

# NEWT NEWS



## Message from the Director

Welcome to the first issue of the NewT Newsletter! Things have been busy in the “New Transparency: Surveillance and Social Sorting” project since the funding began in April 2008. The inaugural research workshop at Queen’s was a huge success, with over 40 participants from 5 countries discussing the key themes of our research and how to investigate them within each of the IRSPs (Integrated Research Sub-Projects). Strong and enthusiastic support for the project was expressed at that event by the Office of Vice Principal Research at Queen’s from Laurene Ratcliff, Associate Dean (Research) and by the Canadian Federal Privacy Commissioner, Jennifer Stoddart.

Now the work – first discussed in July 2006 when we made plans to apply for \$2.5M – is seriously under way with a number of planned events that will also serve as meeting places for NewT researchers. In December 2008 the first IRSP workshop on “States of Exception, Surveillance and Population Management: The Case of Israel/Palestine” will take place in Cyprus so that Middle East participants can join in easily. In May 2009 graduate students and postdocs will meet at Queen’s for a week-long Surveillance Studies Summer Seminar and in November that year the “Surveillance Games” research workshop will be held in Vancouver, examining surveillance at Olympic and similar mega-events.

The IRSP teams are busy planning and sharing their work and I encourage you to actively participate in this process. We are keen that everyone in the team finds their niche(s) and their level of involvement. The new website is meant to encourage participation as well as offer a lively discussion venue and be a continually updated resource. Please take a moment to sign in to the team login section and post comments in the forum and sign up for the RSS feeds that interest you.

David

## ISSUE 1, SEPTEMBER 2008

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## Inaugural Research Team Meeting: May 8-10, 2008

The inaugural research workshop was held at Queen's University on May 8-10, 2008. Over 40 team members met to discuss all aspects of the New Transparency Project (for a complete list of the NewT team see: <http://www.surveillanceproject.org/projects/the-new-transparency/people>). Director David Lyon outlined the project and the SSHRC expectations, all participants introduced themselves, and Kirstie Ball facilitated the "project wall"- which encouraged participants to identify where they situate themselves in the research project and who they gravitate towards by placing physical markers on boards in the meeting room (For a video of "the making of the wall" see the

team login section of the website).

A public presentation and overview of the NewT project was given by David Lyon for all present, as well as university and other guests followed by a reception. This was introduced by Laurene Ratcliffe, Associate Dean (Research) on behalf of the Office of the VP Research at Queen's and followed up by a presentation by the Canadian Federal Privacy Commissioner, Jennifer Stoddard (To see a video of this presentation, go to <http://www.surveillanceproject.org/the-new-transparency/people/partners>).

The following two days of discussion involved several

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*Kirstie Ball and Kevin Haggerty led the NewT team on a "wall-building" process. A short video of the process can be found in the Team Login section of the website.*



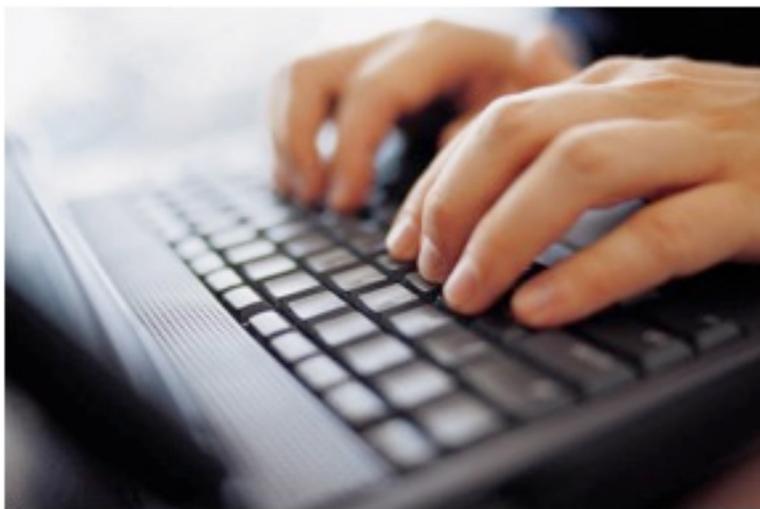
*Clockwise from top: Oscar Gandy, Robin Mansell, Ian Kerr*



## Advisory Board Appointed

We are very pleased to announce that Oscar Gandy, Ian Kerr, and Robin Mansell have graciously agreed to act as advisory board members for the New Transparency Project. Each brings a wealth of experience to this post. Oscar H. Gandy Jr. is Professor Emeritus at the University of Pennsylvania, Ian Kerr holds the Canada Research Chair in Ethics, Law and Technology at the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law and Robin Mansell is Professor of New Media and the Internet at the London School of Economics and head of the Department of Media and Communications.

The advisory board will meet at least once a year with the executive team and act as consultants, providing strategic advice on keeping the central aims of the New Transparency project research in focus, ensuring openness in decision-making and fostering relevance and excellence in social science research.



## Collaboration 2.0

Your feedback on collaborative media was used to determine the best way to communicate as a team. The **listserv** and new **website** are at the centre of our communication strategy.

- The listserv ([SSS911-L@LISTS.queensu.ca](mailto:SSS911-L@LISTS.queensu.ca)) is comprised of all project members and is intended to share updates on project news and to share comments on related topics with one another, as well as updates that are posted to the website.
- The website (<http://www.newtransparency.org>) contains:
  - **About**- information on the project (including video summaries) and the Integrated Research Sub-Projects
  - **People**- biographies and links to the project members and partners
  - **Events**- a timetable of events and future workshops by month for the project and those that members are involved in
  - **News**- quarterly newsletters about the project and its members, relevant news articles related to Integrated Research Sub-Projects (IRSPs) (which you can add to), news archives, and a blog spot
  - **Resources**- relevant links and publications
  - **Team Login**- a members-only section featuring the 'team forum' where discussions can occur on particular project-related topics or IRSPs, and the 'team resources' section where resources can be posted and shared only with the team
  - **Contact us**- a section where the public can get in touch with us
  - The members-only topics and news sections are also RSS capable- meaning you can sign up to have web or email alerts each time members post comments on the topics you are interested in and involved with

Please explore the website, and use a step-by-step approach to getting on board with collaborating with NewT members by:

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1. Viewing the **short tutorial** on how to sign in the 'Team Login' section of the website and post comments. This is where you will keep in touch with the IRSP group developments, comment on upcoming workshops, post new topics for discussion, and participate in the student forum. Check out what IRSP team leaders have posted here for you. We look forward to receiving your first comments by the end of September.

2. Taking the **short tutorial** on how to tag and share news items to the news section of the website using del.icio.us and how to use the RSS feeds. Bookmarking is a simple and excellent way to share current news stories on IRSP topics, Newt team members in the news, new resources, calls for papers and even fun and interesting tidbits.

3. Signing up to write a **blog**. You can sign up to write a blog on a relevant topic of your choice to be published on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. This is an effective way to increase interest in our project and share your views on issues related to the project.

The success of project communication depends on you. We welcome your feedback on a continuing basis. You can send a message to the listserv about your ideas, or directly to Emily Smith ([smithea@queensu.ca](mailto:smithea@queensu.ca)) or Joan Sharpe ([surveill@queensu.ca](mailto:surveill@queensu.ca)).

Team Meeting (Continued)

brainstorming break out sessions facilitated by team leaders for each of the 4 Integrated Research Sub-Projects (IRSPs) and reviews and repositioning of places on the project wall and team goals. Participants worked out where they would like to participate in the project and set research milestones within each of the IRSPs. (For a summary and videos of each of the IRSPs see the 'About' section of the website).

Special sessions were also held on 'Surveillance Studies beyond the Global North' (by Elia Zureik), 'The International Handbook of Surveillance Studies' (by David Lyon, Kevin Haggerty and Kirstie Ball), and 'Staying in touch' (by Andrew Clement). (For a summary of the results of the communication questionnaire see the team login section of the website).

Many successful connections were forged with firm commitments to research plans. A final plenary was held (chaired by Laureen Snider) with each of the team leaders summarizing the goals for all 4 IRSPs and finalizing the next steps, closing remarks were made by David Lyon. Meeting outcomes included strategies for successful communication, finalizing plans for research workshops and plans for collaboration.

## NEW BOOKS

Congratulations to team members on the following publications:



Colin J. Bennett and David Lyon (eds) (July 2008) *Playing the Identity Card: Surveillance, Security and Identification in Global Perspective*, Routledge.



Mark B. Salter (ed) (August 2008) *Politics at the Airport*, University of Minnesota Press.



Stéphan Lemman-Langlois (ed) (July 2008) *Technocrime: Technology, Crime and Social Control*, Willan.

Katja Franko Aas, Helene Oppen Gundhus, and Heidi Mork Lomell (August 2008) *Technologies of InSecurity: The Surveillance of Everyday Life*, Routledge-Cavendish.

## Team News

### Funding Announcements

The Surveillance Project was awarded \$50,000 under the Contributions Program by the Canadian Federal Office of the Privacy Commissioner to study Camera Surveillance in Canada. SCAN- the Surveillance Camera Awareness Network was established. For more information on this research group see:  
<http://www.surveillanceproject.org/projects/scan>

Kirstie Ball and colleagues at the Open University Business School were awarded £166,000 from the Leverhulme Trust to examine criminalization of consumer data in the UK travel and financial services sector.

### New NewTs

We welcome Vida Bajc and Jason Pridmore at Queen's University, who will be working with Elia Zureik and David Lyon.

### Resources

In conjunction with his new book, Colin Bennett, with the research assistance of Pablo Ouziel and Christopher Parsons is setting up a Privacy Advocates website which will be linked to the NewT site.

A further resource webpage is being developed on National ID cards, to complement Colin Bennett and David Lyon's research in this area.

### In Other News

Documentary filmmaker Sheila Petzold is interested in personalized stories of experiences with surveillance. Please contact:  
[spetzold@telewerx.com](mailto:spetzold@telewerx.com)

NewT Graduate Travel Grant (GTG) for Queen's grad students and postdocs, who can apply for up to 2 conference travel awards per fiscal year (1 Apr - 31 Mar) of up to \$500 each. Contact [surveill@queensu.ca](mailto:surveill@queensu.ca) for more info.



## NEW BOOKS CONTINUED



Colin J. Bennett (Fall 2008) *The Privacy Advocates: Resisting the Spread of Surveillance*, The MIT Press.



Louise Amoore and Marieke de Goede (eds) (July 2008) *Risk and the War on Terror*, Routledge.

Didier Bigo and Anastassia Tsoukala (eds) (May 2008) *Terror, Insecurity and Liberty: Illiberal Practices of Liberal Regimes after 9/11*, Routledge.

Didier Bigo (August 2008) *Policing Insecurity Today: Defense and Internal Security*, Palgrave MacMillan.

Have a book to announce? Email [smithea@queensu.ca](mailto:smithea@queensu.ca)

## Upcoming Events

### States of Exception, Surveillance and Population Management: The Case of Israel/Palestine

December 6 - 7, 2008  
Larnaca, Cyprus (IRSP IV)

For more information see:  
[http://www.surveillanceproject.org/  
events/states\\_of\\_exception](http://www.surveillanceproject.org/events/states_of_exception)

### Surveillance Studies Summer Seminar (SSSS)

May 19 - 23, 2009  
Queen's University, ON, Canada

For more information see:  
[http://www.surveillanceproject.org/  
ssss09](http://www.surveillanceproject.org/ssss09)

### Surveillance Games

November 20 - 21, 2009  
Vancouver, BC, Canada

For more information see:  
[http://www.surveillanceproject.org/  
node/204](http://www.surveillanceproject.org/node/204)

### Future Plans:

**The Role of Technology  
Companies (IRSP I)**  
Open University, UK  
tentatively August 2010

**Cyber Surveillance (IRSP II)**  
University of Toronto, Canada  
tentatively May 2011

**Post 9/11 (IRSP III)**  
Queen's University, ON, Canada  
September 2011

For the events calendar, go to:  
[http://www.surveillanceproject.org/  
projects/the-new-  
transparency/events](http://www.surveillanceproject.org/projects/the-new-transparency/events)



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