

UCLA Daily Media Coverage

(Compiled by UCLA Media Relations & Public Outreach)

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

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IN THE NEWS:

Link Between Air Pollution, Autism

A study by researchers at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health that found that babies exposed to traffic pollution in the womb have an increased risk for autism was highlighted Monday by [KNX-1070 AM](#) and today by the [Huffington Post](#), San Diego's [KNSD-Channel 7](#) and other NBC affiliates. Dr. Beate Ritz, professor and chair of epidemiology at the Fielding School, and Ondine von Ehrenstein, assistant professor of community health sciences at the school, were quoted in the Huffington Post; Ritz was interviewed on KNX.

Study Finds Brain Damage in NFL Players

Georgia's [WTOC-Channel 11](#) reported Monday on brain-imaging study in which UCLA researchers found elevated levels of the Alzheimer's disease-related tau protein in the brains of five retired football players who had suffered one or more concussions. Dr. Gary Small, UCLA's Parlow-Solomon Professor on Aging and a professor of psychiatry and bibehavioral sciences at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA, was interviewed.

California and the Affordable Care Act

Dylan Roby, director of the health economics and evaluation research program at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, was interviewed Monday on [KPCC-89.3 FM](#) about California's approach to implementing the health insurance provisions of the Affordable Care Act for undocumented immigrants.

Same-Sex Couples and Green Cards

Stories by Reno's [KRXI-Channel 11](#) and other Fox affiliates on Monday about federal laws preventing gay American citizens from sponsoring their spouses for green cards cited research by the UCLA School of Law's Williams Institute on the number of same-sex couples in the U.S. in which at least one partner is not a citizen.

Fighting 'Superbug' Infections

Dr. Brad Spellberg, assistant professor of medicine and infectious diseases at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was interviewed Friday on NPR's "[Talk of the Nation: Science Friday](#)" about "superbugs" that are resistant to virtually all antibiotics.

LGBT Immigrants in the U.S.

Matt Strieker, deputy director of the Williams Institute at the UCLA School of Law, was interviewed today on San Francisco's [KQED-88.5 FM](#) about Williams Institute research showing that more than 900,000 adult immigrants in the U.S. identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender. [New America Media](#) reported Monday on the research, quoting Gary Gates, a senior research fellow with the institute

Garvey Takes up Fight Against Cancer

Dr. Mark Litwin, professor and chair of urology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a professor at UCLA's Fielding School of Public Health, was interviewed today on [KCAL-Channel 9](#) about treating former Los Angeles Dodger Steve Garvey for prostate cancer.

Home Sweet Chaos

[SoCal Connected](#) reported Monday on a study by researchers at the UCLA Center on Everyday Lives of Families that examined in intimate detail the home lives of 32 middle-class, dual-earner families with

children in Los Angeles. Jeanne Arnold, UCLA professor of anthropology and a CELF researcher, was interviewed.

UCLA Among Tops in 'Reputation' Rankings

The [New York Times](#) reported Monday that UCLA has been ranked the No. 8 university in the world by the Times Higher Education magazine, based on its reputation for excellence in research and teaching among scholars around the globe.

Changes to U.S. Patent Law

Monday's [Forbes](#) featured an op-ed by John Villasenor, professor of electrical engineering at the UCLA Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science, on forthcoming changes to U.S. patent law.

School Enrollment Patterns, Segregation

Monday's [Washington Post](#) reported on research by the Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles at UCLA showing that four out of five Latino students in northern Virginia are enrolled in schools that have a predominately minority population.

Scientists ID New Alzheimer's Risk Gene

[Domain-b](#) reports today on a study by Paul Thompson, UCLA professor of neurology and a member of the UCLA Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, and colleagues that used DNA screening and advanced brain-visualization scans to discover a new genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's disease. Thompson is quoted.

Far Better Than Batteries

[CleanTechnica](#) reports today on the development by Richard Kaner, a member of the California NanoSystems Institute at UCLA and a professor of chemistry and biochemistry, and Maher El-Kady, a graduate student in Kaner's laboratory, of a method for producing graphene-based "supercapacitors" — which can charge up to a thousand times faster than batteries — using a standard DVD burner.

Artist Spotlights Plight of Latino Workers

Chon Noriega, director of UCLA's Chicano Studies Research Center and a professor at the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television, was interviewed Thursday for an [Agence France-Presse](#) video report about artist Ramiro Gomez, who paints life-sized cardboard cutouts of Latino workers and places them in wealthy areas of Los Angeles.

Dispute Over Primate Center

The [Winston-Salem Journal](#) reported Monday on a legal dispute between UCLA and Wake Forest University Health Sciences over the management of a jointly operated primate research center in Forsyth County, N.C.

Gay Couples Battle for Equal Benefits

A [Reuters](#) article published today about an upcoming U.S. Supreme Court case challenging a provision of the federal Defense of Marriage Act that denies tax and Social Security benefits to married same-sex couples cited research by the Williams Institute at the UCLA School of Law estimating how many same-sex couples would qualify for a spousal tax exemption if the law were overturned.

Meditation Strengthens the Brain

An article in Monday's [South China Morning Post](#) highlighted research led by Eileen Luders, assistant professor at the UCLA Laboratory of Neuro Imaging, showing that people who meditate have, on average, more folds in the brain's cerebral cortex, which has been linked to improved information processing, memory formation and decision making. Luders was quoted.

Using the Internet Boots Brain Activity

Britain's [Daily Telegraph](#) today highlights research by Dr. Gary Small, professor of psychiatry at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA and director of the UCLA Center on Aging, that found that using Google significantly boosts the brain activity of novice Internet users.

UCLA's Focus on the Environment

[Los Angeles Confidential](#) reports this week on the UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability's recent fundraising gala, which featured former Vice President Al Gore and other celebrities and raised more than \$1 million for the institute.

Star System Discovered Close to Sun

The [Daily Galaxy](#) reports today on the discovery by NASA's Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE) of a pair of stars that constitute the third closest star system to the sun. Edward (Ned) Wright, UCLA professor of physics and astronomy and the principal investigator for the WISE satellite at UCLA, is quoted.

Doctors and Drug Endorsements

An article in Monday's [Los Angeles Daily News](#) about doctors endorsing the benefits of certain pharmaceuticals cited UCLA's guidelines on the matter.

QUOTABLE:

Samuel Culbert

Culbert, professor of human resources and organizational behavior at the UCLA Anderson School of Management, was quoted Monday in an article in Nigeria's [This Day](#) about employee performance appraisals.

Dr. Jeffrey Klausner

Klausner, professor of infectious diseases and global health at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, was quoted Monday in a [Los Angeles Times](#) article about a nonprofit AIDS foundation urging the city of Los Angeles to start its own public health agency, separate from the county.

Dr. Nick Shamie

Shamie, associate professor of orthopedic surgery at the UCLA Spine Center, was quoted Monday in a [Women's Health](#) blog article about treating lower back pain.

Fernando Torres-Gil

Torres-Gil, professor of social welfare and public policy and chair of the social welfare department at UCLA's Luskin School of Public Affairs, is quoted today in a [Los Angeles Times](#) blog article about Los Angeles' aging population.

To submit news clips, email UCLA Media Relations & Public Outreach at: releases@support.ucla.edu. Please include ALL titles and dates of coverage.