#ICYMI: University of Richmond News to Use
*Experts Available to Comment on Coronavirus, the Border Wall, and Robots in Space*

Jan. 24, 2020

The University of Richmond media relations team can connect you with experts to provide insights into some of this week’s top stories.

**Robots in Space**
India has unveiled a "female" humanoid robot that it plans to launch into space in 2020. The news piqued the interest of computer science professor Jory Denny, a robotics expert who wondered “How is this any different from NASA's 'Robonaut'? And why is there a need for a physical manifestation?” Denny can discuss the historical use of robots in space and what we might see next from India. Contact Sunni Brown to connect with him.

**Border Wall Construction**
The Department of Homeland Security is moving forward with border wall construction following the recent Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling. Anthropologists Margaret Dorsey and Miguel Díaz-Barriga, who have studied the U.S.-Mexico border wall for a decade, say this latest ruling is part of a larger process of denying U.S. citizens basic legal rights. Contact Lindsey Campbell to connect with them.

**Coronavirus**
While the World Health Organization says the coronavirus is not yet a public health emergency of international concern, it is an emergency in China and could become an international one if it continues to spread. Biology professor Eugene Wu, an expert on viruses, is tracking this story closely and can provide scientific insight on viruses and general context around this story. Contact Sunni Brown to connect with him.

Contact us to connect with these and other experts, and visit our newsroom and follow us on Twitter at @URNews2Use for more expert resources and story ideas.

Best,
The University of Richmond Media Relations Team