gov offers readers a place to discuss designated topics with experts from the United States and around the world, and to share their comments and reactions with the broader Internet public.

Social Networks of America.gov goes where the conversation is. Follow us on your favorite social networking sites.

JOIN AMERICA.GOV ONLINE COMMUNITIES

 **FACEBOOK**

 **TWITTER**

 **YouTube**

 **Flickr**

■ **GOVFRESH IS A LIVE FEED OF OFFICIAL NEWS FROM U.S. GOVERNMENT TWITTER, YOUTUBE, RSS, FACEBOOK, FLICKR ACCOUNTS AND MORE, ALL IN ONE PLACE.**

■ **Article Alert**

Article Alert is a free aggregation and digest service that links readers to interesting and informative periodical literature (magazine and other journal articles) on a variety of topics including (1) American Life, (2) Economy, (3) Global Challenges, and (4) International Relations. We also offer (5) Top Ten Lists and Other Cool Stuff. We hyperlink to the original texts and supply a short "teaser." There's a lot of great reading on the web and not enough time to find it all. We can help!

<http://www.america.gov/publications/article-alert.html>

 **Facebook Page of U.S. Embassy Ankara / You may become a fan and follow posts about media, cultural and educational events sponsored by the US Embassy in Ankara.**

SIGNIFICANT E-DOCUMENTS

1-TO-1 IN EDUCATION: CURRENT PRACTICE, INTERNATIONAL COMPARATIVE RESEARCH EVIDENCE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Oscar Valiente. March 4, 2010.

Over the last decade, more and more public and private stakeholders, in developed and developing countries, have been supporting 1:1 initiatives in education. These 1:1 initiatives represent a qualitative move forward from previous educational experiences with ICT, inasmuch as every child is equipped with ubiquitous access to a personal device, usually laptops, net books or handhelds. The paper tries to systematize the most salient evidence about 1:1 initiatives in education drawing on official websites, program evaluations and academic meta-reviews. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

[http://www.olis.oecd.org/olis/2010doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00000D76/\\$FILE/JT03279481.PDF](http://www.olis.oecd.org/olis/2010doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00000D76/$FILE/JT03279481.PDF) [PDF format, 19 pages].

PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING A PUBLIC EXPENDITURE REVIEW FOR EDUCATION AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL. The World Bank. March 2010.

In recent years district education expenditure has grown rapidly both in terms of level and as a share of national education expenditure in Indonesia. For many districts, education is a priority in local government budgets and on average absorbs almost one third of spending at the local government level. However, outputs and outcomes still vary despite the increase in education spending. Some districts lag behind, while others have made significant progress in meeting their education goals. The variations in teacher distribution, the supply of schools, the quality of infrastructure facilities, and other input resources may be factors behind the difference in outcomes. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2010/03/02/000333038_20100302225045/Rendered/PDF/532860WP0New0D10Box345606B01PUBLIC1.pdf [PDF format, 23 pages].

FAST-TRACKED UNFAIRNESS: DETENTION AND DENIAL OF WOMEN ASYLUM SEEKERS IN THE UK. Human Rights Watch. February 23, 2010.

The report documents how women asylum seekers with complex claims are being routed into a system designed for much simpler claims. The women are held in detention largely for the UK's administrative convenience, have very little time to prepare a legal case, and have only a few days to appeal if refused. But the claims often involve such sensitive and difficult issues as sexual violence, female genital mutilation, trafficking, and domestic abuse. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2010/02/24/fast-tracked-unfairness-0> [HTML format with links].

THE GREEK AUSTERITY MESSAGE. Council on Foreign Relations. Robert McMahon and Roya Wolverson. March 3, 2010.

Tough new measures by the Greek government to curb debt levels are likely to be welcomed by a nervous European Union, but debate persists on whether the EU will, or should, offer Greece financial assistance. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21565/greek_austerity_message.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fdaily_analysis [HTML format, various paging].

PRESIDENT OBAMA MUST NOT REMOVE NUCLEAR WEAPONS FROM EUROPE. The Heritage Foundation. Sally McNamara and Baker Spring. March 4, 2010.

In April 2009, President Barack Obama laid out the centerpiece of his foreign policy vision for his Administration: the global eradication of nuclear weapons. The authors believe, at this time, however, a withdrawal of America's nuclear arsenal from Europe would send the message that transatlantic security is no longer indivisible. The destabilization brought to the European continent from a premature removal of American nuclear weapons, or an unacceptable degradation of its force, would be a major setback for global security and stability. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://s3.amazonaws.com/thf_media/2010/pdf/wm2824.pdf [PDF format, 2 pages].

HOW TO READ BRAZIL'S STANCE ON IRAN. Council on Foreign Relations. Matias Spektor. March 4, 2010.

Brazil's rebuff of U.S. efforts to toughen sanctions against Iran derives from its wariness of U.S. power politics, writes CFR Visiting Fellow Matias Spektor, but it's too soon to dismiss Brazil's role. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21576/how_to_read_brazils_stance_on_iran.html [HTML format, various paging].

PRODUCTIVE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN JAMAICA. Inter-American Development Bank. Monica Panadeiros and Warren Benfield. March 2010.

Jamaica seems to be a puzzling case for economic growth: despite the structural reforms implemented in the last three decades and adequate investment levels, real GDP per capita is roughly the same as in 1970. The disappointing performance of this economy suggests that productive development policies (PDPs), including first-generation reforms, have not been enough to create a better environment for productivity growth. The paper examines the PDPs in Jamaica and concludes that behind the paradox of high investment and low growth of this economy are the "public debt trap" and a highly distortive tax incentive structure to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) and promote exports. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=35099669> [PDF format, 80 pages].

AN ANALYSIS OF SMALL BUSINESS AND JOBS. Small Business Administration. Brian Headd. March 2010.

Over a recent 15-year period, small businesses created some 65 percent of the net new jobs in the private sector, according to conservative estimates cited in the report.
<http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/rs359tot.pdf> [PDF format, 20 pages].

DIPLOMACY REBOOTED: MAKING DIGITAL STATECRAFT A REALITY. James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy. Christopher Bronk. March 2, 2010.

The State Department is now in a position to build novel applications to support the mission of diplomacy, contends Chris Bronk. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.bakerinstitute.org/publications/BronkFEAFSJMar10.pdf> [PDF format, 5 pages].

ENSURING A VIABLE POSTAL SERVICE FOR AMERICA: AN ACTION PLAN FOR THE FUTURE. U.S. Postal Service. March 2, 2010.

Facing unprecedented volume declines and a projected, cumulative \$238 billion shortfall during the next decade, the report outlines an aggressive plan of cost cutting, increased productivity, and an array of legislative and regulatory changes necessary to maintain a viable United States Postal Service. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.usps.com/strategicplanning/_pdf/Ensuring_Viable_USPS_paper.pdf [PDF format, 24 pages].

HEALTH-RELATED COSTS FROM FOODBORNE ILLNESS IN THE UNITED STATES. Produce Safety Project. Robert L. Scharff. March 3, 2010.

The study estimates that more than a quarter of these costs, an estimated \$39 billion, are attributable to food borne illnesses associated with fresh, canned and processed produce. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.producesafetyproject.org/admin/assets/files/Health-Related-Foodborne-Illness-Costs-Report.pdf-1.pdf> [PDF format, 28 pages].

HIRING INCENTIVES TO RESTORE EMPLOYMENT ACT. Government Printing Office. Web posted March 1, 2010.

The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) has made available the U.S. Senate's jobs bill, Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act, in electronic form. The authentic, electronic version is available on GPO's Federal Digital System (FDsys), named by Government Computer News as one of the Government's best Web sites. GPO authenticated the document by digital signature. This signature assures the public that the document has not been changed or altered. A digital signature, viewed through the GPO Seal of Authenticity, verifies the document's integrity and authenticity.
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-111hr2847EAS2/pdf/BILLS-111hr2847EAS2.pdf> [PDF format, 112 pages].

OVERSIGHT CHALLENGES IN THE MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM. Testimony before the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. Robert Vito. March 3, 2010.

This is the transcript of the testimony of Robert Vito, Regional Inspector General for Evaluation and Inspections, Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, before the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
<http://oig.hhs.gov/testimony/docs/2010/3-3-10VitoHomelandSecSub.pdf> [PDF format, 15 pages].

SHORTCHANGING AMERICA'S HEALTH: A STATE-BY-STATE LOOK AT HOW PUBLIC HEALTH DOLLARS ARE SPENT AND KEY STATE HEALTH FACTS. Trust for America's Health and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. March 1, 2010.

The report finds federal spending for public health has been flat for nearly five years, while states around the country cut nearly \$392 million for public health programs in the past year. These cuts leave communities around the country struggling to deliver basic disease prevention and emergency health preparedness services. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://healthyamericans.org/assets/files/TFAH2010Shortchanging05.pdf> [PDF format, 36 pages].

STUCK SCHOOLS: A FRAMEWORK FOR IDENTIFYING SCHOOLS WHERE STUDENTS NEED CHANGE – NOW! The Education Trust. Web posted March 1, 2010.

The report shows that schools often lumped together as “low performing” are not all alike. Examining data from reading and mathematics assessments for elementary and middle schools in ten states, the study's authors found that some low-performing schools remain stuck year after year, and others that started low performing are among the fastest improvers in their states. [Note: contains copyrighted material].:
<http://www.edtrust.org/sites/edtrust.org/files/publications/files/StuckSchools.pdf> [PDF format, 22 pages].

SURVEY SHOWS GAINS IN FOOD-LABEL USE, HEALTH/DIET AWARENESS. Consumer Health Information, U.S. Food and Drug Administration. March 2, 2010.

More than half of consumers in the United States often read the food label when buying a product for the first time. These consumers are also increasingly aware of the link between diet and heart disease.
<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/UCM202766.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

ENHANCING LEARNING OF CHILDREN FROM DIVERSE LANGUAGE BACKGROUNDS: MOTHER TONGUE-BASED BILINGUAL OR MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION IN THE EARLY YEARS. U.N. Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Jessica Ball. 2010.

The literature review discusses mother tongue-based bilingual or multilingual education for children starting in early childhood. The report informs policy-makers of existing research and practices in mother-tongue instruction in early childhood and early primary school years and raises awareness of the value of maintaining the world's languages and cultures by promoting and resourcing mother tongue-based education for young children. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001869/186961e.pdf> [PDF format, 91 pages].

OPENING STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE THE 53rd UN COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS. National Drug Control Policy. R. Gil Kerlikowske. March 8, 2010.

Director Kerlikowske highlights Administration's commitment to reduce drug use and its consequences in the U.S. and around the world at the 53rd Commission on Narcotic Drugs.
http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/news/speech10/030810_UNCOMmission.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

ANTI-IMMIGRATION BACKLASH ROILS TIES BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND INDIA – PART I. YaleGlobal. Robin Jeffrey. March 5, 2010.

Despite being a nation built by immigrants, Australia faces fresh challenges in dealing with new arrivals, particularly from India. In the past five years, the number of Indian students has skyrocketed, lured by both the educational opportunities and the promise of permanent residency. This mounting immigration has led to increased bouts of anti-Indian violence recently, forcing Australians to acknowledge racism in their midst. Shaken by the violence, measures have been taken to improve race relations, which is a positive not only for immigrants, but also Australia, as it might improve the tepid relations it has had with India. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/anti-immigration-backlash-part-i> [HTML format, various paging].

ANTI-IMMIGRATION BACKLASH ROILD TIES BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND INDIA – PART II. YaleGlobal. Sadanand Dhume. March 8, 2010.

Australia and India are spending more time mending relations between the two nations than reaching a consensus on major international issues, according to journalist Sadanand Dhume. Dhume notes that despite Australia being the most popular Western country in India after the US, the violence against their countrymen there has appalled Indians and damaged Australia's image. The perception that Mandarin-speaking Australian Prime Minister Rudd is more sensitive to China and the fact that Canberra has taken a hard-line on India's refusal to join the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty likely hurts too. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/anti-immigration-backlash-roils-ties-between-australia-and-india-part-ii> [HTML format, various paging].

WATER MARKETS: AUSTRALIA'S MURRYA-DARLING BASIN AND THE U.S. SOUTHWEST. National Bureau of Economic Research. R. Quentin Grafton et al. March 2010.

Fresh water supplies increasingly are under stress in many parts of the world due to rising populations, higher per capita incomes and corresponding consumption, greater environmental concerns, and the effects of climate change. Water rights and markets are part of the institutional menus for responding to these problems. The report examines water markets in both Australia's MDB and the western U.S. and their prospects for addressing water scarcity. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://www.nber.org/papers/w15797.pdf> [PDF format, 37 pages].

ENABLING LONG-TERM ACCESS TO SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND MEDICAL DATA COLLECTIONS. RAND Corporation. Jeff Rathenber and Stijn Hoorens. March 8, 2010.

In recent decades, online access to large, high quality data collections has led to a new, deeper level of sharing and analysis, potentially accelerating and improving the quality of scientific research. These online datasets are becoming imperative at all stages of the research process, particularly in scientific, technical and medical (STM) disciplines. Since libraries have a traditional responsibility to guarantee the availability of the output of scholarly research, they have a potentially important role to play in facilitating long-term access to these resources. Yet, the role of a national library in the realm of STM data remains unclear. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/2010/RAND_TR567.pdf [PDF format, 91 pages].

EXPLAINING HOUSEHOLD SAVING RATES IN G7 COUNTRIES: IMPLICATIONS FOR GERMANY. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Feliz Hufner and Isabell Koske. March 4, 2010.

Many propositions have been made to explain the increase in the German household saving rate since the year 2000 from an individual country perspective but most of them focus on partial aspects. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. [http://www.oecd.org/olis/2010doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00000DE6/\\$FILE/JT03279521.PDF](http://www.oecd.org/olis/2010doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT00000DE6/$FILE/JT03279521.PDF) [PDF format, 25 pages].

SCHOOL CHOICES IN SWEDEN: AN INTERVIEW WITH THOMAS IDERGARD OF TIMBRO. The Heritage Foundation. Dan Lips. March 8, 2010.

American policymakers on the Left and the Right may be surprised to learn that a universal school choice program has taken hold in Sweden. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://www.heritage.org/Research/Education/wm2828.cfm?renderforprint=1> [HTML format, various paging].

TRANSNATIONAL INSURGENCIES AND THE ESCALATION OF REGIONAL CONFLICT LESSONS FOR IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN. Strategic Studies Institute. Idean Salehyan. March 4, 2010.

Many insurgents groups benefit from sanctuaries in neighboring countries where they are relatively safe from state security forces. These transnational insurgencies complicate traditional counterinsurgency operations in significant ways. Most importantly, transnational insurgencies have the potential to spark conflicts between neighboring countries. The report examines several transnational insurgencies that have been active since the end of the Cold War. <http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pubs/display.cfm?pubID=971> [HTML format with a link].

HEALTH INITIATIVE AND COUNTER-INSURGENCY STRATEGY IN AFGHANISTAN. U.S. Institute of Peace. Leonard Rubenstein. March 5, 2010.

An initiative by the Ministry of Public Health in Afghanistan to expand health services throughout the country, including rural communities, and supported by donors including USAID, has vastly expanded access to primary health care services, significantly reduced child mortality, and increased the capacity of the Afghan government to provide an essential service to its people. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://www.usip.org/files/resources/PB%2012%20Health%20Initiatives%20and%20Counterinsurgency%20Strategy%20in%20Afghanistan.pdf> [PDF format, 4 pages].

THE PROMISE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN. The World Bank. Emiliana Vegas and Lucrecia Santibanez. 2010.

The book aims to fill gaps in existing knowledge about early childhood development (ECD) efforts in Latin America and the Caribbean by reviewing a selection of ECD programs in the region. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EDUCATION/Resources/278200-1099079877269/547664-1099079922573/ECD_LAC.pdf [PDF format, 222 pages].

THE BEIGE BOOK. The Federal Reserve Board. March 3, 2010.

Reports from the twelve Federal Reserve Districts indicated that economic conditions continued to expand since the last report, although severe snowstorms in early February held back activity in several Districts. Nine Districts reported that economic activity improved, but in most cases the increases were modest. Overall conditions were described as mixed in the Atlanta and St. Louis Districts, though St. Louis noted further signs of improvement in some areas. Richmond reported that economic activity slackened or remained soft across most sectors, due importantly to especially severe February weather in that region. <http://federalreserve.gov/fomc/beigebook/2010/20100303/FullReport.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

CAN I GET A LITTLE ADVICE HERE?: HOW AN OVERSTRETCHED HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE SYSTEM IS UNDERMINING STUDENTS' COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS. Public Agenda. Jean Johnson et al. March 2010.

Most young adults who go on to college believe that the advice they got from their high school guidance counselors was poor or fair at best, according to the survey. Asked about their experiences with their counselors in high school, nearly half (48%) says that they felt like “just another face in the crowd.” [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.publicagenda.org/files/pdf/can-i-get-a-little-advice-here.pdf> [PDF format, 45 pages].

CHARACTERISTICS OF MINIMUM WAGE WORKERS: 2009. U.S. Department of Labor. March 2010.

In 2009, 72.6 million American workers age 16 and over were paid at hourly rates, representing 58.3 percent of all wage and salary workers. On July 24, 2009, the Federal minimum wage increased to \$7.25 per hour from \$6.55 per hour. Data in the report reflect the average number of workers earning the prevailing Federal minimum wage or less for the calendar year 2009, those who earned \$6.55 or less from January 2009 through July 2009 and those who earned \$7.25 or less from August 2009 through the end of the year. Among those paid by the hour, 980,000 earned exactly the prevailing Federal minimum wage in 2009. Nearly 2.6 million had wages below the minimum.

<http://www.bls.gov/cps/minwage2009.pdf> [PDF format, 14 pages].

CYBERSECURITY: PROGRESS MADE BUT CHALLENGES REMAIN IN DEFINING AND COORDINATING THE COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL INITIATIVE. U.S. Government Accountability Office. March 2010.

In response to the ongoing threats to federal systems and operations posed by cyber attacks, President Bush established the Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative (CNCI) in 2008. This initiative consists of a set of projects aimed at reducing vulnerabilities, protecting against intrusions, and anticipating future threats. GAO was asked to determine (1) what actions have been taken to develop interagency mechanisms to plan and coordinate CNCI activities and (2) what challenges CNCI faces in achieving its objectives related to securing federal information systems.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d10338.pdf> [PDF format, 64 pages].

THE GREEN MOM ECO-COSM: A SOCIAL STUDY INTO THEIR MOTIVATIONS, CONVICTIONS AND INFLUENCE. The Social Studies Group. March 2010.

The study focuses on the women who are really influencing “green mom” consumer behavior online. As with many other issues, women exploring more sustainable consumer practices each begin an engagement with “green” for their own *unique* reasons. The research finds that these women have a definite hunger for products and solutions to help their families live more sustainably, and they are enthusiastically pursuing “green products” that fit the lifestyles they want to achieve. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://learnedon.com/wp-content/uploads/FINALLOW_SocStudies_EcoMoms_FINAL_1.212.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

HOW DRUG COURTS WORK? Urban Institute. John Roman et al. Web posted March 5, 2010.

The analysis considers the theoretical mechanisms through which drug court practices are meant to impact outcomes and how such pathways can be operationalized. A path model is proposed that delineates how drug-court practices affect modifications in behaviors and attitudes, and how these changes affect outcomes. Proposed mediators include changes in: perceived risk and reward (deterrence), perceived legitimacy, and motivation to alter one's behavior. The analysis suggests the pathways that are most crucial to desistance and the most effective drug-court components that impact these pathways. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412042_how_do_drug.pdf [PDF format, 23 pages].

THE IMMIGRATION ECONOMY. Council on Foreign Relations. David Scott Fitzgerald et al. March 8, 2010.

Four experts debate whether the Obama administration's proposal to legalize immigrants would help or harm U.S. workers and economic growth. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.cfr.org/publication/21591/immigration_economy.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fregion_issue_brief [HTML format, various paging].

A MATTER OF DEGREES: PREPARING TEACHERS FOR THE PRE-K CLASSROOM. Pew Center on the States. Marisa Bueno et al. March 9, 2010.

To maximize the benefits of pre-kindergarten investments, states need to create policies that define and support teacher quality, according to the report. The report reviews research on training for pre-k teachers and concludes that educators with at least a bachelor's degree coupled with specialized training in early childhood are best able to foster development of the cognitive, social and emotional skills children need to be ready for kindergarten.
[Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/Pre-k_education/PkN_Education_Reform_Series_FINAL.pdf [PDF format, 24 pages].

RECONCILIATION AND REPRESENTATION: THE SHARE OF THE POPULATION BY THE DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY. Center for Economic and Policy Research. Sarika Gupta. March 2010.

With the debate over health care dragging on, it is becoming increasingly likely that the Senate will pass a bill through the reconciliation process, requiring just a simple majority rather than the super-majority needed to break a filibuster. The paper shows that if this path is taken, senators who represent the vast majority of the nation's population will have supported the bill. The assessment holds even if several of the senators who have indicated serious reservations end up voting against it. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/reconciliation-2010-03.pdf> [PDF format, 2 pages].

SOUTHWEST BORDER VIOLENCE: ISSUES IN IDENTIFYING AND MEASURING SPILLOVER VIOLENCE. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Jennifer E. Lake et al. February 16, 2010.

There has been a recent increase in the level of drug trafficking-related violence within and between the drug trafficking organizations in Mexico. This violence has generated concern among U.S. policy makers that the violence in Mexico might spill over into the United States. Currently, U.S. federal officials deny that the recent increase in drug trafficking-related violence in Mexico has resulted in a spillover into the United States, but they acknowledge that the prospect is a serious concern.
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homsec/R41075.pdf> [PDF format, 46 pages].

SUPERFUND NATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS: SUMMARY FISCAL YEAR 2009. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. March 4, 2010.

The report shows that the program continues to make significant progress in achieving its mission of cleaning up the country's most complex, uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites and protecting the health of nearby communities and ecosystems from harmful contaminants.
<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/accomp/numbers09.html> [HTML format, various paging].

VICE PRESIDENT BIDEN ANNOUNCES NEARLY 200 NEW RECOVERY ACT TRANSIT PROJECTS IN 42 STATES. The White House. Vice President Joe Biden. March 5, 2010.

Vice President Joe Biden and U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood announce funding for 191 new Recovery Act transit projects in 42 states and Puerto Rico that will help transform the nation's infrastructure and support thousands of jobs across the country. In making the over \$600 million in new awards, the Federal Transit Administration met an aggressive deadline to award 100 percent of its Recovery Act transit formula dollars by March 5.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/vice-president-biden-announces-nearly-200-new-recovery-act-transit-projects-42-stat> [HTML format, various paging].

GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY: U.S. AGENCIES PROGRESSING ON GOVERNMENTWIDE STRATEGY, BUT APPROACH FACES SEVERAL VULNERABILITIES. U.S. Government Accountability Office. March 11, 2010.

Global hunger continues to worsen despite world leaders' 1996 pledge--reaffirmed in 2000 and 2009--to halve hunger by 2015. To reverse this trend, in 2009 major donor countries pledged about \$22.7 billion in a 3-year commitment to agriculture and food security in developing countries, of which \$3.5 billion is the U.S. share. This testimony addresses (1) the types and funding of food security programs and activities of relevant U.S. government agencies and (2) progress in developing an integrated U.S. government wide strategy to address global food insecurity and the strategy's potential vulnerabilities. This is based on a new GAO report being released at today's hearing (GAO-10-352).

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d10352.pdf> [PDF format, 100 pages].

OPEC REVENUES FACT SHEET. Energy Information Administration. March 2010.

The members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) could earn \$767 billion of net oil export revenues in 2010 and \$823 billion in 2011. Last year, OPEC earned \$573 billion in net oil export revenues, a 41 percent decrease from 2008. Saudi Arabia earned the largest share of these earnings, \$154 billion, representing 27 percent of total OPEC revenues. On a per-capita basis, OPEC net oil export earnings reached \$1,554 in 2009, a 42 percent decrease from 2008.

http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/OPEC_Revenues/pdf.pdf [PDF format, 3 pages].

COUNTRY ANALYSIS BRIEFS: SOUTH AFRICA. Energy Information Administration. March 2010.

South Africa's energy sector is critical to the economy as the country relies heavily on its large-scale, energy-intensive mining industry. South Africa has only small deposits of oil and natural gas and uses its large coal deposits for most of its energy needs. As a result, carbon emission and intensity levels for South Africa are relatively high. The country also has a highly developed synthetic fuels industry, producing gasoline and diesel fuels from coal and natural gas.

http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/South_Africa/pdf.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

ON THE ISSUES: NIGERIA. U.S. Institute of Peace. David R. Smock. March 10, 2010.

Longstanding religious and political tensions in Nigeria erupted into bloodshed this month, marking the latest in a series of clashes between Muslims and Christians that have claimed the lives of hundreds of people this year. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.usip.org/resources/the-issues-nigeria> [HTML format, various paging].

RADICALISATION AND DIALOGUE IN PAPUA. International Crisis Group. March 11, 2010.

A substantive dialogue between the Indonesian government and Papuan leaders could help stem political radicalization in the country's easternmost province. The latest report from the International Crisis Group charts the radicalization of activists from the central highlands, the province's mountainous spine, and links a small group of them, the pro-independence National Committee for West Papua (Komite Nasional Papua Barat, KNPB), to some of the violence that

erupted in Papua in 2009. The KNPB is not broadly representative and its tactics are decried by other activists, but its message – that peaceful methods have failed to produce results – resonates more widely. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/asia/south_east_asia/188_radicalisation_and_dialogue_in_papua.pdf [PDF format, 40 pages].

CAN IRAN'S ACCELERATING NUCLEAR PROGRAM BE STOPPED? YaleGlobal. Leonard S. Spector. March 10, 2010.

Iran appears to have stepped up its efforts to produce a nuclear weapon amid new information about its level of technological expertise and its dealings with North Korea, according to nonproliferation expert Leonard S. Spector. Iran has been able to enrich uranium to the 19.75 percent level, a significant step toward producing weapons-grade uranium. That Iran wants to enrich all of its uranium supply to this level, beyond what it would likely need for medical isotopes, suggests the desire and wherewithal to build a nuclear weapon.
[Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/can-iran%E2%80%99s-accelerating-nuclear-program-be-stopped> [HTML format, various paging].

COUNTRY ANALYSIS BRIEFS: YEMEN. Energy Information Administration. March 2010.

Yemen's location on the Bab al Mandab, one of the world's most strategic shipping lanes through which an estimated 3.7 million barrels of oil pass daily, makes Yemen important to the global oil trade. Disruption to shipping in the Bab el-Mandab could prevent tankers in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Aden from reaching the Suez Canal/Sumed pipeline complex, requiring a costly diversion around the southern tip of Africa to reach western markets.
<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Yemen/pdf.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages].

U.S.-IRANIAN RELATIONS: AN ANALYTIC COMPENDIUM OF U.S. POLICIES, LAWS, AND REGULATIONS. Atlantic Council. Web posted on March 9, 2010.

This Compendium contains the text of major regulations, laws, and other documents governing U.S. interactions with Iran. Also provided are the text of U.N. Security Council Resolutions, agreements between Iran and several other countries on various issues, and other documents that represent major policy decisions in U.S. relations with Iran. The publication was launched at an Atlantic Council panel discussion on U.S.-Iran relations. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/65/US-IranRelations.pdf [PDF format, 166 pages].

DETERMINING GENDER EQUITY IN FISCAL FEDERALISM: ANALYTICAL ISSUES AND EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE FROM INDIA. Levy Economics Institute of Boston College. Lekha S. Chkraborty. March 2010.

Despite the policy realm's growing recognition of fiscal devolution in gender development, there have been relatively few attempts to translate gender commitments into fiscal commitments. The paper aims to engage in this significant debate, focusing on the plausibility of incorporating gender into financial devolution, with the Thirteenth Finance Commission of India as backdrop. Given the demographics, the monotonous decline in the juvenile sex ratio, especially in some of the prosperous states of India, there can be no valid objection to using Finance Commission transfers for this purpose. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.levy.org/pubs/wp_590.pdf [PDF format, 28 pages].

WHO SPEAKS FOR ISLAM? MUSLIM GRASSROOTS LEADERS AND POPULAR PREACHERS IN SOUTH ASIA. National Bureau of Asian Research. Mumtaz Ahmad et al. February 2010.

Globalization processes, through increasing transnational networks and the growth of new forms of media, are changing the dynamics of Muslim religious authority in South Asia. The authors examine the evolving social and political roles of Muslim religious figures and leaders in Pakistan, India, and Afghanistan. The study finds that the role of religious leadership at the local level has not been diminished by increasing globalization, but nontraditional voices of religious authority are emerging and traditional leaders are using new media tools to reach wider audiences. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.nbr.org/publications/specialreport/pdf/SR22.pdf> [PDF format, 76 pages].

“AMAZON TAX” LAWS SIGNAL BUSINESS UNFRIENDLINESS AND WILL WORSEN SHORT-TERM BUDGET PROBLEMS. Tax Foundation. Joseph Henchman. March 8, 2010.

As more states consider enacting so-called “Amazon tax” laws to force online retailers to collect sales taxes, the report cautions that such policies would not only fail to relieve short-term budget problems but also hurt long-term economic growth. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.taxfoundation.org/publications/show/25949.html> [HTML format, various paging].

BUILDING A SOLAR FUTURE: REPOWERING AMERICA’S HOMES, BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRY WITH SOLAR ENERGY. Environment America. Tony Dutzik et al. March 9, 2010.

America has virtually limitless potential to tap the energy of the sun. Solar energy is clean, safe, proven and available everywhere, and the price of many solar energy technologies is declining rapidly. By adopting solar energy on a broad scale, the nation can address our biggest energy challenges, according to the authors. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.environmentamerica.org/uploads/37/06/370684e48c4a60d6c25763175070f0ae/Building-a-Solar-Future.pdf> [PDF format, 65 pages].

CHILDREN ON THE HOMEFRONT: THE EXPERIENCES OF CHILDREN FROM MILITARY FAMILIES. RAND Corporation. Anita Chandra. March 9, 2010.

This is the testimony presented before the House Armed Services Committee, Subcommittee on Military Personnel on March 9, 2010. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://rand.org/pubs/testimonies/2010/RAND_CT341.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

THE COST OF UNCOMPENSATED CARE WITH AND WITHOUT HEALTH REFORM. Urban Institute. John Holahan and Bowen Garrett. March 10, 2010.

The authors estimate that under the health reform bill passed by the Senate, the cost of uncompensated care will fall from \$62.1 billion in 2009 to \$46.6 billion in 2019. If no health reform is enacted, they project that uncompensated care would rise to between \$107 and \$141 billion in 2019. Over the six-year period of proposed health reform legislation, 2014–2019, the costs of uncompensated care without health reform would be between \$560 and \$700 billion. With reform, the cost would be \$330 billion under the Senate bill and provide substantive savings to each level of government. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412045_cost_of_uncompensated.pdf [PDF format, 5 pages].

ENERGY USE IN THE U.S. FOOD SYSTEM. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Patrick Canning et al. March 10, 2010.

Energy is an important input in growing, processing, packaging, distributing, storing, preparing, serving, and disposing of food. Analysis using the two most recent U.S. benchmark input-output accounts and a national energy data system shows that in the United States, use of energy along the food chain for food purchases by or for U.S. households increased between 1997 and 2002 at more than six times the rate of increase in total domestic energy use. This increase in food-related energy flows is over 80 percent of energy flow increases nationwide over the period.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR94/ERR94.pdf> [PDF format, 39 pages].

EXPANDING ACCESS TO PAID SICK LEAVE: THE IMPACT OF THE HEALTHY FAMILIES ACT ON AMERICA'S WORKERS. Joint Economic Committee. March 10, 2010.

The report estimates the impact of the *Healthy Families Act* (S. 1152, introduced by Senator Chris Dodd, and H.R. 2460, introduced by Representative Rosa DeLauro), on access to paid sick leave.

http://jec.senate.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=Press.PressReleases&ContentRecord_id=49baa5a6-5056-8059-7686-a4a43efff2d9&Region_id=&Issue_id= [HTML format with a link].

THE FUTURE OF U.S. PUBLIC DIPLOMACY. U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. March 10, 2010.

These are testimonies before U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations hearing, The Future of U.S. Public Diplomacy.

<http://foreign.senate.gov/testimony/2010/LiebermanTestimony100310p.pdf> Statement by Evelyn S. Lieberman [PDF format, 5 pages].

<http://foreign.senate.gov/testimony/2010/HughesTestimony100310p.pdf> Written Testimony of Ambassador Karen Hughes [PDF format, 4 pages].

<http://foreign.senate.gov/testimony/2010/GlassmanTestimony100310p.pdf> Testimony by James K. Glassman [PDF format, 20 pages].

<http://foreign.senate.gov/testimony/2010/McHaleTestimony100310p.pdf> Statement by Judith McHale [PDF format, 6 pages].

A GROWING TERRORIST THREAT?: ASSESSING "HOMEGROWN" EXTREMISM IN THE UNITED STATES. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Rick "Ozzie" Nelson and Ben Bodurian. March 8, 2010.

The report discusses five events that occurred during the fall of 2009 which thrust concerns over "homegrown" terrorism or extremist violence perpetrated by U.S. legal residents and citizens into public view. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://csis.org/files/publication/100304_Nelson_GrowingTerroristThreat_Web.pdf [PDF format, 21 pages].

OUR WORKING NATION: HOW WORKING WOMEN ARE RESHAPING AMERICA'S FAMILIES AND ECONOMY AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR POLICYMAKERS. Center for American Progress. Heather Boushey and Ann O'Leary. March 8, 2010.

The report offers detailed, practical solutions that will help American workers and families meet the dual demands of work and family, while bolstering our economy.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/03/pdf/our_working_nation.pdf [PDF format, 70 pages].

SHAPING A HEALTHIER GENERATION: HEALTHY KIDS, HEALTHY AMERICA STATES PROFILES IN PROGRESS. National Governors Association Center for Best Practices. March 2010.

Childhood obesity has reached epidemic proportions in the United States, and today, nearly 23 million, or one in three, American children are overweight or obese. Through the Healthy Kids, Healthy America program, the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices supported 15 states as they worked to develop policies to prevent childhood obesity. The recognizable progress of each of these states is detailed in the report.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/1003HEALTHYKIDSPROFILES.PDF> [PDF format, 44 pages].

THEY SPEND WHAT? THE REAL COST OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS. The Cato Institute. Adam Scafeffer. March 10, 2010.

Although public schools are usually the biggest item in state and local budgets, spending figures provided by public school officials and reported in the media often leave out major costs of education and thus understate what is actually spent. The author discusses the real spending according to his analysis. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/pa662.pdf> [PDF format, 32 pages].

2009 COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES. U.S. Department of State. March 11, 2010.

"The idea of human rights begins with a fundamental commitment to the dignity that is the birthright of every man, woman and child. Progress in advancing human rights begins with the facts. And for the last 34 years, the United States has produced the Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, providing the most comprehensive record available of the condition of human rights around the world," says the Secretary of State introducing the report.
<http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2009/index.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

AL-QAEDA CENTRAL AND THE INTERNET. New America Foundation. Daniel Kimmage. March 16, 2010.

Since the September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, Al-Qaeda has not succeeded in carrying out a similarly ambitious operation, although it has been effective at spreading its message globally over the Internet. But it now faces a triple communications challenge: staying prominent in an ever more competitive online environment, explaining how its current entanglement in the Afghanistan-Pakistan nexus makes sense in the global jihadist narrative, and trying to change increasingly negative views of suicide bombing and al-Qaeda itself in the Arab-Muslim world. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://counterterrorism.newamerica.net/sites/newamerica.net/files/policydocs/kimmage2.pdf> [PDF format, 19 pages].

NATO'S NUCLEAR POLICY IN 2010: ISSUES AND OPTIONS. Atlantic Council. Walter B. Slocombe and Annette Heuser. March 2010.

Internal divisions within the Alliance will complicate decision-making on nuclear issues. The United States and the United Kingdom, the two states with nuclear weapons officially available to the Alliance, have adopted a policy of combining "Global Zero" as a long-term goal, progress in arms control and a diminished role for nuclear weapons, with maintaining a strong strategic nuclear deterrent in the interim. France, the other NATO nuclear state, remains committed to the independence of its deterrent. Several NATO allies, including Germany, seek to distance themselves from nuclear weapons by, among other measures, ending the current nuclear sharing arrangements. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.acus.org/files/publication_pdfs/403/NATONuclearPolicy_SAGIssueBrief.pdf [PDF format, 6 pages].

WINNING THE RACE: HOW AMERICA CAN LEAD THE GLOBAL CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY. Apollo Alliance and Good Jobs First. March 2010.

The report estimates that some 70 percent of America's renewable energy systems and components are manufactured abroad. If America continues to import 70 percent of the clean energy systems and component parts demanded by new investments in renewable energy, it stands to lose out on an estimated 100,000 clean energy manufacturing jobs between now and 2015, and potentially a quarter million manufacturing jobs by 2030, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://apolloalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/wtr3-2010final.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

NORTH KOREA UNDER TIGHTENING SANCTIONS. International Crisis Group. March 15, 2010.

The recent tightening of economic sanctions, compounded with domestic problems, could trigger North Korean instability as the country's human security tragedy continues to deteriorate. Although North Korea appears stable on the outside, the regime has been shaken by tough international sanctions, several domestic challenges and the consequences of its own extremely poor policy choices. The internal problems could have unanticipated implications for regional and wider international security. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/asia/north_korea/b101_north_korea_under_tightening_sanctions.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

MOROCCO: CURRENT ISSUES. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Carol Migdalovitz. February 2010.

The U.S. government views Morocco as a moderate Arab regime, an ally against terrorism, and a free trade partner. King Mohammed VI retains supreme power but has taken incremental liberalizing steps. Since 9/11, Moroccan expatriates have been implicated in international terrorism, and Morocco has suffered terror attacks. Morocco takes a proactive approach to countering terror, but some of its measures may be setting back progress in human rights. Morocco's foreign policy focuses largely on Europe, particularly France and Spain, and the United States. In the Middle East, it supports a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and has severed diplomatic relations with Iran for bilateral reasons.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RS21579_20100203.pdf [PDF format, 13 pages].

YEMEN: ON THE BRINK. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Sarah Phillips. March 11, 2010.

Western policy makers are scrambling to respond decisively to Yemen's instability after the failed Christmas Day attack on a U.S. passenger jet was tied to al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula. But there are limits to how much foreign intervention can accomplish Yemen's political system needs to become less centralized and more inclusive. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/yemen_tribes.pdf [PDF format, 26 pages].

BAD COMPANY – LASHKAR E-TAYYIBA AND THE GROWING AMBITION OF ISLAMIST MILITANCY IN PAKISTAN. Congressional Testimony, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Ashley J. Tellis. March 11, 2010.

Despite recently resumed talks, tensions between nuclear-armed neighbors India and Pakistan remain high. In testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Ashley Tellis warned that continued Pakistani support for the terrorist group Lashkar e-Tayyiba (LeT) threatens to undermine the delicate peace between the two countries and plunge the region into conflict, with significant consequences for American interests abroad. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/0311_testimony_tellis.pdf [PDF format, 9 pages].

PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS: PROLIFERATION AND SECURITY ISSUES. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Paul K. Kerr and Mary Beth Nikitin. February 23, 2010.

Pakistan's nuclear arsenal consists of approximately 60 nuclear warheads, although it could be larger. Islamabad is producing fissile material, adding to related production facilities, and deploying additional delivery vehicles. These steps will enable Pakistan to undertake both quantitative and qualitative improvements to its nuclear arsenal. Whether and to what extent

Pakistan's current expansion of its nuclear weapons-related facilities is a response to the 2008 U.S.-India nuclear cooperation agreement is unclear.
http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34248_20100223.pdf [PDF format, 23 pages].

2009 INTERNET CRIME REPORT. Internet Crime Complaint Center. March 11, 2010.

The report covers fraudulent activity on the Internet today. Online crime complaints increased substantially once again last year, according to the report. The IC3 received a total of 336,655 complaints, a 22.3 percent increase from 2008. The total loss linked to online fraud was \$559.7 million; this is up from \$265 million in 2008."
http://www.ic3.gov/media/annualreport/2009_IC3Report.pdf [PDF format, 26 pages].

THE 2010 RETIREMENT CONFIDENCE SURVEY: CONFIDENCE STABILIZING, BUT PREPARATIONS CONTINUE TO ERODE. Employee Benefits Research Institute. Ruth Helman et al. March 2010.

The study finds that the record-low confidence levels measured during the past two years of economic decline appear to have bottomed out. The percentage of workers very confident about having enough money for a comfortable retirement has stabilized at 16 percent, which is statistically equivalent to the 20-year low of 13 percent measured in 2009 (Fig. 1, pg. 7). Retiree confidence about having a financially secure retirement has also stabilized, with 19 percent saying now they are very confident. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.ebri.org/pdf/briefspdf/EBRI_IB_03-2010_No340_RCS.pdf [PDF format, 44 pages].

AMERICA'S TEACHER CORPS. Brookings Institution. Steven Glazerman et al. March 15, 2010.

The authors propose the creation through federal legislation of America's Teacher Corps (ATC). Highly effective K-12 public school teachers, as documented through district or state evaluation systems that comply with federal standards, would qualify for membership in the ATC. Members of the ATC would receive visible recognition for teaching excellence and, conditional on service in high-poverty Title I schools, a salary supplement and portable credential. The ATC would encourage states and districts to establish effective teacher evaluation systems and to use those systems to guide the recruitment, retention, placement, professional development, and compensation of teachers. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2010/0315_teacher_corps/0315_teacher_corps.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

AMERICA'S TOMORROW: A PROFILE OF LATINO YOUTH. National Council of La Raza. March 2010.

The brief examines the status of Latino youth in the United States. Latino youth, who compose nearly 20% of all youth in the country, experience high levels of poverty, high dropout rates, low graduation rates, high unemployment rates, and low rates of health insurance. Given that Latinos will compose about 30% of the U.S. population by 2050, the ability of Latino youth to overcome these pressing challenges today will directly impact the economic and social success of the nation in the future. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.nclr.org/content/publications/detail/62014/> [HTML format with a link].

A COMPARISON OF THE CLEAN ENERGY JOBS AND AMERICAN POWER ACT (CEJAP Act) AND THE CARBON LIMITS AND ENERGY FOR AMERICA'S RENEWAL ACT (CLEAR Act). Pew Center on Global Climate Change. March 2010.

The brief compares key elements of two bills currently under consideration in Congress. The Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act (CEJAP Act) provides a comprehensive, economy-wide approach to achieving reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by capping emissions, using a combination of auctions and free allocations for distributing allowances, and allowing firms to

trade and purchase offsets to reduce compliance costs. The second bill, the Carbon Limits and Energy for America's Renewal Act (CLEAR Act), caps greenhouse gas emissions, but the approaches used in these bills differ significantly. The brief describes the key features of each bill and Table 1 at the end of the brief contains a side-by-side comparison of the bills. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/policy-memo-cejap-clear-march2010.pdf> [PDF format, 3 pages].

DEADLY DELIVERY: THE MATERNAL HEALTH CARE CRISIS IN THE U.S.A. Amnesty International. March 2010.

Maternal mortality ratios have increased from 6.6 deaths per 100,000 live births in 1987 to 13.3 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2006. While some of the recorded increase is due to improved data collection, the fact remains that maternal mortality ratios have risen significantly. The USA spends more than any other country on health care, and more on maternal health than any other type of hospital care. Despite this, women in the USA have a higher risk of dying of pregnancy-related complications than those in 40 other countries, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/dignity/pdf/DeadlyDelivery.pdf> [PDF format, 154 pages].

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION OF VETERANS - 2009. U.S. Department of Labor. March 12, 2010.

The unemployment rate for veterans who served in the military since September 2001—a group referred to as Gulf War-era II veterans—was 10.2 percent in 2009, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The jobless rate for veterans of all eras combined was 8.1 percent. About 21 percent of Gulf War-era II veterans reported having a service-connected disability in August 2009, compared with about 13 percent of all veterans.

<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/vet.pdf> [PDF format, 19 pages].

FROM DELIBERATION TO DYSFUNCTION: IT IS TIME FOR PROCEDURAL REFORM IN THE U.S. SENATE. Center for American Progress. Scott Lilly. March 12, 2010.

The report urges the Senate to adopt modest procedural changes to curb some of the filibuster's worst abuses and make the Senate more responsible. The U.S. Senate has a proud tradition of ensuring that important decisions are carefully weighed before they become law. This has served the nation well at times. But under current practices the latitude granted to individual senators to obstruct does not always contribute to more measured consideration of national policy. In recent years, the Senate has been less and less able to follow the regular order in the consideration of pending legislation, the confirmation of senior executive branch officials, and other work. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/03/pdf/filibuster.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

HOSPITALITY VISION: U.S. PERFORMANCE REVIEW. Deloitte. March 2010.

The U.S. hotel industry welcomed the dawn of 2010. Performance measures in the first half of 2009 were particularly troublesome for many companies, and only in the closing months of that year were there glimmers of hope that the worst was over. By December 2009, a number of major markets started to experience increases in occupancy and revenue per available room, following what in some cases had been multi-year, record-breaking declines. The domestic tourism activity was starting to revive for a few select markets, while declines in international travel were lessening, and business travel remained mostly stagnant. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.deloitte.com/assets/Dcom-UnitedStates/Local%20Assets/Documents/Consumer%20Business/us_thl_US%20Performance%20review_012910.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

PROMOTING THE DIALOGUE: CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE MARITIME SERVICES. Center for New American Security. Christine Parthemore. March 11, 2010.

Climate change carries broad implications for U.S. interests. Scientists forecast, and in some regions are already observing, an increasingly accessible Arctic, sea level rise, melting glaciers and ice sheets, changing patterns of natural disasters and alterations to ocean conditions. These physical changes hold consequences for national security. They could affect military installations, generate new challenges for continued U.S. access to the global commons and contribute to economic and political instability abroad, with implications for U.S. maritime missions in particular. The author synthesizes how the maritime services are thinking about climate change and assesses potential policy implications. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/Promoting_Dialogue_ClimateChange_Maritime_Services_Parthemore_Mar2010_code408_workingpaper_0.pdf [PDF format, 18 pages].

REMOVING CHRONICALLY INEFFECTIVE TEACHERS: BARRIERS AND OPPORTUNITIES. Center for American Progress. Robin Chait. March 10, 2010.

In schools across the country, there are teachers who should not be teaching. But schools almost never dismiss persistently poor-performing teachers due in large part to legal and policy barriers at the local and state level, according to Chait. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/03/pdf/teacher_dismissal.pdf [PDF format, 32 pages].

THE STATE OF THE NEWS MEDIA: AN ANNUAL REPORT ON AMERICAN JOURNALISM. Pew Project for Excellence in Journalism. March 15, 2010.

The report takes stock of the revolution occurring in how Americans get information and provide a resource for citizens, journalists and researchers to make their own assessments. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.stateofthedia.org/2010/> [HTML format with links].

100% RENEWABLE ENERGY – AND BEYOND – FOR CITIES. World Future Council. March 2010.

What does '100 percent renewable' really mean, and what does 'and beyond' signify? The paper provides strategies for cities to become 100% powered by renewable energy. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://worldfuturecouncil.org/fileadmin/user_upload/PDF/100__renewable_energy_for_cities-for_web.pdf [PDF format, 29 pages].

INNOVATION, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND FINANCIAL MARKET CYCLES. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Josh Lerner. March 18, 2010.

The paper reviews evidence of the relationship between innovation and entrepreneurship. It then turns to understanding the consequences of market cycles and the economic crisis and discusses implications for programs to encourage financing for entrepreneurs and venture capital. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/29/27/44840087.pdf> [PDF format, 57 pages].

PROMOTING CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD: A CRITICAL CHALLENGE TO ACHIEVE GLOBAL HEALTH. National Research Council. Valentin Fuster and Bridget B. Kelly, Editors. March 22, 2010.

Cardiovascular disease (CVD), once thought to be confined primarily to industrialized nations, has emerged as a major health threat in developing countries. Cardiovascular disease now accounts for nearly 30 percent of deaths in low and middle income countries each year, and is accompanied by significant economic repercussions. Yet most governments, global health institutions, and development agencies have largely overlooked CVD as they have invested in health in developing countries. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://books.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=12815&page=R1 [HTML format, various paging].

SICK WATER?: THE CENTRAL ROLE OF WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. U.N. Environment Programme. March 22, 2010.

Transforming wastewater from a major health and environmental hazard into a clean, safe and economically-attractive resource is emerging as a key challenge in the 21st century. It is a challenge that will continue to intensify as the world undergoes rapid urbanization, Industrialization and increasing demand for meat and other foods unless decisive action is taken says the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.grida.no/_res/site/file/publications/sickwater/SickWater_screen.pdf [PDF format, 88pages].

UNESCO GUIDEBOOK ON TEXTBOOK RESEARCH AND TEXTBOOK REVISION. U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Falk Pingel. March 2010.

The updated version includes information on the rapid growth of the electronic educational media market, the diversification and regionalisation of textbook production and the introduction of standards and quality criteria. It places textbook revision within the wider framework of transitional justice and reconciliation measures such as trials, truth commissions, and remembrance ceremonies. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0011/001171/117188E.pdf> [PDF format, 83 pages].

LIBYA/CHAD: BEYOND POLITICAL INFLUENCE. International Crisis Group. March 23, 2010.

Libya's peace diplomacy in Chad has met with some success, but lack of follow-up to implement the deals suggests Muammar Gaddafi is less interested in the country's long-term stabilisation than in asserting his regional influence. The report examines how Libya's foreign policy towards Chad has evolved from open imperialism to support in peace negotiations with Chad's armed rebellion and its neighbour Sudan. Libya has been the most important country for Chad since Gaddafi came to power in 1969, but its approach has had mixed results. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?id=6561&l=1> Summary in English [HTML format, various paging].
http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/africa/central_africa/b71_libyetchad__au_dela_d_une_politique_d_influence.pdf In French [PDF format, 24 pages].
http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/africa/central_africa/b71_libye_tchad__au_dela_d_une_politique_d_influence_arabic_rev.pdf In Arabic [PDF format, 20 pages].

CHINA PREPARES FOR AN ICE-FREE ARCTIC. Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. Linda Jakobson. March 2010.

The prospect of the Arctic being navigable during summer months as a result of climate change has impelled the Chinese Government to allocate more resources to research in the High North. Several Chinese academics have encouraged their government to be aware of the political, economic and military implications of shorter shipping routes and untapped energy resources. However, Chinese officials advocate cautious Arctic policies for fear of causing alarm and

provoking countermeasures among the Arctic states. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://books.sipri.org/files/insight/SIPRIInsight1002.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

COAL IN CHINA: RESOURCES, USES AND ADVANCED COAL TECHNOLOGIES. Pew Center on Global Climate Change. Gudong Sun. March 2010.

China's energy-development pathway has increasingly become a topic of international attention, particularly as China has become the largest national source of annual greenhouse gas emissions. At the forefront of this pathway is a reliance on coal that has spanned many decades. In a world faced with increasing environmental pressures, China must develop ways to utilize coal more efficiently and more cleanly. Its ability to do so will be crucial for its domestic energy security, for its local environment and the well-being of its population, and for the future of the global climate. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/coal-in-china-resources-uses-technologies.pdf> [PDF format, 31 pages].

OBAMA'S MISSED OPPORTUNITY IN INDONESIA. Council on Foreign Relations. Joshua Kurlantzick. March 20, 2010.

President Obama must not let his postponed trip to Indonesia scuttle U.S. plans to forge a lasting strategic partnership with an emerging world power, writes CFR's Joshua Kurlantzick.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21664/obamas_missed_opportunity_in_indonesia.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fregion_issue_brief [HTML format, various paging].

UNFAIR CHINA TRADE COSTS LOCAL JOBS: 2.4 MILLION JOBS LOST, THOUSANDS DISPLACES IN EVERY U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT. Economic Policy Institute. Robert E. Scott. March 23, 2010.

The report finds the growing trade deficit between the U.S. and China eliminated or displaced an estimated 2.4 million American jobs between 2001 and 2008. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://epi.3cdn.net/91b2eeeffce66c1a10_v5m6beqhi.pdf [PDF format, 22 pages].

http://www.epi.org/page/-/bp260/bp260_supplemental_table_a.pdf Net Job Loss Due to Growing Trade Deficits with China, 2001-08, by Congressional District Tables [PDF format, 8 pages].

XINJIANG – WHERE CHINA'S WORRY INTERSECTS THE WORLD. YaleGlobal. Christopher M. Clarke. March 19, 2010.

The recent killing of a Uighur terrorist in Afghanistan has brought new focus on the ethnic group in China's western border region of Xinjiang. The situation of the Uighurs – an ethnic Turkic, Muslim minority – reveals much about China's internal conduct and external worries, according to China expert Christopher M. Clarke. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/xinjiang-where-chinas-worry-intersects-world> [HTML format, various paging].

PROVISIONAL REPUBLIC ARMY (IRA) (AKA, PIRA, "THE PROVOS," OGLAIGH NA HEIREANN)(U.K. SEPARATISTS). Council on Foreign Relations. Kathryn Gregory. March 16, 2010.

The provisional Irish Republican Army, or IRA, is an outgrowth of an older group known as the Irish Republican Army, which fought an insurgency that successfully challenged British rule in the whole of Ireland in the early years of the twentieth century. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/9240/provisional_irish_republican_army_ira_aka_pira_the_provos_glaigh_na_hireann_uk_separatists.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fbackground [HTML format, various paging].

DUBAI'S DEBT WOES EXPOSE FLAWS IN GOVERNANCE MODEL. International Institute for Strategic Studies. March 18, 2010.

The debt problems of Dubai World, an investment company owned by the Emirate of Dubai, have cast a pall over economic activity in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the Gulf. They have raised questions about relationships between the seven Emirates that constitute the UAE, as well as about Dubai's ambitious economic model and the unclear boundaries between the public finances and those of the ruling Al Maktum family. As negotiations continue on restructuring \$26 billion of debt, it is clear that greater transparency in governance may be needed in the Gulf to restore business confidence over the longer term. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.iiss.org/publications/strategic-comments/past-issues/volume-16-2010/march/dubais-debt-woes-expose-governance-model/> [HTML format, various paging].

THE ECONOMICS OF INFLUENCING IRAN. Brookings Institution. Suzanne Maloney. March 22, 2010.

Influencing the Islamic Republic of Iran has proven to be a perennial conundrum for American presidents, says the author. The complexity of Iranian politics and the intractability of the problems posed by Tehran's revolutionary theocracy may explain why, over the course of three decades, each U.S. administration has been forced to revise its initial approach to Iran in hopes of achieving better outcomes. The overall result has been an American tendency to oscillate between engagement and pressure, with frustratingly limited results.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/reports/2010/03_economic_pressure_iran_maloney/201003_economic_pressure_iran_maloney.pdf [PDF format, 8 pages].

U.S.-ISRAEL: TIME FOR AN 'HONEST' TALK. Council on Foreign Relations. Bernard Gwetzman et al. March 22, 2010.

President Obama's scheduled meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu should stress that any rejection of a peace settlement will erode the U.S.-Israeli relationship, says Middle East diplomatic historian William B. Quandt. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cfr.org/publication/21707/usisrael.html> [HTML format, various paging].

COUNTRY ANALYSIS BRIEFS: COLOMBIA. Energy Information Administration. March 23, 2010.

Colombia has seen an increase in oil production in recent years following a period of steady decline. The Colombian government has enacted a series of regulatory reforms to make the sector more attractive to foreign investors. In addition, it has implemented a partial privatization of state oil company Ecopetrol in an attempt to revive its upstream oil industry. The security situation in the country has also improved, with few attacks against oil and natural gas infrastructure in recent years.

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Colombia/pdf.pdf> [PDF format, 8 pages].

BETTER HEALTH CARE AT LOWER COSTS: WHY HEALTH CARE REFORM WILL DRIVE BETTER MODELS OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY. Center for American Progress. Ellen-Marie Whelan and Lesley Russell. March 19, 2010.

The paper describes a number of innovative models of care delivery that are currently delivering the dual goals of providing better health care and better value, and outlines the key elements of these new approaches to health care delivery and financing that should be part of the reform of the health care system. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/03/pdf/health_delivery.pdf [PDF format, 26 pages].

CLIMATE CHANGE: PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS ON GEOENGINEERING SCIENCE, FEDERAL EFFORTS, AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES. U.S. Government Accountability Office. Frank Rusco. March 18, 2010.

Key scientific assessments have underscored the urgency of reducing emissions of carbon dioxide to help mitigate potentially negative effects of climate change. Recently, some policymakers have raised questions about geo-engineering--large-scale deliberate interventions in the earth's climate system to diminish climate change or its potential impacts--and its role in a broader strategy of mitigating and adapting to climate change.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d10546t.pdf> [PDF format, 19 pages].

EFFECTS OF IMPOSING A VALUE-ADDED TAX TO REPLACE PAYROLL TAXES OR CORPORATE TAXES. New America Foundation. Eric Toder and Joseph Rosenberg. Web posted March 22, 2010.

The report examines the effects of imposing a new value added tax (VAT) in the United States and using the revenue raised to lower payroll tax and corporate income tax rates. We summarize how different forms of VAT operate and compare how a VAT, payroll tax, and corporate income treat different sources of income and the different ways each tax distort economic decision-making. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://growth.newamerica.net/sites/newamerica.net/files/policydocs/VATpaper.pdf> [PDF format, 39 pages].

FOREIGN-BORN WORKERS: LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS – 2009. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. March 19, 2010.

The share of the U.S. labor force composed of the foreign born was little changed in 2009, and their unemployment rate rose from 5.8 to 9.7 percent, according to the report. The jobless rate of the native born increased from 5.8 percent in 2008 to 9.2 percent in 2009. It also compares the labor force characteristics of the foreign born with those of their native-born counterparts.

<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/forbrn.pdf> [PDF format, 14 pages].

THE IMPACT OF AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT IN 401(k) PLANS ON FUTURE RETIREMENT ACCUMULATIONS: A SIMULATION STUDY BASED ON PLAN DESIGN MODIFICATIONS OF LARGE PLAN SPONSORS. Employee Benefit Research Institute. Jack VanDerhei. April 2010.

The research finds that auto-enrollment of participants in 401(k) plans is likely to be most beneficial to young and low-income workers, although high-income workers are likely to benefit from it as well. It also confirms earlier results that large employers adopting auto-enrollment have significantly increased the employer "match" to their workers' own 401(k) contributions.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.ebri.org/pdf/briefspdf/EBRI_IB_04-2010_No341_Auto-Enrl.pdf [PDF format, 24 pages].

IMPLEMENTING THE REPEAL OF "DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL" IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES. Center for American Progress. Lawrence J. Korb et al. March 23, 2010.

The report outlines why implementing the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" can be accomplished quickly and would require few changes in military regulations and practices. The authors find that most existing regulations are already neutral with respect to sexual orientation and therefore don't need to be modified. Others will require minor changes through legislation or additional executive guidance. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/03/pdf/dadt_repeal.pdf [PDF format, 56 pages].

PAVING THE WAY THROUGH PAID INTERNSHIPS: A PROPOSAL TO EXPAND EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOW-INCOME COLLEGE STUDENTS. Economic Policy Institute. Kathryn Anne Edwards and Alexander Hertel-Fernandez. March 23, 2010.

As Spring 2010 college graduates prepare to search for jobs, many from low-income families will start at a competitive disadvantage because they have had to work rather than take crucial, but often unpaid, professional internships that provide key skills for entering the workforce. A new legislative proposal seeks to remedy this inequity by providing funding for low-income students to take high-quality public service internships. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://epi.3cdn.net/b1d404768baee139e7_ram6i2vc3.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

PRISON COUNT 2010: STATE POPULATION DECLINES FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 38 YEARS. Pew Center on the States. March 2010.

For the first time in nearly 40 years, the number of state prisoners in the United States has declined, according to the survey. As of January 2010, there were 1,403,091 persons under the jurisdiction of state prison authorities, 5,739 fewer than on December 31, 2008. This marks the first year-to-year drop in the nation's state prison population since 1972. While the study showed an overall decline, it revealed great variation among jurisdictions. The prison population declined in 27 states, while increasing in 23 states and in the federal system. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/sentencing_and_corrections/Prison_Count_2010.pdf [PDF format, 10 pages].

TOP 25 CITIES WITH THE MOST ENERGY STAR LABELED BUILDINGS IN 2009. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. March 23, 2010.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) releases a list of U.S. metropolitan areas with the largest number of energy efficient buildings that earned EPA's Energy Star in 2009. The list is headed by Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Denver, Chicago, Houston, Lakeland, Dallas-Fort Worth, Atlanta and New York. Energy efficiency saves building owners money and fights climate change. http://www.energystar.gov/ia/business/downloads/2009_Top_25_cities_chart.pdf [PDF format, 1 page].

RELIGION IN THE NEWS: 2009. Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life and Project for Excellence in Journalism. March 25, 2010.

Pope Benedict and the Obama administration generated the most religion-related coverage in the press. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1539/religion-news-media-coverage-2009> [HTML format, various paging].

ROOTS OF COPENHAGEN FAILURE: NATURE DOES NOT RECOGNIZE NATIONS. YaleGlobal. Bo Ekman. March 24, 2010.

The Copenhagen climate summit was not just a failure to achieve meaningful results to avert climate change, it was also a failure for national actors to find solutions to supranational problems, according to Bo Ekman. Indeed, the summit was likely to fail from the beginning not simply because national self-interest often trumps global common interest, but because the structure of the world order is not designed to solve environmental problems that know no national boundary. Such a criticism could extend to other global problems as well, such as the financial crisis or biodiversity. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/roots-copenhagen-failure-nature-does-not-recognize-nations> [HTML format, various paging].

WHO'S WINNING THE CLEAN ENERGY RACE?: GROWTH, COMPETITION AND OPPORTUNITY IN THE WORLD'S LARGEST ECONOMIES. Pew Charitable Trusts. March 24, 2010.

For the first time, China led the United States and other G-20 members in 2009 clean energy investments and finance, according to the data. China invested \$34.6 billion in the clean energy economy, nearly double the United States' total of \$18.6 billion. Over the last five years, the United States also trailed five G-20 members, Turkey, Brazil, China, the United Kingdom, and Italy, in the rate of clean energy investment growth. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/Global_warming/G-20%20Report.pdf [PDF format, 44 pages].

SUDAN: NO TIME FOR "BUSINESS AS USUAL." Refugees International. Jennifer Smith and Melanie Teff. March 25, 2010.

The next two years will be critical in determining Sudan's future. The country faces national elections in April, the first multi-party elections in 24 years, and a referendum on southern independence in January 2011. While the U.S. and others must do everything possible to ensure that the governments in north and south Sudan reach agreement on outstanding issues before the referendum, the humanitarian community must simultaneously prepare to respond if conflict erupts around the upcoming political events. Decades of responding to crises in Sudan has created a complacent "business as usual" attitude among some humanitarian agencies and donors that must be overcome. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://www.refugeesinternational.org/sites/default/files/032510_sudan_businessasusual.pdf [PDF format, 4 pages].

JAPANESE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CAPACITY: EXPERT OPINIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. RAND Corporation. Ancy Wong et al. March 23, 2010.

The Japanese government places great emphasis on ensuring the country's vitality in science and technology (S&T) and remaining at the forefront of global science. It is in this spirit that Japan uses its five-year basic S&T plans, the first of which was introduced in 1996, to guide research and development (R&D) promotion. This report summarizes the views of 55 leading researchers in the United States, the European Union, Switzerland, and Russia regarding the competitiveness of Japanese research in 25 fields in the life sciences, environmental science, information and communication technology, and nanotechnology and materials science. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/2010/RAND_TR714.pdf [PDF format, 145 pages].

LASHKAR-I-TAIBA: THE FALLACY OF SUBSERVIENT PROXIES AND THE FUTURE OF ISLAMIST TERRORISM IN INDIA. Strategic Studies Institute. Ryan Clarke. March 18, 2010.

The study discusses the foundation of Lashkar-i-Taiba (LeT), the development of its modus operandi, and engages in an investigation of LeT's activities in India, Pakistan, and the Kashmir region. Further, LeT's fundraising methods, LeT's relationships with regional state and non-state actors such as Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) and Dawood Ibrahim's D-Company are analyzed. Also, the impact that these developments have on domestic Islamist terrorism in India are addressed. <http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdffiles/PUB973.pdf> [PDF format, 117 pages].

HAITI: A ONCE-IN-A-CENTURY CHANCE FOR CHANGE. Oxfam International. March 26, 2010.

Before the devastating earthquake of January 2010, Haiti was showing signs of dynamism. However, the pre-existing extreme levels of poverty and inequality exacerbated the devastation.

Haiti's reconstruction, if badly managed, will perpetuate the country's inequality, benefiting the rich and creating new risk for the poor. If well managed, it really could help to build a better Haiti, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/bp136-haiti-once-in-a-century-220310.pdf> [PDF format, 20 pages].

REFORMS AND COUNTER-REFORMS IN BOLIVIA. Inter-American Development Bank. Luis Carlos Jemio M. et al. Web posted March 2010.

The paper analyzes reforms and counter-reforms in Bolivia in recent decades and their effects on the policymaking process (PMP) and productivity. Bolivia's PMP has shifted from a formal representative democracy to a "participative and direct type of democracy" where street protest and other non-conventional forms of political participation have become dominant. While reforms have increased productivity, they have failed to secure the political support necessary to assure long-term sustainability. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
<http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=35004755> [PDF format, 82 pages].

SKILLS, EXPORTS, AND THE WAGES OF FIVE MILLION LATIN AMERICAN WORKERS. The World Bank. Irene Brambilla et al. March 2010.

The returns to schooling or the skill premium is a key parameter in various literatures, including globalization and inequality and international migration. The paper explores the skill premium and its link to exports in Latin America, thus linking the skill premium to the emerging literature on the structure of trade and development. Using data on employment and wages for over five million workers in sixteen Latin American economies, the authors estimate national and industry-specific skill premiums and study some of their determinants. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2010/03/23/000158349_20100323114042/Rendered/PDF/WPS5246.pdf [PDF format, 39 pages].

STATE SPONSORS: CUBA. Council on Foreign Relations. March 23, 2010.

The U.S. State Department continues to list Cuba as a state sponsor of terror, though most experts say the country no longer poses a threat to U.S. national security. [Note: contains copyrighted material].
http://www.cfr.org/publication/9359/state_sponsors.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fbackgrounder [HTML format, various paging].

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AT RISK OF EDUCATIONAL FAILURE: 2007-08. National Center for Education Statistics. Priscilla Rouse Carver et al. March 23, 2010.

The report presents data from a recent district Fast Response Survey System (FRSS) survey about alternative schools and programs available to students during the 2007-08 school year. Alternative schools and programs are specifically designed to address the educational needs of students at risk of school failure in a setting apart from that of the regular public school. They can be administered by the district or an entity other than the district. The study includes information on the availability and number of alternative schools and programs, the number of students enrolled in alternative schools and program, and district policy on returning students to a regular school.
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2010/2010026.pdf> [PDF format, 73 pages].

AMERICA INSECURE: CHANGES IN THE ECONOMIC SECURITY OF AMERICAN FAMILIES. Urban Institute. Gregory Acs and Austin Nichols. Web posted March 23, 2010.

The paper synthesizes findings from a series of Urban Institute reports produced under the "Risk and Low-Income Working Families" research initiative. It is structured around two key questions: (1) How have economic instability and insecurity for America's low-income working families changed over time? and (2) What are the factors that contribute to or offer protection from substantial income losses and promote or inhibit recoveries from such losses?

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412055_america_insecure.pdf [PDF format, 32 pages].

CHRONIC DISEASE AND THE INTERNET. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Susannah Fox and Kristen Purcell. March 24, 2010.

People living with chronic disease are disproportionately offline, according to the report. Those who are online have a trump card: they gather and share information and they learn from their peers. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2010/PIP_Chronic_Disease.pdf [PDF format, 35 pages].

EDUCATION, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND BORDER ECONOMIC GROWTH. James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy. Thomas M. Fullerton Jr. et al. March 24, 2010.

The study shows how economic recovery programs may improve, or fail to improve, regional education systems. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.bakerinstitute.org/publications/LAI-pub-BorderEconFullerton-032410.pdf> [PDF format, 22 pages].

FY 2011 BUDGET DOCUMENTS: INTERNET AND GPO AVAILABILITY. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Jennifer Teefy. March 8, 2010.

Every year, the President submits to Congress a series of volumes containing the President's proposed budget for the coming fiscal year. By law, the proposal is due by the first Monday in February. Neither the Congressional Research Service (CRS) nor the Library of Congress can provide distribution copies of budget documents. This report provides brief descriptions of the budget volumes and related documents, together with Internet addresses, Government Printing Office (GPO) stock numbers, and prices to obtain these publications. It also tells how to find locations of government depository libraries, which can provide both printed copies for reference use and Internet access to the text.

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41095.pdf> [PDF format, 9 pages].

THE IMPACT OF "GOING GREEN" ON THE LATINO COMMUNITY. Tomas Rivera Policy Institute. Edward Flores and Miriam Ochoa. March 2010.

The media is brimming with coverage of environmental degradation and resource depletion that is taking place at a rate that is unsustainable and harmful to humans. What is not given enough attention is the fact that blacks and Latinos, predominately living in urban areas, are exposed to the negative effects of environmental degradation more than any other group, says the report.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://www.trpi.org/PDFs/TRPI_Boeing_Policy%20Brief.pdf [PDF format, 7 pages].

THE NATION'S REPORT CARD: READING 2009. National Center for Education Statistics. March 24, 2010.

The report presents results of the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in reading at grades 4 and 8. Results for students in the nation, the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Department of Defense schools are reported as average scores and as percentages of students performing at or above three achievement levels: Basic, Proficient, and Advanced. Scores are also reported at selected percentiles, showing changes in the performance

of lower-, middle-, and higher-performing students. Results for student demographic groups defined by various background characteristics are included, as well as sample assessment questions with examples of student responses.

<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/main2009/2010458.pdf> [PDF format, 72 pages].

PAST SILOS AND SMOKESTACKS: TRANSFORMING THE RURAL ECONOMY IN THE MIDWEST. The Chicago Council. Mark Drabenstott. March 18, 2010.

The report says the rural Midwest must reinvent itself and compete in the global economy. The report calls on towns and counties, competing with each other for industry and manufacturing jobs and investments, to join forces to spur innovation and entrepreneurship.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.thechicagocouncil.org/UserFiles/File/Task%20Force%20Reports/Heartland%20Paper%20-%20Rural%20Development%2010.pdf> [PDF format, 48 pages].

TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT: MEN OF COLOR DISCUSS THEIR EXPERIENCES IN COMMUNITY COLLEGES. MDRC. Alissa Gardenhire-Crooks et al. March 2010.

Community colleges provide access to higher education for millions of Americans who might not otherwise be able to pursue it. However, despite the pivotal role these institutions play in promoting social equity, they continue to struggle with low student persistence and completion rates, particularly among male students of color. It is this dilemma that spurred Lumina Foundation to launch the Achieving the Dream initiative in 2003 as a bold national effort to improve student outcomes and reduce achievement gaps at community colleges.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.mdrc.org/publications/547/full.pdf> [PDF format, 95 pages].

UNIONS AND UPWARD MOBILITY FOR IMMIGRANT WORKERS. Center for Economic and Policy Research. John Schmitt. March 2010.

The report reviews the characteristics of the immigrant workforce and analyzes the impact of unionization on the pay and benefits of immigrant workers. According to the most recent available data, immigrant workers are now over 15 percent of the workforce and almost 13 percent of unionized workers. Even after controlling for systematic differences between union and non-union workers, union representation substantially improves the pay and benefits received by immigrants. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/unions-immigrants-2010-03.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICES'S FINANCIAL CONDITION: OVERVIEW AND ISSUES FOR CONGRESS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Kevin R. Kosar. March 17, 2010.

This report provides an overview of the U.S. Postal Service's (USPS's) financial condition, recent legislation to alleviate the USPS's financial challenges, and possible issues for the 111th Congress. Since 1971, the USPS has been a self-supporting government agency that covers its operating costs with revenues generated through the sales of postage and related products and services. Recently, the USPS has experienced significant financial challenges. In May 2009, the USPS warned that it might experience a cash shortage at the end of September 2009. Two months later, the Government Accountability Office added the USPS's financial condition "to the list of high-risk areas needing attention by the Congress and the executive branch."

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R41024_20100317.pdf [PDF format, 16 pages].

VISA SECURITY POLICY: ROLES OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND HOMELAND SECURITY. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Ruth Ellen Wasem. March 8, 2010.

The case of Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, who allegedly attempted to ignite an explosive device on Northwest Airlines Flight 253 on December 25, 2009, has refocused attention on the responsibilities of the Departments of State and Homeland Security for the visa process. Proponents of DOS playing the principal role in visa issuances assert that only consular officers in the field have the country-specific knowledge to make decisions about whether an alien is admissible and that staffing 250 diplomatic and consular posts around the world would stretch DHS beyond its capacity. Whether the visa security roles and procedures are adequately funded may arise as the FY2011 budget is considered.
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homesecc/R41093.pdf> [PDF format, 24 pages].

ARTICLES

DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

Achenbach, Joel UNDER THE WORLD'S GREATEST CITIES, DEADLY PLATES (Washington Post, February 23, 2010)

In 1800, only one city in the world had more than a million people, Beijing. Last year, humanity reached a turning point, when more people lived in cities than rural areas; today, there are 381 cities with over a million residents each. Over 400 million people worldwide live in large cities that face significant seismic hazards, and the author writes that strong earthquakes, such as those that recently struck central Chile and Port-au-Prince, Haiti, will extract an increasing human toll due to the growing global trend toward urbanization. Achenbach notes that it is not the earthquake itself, but buildings, often poorly constructed, that kill people. Currently available online at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/22/AR2010022204828.html>

Anderson, Troy NEW SPECIES FROM ANCIENT CAVES (National Wildlife, Vol. 48, No. 2, February/March 2010)

Caves shelter thousands of animal species, many of them unknown, according to biologists exploring caves beneath California's southern Sierra Nevada Mountains, in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, where new and unusual species are being discovered. Cave life forms are vulnerable to chemicals, poisons and other contaminants, and are adversely affected by amateur cave explorers who disrupt delicate underground habitats. Caves help purify groundwater in karst (hollowed-out bedrock) aquifers that supply freshwater to an estimated quarter of the world. Currently available online at <http://www.nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/National-Wildlife/Animals/Archives/2010/New-Species-from-Ancient-Caves.aspx>

Corbett, Steve; Davidson, Michael J. THE ROLE OF THE MILITARY IN PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS (Parameters, Vol. 34, No. 4, Winter 2009-10, pp. 58-72)

The authors, both retired military officers, are concerned by the public endorsement of presidential candidates by retired general officers. They worry that it reflects "a disturbing trend toward the politicization of the American military" as well as a move away from the traditional nonpartisan professional military ethic. They believe that this practice should be discouraged because of its potential damage to the U.S. armed forces, noting that "political neutrality is essential to the military's ability to survive in its present form." The American professional ethic of a nonpolitical military began in the post-Civil War period, and no professional military officer was nominated for the presidency from 1880 until 1952, when Dwight Eisenhower ran and was

elected. The partisan political activities of members of the active-duty military are restricted, but these legal restrictions do not apply to military retirees. The authors point out several potential problems to political endorsements by military retirees: civilian political leaders may not trust senior military advisers whom they see as potential political opponents; political endorsements by retirees may legitimize the spread of partisan political politics within the active-duty force; and such activities may undermine the confidence of the American public in the military's political neutrality. Currently available online at <http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/Parameters/09winter/corbett%20and%20davidson.pdf>

Lawler, Andrew OUT OF EDEN (Discover Magazine, vol. 30, no. 11, December 2009)

Cambridge archaeologist Joan Oates had dug in Iraq and Syria for five decades when, in 2006, she and her team discovered artifacts at Tell Brak in Syria that told the story of a sophisticated, urban culture dating back 6000 years -- and its accompanying brutality. They uncovered hundreds of human bones, remains of an ancient massacre or terrible battle. The find puts urban living about 1000 years earlier than previously thought, illuminating "both the creative and violent tendencies of humanity" and opens a new perspective on the evolution of urban centers earlier than Sumer. "Brak shows a picture more complex than that," says University of California, San Diego, archaeologist Guillermo Algaze.

McKeown, Alice CORAL REEFS UNDER THREAT (WorldWatch, Vol. 23, No. 1, January/February 2010, p. 15)

Coral reefs are under siege from climate change and human activities such as overfishing and destructive fishing methods. Vital to fisheries around the world for the food and protection they offer marine species, coral reefs are increasingly endangered. An estimated one-fifth of the world's coral reefs have been lost; an additional 35 percent may die in the next few decades. The most threatened are those in Asia and the Indian Ocean.

Strycker, Noah A. LESSONS IN A LAND OF WIND AND ICE (National Wildlife, Vol. 48, No. 2, February/March 2010)

Strycker, a researcher and journalist, writes about his three-month stay at Cape Crozier, Antarctica, to study and photograph Adélie penguins. He relates that their behavior is influenced by changes in weather and ice patterns: "The penguins are bellwethers of this climate change." Adélie and Emperor penguins who breed on the region's ice shelves may face extinction unless they can adapt to the shrinking ice. Currently available online at <http://www.nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/National-Wildlife/Birds/Archives/2010/Lessons-in-a-Land-of-Wind-and-Ice.aspx>

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Barnes, Peter; McKibben, Bill A SIMPLE MARKET MECHANISM TO CLEAN UP OUR ECONOMY (Solutions, no. 1, January-February 2010)

A progressive and revolutionary plan for reducing carbon emissions called "cap-and-dividend" is outlined by the authors. Carbon permits would be auctioned, monthly dividends paid to citizens to help defray costs of sustainable energy development and use. It would be transparent and simple to administer. "Markets currently assume the atmosphere can absorb an infinite amount of CO₂ since the price for emitting it is exactly zero. Capping the carbon supply will inform markets of nature's limits," they write, adding that the technological progress required will be easy compared to structuring the economics. Currently available online at http://www.thesolutionsjournal.com/feature_article/2009-01-14-simple-market-mechanism-can-clean-our-economy

EI-Erian, Mohamed HOW TO HANDLE THE SOVEREIGN DEBT EXPLOSION (Financial Times, March 10, 2010)

The author, chief executive of investment firm Pimco, writes that the major development of the ongoing financial crisis is the deterioration in the public finances of many advanced economies. Greece is currently the focus of attention, but in time will affect many other Western countries. This development is overturning traditional assumptions about a big divide between advanced and emerging economies; a growing number of the former now have poorer prospects and are more vulnerable than the latter. EI-Erian believes that governments of the advanced economies will pull through this difficult period, but cautions that we should recognize that traditional assumptions about economic downturns being cyclical may not apply today, when fundamental changes are taking place. Currently available online at http://us.ft.com/ftgateway/superpage.ft?news_id=fto031020101453310596

Ghemawat, Pankhaj FINDING YOUR STRATEGY IN THE NEW LANDSCAPE (Harvard Business Review, March 2010)

In the wake of the recent recession and financial crisis, global firms must change their strategic approach, says Ghemawat, a professor at IESE Business School in Barcelona. He outlines different aspects and elements of that approach — target markets and competition, products, operations, innovation, organizational structures, workers and reputation. Corporations must adapt their visions to a world where national differences are more pronounced than before and managing those differences is the primary challenge. Thus, companies need to put new emphasis on differentiation of their products and services and look anew at opportunities in underserved segments of the market. Supply chains will have to become shorter, simpler, and more robust, and offshoring, while remaining a valid option, will require a second look in light of rising protectionism. The trend to shift the locus of R&D from the developed world to emerging markets will continue and the use of Web-based collaborative tools in management will pick up.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Dubowitz, Mark THE SANCTIONS ON IRAN ARE WORKING (Foreign Policy Online, February 10, 2010)

The author, executive director of the [Foundation for Defense of Democracies](#) and director of its Iran Energy Project, argues that Tehran is already feeling the heat of sanctions, and recent actions by the Obama administration and Congress will increase pressure on Iran's energy sector — “the lifeblood of the men who rule Iran.” The Treasury Department has targeted the four subsidiaries of Ghorb, a major engineering and construction firm, and the firm's commander, Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Gen. Rostam Qasemi. The Treasury Department designations will discourage international firms from doing business with Ghorb and its affiliates, as has been the case with the more than 80 foreign financial firms that have terminated or reduced their dealings with Iran. Congress is also working on legislation that will target the regime's need to import some 30 to 40 percent of its gasoline by giving the president the authority to sanction foreign companies that sell refined petroleum products to Iran or that help Iran improve its domestic refinery capacity. The possibility of these sanctions has already caused three companies to halt their gasoline sales to Iran, most banks have cancelled lines of credit issued to finance these imports, and some insurance companies that underwrite this trade have announced that they will pull out if the legislation is passed. Currently available online at http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2010/02/10/the_sanctions_on_iran_are_working?page=0,0

Ferguson, Charles THE LONG ROAD TO ZERO (Foreign Affairs, vol. 89, no. 1, January/February 2010, pp. 86-94)

The author notes that a clear bipartisan consensus has emerged in the Washington on the subject of nuclear security. At the same time, however, he poses an important question: In a world where the strongest conventional military power cannot envision giving up its nuclear weapons before all other nations have abandoned theirs, how will humanity ever rid itself of nuclear weapons? Ferguson, president of the Federation of American Scientists, writes of the importance of finding a way to obviate the prestige factor associated with possessing nuclear arms. He says that is what stands in the way of making progress towards President Obama's dream of nuclear weapons-free world. For more on reducing nuclear arsenals, see: <http://www.america.gov/nuclear-free-world.html> [

Heim, Jacob L. TAPPING THE POWER OF STRUCTURAL CHANGE: POWER CYCLE THEORY AS AN INSTRUMENT IN THE TOOLBOX OF NATIONAL SECURITY DECISION-MAKING (SAIS Review, vol. 29, no. 2, Summer-Fall 2009, pp. 113-127)

Heim, with the RAND Corporation, discusses the potential applications of power cycle theory to support national security assessments. The article summarizes how the theory uses the relative balance of power among states to explain why and when major wars occur; contrasts power cycle theory with other international relations theories; and tests the theory's explanatory power against the historical record. He makes the case that power cycle theory is a compelling and important tool for assessing the stability of great power competition in both present and future scenarios.

Rid, Thomas CRACKS IN THE JIHAD (Wilson Quarterly, vol. 34, no. 1, Winter 2010, pp. 40-47)

The author, a visiting scholar at the Shalem Center in Jerusalem, believes that the global jihad is fragmenting and that's not good news for the West. Al-Qaeda and the Taliban are at odds, and even Internet jihadis are taking fewer cues from Osama bin Laden, yet it is becoming more difficult to defeat the global jihad. The Taliban is moderating its tone and throwing an "ideological bridge" to parts of the Kabul elite while former firebrand imams have started questioning the theological justifications of holy war. Today, Al-Qaeda's latest recruits look more like a self-appointed elite than representatives of the Muslim "masses," Western-born but rootless, drawn to the identity-building certainties of radical Islam. Currently available online at http://wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=wq.essay&essay_id=587396

Taşpınar, Ömer FIGHTING RADICALISM, NOT "TERRORISM": ROOT CAUSES OF AN INTERNATIONAL ACTOR REDEFINED (SAIS Review, vol. 29, no. 2, Summer-Fall 2009, pp. 75-86)

Taşpınar, Professor of National Security Studies at the National War College, asserts that while debate over the root causes of terrorism rages in the West, extremists continue to lure destitute radicals to their cause. Counter-terrorism needs to place the breeding grounds for these impoverished sympathizers at the center of their efforts. He believes that a new strategy as well as a new method ought to be adopted to prevent radicals from becoming a threat in the form of terrorism. Fighting radicalism with social and economic development should become the new long-term objective for a smarter effort at strategic counter-terrorism.

U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

Kivisto, Peter CITIZENSHIP TODAY: VICISSITUDES AND PROMISE (Choice, vol. 47, no. 6, February 2010, pp. 1015-1023)

In this review essay, the author discusses the rapidly expanding body of literature on citizenship studies and divides it into four distinct categories: inclusion, withdrawal, erosion, and expansion. In the United States, government exists to serve its citizens. Americans expect their government

to protect their basic constitutional rights, including freedom of speech and religion, the right to equal protection under the law, and the opportunity to organize and participate fully in the political, economic, and cultural life of society. U.S. citizens also recognize that they have a responsibility to their society if they are to enjoy the protection of their rights. Americans willingly, for the most part, live within the law, serve on juries when called upon, pay their fair share of taxes, and exercise their right to vote responsibly. Civic participation in the United States also means that citizens respect the rights of others, accept the authority of the elected government, and make an effort to be informed, involved, and invested in their communities and their nation.

Senna, Danzy; Khakpour, Porochista RACE AND OTHER FLAMMABLE TOPICS (Poets & Writers, vol. 38, no. 2, March/April 2010, pp. 36-44)

Two women writers of color -- Khakpour, the daughter of Iranian immigrants to the United States, and Senna, the daughter of a white, Bohemian mother from an old Boston family and an African-American from the South -- discuss ethnicity, writing, and family. "You write the book you want to read," creative writing professor Senna says. Multiculturalism, being biracial, and writing about it are the focus of this "conversation."

Smith, Steven; Mercer, Holly IT'S THE CONTENT, STUPID (American Libraries, vol. 41, no. 1-2, January/February 2010, pp. 48-51)

The authors, both associated with Texas A&M University Libraries, believe that libraries and librarians have an important stake in the development of online scholarship. Many benefits will come from the growth of digital monographs and journals as well as the development of scholarly websites, online archives, blogs, wikis, and other outlets for research even farther afield from the traditional models. Digital scholarship may be non-linear, unstructured, or open-ended, and it is often software-intensive and multimedia; more remains to be done before libraries can preserve digital content with the same degree of confidence as print.

**If you have any questions or want to reach the full text, please contact the
American Information Resource Center at 312-4577277.**
