

International Business

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COBA Research Day 2018 – March 20th - Torian (COBA) Auditorium; From 10 Am – 1 PM

**NASBITE 2018 International Student Case Competition - March 21th-23rd-
Baltimore Maryland**

- US economy loses steam as imports surge**

US economic growth slowed unexpectedly to an annualized rate of 2.6% in the last three months of 2017, the Commerce Department said on Friday. Economists had expected the rate to be 3% - the same as the three months to September. A surge in imports was blamed for the slowdown, which meant growth for 2017 came in at 2.3%. That was better than the 1.5% posted in 2016, but well short of President Donald Trump's 3% target. Imports surged by 13.9% in the quarter - the fastest pace since the third quarter of 2010 - offsetting a rise in exports.

Source: BBC News Jan 26, 2018

- Trump administration weighs building U.S. 5G network to counter China**

Some White House officials view next-generation 5G wireless service as a “key area of competition,” and they say that the threat from China, in particular, justifies a “moonshot” government effort like the construction of the interstate highway system, an internal memo shows. Verizon, AT&T and other carriers have already invested hundreds of millions of dollars developing standards and technology to roll out 5G. Verizon plans to launch a 5G network in Sacramento later this year that would deliver high speed home internet wirelessly.

Source: The Wall Street Journal Jan 29, 2018

- Bank of America is the latest company to ban the dreaded job-interview question**

Hiring managers across Bank of America will soon be prohibited from asking a question most job candidates love to hate: How much were you paid in your last job?

Bank of America spokesman said that while administrative ease might have played a role, the company expanded the policy as part of an effort to create a “culture of fairness and respect” and to help address pay equity.

Source: The Washington Post Jan 29, 2018

- Iran's internet crackdown targets protesters, hits businesses**

When Iranian authorities blocked popular messaging app Telegram last month in an attempt to quell unrest, the country's small business community bore the brunt of a communications breakdown that reverberated across the economy.

Small businesses were no longer able to process orders and coordinate deliveries through Telegram, forcing them to solicit business by knocking on doors.

Source: The Washington Post Jan 25, 2018

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