



This season, CALS went viral – not only with a freshman’s acceptance video, but with the news of a new research center on vector borne disease and our expert commentary on food safety practices.

Food & Energy Systems



BBC World Service: “Food Choices”
12.22.2016

David Just, Dyson School, suggests that consumers might be driven toward meal replacements like Soylent because they are bewildered by competing claims over what is healthy and how much of a product we should be eating.

The New York Times: “An (Edible) Solution to Extend Produce’s Shelf Life”

12.13.2016

Chris Watkins, School of Integrative Plant Science (SIPS), comments on the socioeconomic factors influencing fruit and vegetable availability in the U.S.

Associated Press: “Making Your Resolution Stick, Not the Pounds”
12.28.2016

Brian Wansink, Food and Brand Lab, advises making small changes to daily eating routines as a way to cut down on calories in the long run.

The Conversation: “How Trump’s Deportation Plan Threatens America’s Food and Wine Supply”
12.01.2016

Justine Vanden Heuvel of SIPS and Mary Jo Dudley of development sociology co-author this op-ed that posits if Trump enacts his deportation plan, U.S.-produced food and wine will become both more expensive and less available.

Social Sciences



ABC News: “School Erupts in Celebration as Student Gets Accepted to Cornell University”
12.12.2016

Acceptance video gone viral: Brendon Gauthier is accepted to CALS after extensively researching the animal science program.

Associated Press: “Why a Stronger U.S. Dollar Could Hinder Trump’s Economic Plans”

12.19.2016

Eswar Prasad, Dyson School, explains that a strong U.S. dollar slows exports, making it more challenging to boost manufacturing competitiveness or bring back jobs.

The Washington Post: “Why the Polls Missed in 2016: Was It Sky Trump Supporters After All?”

12.13.2016

Jonathon Schuldt, communication, suggests in this op-ed that the polling in the U.S. election might have been skewed by some Trump supporters who were hesitant to report that they would vote for Trump.

The Christian Science Monitor: “Indiana University Tech Tool ‘Hoaxy’ Shows How Fake News Spreads”

12.22.2016

Drew Margolin, communication, explains that misinformation tends to be a social phenomenon, and thus some social networks may enable the spread of false news stories.

Life Sciences



The Washington Post: “CDC Sends \$184 Million in Zika Funding to States As Texas Reports New Case”
12.22.2016

Laura Harrington, entomology, is receiving \$9.9M from the CDC to establish the Northeast Regional Center for Excellence. The vector borne disease research and training facility will be one of only four of its kind in the U.S.

National Geographic: “Disco Spider Pulsates With Color, Baffling Scientists”

12.16.2016

Linda Rayer, entomology, comments on the rarity of an orb-weaver spider in Singapore whose abdomen mimics a snake’s head and pulses with mysterious blobs.

Northeast Dairy Magazine: “High-Tech Meets Food Safety”

12.01.2016

Martin Wiedmann, food science, writes that we can expect an increase in detected foodborne illness outbreaks because of sophisticated food safety practices, and that Chipotle illustrates the cost of ignoring such practices.

Wine Enthusiast: “Can Science Save Our Favorite Wines?”

12.08.2016

Bruce Reisch, SIPS, on the genetic diversity of lesser-known grapes that have similar qualities to favorites like Merlot and Chardonnay, but are more resistant to diseases like downy mildew.

Environmental Sciences



Time Warner Cable News: “Capital Tonight: December 12”
12.12.2016

Robert Howarth, ecology and evolutionary biology, joins a panel to discuss New York state’s problematic use of natural gas as a bridge from coal to sustainable energy.

The Huffington Post: “What’s Your Dietary Footprint?”

12.06.2016

Gary Fick, SIPS, explains that converting corn to biofuels can lead to biodiversity loss in soil, and that we must understand the impact of dietary patterns on land use.

The Huffington Post: “Climate Change Could Escalate Risk of Extreme Rainfall By As Much As 400 Percent”

12.07.2016

Toby Ault, earth and atmospheric sciences, explains his megadrought study, says that even extreme rainfall cannot completely offset the moisture lost during a drought.

The Hill: “Dismantling EPA Regulations Hurts Both Health and Economy”

12.10.2016

Amanda Rodewald, natural resources, argues in her op-ed that by protecting our environment, we protect the health and well-being of current and future generations, and provide a powerful stimulus to our economy.