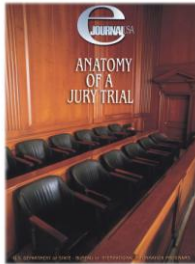




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SIGNIFICANT E-DOCUMENTS

DISASTERS AND ECONOMIC WELFARE: CAN NATIONAL SAVINGS EXPLAIN POST-DISASTER CHANGES IN CONSUMPTION? World Bank. Reinard Mechler. July 1, 2009.

The debate on whether natural disasters cause significant macroeconomic impacts and indeed hinder development is ongoing. Most analyses along these lines have focused on impacts on gross domestic product. The paper examines whether traditional and alternative national savings measures combined with adjustments for the destruction of capital stocks may contribute to better explaining post-disaster changes in welfare as measured by changes in consumption expenditure. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2009/07/06/000158349_20090706082915/Rendered/PDF/WPS4988.pdf [PDF format, 33 pages].

OBAMA ROCKETS TO TOP OF POLL ON GLOBAL LEADERS. World Public Opinion. June 29, 2009.

U.S. President Barack Obama has the confidence of many publics around the world - inspiring far more confidence than any other world political leader according to a new poll of 20 nations by WorldPublicOpinion.org. On the other hand, Putin and Ahmadinejad receive lowest marks. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.worldpublicopinion.org/pipa/articles/views_on_countriesregions_bt/618.php?nid=&id=&pnt=618&lb= [HTML format, various paging].

COUNTING THE COSTS OF SOMALI PIRACY. U.S. Institute of Peace. Raymond Gilpin. July 2009.

The upsurge in attacks by Somali pirates between 2005 and mid-2009 reflects decades of political unrest, maritime lawlessness and severe economic decline, says the report. Piracy has dire implications for economic development and political stability in Somalia, with economic prospects constrained, business confidence compromised and human security worsening. It could also have a destabilizing effect on global trade and security unless immediate steps are taken to craft a coordinated strategy to address the complex factors that trigger and sustain crime and impunity on the high seas. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/1_0.pdf [PDF format, 20 pages].

IMPORTS FROM CHINA AND FOOD SAFETY ISSUES. Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Fred Gale and Jean C. Buzby. July 6, 2009.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) increased attention to food imports from China is an indicator of safety concerns as imported food becomes more common in the United States. U.S. food imports from China more than tripled in value between 2001 and 2008. Addressing safety risks associated with these imports is difficult because of the vast array of products from China, China's weak enforcement of food safety standards, its heavy use of agricultural chemicals, and its considerable environmental pollution.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EIB52/EIB52.pdf> [PDF format, 37 pages].

UIGHURS AND CHINA'S XINJIANG REGION. Council on Foreign Relations. Preeti Bhattacharji. July 6, 2009.

As China transforms the economy, politics, and demographics of Xinjiang, Uighurs accuse China of engaging in imperialism. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.cfr.org/publication/16870/uighurs_and_chinas_xinjiang_region.html?breadcrumb=%2Fpublication%2Fby_type%2Fbackgrounder [HTML format, various paging].

ECONOMY SURVEY OF AUSTRIA, 2009. Policy Brief, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Web posted July 2, 2009.

So far, Austria has weathered the global financial crisis better than other OECD countries. Even so, it is entering its worst recession in half a century. Moreover, its strong economic links with Central and Eastern Europe involve risks to GDP growth and financial stability. In the face of the crisis, the stance of monetary policy has been loosened in the euro area and measures have been taken in Austria to strengthen the liquidity and capital basis of the financial system, whilst automatic stabilizers coupled with discretionary fiscal measures also serve as a cushion. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/4/27/43038042.pdf> [PDF format, 12 pages].

INDIA SHOULD COMBINE TOUGHT CLIMATE STAND WITH GREEN POLICY. Yale Global. Nandan Nilekani. July 2, 2009.

Facing a serious global warming threat, India has to focus on mitigation and green economy says the author. Eighty percent of India's rural population depends on the health of its rivers and land. In the end, "low-carbon" policies and development don't have to be mutually exclusive. The US' reduction of acid rain over the past 20 years is a good example. India's future depends on the country addressing climate change today, lest it suffer unwanted results tomorrow. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/display.article?id=12536> [HTML format, various paging].

UNDISCLOSED RISK: CORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL REPORTING IN EMERGING ASIA. World Resources Institute. Dana Krechowicz and Hiranya Fernando. July 2009.

The report focuses on corporate transparency on environmental risks, and lays the groundwork for understanding environmental disclosure and reporting issues in emerging markets through an investor lens. It is the second report in a series establishing the link between issues like climate change, air pollution, water supply, and natural resource depletion and traditional financial analysis on corporate value and financial strength for companies in six key Asian economies, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://pdf.wri.org/undisclosed_risk_emerging_asia.pdf [PDF format, 32 pages].

HOW MUCH ARE WE WILLING TO PAY TO SEND POOR ADOLESCENTS TO SCHOOL? SIMULATING CHANGES TO MEXICO'S OPORTUNIDADES IN URBAN AREAS. Inter-American Development Bank. Viviane Azevedo et al. June 2009.

Although Mexico's Conditional Cash Transfer Program Oportunidades has increased overall school enrollment, many adolescents do not attend school, especially in urban areas. The paper simulates the effects of changes in program design using a simple parametric method based on a simultaneous probability model of school attendance and child labor. The report indicates that eliminating or reducing school subsidies for primary education and increasing transfer for older students is a cost-effective way to raise overall school enrollment in urban areas. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://idbdocs.iadb.org/wsdocs/getdocument.aspx?docnum=2045726> [PDF format, 37 pages].

TRENDS IN DUCK BREEDING POPULATIONS, 1955-2009. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. July 2, 2009.

The preliminary estimate of total ducks from the study was 42 million, which is 13 percent greater than last year's estimate and 25 percent greater than the 1955-2008 average, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service says. The survey samples more than two million square miles of waterfowl habitat across the north-central and northeastern United States, south-central, eastern, and northern Canada, and Alaska. The survey

estimates the number of ducks on the continent's primary nesting grounds.
<http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/NewReportsPublications/PopulationStatus/Trends/Trend%20Report%202009.pdf> [PDF format, 26 pages].

WHOSE AMAZON IS IT? World Resources Institute. Ruth Nogueron and Isabel Munilla. June 25, 2009.

Following the recent violence over natural resource use, Peru has an opportunity to balance economic development with human rights protections. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://www.wri.org/stories/2009/06/whose-amazon-is-it> [HTML format, various paging].

ADOPTION OF GENETICALLY ENGINEERED CROPS IN THE U.S. Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. July 1, 2009.

U.S. farmers have adopted genetically engineered (GE) crops widely since their introduction in 1996, notwithstanding uncertainty about consumer acceptance and economic and environmental impacts. Soybeans and cotton genetically engineered with herbicide-tolerant traits have been the most widely and rapidly adopted GE crops in the U.S., followed by insect-resistant cotton and corn. The data summarizes the extent of adoption of herbicide-tolerant and insect-resistant crops since their introduction in 1996.
<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/BiotechCrops/> [HTML format with links].

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL: POTENTIAL FATIGUE FACTORS. Office of Inspector General, Federal Aviation Administration. June 29, 2009.

The report focuses on fatigue factors that could impact air traffic controllers. The audit is conducted at three critical Chicago air traffic control facilities at the request of Senator Richard Durbin of Illinois. These 3 facilities are among the top 10 busiest in the United States, and Senator Durbin expressed concerns that staffing shortfalls, longer hours on the job, and a growing shortage of certified controllers may be causing controller fatigue. The report's objectives are to (1) identify and evaluate key factors that could cause controller fatigue at Chicago O'Hare International Airport Air Traffic Control Tower, Chicago Terminal Radar Approach Control Facility, and Chicago Air Route Traffic Control Center and (2) identify what measures FAA has taken to mitigate potential controller fatigue at these locations.
http://www.oig.dot.gov/StreamFile?file=/data/pdfdocs/WEB_FILE2_Controller_Fatigue_AV2009065.pdf [PDF format, 22 pages].

CHARACTERISTICS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE UNITED STATES. U.S. Department of Education. Paola Aritomi et al. June 30, 2009.

The study presents selected findings from the school district data file of the 2007-08 Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS). SASS is a nationally representative sample survey of public, private, and Bureau of Indian Education-funded (BIE) K-12 schools, principals, and teachers in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The public school

sample was designed so that national-, regional-, and state-level elementary, secondary, and combined public school estimates can be made.

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/2009320.pdf> [PDF format, 59 pages].

DOWN FROM THE MOUNTAINS: SKILL UPGRADING AND THE WAGES IN APPALACHIA. Institute for the Study of Labor. June 2009.

Despite evidence that skilled labor is increasingly concentrated in cities, whether regional wage inequality is predominantly due to differences in skill levels or returns is unknown. The report compares Appalachia to other parts of the U.S., and finds that gaps in both skill levels and returns account for the lack of high wage male workers. For women, skill shortages are important across the distribution. Because rural wage gaps are insignificant, the results suggest that widening wage inequality between Appalachia and the rest of the U.S. owes to a shortage of skilled cities. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://ftp.iza.org/dp4249.pdf> [PDF format, 65 pages].

GREENHOUSE GAS LEGISLATION: SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF H.R. 2454 AS REPORTED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Mark Holt and Gene Whitney. June 17, 2009.

H.R. 2454 contains provisions that would amend the Clean Air Act to establish a cap-and-trade system designed to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions 17% below 2005 levels by 2020 and 83% below 2005 levels by 2050. The market-based approach would establish an absolute cap on the emissions and would allow trading of emissions permits (“allowances”). The bill achieves its broad coverage through an upstream compliance mandate on petroleum and most fluorinated gas producers and importers, and a downstream mandate on electric generators, industrial sources, and natural gas local distribution companies (LDCs).

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40643_20090617.pdf [PDF format, 115 pages].

INFORMED AND INTERCONNECTED: A MANIFESTO FOR SMARTER CITIES. Harvard Business School. Rosabeth Moss Kanter and Stanley S. Litow. June 2009.

The need for a fresh approach to U.S. communities is more urgent than ever because of the biggest global economic crisis since the Great Depression, according to the report. It offers a new approach to community transformation which calls for leaders to use technology to inform and connect people. This process has already begun through such programs as Harlem Children's Zone, Baltimore's CitiStat, Elevate Miami, and others. And they can be replicated. But technology alone is not the answer. Realization of the vision requires leaders to invest in the tools, guide their use, and pave the way for transformation. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.hbs.edu/research/pdf/09-141.pdf> [PDF format, 28 pages].

MATHEMATICS LEARNING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD: PATHS TOWARD EXCELLENCE AND EQUITY. National Research Council. Christopher T. Cross et al. July 2, 2009.

To ensure that all children enter elementary school with the foundation they need for success, a major national initiative is needed to improve early childhood mathematics education, says the report. Opportunities for preschoolers to learn mathematics are currently inadequate, particularly for those in low-income groups, says the report, which is intended to inform the efforts of Head Start, state-funded preschool programs, curriculum developers, and teachers. The amount of time devoted to and focused on mathematics needs to be increased in all public and private preschool settings, the report says. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12519 [HTML format with links].

POPULATION CHANGE IN CENTRAL AND OUTLYING COUNTIES OF METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS: 2000 TO 2007. U.S. Bureau of Census. Paul J. Mackun. June 2009.

The report examines population change and the demographic components of change from 2000 to 2007 for central and outlying counties of metropolitan statistical areas. Population change in metro areas and their component central and outlying counties is examined through the configurations of census regions and divisions, metro area population size categories, and 12 of the most populous metro areas. Demographic components of change are births, deaths and migration.

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2009pubs/p25-1136.pdf> [PDF format, 16 pages].

QUESTIONS FOR JUDGE SOTOMAYOR ON THE USE OF FOREIGN AND INTERNATIONAL LAW. Heritage Foundation. Steven Gorves. July 6, 2009.

Judge Sonia Sotomayor has not yet had occasion to cite to or rely upon foreign or international law to interpret the United States Constitution. Based upon a recent speech given by Sotomayor, it appears that she will continue in the tradition of sitting members of the Court--such as Justices Ruth Bader Ginsberg, John Paul Stevens, and Anthony Kennedy, in polling "the world community" and citing as persuasive authority the rulings of foreign and international courts.

The author thinks Sotomayor should be questioned at length during her confirmation hearing. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.heritage.org/Research/LegalIssues/upload/wm_2525.pdf [PDF format, 7 pages].

RACE AND THE LIKELIHOOD OF MANAGING IN MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL. Department of Economics, University of Connecticut. Brian Volz. June 2009.

The effects of race on the probability of former Major League Baseball players becoming managers are analyzed using probit models with sample selection correction. The models

are estimated using data on the performance and personal characteristics of players from 1955 to 2007. It is shown that given the same performance, personal characteristics, and popularity black former players are 70 to 82 percent less likely to become Major League managers than white former players, according to the report. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.econ.uconn.edu/working/2009-17.pdf> [PDF format, 32 pages].

READY TO ASSEMBLE: GRADING STATE HIGHER EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEMS. Education Sector Reports. Chad Aldeman and Kevin Carey. June 30, 2009.

States need strong higher education systems, now more than ever. In the tumultuous, highly competitive 21st century economy, citizens and workers need knowledge, skills, and credentials in order to prosper, say the authors. Yet many colleges and universities are falling short. To give all students the best possible postsecondary education, states must create smart, effective higher education accountability systems, modeled from the best practices of their peers, and set bold, concrete goals for achievement. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.educationsector.org/usr_doc/HigherEdSummary.pdf [PDF format, 14 pages].

TERROR FROM THE RIGHT. Southern Poverty Law Center. July 1, 2009.

The report represents the stories of plots, conspiracies and racist rampages since 1995; plots and violence waged against a democratic America. It includes plans to bomb government buildings, banks, refineries, utilities, clinics, synagogues, mosques, memorials and bridges; to assassinate police officers, judges, politicians, civil rights figures and others; to rob banks, armored cars and other criminals; and to amass illegal machine guns, missiles, explosives and biological and chemical weapons. Each of these plots aimed to make changes in America through the use of political violence. Most contemplated the deaths of large numbers of people, in one case, as many as 30,000, or 10 times the number murdered on Sept. 11, 2001. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.splcenter.org/news/item.jsp?aid=383> [HTML format, various paging].

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION, DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND SOCIAL PROTECTION. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Mark Davies et al.

July 8, 2009.

Poorer developing countries are especially vulnerable to climate change because of their geographic exposure, low incomes and greater reliance on climate sensitive sectors, particularly agriculture. People exposed to the most severe climate-related hazards are often those least able to cope with the associated impacts, due to their limited adaptive capacity. This in turn poses multiple threats to economic growth, wider poverty reduction, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Within this context, there is growing recognition of the potential role of social protection as a

response to the multiple risks and short and long-term shocks and stresses associated with climate change.

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/25/55/43280946.pdf> [PDF format, 17 pages].

FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT, 2008-09. U.S. Department of Agriculture. June 2009.

Food security in 70 developing countries is projected to deteriorate over the next decade, according to report. After rising nearly 11 percent from 2007 to 2008, the number of food-insecure people in the developing countries is estimated to rise to 833 million in 2009, an almost 2-percent rise from 2008 to 2009. Despite a decline in food prices in late 2008, deteriorating purchasing power and food security are expected in 2009 because of the growing financial deficits and higher inflation that have occurred in recent years.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/GFA20/GFA20.pdf> [PDF format, 58 pages].

IMAGES: NEW NASA SATELLITE SURVEY REVEALS DRAMATIC ARCTIC SEA ICE THINNING. National Aeronautics and Space Administration. July 7, 2009.

Arctic sea ice thinned dramatically between the winters of 2004 and 2008, with thin seasonal ice replacing thick older ice as the dominant type for the first time on record. The new results, based on data from a NASA Earth-orbiting spacecraft, provide further evidence for the rapid, ongoing transformation of the Arctic's ice cover.

http://www.nasa.gov/home/hqnews/2009/jul/HQ_09-155_Thin_Sea_Ice.html News Release [HTML format, various paging].

<http://www.nasa.gov/topics/earth/features/icesat-20090707.html> [HTML format, various paging].

THE STATUS OF WILDLIFE IN PROTECTED AREAS COMPARED TO NON-PROTECTED AREAS OF KENYA. PLoS One. David Western et al. July 2009.

The study compiles over 270 wildlife counts of Kenya's wildlife populations conducted over the last 30 years to compare trends in national parks and reserves with adjacent ecosystems and country-wide trends. It shows the importance of discriminating human-induced changes from natural population oscillations related to rainfall and ecological factors. National park and reserve populations have declined sharply over the last 30 years, at a rate similar to non-protected areas and country-wide trends. The protected area losses reflect in part their poor coverage of seasonal ungulate migrations. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0006140> [HTML format, various paging].

UNITED STATES – JAPAN INVESTMENT INITIATIVE 2009 REPORT. U.S. Department of State and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan. July 6, 2009.

Since 2001, the United States-Japan Investment Initiative has served as a forum for bilateral cooperation on issues related to foreign direct investment (FDI) in both countries. FDI is a critical contributor to the economic prosperity of both countries and, despite the current economic downturn, Japan and the United States continue to attract FDI inflows. This year's Investment report details the climate for FDI in each country and the work of the bilateral Investment Working Group.
<http://www.state.gov/p/eap/rls/reports/2009/125605.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

INTERGENERATIONAL SOCIAL MOBILITY IN EUROPEAN OECD COUNTRIES. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Orsetta Causa et al.

July 7, 2009.

The paper breaks new ground by providing comparable estimates of intergenerational wage and education persistence across 14 European OECD countries based on a new micro data from Eurostat. [Note: contains copyright material].
[http://www.oilis.oecd.org/olis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT0000497E/\\$FILE/JT03267758.PDF](http://www.oilis.oecd.org/olis/2009doc.nsf/LinkTo/NT0000497E/$FILE/JT03267758.PDF) [PDF format, 56 pages].

U.S. – RUSSIA JOINT COMMISSION ON POW/MIAs. Office of the Press Secretary, The White House. July 6, 2009.

In an exchange of diplomatic notes on July 6, the United States and the Russian Federation reached a common understanding on a framework for the U.S. – Russia Joint Commission on Prisoners of War and Missing in Action (POW/MIAs). The Commission serves as a forum through which both nations seek to determine the fates of their missing servicemen.
<http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/news/2009/jcsd.pdf> [PDF format, 1 page].

IRAQ AND THE KURDS: TROUBLE ALONG THE TRIGGER LINE. International Crisis Group. July 8, 2009.

The report warns that a new and potentially destructive ethnic conflict has arisen between the Iraqi federal and Kurdistan's regional government. In particular, tensions have been building steadily along a new, undemarcated "trigger line", a curve stretching from the Syrian to the Iranian border, where at multiple places the Iraqi army and Kurdish fighters known as *peshmergas* are arrayed in opposing formations. Both sides have been maneuvering to gain political, military and territorial advantage before the U.S. withdrawal. Iraqi leaders and the U.S. must manage increasing tensions between the Baghdad federal government and Kurdish authorities or face deadly violence following the U.S. troop withdrawal. [Note: contains copyright material].
http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/middle_east___north_africa/iraq_iraq_gulf/88_iraq_and_the_kurds___trouble_along_the_trigger_line.pdf [PDF format, 42 pages].

OPEC REVENUES FACT SHEET. Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries. July 2009.

The members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) could earn \$545 billion of net oil export revenues in 2009 and \$672 billion in 2010. Last year, OPEC earned \$968 billion in net oil export revenues, a 42 percent increase from 2007. Saudi Arabia earned the largest share of these earnings, \$285 billion, representing 29 percent of total OPEC revenues. On a per-capita basis, OPEC net oil export earnings reached \$2,680 in 2008, a 40 percent increase from 2007. [Note: contains copyright material].

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

SADDAM HUSSEIN TALKS TO THE FBI: TWENTY INTERVIEWS AND FIVE CONVERSATIONS WITH “HIGH VALUE DETAINEE #1” IN 2004. National Security Archive, George Washington University. July 1, 2009.

FBI special agents carried out 20 formal interviews and at least 5 “casual conversations” with former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein after his capture by U.S. troops in December 2003, according to FBI reports released as the result of Freedom of Information Act requests by the National Security Archive. Saddam denied any connections to the “zealot” Osama bin Laden, cited North Korea as his most likely ally in a crunch, and shared President George W. Bush’s hostility towards the “fanatic” Iranian mullahs, according to the FBI records of conversations from February through June 2004 between Saddam and Arabic-speaking agents in his detention cell at Baghdad International Airport.

<http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB279/index.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

CRAFTING A CARBON MARKET FROM INDIA’S GRASSROOTS. Worldwatch Institute. Anna da Costa. July 8, 2009.

In India, the carbon market is starting to take root. The country is now home to a large share of carbon-offset projects, many of which are certified under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol. Yet forests remain poorly represented in these efforts. This may not be the case for long, however, if one of India's climate-focused entrepreneurs has his way. M. Satyanarayanan is hoping to utilize a new and innovative business model to create a veritable forest of wealth. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.worldwatch.org/node/6178> [HTML format, various paging].

DISCOVERING “WOW” – A STUDY OF GREAT RETAIL SHOPPING EXPERIENCES IN NORTH AMERICA. Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. July 2009.

Wharton’s Jay H. Baker Retailing Initiative teamed with Verde and the Retail Council of Canada to discover how retailers can create an extraordinary experience for shoppers. In an online survey, 1,006 shoppers in the United States and Canada were asked: “Can you think of a shopping experience that you had in the past six months or so that was especially great, in that the experience created delight and surprise for you in any way?” [Note: contains copyright material]

http://www.retailcouncil.org/research/DiscoveringWOW_June2009.pdf [PDF format, 7 pages].

AMERICA'S FUTURE IN SPACE: ALIGNING THE CIVIL SPACE PROGRAM WITH NATIONAL NEEDS. National Research Council. July 7, 2009.

The U.S. civil space program should be aligned with widely acknowledged national challenges, says the report. Aligning the program with pressing issues, environmental, economic, and strategic, is a national imperative, and will continue to grow in importance. Coordination across federal agencies, combined with a competent technical work force, effective infrastructure, and investment in technology and innovation, would lay the foundation for a purposeful, strategic U.S. space program that would serve national interests. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12701 [HTML format with links].

THE COMING ENTREPRENEURSHIP BOOM. Ewing Marion Kaufman Foundation. Dane Stangler. June 2009.

Economists know that entrepreneurship will drive the economy back to health, but many people may be surprised to learn that the baby boom generation is behind the wheel, according to the study. It finds indications that the United States might be on the cusp of an entrepreneurship boom, not in spite of an aging population but because of it. These factors include the shifting age distribution of the country, the continued decline of lifetime employment, the experience and tacit knowledge such employees carry with them, and the effects of the 2008-2009 recession on established sectors of the economy. [Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.kauffman.org/uploadedFiles/the-coming-entrepreneurial-boom.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages].

DROWNING IN DEBT: THE EMERGING STUDENT LOAN CRISIS. Education Sector. Kevin Carey and Erin Dillon. July 9, 2009.

Higher education has never been more expensive. The price of attending a public university doubled, after inflation, over the last two decades, and family income and student financial aid haven't kept pace.¹ As a result, students have no choice but to borrow, and more college students are borrowing more money than ever before. The report shows an analysis of federal financial aid records revealing more than just surging debt levels. Students are taking on more of the riskiest debt: unregulated private student loans. [Note: contains copyright material].

http://www.educationsector.org/analysis/analysis_show.htm?doc_id=964333 [HTML format, various paging].

ENERGY AND WATER: PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS ON THE INKS BETWEEN WATER AND BIOFUELS AND ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION. U.S. Government Accountability Office. Anu Mittal. July 9, 2009.

Water and energy are inexorably linked, energy is needed to pump, treat, and transport water and large quantities of water are needed to support the development of energy. However, both water and energy may face serious constraints as demand for these vital resources continues to rise. Two examples that demonstrate the link between water and energy are the cultivation and conversion of feed stocks, such as corn, switch grass, and algae, into biofuels; and the production of electricity by thermoelectric power plants, which rely on large quantities of water for cooling during electricity generation.
<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09862t.pdf> [PDF format, 14 pages].

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH GUIDELINES ON HUMAN STEM CELL RESEARCH. National Institutes of Health. July 2009.

On March 9, 2009, President Barack H. Obama issued Executive Order 13505: Removing Barriers to Responsible Scientific Research Involving Human Stem Cells. In accordance, these Guidelines implement Executive Order 13505, as it pertains to extramural NIH-funded stem cell research, establish policy and procedures under which the NIH will fund such research, and helps ensure that NIH-funded research in this area is ethically responsible, scientifically worthy, and conducted in accordance with applicable law. Internal NIH policies and procedures, consistent with Executive Order 13505 and these Guidelines, will govern the conduct of intramural NIH stem cell research, effective on July 7, 2009.
<http://stemcells.nih.gov/policy/2009guidelines.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

PUBLIC PRAISES SCIENCE; SCIENTISTS FAULT PUBLIC, MEDIA. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. July 9, 2009.

Americans like science, says the report. Overwhelming majorities say that science has had a positive effect on society and that science has made life easier for most people. Most also say that government investments in science, as well as engineering and technology, pay off in the long run. And scientists are very highly rated compared with members of other professions: Only members of the military and teachers are more likely to be viewed as contributing a lot to society's well-being. However, the public has a far less positive view of the global standing of U.S. science than do scientists themselves. [Note: contains copyright material].
<http://people-press.org/report/528/> [HTML format, various paging].

RECENT TRENDS IN U.S. SERVICES TRADE: 2009 ANNUAL REPORT. U.S. International Trade Commission. July 6, 2009.

U.S. service firms led the world in global services trade in 2007, according to the report. The United States remains the world's largest services market and also the world's leading exporter and importer of services. The report focuses primarily on professional services and includes separate chapters on advertising, education, healthcare, and legal services that analyze global competitive conditions in the industry, examine recent trade performance, and summarize efforts to remove sectoral trade impediments.
<http://www.usitc.gov/publications/332/pub4084.pdf> [PDF format, 132 pages].

THE SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMY: A REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT 2009. [U.S. Small Business Administration. July 2009.

The 2009 edition documents the 2008 recession's effects on small business as well as their role in the 2008 economy. The report includes chapters focusing on the state of small business with brief subsections on small business challenges such as health care and globalization, as well as contributions in job creation and innovation and financing. http://www.sba.gov/advo/research/sb_econ2009.pdf [PDF format, 160 pages].

SONIA SOTOMAYOR: THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE RECORD. U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee. July 7, 2009.

The report shows results of a comprehensive study of Supreme Court nominee Judge Sonia Sotomayor's appellate decisions in criminal justice cases. Chairman Leahy calls Sotomayor both a consensus and moderate judge. "Based on a review of more than 800 criminal cases, it can be said with confidence that Judge Sotomayor is unquestionably a consensus judge on criminal justice issues," Leahy said. "In fact, Judge Sotomayor's criminal justice record proves that she is a moderate judge, whose decisions in criminal cases rarely differ from those of her colleagues on the Federal bench." <http://leahy.senate.gov/issues/SupremeCourt/070709LawEnforcementPressConfStudy.pdf> [PDF format, 3 pages].

U.S. NET INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT POSITION AT YEAREND 2008. Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce. Christopher A. Gohrband and Elena L. Nguyen. June 26, 2009.

The U.S. net international investment position at yearend 2008 was -\$3,469.2 billion, preliminary, as the value of foreign investments in the United States continued to exceed the value of U.S. investments abroad. At yearend 2007, the U.S. net international investment position was -\$2,139.9 billion, revised. The -\$1,329.3 billion change in the U.S. net investment position from yearend 2007 to yearend 2008 resulted from (1) declines in the prices of U.S.-held foreign stocks that surpassed declines in the prices of foreign-held U.S. stocks, (2) the depreciation of most major currencies against the U.S. dollar that lowered the dollar value of U.S.-owned assets abroad, and (3) net foreign acquisitions of financial assets in the United States that exceeded net U.S. acquisitions of financial assets abroad. <http://www.bea.gov/newsreleases/international/intinv/2009/pdf/intinv08.pdf> [PDF format, 6 pages].

ARTICLES

DEMOCRACY AND GLOBAL ISSUES

Helman, Christopher WILL AMERICANS TUNE TO AL JAZEERA? (Forbes Magazine, July 13, 2009)

The Doha, Qatar-based Al Jazeera news network reaches 53 million Arabic language viewers and 140 million English language households in 100 countries. Starting on July 1, Al Jazeera English (AJE) will begin broadcasting in Washington, D.C., its first around-the-clock carriage in the U.S. outside of Toledo, Ohio and Burlington, Vermont. There, it will face a huge marketing hurdle – the perception that it is biased against the United States and Western Europe. The optimists believe the Obama era and an American interest in more global perspectives will reel in viewers, but conservatives say Al Jazeera is anti-American and has connections with al-Qaeda. Not so, according to Tony Burman, managing director of AJE, who says that network is on par with CNN International and BBC World in quality of programming. Furthermore, the government of Qatar, which owns the network, is relatively liberal, no enemy of the United States (it hosts the largest U.S. air base in the region) and allegedly exerts no censorship on the network. Burman believes the biggest hurdle will be to persuade cable companies like Comcast to carry AJE. Currently available online at <http://www.forbes.com/forbes/2009/0713/comcast-al-qaeda-will-americans-tune-to-al-jazeera.html>

Marsan, Carolyn INFOMANIA (Government Executive, vol. 41, no. 5, May 2009, pp. 34-42)

The author notes that as participatory government brings an onslaught of public comments online, agencies will need the right tools to make sense of it all. In 2008, the General Services Administration (GSA) had 214 million electronic communications with the U.S. public, and it expects that number to increase in 2009. Similar situations have developed at other government agencies as they realize that more and more of public opinion and commentary are going to be sustained through the new media. However, these new examples of social media have several challenges in adopting customer feedback techniques like those used in the private sector, such as asking citizens to rank their interests on various subjects. While federal agencies are new at gathering and analyzing public comments, private business is experienced in managing feedback by combining automated and manual processes, structured and unstructured data. Government agencies also have legal restrictions; they often have to negotiate standard terms of services with providers because the government is bound by multiple federal regulatory requirements. Currently available online at <http://www.govexec.com/features/0509-01/0509-01s3.htm>

Orent, Wendy SLIME CITY (Discover Magazine, vol. 30, no. 7, July/August 2009)

Most microbes live in a gelatinous substance they produce, known as biofilm or bioslime; it is everywhere, from unbrushed teeth to rocks lining forest ponds. Bioslime hosts well-protected communities of diverse bacteria that thrive together, feed off community waste, and repel antibiotics. Since bioslime is becoming a major factor in hospital infections — on catheters, hip and knee replacements, and implants such as pacemakers —research is underway to discover how bioslime communities function and communicate. Bioslime “quorum sensors” that determine when a maximum bacterial concentration occurs in a host have been detected. These enable bacteria to release their toxins all at once, for greatest effect, killing or debilitating the host. Scientists interviewed include Princeton University geneticist Bonnie Bassler, Tufts University molecular biologist Naomi Balaban, and Randall Wolcott, a Texas physician, who pioneered new methods of combating bioslime infections in wounds. “Biofilms are not what we learned in microbiology,” he says.

Rusch, Elizabeth CATCHING A WAVE (Smithsonian, July 2009, pp. 66-71)

In this article, Rusch profiles electrical engineer Annette von Jouanne, head of the Wallace Energy Systems and Renewables Facility at Oregon State University, and one of the driving forces in the development of wave energy. By some projections, tapping the energy of the tides could meet 6.5 percent of U.S. electric power needs. Many researchers over the years have attempted to build devices to transform the energy of waves into electricity, but von Jouanne advocates simplicity in design to achieve the most dependable energy flow. Her current design now being tested is shaped like a flying saucer with a generating coil and a sliding magnet assembly capable of generating a few kilowatts of electricity in a gentle wave. Building the device is only one design problem; a means to keep it anchored and consistently functioning in the tides is also challenging. The Oregon State researchers also need to avoid creating a device that could damage the seaside ecosystem. Currently available online at <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/Catching-a-Wave.html#>

Spechler, Martin C. HUMAN RIGHTS IN CENTRAL EURASIA: THE UNEXPECTED SIDES OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND AUTHORITARIAN RULE (Problems of Post-Communism, vol. 56, no. 2, March/April 2009, pp. 3-16)

Spechler, professor of economics at Indiana University/Purdue University, examines the human-rights records of Central Eurasian states and finds Kyrgyzstan has the best democratic and rights record in the region. Kyrgyzstan is also rated best for economic freedom, and the author draws a correlation between political democracy/civil liberties and economic freedoms. All Central Asian states have recently improved in their overall economic freedom ratings, making it likely conditions will be created that are favorable for human rights improvements. Western trained elites, as well as Westernized professionals, are the best hope for eventual progress on human rights in Central Eurasia.

Zimmer, Carl THE BRAIN (Discover Magazine, vol. 30, no. 7, July/August 2009)

With billions of brain neurons, humans have difficulty staying focused. Mind wandering does not necessarily mean boredom, rather, it is normal. Although we make mistakes when our minds wander, it may also be beneficial. Studies show a profound mind wandering, or “zoning out,” when the person is completely unaware they have lost focus, may be “the most fruitful type.” Mind wandering may invite creative flashes of inspiration. Our brains maintain a delicate balance between near-term and long-term thinking, while monitoring our awareness. Currently available online at <http://discovermagazine.com/2009/jul-aug/15-brain-stop-paying-attention-zoning-out-crucial-mental-state>

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Brody, Robert UNTANGLING THE RECOVERY (Government Executive, vol. 41, no. 6, June 2009, pp. 24-26, 28, 30)

The author believes that government has another chance at proving it can be effective in the present economic climate. In early May 2009, President Obama unveiled his formal fiscal 2010 budget, including a list of 121 cuts to federal programs that added up to a savings of about \$17 billion. Then there is the \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, signed less than a month after Obama took office, as an opportunity to prop up a faltering economy, spur long-term investments in energy and in education, and put millions of unemployed Americans back to

work. For the nation's over 2.7 million federal employees, the stimulus plan and the new FY2010 budget represent chances to prove that the government can still operate as an effective management organization. Right now, the most important use of funds are those that are allocated by the Recovery Act to get Americans back to work and to restart a faltering economy. Of this, \$60 billion is expected to be spent on federal contracts with another \$84 million going to the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board that was created to oversee fund disbursement and to manage Recovery.gov, the central government repository for information on the stimulus. Currently available online at <http://www.govexec.com/features/0609-01/0609-01s1.htm>

Khurana, Rakesh MBAS GONE WILD (American Interest, vol. 4, no. 6, July/August 2009)

The economic crisis that has befallen the U.S. has come about as result of the prevalence of a particular character type in American political, economic and social institutions -- the "loose individual", who isn't bound by norms of fairness and equity, writes Khurana, a professor at the Harvard Business School. "Outside of their intimates, their relations with others are anchored only in self-interest." The author contends that the economic collapse and an almost decade-long cascade of sordid revelations stretching from Enron to AIG are evidence that "too many loose individuals have been admitted to the inner sanctums of American capitalism." As to how they have come to exert such influence, Khurana points a finger at university-based business schools. When universities began instituting business schools during the U.S. Progressive era in the early 20th century, they sought to instill social values in future managers so that "large corporations would be run in the interests of society," Khurana writes. The commitment to the social good began to unravel after World War II, with the proliferation of dozens of new business schools and a lowering of academic standards. The final abandonment of attempts to teach ethical standards came in the late 1980s, Khurana believes. With business educators adopting the philosophy that "the sole purpose of the corporation is to maximize shareholder value," they taught their students that "managers and employees cannot trust one another, which in turn sets in motion a self-reinforcing cycle encouraging opportunism and cheating." Khurana calls for a revamping of business education to create a new generation of business leaders who will help solve a critical problem, not cause it. Currently available online at <http://www.the-american-interest.com/article.cfm?piece=623>

Klein, Brian; Cukier, Kenneth TAMED TIGERS, DISTRESSED DRAGON (Foreign Affairs, vol. 88, no. 4, July-August 2009)

According to Klein, a Council on Foreign Relations international affairs fellow, and Cukier, a Tokyo correspondent for The Economist, the global economic turmoil has hurt the formerly rapidly expanding Asian economies hardest. "By emphasizing exports, Asian countries simply replaced a reliance on foreign capital with a dependence on foreign demand," they say. As Americans save more, they will buy less of what Asia produces; pursuing export-led growth distracted Asians from building the institutions necessary for sustainable domestic economies. Those countries that manipulated their currencies "in effect subsidized exporters at the expense of other domestic producers and consumers," the authors say. Some countries also ignored corruption, inadequate rule of law, and environmental degradation. The success of export-led growth made structural reform even more difficult because of resistance from vested interests; the Asian economies are now ill prepared for the hard decisions needed to cope with a likely persistent difficult economic environment. The authors say they should be restructuring to create domestic demand by promoting human capital -- especially education, improving incomes, and reducing savings. They need to pay workers more money and, most importantly, establish social safety nets. "The lack of basic economic safeguards is the biggest reason why Asians save so much, and reducing those savings would unlock consumption," the authors say.

Leuchtenburg, William E. THE WRONG MAN AT THE WRONG TIME (American Heritage, vol. 59, no. 2, Summer 2009, pp. 26-31, 72)

Leuchtenburg notes that, for all his previous successes, President Herbert Hoover proved incapable of arresting the economic free fall of the depression, or soothing the fears of a distressed nation. In 1932, he was defeated by a large majority to Franklin Roosevelt, who promised to get the economy back on track. As with President Obama in 2009, a number of Hoover's predecessors had confronted financial crises, but none had left him a usable legacy upon which to build. A former secretary of commerce, Hoover moved quickly to arrest the decline, summoning business leaders and government officials for meetings in November 1932. Hoover implored manufacturers to maintain wage rates and step up projects, asked unions not to strike and to withdraw demands for wage increases, and coaxed the Federal Reserve into expanding the money supply. Initially, his efforts were successful, however as the depression deepened and unemployment rose, the federal government provided little funding for relief. The author writes that Hoover "had no sense of how to reach out to a desperate nation" — among other things, he advocated tax increases along with cuts in government spending, the wrong solution for an ailing economy. Perhaps no single action cemented Hoover's reputation of heartlessness than his order for the army to disperse members of the "Bonus Army" of World War I veterans and their families who gathered in Washington in spring 1932 to lobby Congress to redeem bonuses for their wartime services. Currently available online at <http://www.americanheritage.com/articles/web/20090601-Herbert-Hoover-American-History-Presidents-Economy-The-Great-Depression-Roaring-Twenties-Hooverilles-Unemployment.shtml>

Lucas, Edward THE FALL AND RISE AND FALL AGAIN OF THE BALTIC STATES (Foreign Policy, July/August 2009)

The Baltic States had thrived as long as their policymaking was good and their neighbors' economies were booming. The economic downturn hit Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania particularly hard, according to Lucas, a writer at the Economist; their growth rates were unsustainable and current account deficits too large. Politicians had ignored signs of trouble and instead of applying the brakes to overheating economies continued to "harvest" the political proceeds. They had dodged decisions on issues ranging from budget deficits and banking weaknesses to cronyism, corruption and money laundering. The author leaves unanswered the question whether the Baltic States will recover as quickly as they toppled. Their policy choices are limited because of the monetary decisions they made earlier, such as a currency peg and commitment to the euro. The Baltic States have cut wages and trimmed bureaucracy in an attempt to boost their exports and attract foreign investment, but they have yet to reform their education, health-care and criminal-justice systems and bring their political institutions on a par with Western Europe. Currently available online at http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2009/06/18/the_collapse_of_the_baltic_tigers

Phipps, Carter THE GENIE'S OUT OF THE BOTTLE (EnlightenNext, no. 44, June-August 2009, pp. 54-62)

Globalization has come under fire from many quarters as an exploitative economic trend, but Dr. Thomas Barnett, a geopolitical strategist and author, regards globalization as the most unifying, progressive, and liberating force in human history. Barnett looks across the last century -- wars that raged over the Eurasian land mass for the first half of the 20th century are now virtually unthinkable as the bonds of trade, travel, and commerce have grown, he says. The places where violence still disrupts civil society are those largely untouched by globalization, Barnett tells Phipps in an interview. Barnett thinks that the economic and social trends that unfolded in the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries are playing out again in globalization. He predicts that the progressivism and the enrichment of the middle class that occurred at that time

will also be the outcome of globalization.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Ferreira, Rialize; Henk, Dan "OPERATIONALIZING" HUMAN SECURITY IN SOUTH AFRICA (Armed Forces & Society vol. 35, no. 3, April 2009, pp. 501-525)

Since the UN promulgation of the concept of human security in the early 1990s, one of the countries most enthusiastic about the new paradigm has been South Africa, which has strived to reflect human security values in virtually all government activities. The authors examine how South Africa has applied the concept to its armed forces. They argue that the military "operationalization" is evident in two key respects: first, in the country's support for Africa's emerging security architecture; and second, in an increasing willingness to commit military forces to external peace operations. However, the authors believe that this trend has primarily occurred at the national strategic level, and it is not clear if a similar human-security ethic has taken place within the South African armed forces themselves.

Grandin, Greg BEYOND THE FOUR FREEDOMS (NACLA Report on the Americas, vol. 42, no. 1, January/February 2009, pp. 27-30)

Grandin, who teaches history at New York University, sees American policies in Latin America historically as a preview of U.S. actions around the globe. Latin America can become the centerpiece of a redeemed American diplomacy; the region would welcome U.S. influence to create a de-ideologized hemispheric policy, one that downplays terrorism, places high priority on poverty and inequality, and expresses a willingness to solve common problems. Currently available online at http://nacla.org/files/A04201029_1.pdf

Heineken, Lindy DISCONTENT WITHIN THE RANKS? (Armed Forces & Society vol. 35, no. 3, April 2009, pp. 477-500)

A number of studies have examined how armed forces have adapted to become more cost-effective and flexible. However, relatively few studies have looked at how these trends have affected attitudes toward military employment. The author discusses findings of a survey conducted among middle-ranking officers in the United Kingdom, Canada, South Africa, and Germany, which studied the attitudes of officers toward military employment, the impact of organizational restructuring on their careers and on commitment to military service, issues relating to pay, service, and work conditions, trust in their superiors' ability to protect their interests; and there is a need for some form of independent representation. The study concludes that the present discontent within the ranks is creating "a kind of professional or institutional disunity," which may require changes in how employee relations are managed within armed forces.

Hoffman, Bruce A COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGY FOR THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION (Terrorism and Political Violence, vol. 21, no. 3, July 2009, pp. 359-377)

Al-Qaeda is most dangerous when it has a safe haven from which to plant and plot attacks. It has acquired such a haven in Pakistan's Federal Administered Tribal Areas and its North-West Frontier Province and nearby areas, concludes terrorism expert Bruce Hoffman at Georgetown University. During 2008 al-Qaeda was able to re-group and re-organize in these lawless regions along the Afghan-Pakistan border, once again having a sanctuary in which it can operate, while marshalling its forces to continue its struggle with the U.S. The highest priority for the new

administration and U.S. allies is to refocus on Afghanistan and Pakistan, Hoffman says; part of any counterterrorism strategy must include an understanding that al-Qaeda and its local affiliates cannot be defeated by military means alone. At its basic level, a new strategy requires two major requirements -- a military capability to systematically destroy and weaken enemy capabilities, and the means to break the cycle of terrorist recruitment and effectively counter al-Qaeda's information operations. Online link to full text available at <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a912648440~db=all~jumptype=rss>

McConnell, Scott NOT SO HUDDLED MASSES: MULTICULTURALISM AND FOREIGN POLICY (World Affairs, vol. 171, no. 4, Spring 2009, pp. 39-50)

The author examines the connection between America's immigration and foreign policy throughout U.S. history. Although Hispanics will make up a quarter of the American population by 2040, this does not guarantee a different foreign policy. Apart from the highly-mobilized Cuban émigré community, Latinos' foreign-affairs activism remains modest since it is not clear that they have either the resources or the will to influence American foreign policy in a singular way; most new immigrant groups tend to vote Democratic. The author also analyzes the power of ethnic lobbies to exert influence upon U.S. policy. Currently available online at <http://www.worldaffairsjournal.org/2009%20-%20Spring/full-McConnell.html>

U.S. SOCIETY & VALUES

Etzioni, Amitai SPENT (New Republic, vol. 240, no. 10, June 17, 2009, pp. 20-23)

The author, former president of the American Sociological Association, believes that the debate over how to address the economic crisis has overemphasized regulation. Etzioni believes that the real solution to the economic crisis is to downplay consumerism; a shift away from consumer spending would be a dramatic change for U.S. society, which for years has been afflicted at all socioeconomic levels by the compulsion to accumulate "high-status" goods. The author does not expect most people to move away from a consumerist mindset, as societies shift direction gradually, but urges more people to turn the current economic crisis into liberation from the obsession with consumer goods and a rethinking of what it means to live a good life. Currently available online at <http://www.tnr.com/politics/story.html?id=80661c9c-9c63-4c9e-a293-6888fc845351>

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