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## SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN MEDICAL SCHOOLS: EDUCATION SHOULD IMPROVE MONITORING OF SCHOOLS THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE FEDERAL STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM. U.S. Government Accountability Office. June 28, 2010.

Each year, the federal government makes a significant financial investment in the education and training of the U.S. physician workforce. A quarter of that physician workforce is composed of international medical graduates (IMG) and they include both U.S. citizens and foreign nationals. Little is known about IMGs with respect to how much they borrow overall, or the outcome of their medical studies, leading some policy makers to question the federal return on investment in IMGs. Therefore, Congress mandated that GAO study the performance of IMGs educated at these schools and other aspects of a foreign medical education, including the potential effect of the new 75 percent pass rate requirement on school participation in the federal loan program. <http://go.usa.gov/O3n> [PDF format, 82 pages].

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE. Council on Foreign Relations. Toni Johnson. June 29, 2010.

The author says that the Obama administration sees the Organization of the Islamic Conference as a venue through which to court Muslims globally, but the group's controversial positions on some issues could pose problems. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://bit.ly/byQTKf> [HTML format, various paging].

SAVE THE WHALE SAVE THE SOUTHERN OCEAN. World Wildlife Fund. June 21, 2010.

According to the report, the Southern Ocean is critical to ensuring the recovery and viability of the great whale populations in the southern hemisphere. It provides the feeding grounds needed to sustain most southern hemisphere great whales, which coastal communities from Australia to Latin America to Africa are reliant upon for livelihoods and income derived from whale watching tourism. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/cuHIFt> [PDF format, 9 pages].

IMPACT OF FARMER FIELD SCHOOLS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY AND POVERTY IN EAST AFRICA. International Food Policy Research Institute. Kristin Davis et al. June 2010.

Farmer field schools (FFSs) are a popular education and extension approach worldwide. Such schools use experiential learning and a group approach to facilitate farmers in making decisions, solving problems, and learning new techniques. However, there is limited or conflicting evidence as to their effect on productivity and poverty, especially in East Africa. The study uses a longitudinal impact evaluation, difference in difference approach, with quasi-experimental methods, propensity score matching and covariate matching, together with qualitative approaches to provide rigorous evidence to policymakers and other stakeholders on an FFS project in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/aVa0KL> [PDF format, 56 pages].

ZIMBABWE: CHALLENGES AND POLICY OPTIONS AFTER HYPERINFLATION. International Monetary Fund. Vitaly Kramarenko et al. June 23, 2010.

Following a decade of economic decline and hyperinflation during 2007–08, Zimbabwe's economy has started to grow. The nascent economic recovery has been supported by a significant improvement in economic policies, but important policy challenges and significant vulnerabilities remain to be addressed. A collection of three papers presents current pressing economic issues and possible options for their resolution. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/aWgwju> [PDF format, 69 pages].

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE: STATUS OF NORTH KOREAN REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT AND ASYLUM IN THE UNITED STATES. U.S. Government Accountability Office. June 2010.

Famine killed hundreds of thousands of North Koreans in the 1990s and compelled a large number of others to leave in search of food, economic opportunities, and escape from a repressive regime. This migration continues. Some North Koreans seek resettlement in other countries, such as South Korea and the United States. To promote a more durable humanitarian solution to the plight of North Korean refugees, Congress passed the North Korean Human Rights Act in 2004. In reauthorizing the Act in 2008, Congress found that delays in processing North Korean refugees have led refugees to abandon their quest for U.S. resettlement.

<http://go.usa.gov/O3w> [PDF format, 61 pages].

NO PAPER TIGER: SUBSIDIES TO CHINA'S PAPER INDUSTRY FROM 2002-09. Economic Policy Institute. Usha C. V. Haley. June 30, 2010.

China's rapid rise in the global paper industry has been fueled by over \$33.1 billion in government subsidies. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/acUZSo> [PDF format, 41 pages].

PROSECUTING POLITICAL ASPIRATION: INDONESIA'S POLITICAL PRISONERS. Human Rights Watch. June 22, 2010.

The report is based on more than 50 jailhouse interviews with political prisoners conducted between December 2008 and May 2010. It describes the arrest and prosecution of activists for peacefully raising banned symbols, such as the Papuan Morning Star and the South Moluccan RMS flags. The report also details torture that many say they have suffered in detention, especially by members of the Detachment 88/Anti-Terror Squad in Ambon, as well as police and prison guards in Papua, and the failure of the government to hold those responsible to account. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/c2IZIT> [HTML format, various paging].

TEXTILE AND APPAREL IMPORTS FROM CHINA: STATISTICAL REPORTS. U.S. International Trade Commission. June 2010.

The report was requested by the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Ways and Means.

As requested, the USITC, an independent, nonpartisan, fact finding federal agency, produced an annual compilation of data that has been posted on a bi-weekly basis on the USITC website. The data in the report are shown on an annual and quarterly basis, by category and by Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) 10-digit subheadings.  
<http://go.usa.gov/O32> [PDF format, 472 pages].

UNCERTAINTIES IN THE NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR THREAT. RAND Corporation. Bruce W. Bennett. June 23, 2010.

The report examines the uncertainties in the North Korean nuclear weapon threat, including the number and nature of North Korean nuclear weapons, their potential delivery means, how they could be used, and what effects they might cause. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/akAjM7> [PDF format, 83 pages].

THE ENDURING PARTNERSHIP? THE TRANS-ATLANTIC COMMUNITY AS A NATURAL ALLIANCE. RAND Corporation. Jeremy Ghez. June 21, 2010.

The dissertation discusses the possibility that states which share a common constructed identity can better coordinate their international agendas. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/9BAZuL> [PDF format, 512 pages].

THE PREMIERSHIP. U.S. Institute of Peace. Sean Kane. June 24, 2010.

The institution of Iraq's prime minister has evolved since the previous national government was formed in 2006. The success of incumbent Prime Minister Nuri Al-Maliki in building an independent power base around the office and the diminishing U.S. presence in Iraq have transformed the perception and stature of Iraq's chief executive, says the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/cMUH3h> [PDF format, 5 pages].

PAKISTAN IN THE DANGER ZONE: A TENUOUS U.S.-PAKISTAN RELATIONSHIP. Atlantic Council. Shuja Nawaz. June 28, 2010.

The Afghanistan war may be lost on the battlefields of Pakistan, where a vicious conflict is now being fought by Pakistan against a homegrown insurgency spawned by the war across its Western frontier. The author says that a year after the Atlantic Council raised a warning flag about the effects of failure in Afghanistan and the need to meet Pakistan's urgent needs in its existential war against militancy and terrorism, the situation in Pakistan remains on edge. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/9sCdXk> [PDF format, 28 pages].

IMPROVING SECURITY POLICY IN COLUMBIA. International Crisis Group. June 29, 2010.

Columbia's new government has to improve security policy to tackle the guerilla tactics of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia (FARC) as well as their broadened participation in drug trafficking and newly forged alliances with other illegal armed groups, according to the report.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/cZlrKI> [PDF format, 16 pages].

2008 ENERGY BALANCE FOR THE CORN-ETHANOL INDUSTRY. U.S. Department of Agriculture. June 21, 2010.

The survey indicates the net energy gain from converting corn to ethanol is improving in efficiency. The survey asked ethanol producers to respond to questions about ethanol yield, undenatured, per bushel of corn and energy used in the plants. The 2008 updates presented in the report recorded the effects of current practices used by corn producers and ethanol processors.  
<http://go.usa.gov/Oq0> [PDF format, 16 pages].

ADULTS AND CELL PHONE DISTRACTIONS. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Mary Madden. June 18, 2010.

Adults are just as likely as teens to have texted while driving and are substantially more likely to have talked on the phone while driving, according to the survey. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/9CrxoJ> [PDF format, 12 pages].

CHILDHOOD POVERTY PERSISTENCE: FACTS AND CONSEQUENCES. Urban Institute. Caroline Ratcliffe and Signe-Mary McKernan. June 30, 2010.

The U.S. child poverty rate has fluctuated between 15 and 23 percent for the past four decades, but far more children, 37 percent, live in poverty at some point during their childhoods. Being poor at birth strongly predicts future poverty status. The study finds that 49 percent of children who are poor at birth go on to spend at least half their childhoods living in poverty. In addition, children who are born into poverty and spend multiple years living in poor families have worse adult outcomes than their counterparts in higher-income families. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/c5fl6O> [PDF format, 12 pages].

THE FUTURE OF NATURAL GAS. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. June 25, 2010.

The report examines the role of various energy sources that may be important for meeting future demand under carbon dioxide emissions constraints. In each case, it explores the steps needed to enable competitiveness in a future marketplace conditioned by a CO2 emissions price. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/bOjKYV> [PDF format, 104 pages].

GROWING CHALLENGES OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT – PART I. YaleGlobal. Susan Froetschel. June 22, 2010.

The study analyzes what the Gulf oil spill reveals about the intricate global connections and entrenched interests of the energy industry. Good governance and regulations protect the environment, livelihoods and investor interests both near and far. Political leaders can use the entangled nature of such oil operations to evade responsibility or they can use the same complexity to plan for the long term, harnessing global efforts to devise sustainable energy policies. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/acdkIE> [HTML format, various paging].

GROWING CHALLENGES OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT – PART II. YaleGlobal. Olivier Cattaneo. June 24, 2010.

The study describes U.S. and European proposals to impose tariffs on nations that lag in limiting carbon emissions. The plans discuss job protection, conveniently overlooking the fact that emerging economies have substantially fewer emissions to limit, writes the author. Poor nations face challenges in calculating carbon footprints, while wealthy nations have the resources to find loopholes, evading responsibility for historically high levels of emissions. The plans could create incentives to focus on reporting rather than reducing carbon. In the end, elaborate tariff schemes may do more to serve protectionist interests than reduce energy consumption.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/aGjSni> [HTML format, various paging].

**GROWING OPPOSITION TO INCREASED OFFSHORE DRILLING: OBAMA'S RATINGS LITTLE AFFECTED BY RECENT TURMOIL.** Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. June 24, 2010.

Since the beginning of this year, President Obama has signed a controversial health care measure, coped with a stubbornly high jobless rate, and struggled to manage the largest environmental disaster in the nation's history. In that period, Obama's overall job approval rating has moved from 49% to 48%. On major issues, ranging from the economy to Afghanistan, Obama's ratings also have changed little since the beginning of the year. He continues to get his highest ratings on foreign policy, energy policy, Afghanistan and Iraq; Obama gets his worst marks on the budget deficit and immigration. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/94Q9BK> [PDF format, 39 pages].

**INVESTING IN CHANGE: HOW MUCH DO ACHIEVING THE DREAM COLLEGES SPEND – AND FROM WHAT RESOURCES – TO BECOME DATA-DRIVEN INSTITUTIONS?** MDRC. Elizabeth M. Zachry and Erin Coghlan. June 2010.

The report analyzes the experiences of five community colleges and the investments they made in implementing an institution wide improvement process aimed at increasing students' success. The colleges in the study are located in the southeastern and southwestern United States and include Valencia Community College in Orlando, Florida; Tallahassee Community College in Tallahassee, Florida; El Paso Community College in El Paso, Texas; South Texas College in McAllen, Texas; and the University of New Mexico in Gallup, New Mexico. The report examines how, where, and with what resources these colleges supported their reforms, as well as the key activities driving their overall expenditures. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/bPNLjG> [PDF format, 111 pages].

**LEGAL ANALYSIS OF SOLICITOR GENERAL ELENA KAGAN'S RECORD ON ABORTION RIGHTS.** Center for Reproductive Rights. June 21, 2010.

As the Supreme Court nomination hearings are scheduled to begin on Monday, June 28, the Center released legal analysis of Solicitor General Elena Kagan's record on abortion rights. The analysis is based on a thorough review of publicly available documents, including her memoranda while serving as a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, her notes and memoranda while serving in the White House, her academic writings, and her statements upon nomination for the position of Solicitor General. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/a3dv3q> [PDF format, 15 pages].

**MALARIA SURVEILLANCE – UNITED STATES, 2008.** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Sonja Mali et al. June 25, 2010.

A significant decrease in the number of malaria cases occurred from 2007 to 2008. No change occurred in the proportions of cases caused by the various Plasmodium species. U.S. civilians traveling to countries in West Africa had the highest estimated relative case rates. In the majority of reported cases, U.S. civilians who acquired malaria abroad had not adhered to a



chemoprophylaxis regimen that was appropriate for the country in which they acquired the infection.

<http://go.usa.gov/O38> [HTML format, various paging].

THE MYTH OF THE “DOC FIX.” National Center for Policy Analysis. John R. Graham. June 22, 2010.

Congress will solve none of the fundamental Medicare cost problems with the “Doc Fix” extension, according to the report. The House is preparing to vote on a temporary reversal of the 21-percent cut in doctors’ Medicare reimbursement rates, a measure passed earlier by the Senate.

“The physician rate cuts, with or without this temporary fix, will make it increasingly difficult for seniors to find doctors who accept Medicare patients,” says the author. “Unfortunately, every time Congress temporarily fixes the fee schedule, the gap between fees calculated using the sustainable growth rate and where Congress actually sets them grows wider. As a result, future cuts in fees will need to be more drastic.” [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/9fdlsq> [PDF format, 2 pages].

ON THE STREETS: THE FEDERAL RESPONSE TO GAY AND TRANSGENDER HOMELESS YOUTH. Center for American Progress. Nico Sifra Quintana et al. June 2010.

Every child deserves a supportive and loving home. But for many lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender children and youth, that home is not available. Gay and transgender youth are disproportionately represented among homeless youth in our country, experiencing extreme rates of violence, discrimination, and poor health while homeless. This is happening at least partly because gay and transgender people are coming out at younger ages as society becomes increasingly supportive of equality. Twenty years ago, most people started coming out in their 20s, well after most had left home and started working. If someone’s family rejected them for being gay or transgender, it may have been emotionally painful, but the person could still likely take care of himself or herself. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/9BHTjZ> [PDF format, 41 pages].

THE ONLINE LEARNING IMPERATIVE: A SOLUTION TO THREE LOOMING CRISES IN EDUCATION. Alliance for Excellent Education. Bob Wise and Robert Rothman. June 2010.

Currently, K–12 education in the U.S. is dealing with three major crises, each of which on its own is capable of wreaking havoc on schools and communities around the nation, but together are an all-out perfect storm. Simultaneously, the U.S. education system is facing a growing workforce whose mounting needs for education and training will not be met by the nation’s current public education system; declining state fiscal revenues; and mounting teacher shortages, further crippling low-performing secondary schools. The time for merely rethinking and upgrading the role of technology in education has passed, according to the report. Technology can no longer be thought of simply as an “add-on” tool in education, but rather an integral part of the total educational environment. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/bUbxyL> [PDF format, 10 pages].

THE PEACE CORPS: A COMPREHENSIVE AGENCY ASSESSMENT. Peace Corps. June 2010.

“This is an exciting time to be a part of the Peace Corps as we strengthen and reform agency operations and invest in quality improvements,” said Director Williams. “This report will serve as a plan for excellence and represents the Obama Administration’s commitment to efficient and effective government while expanding public service opportunities for all Americans.”

<http://go.usa.gov/Oid> [PDF format, 220 pages].

PUBLIC REJECTS VARIETY OF OPTIONS FOR FIXING STATE BUDGETS. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. June 28, 2010.

Most Americans see the deteriorating budget situations in many states as a problem that the states themselves – rather than the federal government – should solve. But when it comes to specific proposals to balance state budgets, there is more opposition than support for each option asked about – particularly cuts in funding for education and public safety programs.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/8XT0ii> [HTML format, various paging].

REPORT OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION ON THE NOMINATION OF ELENA KAGAN TO BE ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE U.S. SUPREME COURT. American Civil Liberties Union. June 21, 2010.

In accordance with ACLU Policy 519, the report summarizes the civil liberties and civil rights record of Elena Kagan, who was nominated by President Obama on May 10, 2010, to replace Justice John Paul Stevens as an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/aoPz78> [PDF format, 32 pages].

A USDA REGIONAL ROADMAP TO MEETING THE BIOFUELS GOALS OF THE RENEWABLE FUELS STANDARD BY 2022. U.S. Department of Agriculture. June 23, 2010.

The report outlines both the current state of renewable transportation fuels efforts in America and a plan to develop regional strategies to increase the production, marketing and distribution of biofuels. It provides information on current production and consumption capacities as well as projections to meet the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS2) mandate to use 36 billion gallons of biofuel per year in America's fuel supply by 2022.

<http://go.usa.gov/Oiv> [PDF format, 21 pages].

WOMEN IN LAW ENFORCEMENT, 1987-2008. Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice. Lynn Langton. June 21, 2010.

The report presents trends in the percent of law enforcement officers at the local, state, and federal level who are women. It compares the percent of female law enforcement officers in individual police departments with 2,000 or more sworn officers between 1997 and 2007. The report also provides the percent of female officers in 1998 and 2008 in specific federal agencies with 500 or more sworn officers.

<http://go.usa.gov/Oq9> [PDF format, 4 pages].

BRIDGING THE GAP: IMPROVING CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE REGULATORY PATHWAYS FOR HEALTH PRODUCTS FOR NEGLECTED DISEASES. Center for Global Development. Thomas Bollyky. June 25, 2010.

There has been tremendous progress over the last decade in the development of health products for neglected diseases, but two substantial bottlenecks threaten our capacity to bring these products to those in need, says Bollyky. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/bnLsCZ> [HTML format, various paging].

ENDGAME FOR THE WEST IN AFGHANISTAN? EXPLAINING THE DECLINE IN SUPPORT FOR THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN IN THE UNITED STATES, GREAT BRITAIN, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, FRANCE AND GERMANY. Strategic Studies Institute. Charles A. Miller. June 2010.



Domestic public opinion is frequently and correctly described as a crucial battlefield in the war in Afghanistan. Commentary by media and political figures currently notes not only the falling support for the war in the U.S. but also in many of its key allies in Europe and elsewhere, making it all the more difficult for the Obama administration to secure the help it believes it needs to bring the war to a successful conclusion. The study is an examination of the determinants of domestic support for and opposition to the war in Afghanistan in the United States and in five of its key allies, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Canada, and Australia.  
<http://go.usa.gov/Orl> [PDF format, 174 pages].

**GENDER EQUALITY UNIVERSALLY EMBRACED, BUT INEQUALITIES ACKNOWLEDGED.**  
Pew Global Attitudes Project. July 1, 2010.

Fifteen years after the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women's Beijing Platform for Action proclaimed that "shared power and responsibility should be established between women and men at home, in the workplace and in the wider national and international communities," people around the globe embrace the document's key principles. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/c2K428> [PDF format, 34 pages].

**DEMOCRACY ON HOLD: RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE APRIL 2010 SUDAN ELECTIONS.**  
Human Rights Watch. June 30, 2010.

The report documents rights violations across Sudan by both northern and southern authorities in the period leading up to, during, and following the April elections. These abuses include restrictions on freedom of speech and assembly, particularly in northern Sudan, and widespread intimidation, arbitrary arrests, and physical violence against monitors and opponents of the incumbent parties by Sudanese security forces across the country. The report is based on research carried out between November 2009 and April 2010 in Khartoum and Southern Sudan. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/ceArGz> [HTML format with links].

**BEIJING: A GLOBAL LEADER WITH 'CHINA FIRST' POLICY.** YaleGlobal. David Shambaugh. June 29, 2010.

Observers have long hoped for new openness and cooperation from a confident China. They scan every international event, from the majestic Beijing Olympics of summer 2008 to the recent G-20 summit in Toronto, for indications of China's policy direction. If any clear trend is visible, it is that the world's second largest economy largely continues with a narrow, fluctuating foreign-policy approach. "On global issues, Beijing appears to act with an odd combination of hesitancy and truculence," explains David Shambaugh. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/creMpy> [HTML format, various paging].

**UKRAINE – NOT YET LOST.** Brookings Institution. Steven Pifer. June 30, 2010.

A recent visit to Ukraine yielded two narratives regarding developments under President Victor Yanukovich, now in his fourth month in power. The first narrative—seemingly the dominant one in the West—holds that Yanukovich is turning the country back to Russia's geopolitical orbit and restoring a more authoritarian political system. Perhaps; there are worrying signs. A second narrative, however, paints a more nuanced picture. Senior Ukrainian officials have said that, while Yanukovich attaches priority to repairing relations with Russia, Kyiv seeks a balance between Russia and the West. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/dCnQ7k> [HTML format, various paging].

ARE PALESTINIANS BUILDING A STATE? Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Nathan J. Brown. July 1, 2010.

The international community's understandable admiration for Palestinian Prime Minister Salam Fayyad and his efforts to rebuild the West Bank obscures a dangerous regression in democracy and human rights. Just back from the West Bank, Nathan J. Brown contends that the United States is once again confusing support for an admirable individual with that of a sound policy. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/dj9G0d> [PDF format, 16 pages].

UNCERTAIN KYRGYZSTAN: REBALANCING U.S. POLICY. Atlantic Council. Ross Wilson and Damon Wilson. June 30, 2010.

According to the authors, the international community is failing to respond in ways commensurate with the crisis. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/9doExT> [PDF format, 6 pages].

THE ADULT RECESSION. Center for Economic and Policy Research. David Rosnick. July 2010.

Since the Great Depression, the worst episode of unemployment came in the second half of 1982 and the first half of 1983. Over that time, the unemployment rate stayed above ten percent from September through June, reaching 10.8 percent of the labor force in November and December of 1982. A naïve examination of the raw unemployment rates would suggest that the downturn of the early 1980s resulted in a labor market even weaker than what we have experienced as a result of the collapse of the housing bubble. However, the demographics of the labor force have changed significantly over the last quarter century. After adjusting for the aging of the population since the early 1980s, the current labor-market downturn has resulted in both a higher unemployment rate and a longer period when the rate of unemployment remained over 10 percent. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/9pRpmf> [PDF format, 4 pages].

DEEP HORIZON OIL SPILL: SELECTED ISSUES FOR CONGRESS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Curry L. Hagerty and Jonathan L. Ramseur. June 18, 2010.

On April 20, 2010, an explosion and fire occurred on the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig in the Gulf of Mexico. This resulted in 11 worker fatalities, a massive oil release, and a national response effort in the Gulf of Mexico region by the federal and state governments as well as BP. Based on estimates from the Flow Rate Technical Group, which is led by the U.S. Geological Survey, the 2010 Gulf spill has become the largest oil spill in U.S. waters, eclipsing the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* spill several times over. The oil spill has damaged natural resources and has had regional economic impacts. In addition, questions have been raised as to whether the regulations and regulators of offshore oil exploration have kept pace with the increasingly complex technologies needed to explore and develop deeper waters.  
<http://go.usa.gov/OCK> [PDF format, 44 pages].

FROM SOLICITOR GENERAL TO SUPREME COURT NOMINEE: RESPONSIBILITIES, HISTORY, AND THE NOMINATION OF ELENA KAGAN. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. June 23, 2010.

On May 10, 2010, President Obama nominated Solicitor General Elena Kagan to replace retiring Justice John Paul Stevens. If confirmed, Elena Kagan would be the first serving Solicitor General to be appointed to the Court since the elevation of Thurgood Marshall in 1967. She would also be only the fifth of 111 Justices to come to the bench with such experience.  
<http://go.usa.gov/OCB> [PDF format, 20 pages].

FUTURES THINKING FOR ACADEMIC LIBRARIANS: HIGHER EDUCATION IN 2025. Association of College & Research Libraries. David J. Staley and Kara L. Malen. June 2010.

"For academic librarians seeking to demonstrate the value of their libraries to their parent institutions, it is important to understand not only the current climate. We must also know what will be valued in the future so that we can begin to take appropriate action now. This document presents 26 possible scenarios based on an implications assessment of current trends, which may have an impact on all types of academic and research libraries over the next 15 years. The scenarios represent themes relating to academic culture, demographics, distance education, funding, globalization, infrastructure/facilities, libraries, political climate, publishing industry, societal values, students/learning, and technology." [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://bit.ly/8Yxsxl> [PDF format, 33 pages].

HELP WANTED: PROJECTIONS OF JOBS AND EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS THROUGH 2018. Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. Anthony P. Carevale et al. June 2010.

The study forecasts that by 2018, 63 percent of all jobs will require at least some postsecondary education. Employers will need 22 million new workers with postsecondary degrees – and the report shows that we will fall short by three million workers without a dramatic change in course. This translates into a deficit of 300,000 college graduates every year between now and 2018. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://bit.ly/9UVFih> [PDF format, 122 pages].

LOW-INCOME FATHERS NEED TO GET CONNECTED. Center for American Progress. Joy Moses. June 25, 2010.

Report from Joy Moses shows how helping low-income fathers will benefit children and families. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://bit.ly/amnYyk> [PDF format, 31 pages].

OPENING DOORS: HOW TO MAKE THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT WORK FOR WOMEN. Center for American Progress. Liz Weiss. July 1, 2010.

A rack of job-seeking materials is seen at a career center. Women are particularly short-changed by the WIA system, which helps U.S. workers find jobs and get training. A number of reforms to the system could help it better serve women, according to the study. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://bit.ly/b3StVm> [PDF format, 33 pages].

PUBLIC OPINION ON THE SUPREME COURT 2010. American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research. Karlyn H. Bowman and Andrew Rugg. June 28, 2010.

The report looks broadly at confidence in the Court, views of the Court today, knowledge of current Justices, and at the kind of nominee people say they would like to see. It also reviews areas where public opinion is not well formed. Questions about original intent, for example, seem to pull people in one direction or another depending on how they are worded. New and updated sections look at attitudes toward recent nominees, including Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor. This document includes some questions on abortion. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://bit.ly/99JEKi> [PDF format, 54 pages].

VOTING INTENTIONS EVEN, TURNOUT INDICATORS FAVOR GOP. Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. July 1, 2010.

With four months to go before Election Day, voting intentions for the House remain closely divided, and neither party has gained or lost much ground over the course of 2010. However, Republicans are much more engaged in the coming election and more inclined to say they are certain to vote than are Democrats. This could translate into a sizable turnout advantage for the GOP in November that could transform an even race among registered voters into a solid victory for the Republicans, according to the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/aL5Hpc> [PDF format, 48 pages].

**CONFRONTING THE CRISIS OF INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE POLICY: RETHINKING THE FRAMEWORK FOR CUTTING EMISSIONS.** Lowy Institute for International Policy. Ferguson Green et al. July 7, 2010.

Copenhagen failed to produce an agreement on climate change commensurate with the scale of the problem, highlighting the fundamental weaknesses in the existing UN framework. Progress on a new agreement is agonizingly slow, with fundamental disagreements remaining on nearly every aspect of the negotiation agenda. Weightier commitments by the major emitters are necessary, but calls for 'greater ambition' ignore the structural problems embedded in the institutions, processes and policy models of the UN climate regime. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/d7deNv> [PDF format, 24 pages].

**FOOD SECURITY ASSESSMENT, 2010-20.** U.S. Department of Agriculture. Shahla Shapouri et al. July 8, 2010.

Food security in 70 developing countries is estimated to have improved between 2009 and 2010, in part due to economic recovery in many of these countries. The number of food-insecure people in the developing countries analyzed by ERS researchers is estimated to decrease about 5 percent from 2009 to 882 million in 2010. The number of food-insecure people at the aggregate level will not improve much over the next decade, declining by only 1 percent. While there will be notable improvements in Asia and Latin America, the situation in Sub-Saharan Africa is projected to deteriorate after 2010. Food-insecure people are defined as those consuming less than the nutritional target of 2,100 calories per day per person.  
<http://go.usa.gov/OBc> [PDF format, 64 pages].

**GLOBAL BRANDS CONTEND WITH APPRECIATION FOR THE LOCAL.** YaleGlobal. Bryant Simon. July 6, 2010.

Fear of global brands is a powerful, universally recognized phenomenon. Just as powerful and less noticed is the consumer pushback against global brands and search for unique, local products, notes the author. Simon concludes that the local and global have many strange, inextricable connections as two never-ending quests proceed: Businesses attempt to attract customers and expand, while consumers hunt for new and exceptional products, often in the traditional shops of some other land. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/9lBadB> [HTML format, various paging].

**NURSES IN ADVANCED ROLES: A DESCRIPTION AND EVALUATION OF EXPERIENCES IN 12 DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.** Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Marie-Laure Delamaire and Gaetan Lafortunes. Web posted July 12, 2010.

Many countries are seeking to improve health care delivery by reviewing the roles of health professionals, including nurses. Developing new and more advanced roles for nurses could improve access to care in the face of a limited or diminishing supply of doctors. It might also contain costs by delegating tasks away from more expensive doctors. The paper reviews the development of advanced practice nurses in 12 countries (Australia, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Ireland, Japan, Poland, United Kingdom and United States),

with a particular focus on their roles in primary care. It also reviews the evaluations of impacts on patient care and cost. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/aufsL3> [PDF format, 106 pages].

THE ECONOMY OF BURMA/MYANMAR ON THE EVE OF THE 2010 ELECTIONS. U.S. Institute of Peace. Lex Rieffel. July 8, 2010.

The government of Burma is undergoing a critical transition: Before the end of 2010, the military regime that has ruled the country since a palace coup in 1998 will hold an election based on a constitution drafted in a nondemocratic process and approved by a referendum in 2008. The referendum fell far short of global standards of credibility and the election is likely to yield a government that neither the antimilitary movement nor the international community views as legitimate. However, the constitution and election also may offer opportunities for further international involvement that began in the wake of Cyclone Nargis in 2008. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/cnd1X2> In Burmese [PDF format, 28 pages].

INNOVATION AND THE VISIBLE HAND: CHINA, INDIGENOUS INNOVATION, AND THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Nathaniel Ahrens. July 7, 2010.

Indigenous innovation has become the greatest immediate source of economic friction between the United States and China. Yet despite concerns over protectionism, the global trend toward “homegrown” innovation is a healthy, positive development. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/c1gmsm> [PDF format, 36 pages].

SMALLER DRAGON TAKES GLOBAL STRIDES: THE LURE OF TRADE, MORE THAN MILITARY BATTERING, TRANSFORMED VIETNAM. YaleGlobal. Jean-Pierre Lehmann. July 8, 2010.

For two decades, U.S. leaders regarded communist North Vietnam as a threat to freedom and American generals vowed to bomb the regime into submission, before abandoning the fight in 1975. The U.S. pursued an isolation policy, and Vietnam unified, yet wallowed in economic stagnation as it confiscated private property, re-educated opponents and allied with the Soviet Union. As the Soviet Union crumbled, Vietnam set out to reform its economy, explains author Jean-Pierre Lehmann, restoring diplomatic ties with China in 1991 and the U.S. in 1995 before joining the World Trade Organization in 2007. Globalization, trade and openness transformed Vietnam into a global economic force. “ [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/dhWtEY> [HTML format, various paging].

LACK OF TRANSPARENCY IN RUSSIAN ENERGY TRADE: THE RISKS TO EUROPE. Center for Strategic & International Studies. Keith C. Smith. July 7, 2010.

A major challenge to the new democracies of Central Europe is the corruption and lack of transparency in the importing of oil and natural gas from Russia and other energy producing states once part of the Soviet Union. This situation also undermines good governance and ethical business practices in the large and wealthier countries of Europe. [Note: contains copyrighted material].  
<http://bit.ly/bEffd9> [PDF format, 30 pages].

THE LENGTHENING LIST OF IRAN SANCTIONS. Council on Foreign Relations. Greg Bruno. July 8, 2010.

Decades of economic and diplomatic sanctions have failed to substantively alter the actions of the Iranian regime, especially regarding its nuclear program. But experts say they remain an important tool to isolate and pressure Iran. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/am6QD8> [HTML format, various paging].

THE CHILD TAX CREDIT AFTER ARRA: HOW WOULD EXPIRATION AFFECT METROPOLITAN FAMILIES? Brookings Institution. Elizabeth Kneebone. July 8, 2010.

Currently, the largest provision in the U.S. tax code that benefits working families with children is the Child Tax Credit (CTC). Through the CTC, eligible families can claim a credit of up to \$1,000 for each child under 17 at tax time. The credit is first used to pay down taxes owed. If the CTC exceeds the amount due, taxpayers may also be eligible to receive some or all of the remainder as a refund, supplementing their wages and boosting their take home pay. Though delivered through the tax code, the CTC is the largest of any federal cash assistance program for children. While it provides an important work incentive for lower-income families, it also acts as the mechanism through which the federal government delivers extra financial support to families raising children. Letting the earnings threshold revert to pre-ARRA levels would exclude a significant number of lower-income families from receiving this support.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/aqYvoW> [PDF format, 3 pages].

CLASSROOMS FOR SECURITY: HARNESSING ACADEMIA TO KEEP AMERICA SAFE. The Heritage Foundation. James Jay Carafano et al. July 7, 2010.

A homeland security enterprise that can meet the threats and challenges of the 21st century requires the assistance and commitment of America's educational system. Schools, colleges, and universities must focus on educating students and training professionals, while fostering innovation and planning for the future. More and more academic institutions are offering classes and degrees in issues related to homeland security. Partnerships between institutions of higher learning and the Department of Homeland Security are a crucial part of developing future homeland security leaders. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/b7HYI1> [PDF format, 11 pages].

THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF REDUCING THE DROPOUT RATE AMONG STUDENTS OF COLOR IN THE NATION'S LARGEST METROPOLITAN AREAS. Alliance for Excellent Education. July 7, 2010.

Few people realize the impact that high school dropouts have on a community's economic, social, and civic health. Business owners and residents, in particular, those without school-aged children, may not be aware that they have much at stake in the success of their local high schools. Indeed, everyone, from car dealers and realtors to bank managers and local business owners, benefits when more students graduate from high school. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/ck91ox> [HTML format with links].

MEASURING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF BORDER SECURITY BETWEEN PORTS-OF ENTRY. RAND Corporation. Henry H. Willis et al. July 8, 2010.

Focusing on three missions -- illegal drug control, counterterrorism, and illegal migration -- this report recommends ways to measure performance of U.S. border-security efforts in terms of interdiction, deterrence, and exploiting networked intelligence. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://bit.ly/9CxmaO> [PDF format, 68 pages].

MEDIA INTEREST IN OIL SPILL FLAGGING. Project for Excellence in Journalism. Mark Jurkowitz. July 7, 2010.

After a brief absence, the Gulf oil spill returned to the top of the news agenda last week. But the level of recent coverage suggests that the story that has dominated the mainstream media for



more than two months is finally losing some steam. Fueled partly by concerns about the impact of Hurricane Alex on the cleanup, the environmental disaster was the No. 1 story, filling 15% of the news hole from June 28-July 4. That is down from 23% the previous week, when the subject was the No. 2 story, narrowly trailing the Gen. McChrystal/Afghanistan saga. The week before that (June 14-20) the spill accounted for 44% of the news hole. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://bit.ly/b8r8d1> [HTML format, various paging].

MOBILE ACCESS 2010. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Aaron Smith. July 7, 2010.

Six in ten Americans go online wirelessly using a laptop or cell phone; African-Americans and 18-29 year olds lead the way in the use of cell phone data applications, but older adults are gaining ground. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://bit.ly/csgnMo> [PDF format, 25 pages].

PRINCIPAL ATTRITION AND MOBILITY: RESULTS FROM THE 2008-09 PRINCIPAL FOLLOW-UP SURVEY. National Center on Education Statistics. Web posted July 7, 2010.

The 2008-09 Principal Follow-up Survey was administered in order to provide attrition rates for principals in K-12 public, private, and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools. The goal was to assess how many principals in the 2007-08 school year still worked as a principal in the same school in the 2008-09 school year, how many had moved to become a principal in another school, and how many had left the principalship. <http://go.usa.gov/OBq> [PDF format, 60 pages].

SCALING NEW HEIGHTS: HOW TO SPOT SMALL SUCCESSES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR AND MAKE THEM BIG. Center for American Progress. Geoff Mulgan and Jitin der Kohli. July 2010.

There are strong incentives to innovate in the private sector, but the United States' social sector has been largely unable to match that success. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://bit.ly/bhP11C> [PDF format, 28 pages].

STATE FACT SHEETS: UNITED STATES. U.S. Department of Agriculture. July 1, 2010.

State fact sheets provide information on population, income, education, employment, federal funds, organic agriculture, farm characteristics, farm financial indicators, top commodities, and exports, for each State in the United States. Links to county-level data are included when available. <http://go.usa.gov/OZJ> [HTML format, various paging].

TOUGH, FAIR, AND PRACTICAL: A HUMAN RIGHTS FRAMEWORK FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM IN THE UNITED STATES. Human Rights Watch. July 8, 2010.

Americans from all political perspectives agree that US immigration laws need to be fixed. While some emphasize the need to be tough in enforcing immigration law, others emphasize the importance of fairness. Human rights law offers a practical framework embracing both of these policy goals that is in the interests of citizens and non-citizens alike, contends the report. [Note: contains copyrighted material]. <http://bit.ly/caf2fn> [HTML format with links].

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