

Teach-in on University e-Services Outsourcing to U.S. Corporations

Saturday November 16, 2013 9AM - 3:30PM

Room 728, Faculty of Information, 140 St. George St., University of Toronto

<http://bit.ly/16MzZea>

Web-archived via the [iSchool's YouTube channel](#) or see program below for links to individual speakers

[Teach-in Facebook page](#)



[#UofTOutsourcingUS](#)

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The extraordinary scope and intensity of NSA surveillance programs have governments and enterprises around the world scrambling to reduce their exposure to rampant state surveillance. Canadian universities' growing outsourcing of their e-services, particularly to US corporations, have put them on the frontline of the debate on how to respond to the recent Snowden revelations. Outsourcing of email, calendaring, data sharing and other communications services promises improved functionality and enhanced collaboration features while saving costs. However, it brings new surveillance risks, especially when contracting with companies involved with the NSA's PRISM program, such as Microsoft and Google.

This teach-in aims to help affected users, and Canadians more generally, understand the issues at stake as well as contribute to better informed decisions around university e-service outsourcing. The one day event seeks to bring together privacy, security, surveillance and outsourcing experts with representatives of various stakeholders in an open and stimulating exchange of views.

The timing and focus of this teach-in is occasioned by the University of Toronto's proposed outsourcing of staff and faculty email (UTORmail) to Microsoft. With the official consultation process nearly completed, a decision on the proposal is expected in the coming weeks.

Please join us in what promises to be a lively and informative event.

[Program:](#)

[Speaker bios:](#)

[Sponsors:](#)

[Registration:](#)

[Further information:](#)

Program:

9AM Welcome: Seamus Ross, Dean, iSchool, UofT

Opening remarks: Andrew Clement, iSchool, UofT, Teach-in organizer

9:15-10:45AM

Session One: **Introductory keynote presentations**

Bob Cook, CIO, UofT: "Proposed project to migrate UofT faculty and staff email to Microsoft Office 365" [Video](#)

Caspar Bowden, former Microsoft chief privacy advisor: "How the US crafted secret mass-surveillance laws for foreign Cloud data, without any legal rights or redress" [Video](#)

11AM-12:30PM

Session Two: **External expert perspectives**

Jim Turk, Executive Director, CAUT, "Putting academics at risk – university outsourcing of email and electronic services." [Video](#)

Avner Levin, Ryerson U "Outsourcing email at Ryerson U" [Video](#)

Sukanya Pillay, Executive Director (Acting), CCLA "Civil liberties and state surveillance" [Video](#)

Roger Singh, CTO, Scalar Decisions "Canadian options for university outsourcing" [Video](#)

Lunch 12:30-1:30PM

1:30-2:45PM

Session Three: **Stakeholders perspectives**

Heidi Bohaker, History, UofT, "States, Power, and Information Technology:

Perspectives from History" [Video](#)

Scott Prudham, President, University of Toronto Faculty Association (UTFA)

"Faculty perspectives on UofT outsourcing" [Video](#)

Paul Tsang/alternate, President, United Steelworkers (USW) Local 1998 "Staff perspectives on UofT outsourcing" [Video](#)

3-4PM

Session Four: **Wrap up: Where do we go from here?**

Open discussion: panelists TBD, mainly invited from above speakers as available.

Speaker bios:



Heidi Bohaker, Department of History, University of Toronto

Heidi Bohaker is an Associate Professor in the Department of History, researching and teaching in the fields of Canadian and North American Indigenous histories. Her research interests include cultural encounter between Indigenous peoples, newcomers and their descendants, twentieth-century relations between Indigenous peoples and the Canadian nation-states and the history of treaties. Bohaker uses information technologies extensively in her research. She designed and supports a research database that functions as a digital archive of material culture, historic photographs, documentary art and documents related to the Aboriginal history of the Great Lakes region, including collections of the British Museum, the National Museum of the American Indian (Washington), the musée du quai Branly (France) and the Library and Archives Canada among many others.



Caspar Bowden is an independent advocate for information self-determination rights, and public understanding of privacy research in computer science. He is a specialist in data protection policy, EU and US surveillance law, PET research, identity management, and information ethics and philosophy. For nine years he was Chief Privacy Adviser for Microsoft Europe, and four years director of the think-tank the Foundation for Information Policy Research (www.fipr.org). He was an expert adviser to the UK Parliament on privacy and surveillance legislation, and co-organized six public conferences on encryption, data

retention, and interception policy. He has previous careers in financial engineering and risk management, applied cryptography, software engineering in systems programming and 3D games, including work with Goldman Sachs, Microsoft Consulting Services, Island Games, Acorn, Research Machines, and IBM. He is a fellow of the British Computer Society, a member of the advisory bodies of several civil society associations. From:

<http://www.cpdpconferences.org/Committee.html#BOWDEN>



Robert Cook, Chief Information Officer, University of Toronto

Bob Cook has been the Chief Information Officer for the University of Toronto since 2008. Before that he was Chief Information Officer - Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, and the Co-Director (Technology), of OISE's Education Commons. Bob was educated at University of Toronto - Rotman School of Management, University of Manitoba and the University of Iowa. From:

<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/robert-cook/7/469/799>



Avner Levin has been the Chair of the Law & Business Department since the foundation of the department in 2007. Professor Levin has been the Director of the Privacy and Cyber Crime Institute since the Privacy Institute's foundation in 2007 as well. Professor Levin first taught at Ryerson on a part-time basis in 2002, and became an Assistant Professor in 2003. He was awarded early tenure and promoted to Associate Professor in 2006. Professor Levin is a frequent media commentator on issues of privacy, surveillance law and

business. From:

http://www.ryerson.ca/tedrogersschool/bm/faculty_staff/bios/levin.html



Sukanya Pillay - Acting Executive Director and Interim General Counsel of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association & Education Trust

Effective August 6th, 2013, Sukanya Pillay began serving as Acting Executive Director and Interim General Counsel of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association & Education Trust. In 2009, Sukanya joined CCLA as Director of the newly formed National Security Program, and accelerated CCLA's work in fighting for compliance with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms in Canada's counterterrorism activities, arguing at domestic and international venues that such compliance is an essential prerequisite for effective protection of peace and security in Canada. Sukanya also brings a wealth of domestic and international legal experience having run high-profile programs for international NGOs, including Witness at Human Rights First in New York, TVE in the UK, as a law professor at the University of Windsor, and as a documentary

filmmaker. She clerked at the Ontario Court of Justice, was seconded to work with the Honourable Justice Robert Blair on the First Civil Justice Review, and worked in Toronto at one of Canada's leading law firms. She has made dozens of missions to conflict zones worldwide in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East; appeared before UN treaty bodies and Canadian courts on human rights issues; and has represented clients or presented expert evidence before administrative and judicial bodies in the US, India, Canada, and Europe. She has won research awards, published in academic journals, and made documentary films on issues regarding the rights of vulnerable groups and victims of human rights abuses. From: <http://ccla.org/about-us/staff/>



Scott Prudham is a Professor in the Department of Geography and School of the Environment at the University of Toronto. He is also President of the University of Toronto Faculty Association. His research is situated at the intersection of environmental politics, environmental change, and political economy. Specific topics include property rights and the regulation of genetically modified organisms and food in Canada; the uptake of market based instruments in environmental regulation and the institutionalization of so-called "green capitalism"; and the political ecology of industrial and alternative forestry in western North America. He is author of the 2005 Routledge book *Knock on Wood: Nature as Commodity in Douglas-fir Country*, and co-Editor of the 2007 Routledge collection *Neoliberal Environments: False Promises and Unnatural Consequences*. <http://geography.utoronto.ca/profiles/scott-prudham/>



Roger Singh, Chief Technology Officer, Scalar Decisions
As Chief Technology Officer and Lead Architect for Grid Computing, Roger determines Scalar's technical direction by focusing on delivering solutions that are relevant, cost-effective, and leading edge. His team of architects is responsible for investigating emerging technology, testing and verifying these technologies in Scalar Labs, and architecting often disparate technologies into customer ready solutions.

Passionate about technology and its use, Roger is a co-founder of Scalar Decisions and a proponent of Scalar's "architect led" vision. Roger has worked in the industry for over 20 years designing, developing, deploying, and managing solutions in many industry verticals. Currently Roger ensures he stays ahead of the industry by focusing on Grid Compute design and deploying multi-Gflop HPC clusters. At the same time Roger consults with industry vendors and customers on numerous councils ranging from technology exchanges, product development, and green computing initiatives. From: <http://www.scalar.ca/about/management.php>

Paul Tsang/alternate, President, [United Steelworkers Local 1998](#)

James L. Turk, Executive Director, Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT)



Jim is the Executive Director of the Canadian Association of University Teachers. He has written extensively on education, academic freedom, civil liberties, commercialization of universities and related public policy issues. Jim is Adjunct Research Professor at the Institute of Political Economy at Carleton University and is a member of the Executive and of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Prior to joining CAUT, Jim was an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Toronto, specializing in Canadian Studies, and Director of the Labour Studies Program at University College.

Sponsors:

[Faculty of Information, University of Toronto](#)

[The New Transparency: Surveillance and Social Sorting](#)

[Identity Privacy and Security Institute \(IPSI\)](#)

[Canadian Civil Liberties Association \(CCLA\)](#)

[United Steelworkers Local 1998](#)

[Privacy and Cyber Crime Institute, Ryerson University](#)

[University of Toronto Faculty Association \(UTFA\)](#)

[Canadian Association of University Teachers \(CAUT\)](#)

Registration:

While the event is open to public and there is no fee for attendance, space may be limited, so we ask that you indicate your intention to participate via the [Teach-in's Facebook page](#) or [emailing the organizer](#)

Further information:

For background and opinion regarding UofT's proposed outsourcing, see my (AC) personal [University of Toronto email Outsourcing Project FAQ](#).

Site under construction - last updated November 14, 2013