

**CASIS 2023 Annual Symposium:**  
***The Future of Intelligence in a Post-Truth World***

Canadian War Museum, Barney Danson Theatre  
November 3, 2023  
9:00 - 16:30 EST

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**Speaker Biographies**

**Keynote Speaker: Chris Poulter**



Chris is the Founder & CEO of OSINT Combine who are leaders in open-source intelligence training & software with support to counter-human trafficking, counter-terrorism, law enforcement & other strategically important efforts around the world. He spent over a decade in the Australian Defense Force with extensive operational experience around the world. He has an established background working in military and law enforcement environments domestically & overseas, with proven outcomes in developing open-source intelligence capability to multi-national teams that service strategic and

operational objectives where the cyber, human, and physical terrain overlap. Additionally, he is the creator of NexusXplore, a leading OSINT software platform that is trusted globally in supporting complex mission sets in the open-source environment. His understanding of the nexus between the physical & digital terrain positions him as a leader in open-source intelligence.

## Panel 1: AI, Intelligence, and “Truth”

### Dr. Daniel Araya



Dr. Daniel Araya is senior partner with the World Legal Summit and senior fellow with the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI). His work focuses on artificial intelligence and public policy and their impact on a changing global order. Dr. Araya is a regular contributor to various media outlets and organizations including *Forbes*, *The Brookings Institution*, *The National Post*, *Futurism* and *Singularity Hub*. He has been invited to speak at a number of universities and research centres, including the US Naval Postgraduate School; the Canadian Department of National Defence; Harvard University; the American Enterprise Institute; the Center for Global Policy Solutions; Stanford University; the University of Toronto; the University of California, Santa Cruz; and Microsoft Research. His most

recent books include *Augmented Education in the Global Age* (2023); *Augmented Intelligence: Smart Systems and the Future of Work and Learning* (2018) and *Smart Cities as Democratic Ecologies* (2015). He has a doctorate from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

### Dr. Susan Aaronson

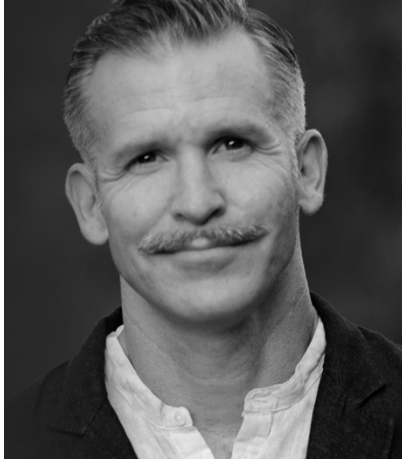


Susan Ariel Aaronson is a research professor of international affairs, director of the Digital Trade and Data Governance Hub, and co-PI of the NSF Trustworthy AI Institute for Law and Society, where she directs work on data and AI governance. Aaronson conceived of and directs the Hub. Since 2019, the Hub has educated policymakers, the press and the public about data governance and data driven change. Aaronson is also a cross-disciplinary fellow and affiliate at GW’s Institute for International Economic Policy, the Institute for International Science and Technology Policy and the Sigur Center for Asian Studies. Since 2017, Aaronson has also been a senior fellow at the think tank Center for International Governance

Innovation (GIGI) in Canada where she publishes much of her research on data driven change and data governance. As co-PI at NSF TRAILS, Aaronson is currently directing projects on mapping data sharing and mapping data used for generative AI. She is writing on the policy

response to generative AI; XR competitiveness, the need for empathy in AI; and how AI is changing international trade.

## **Brad Boyd**



Brad Boyd is a visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution. Boyd's research interests focus on the integration of emerging technology into warfare and national security. Boyd is particularly interested in the rise of automation and autonomy in military systems, to include decision making, planning, information operations, enterprise operations, and weaponry. Boyd also looks at the way US, Chinese, and Russian military integration of emerging technology affects military, economic, and social stability. Prior to joining Hoover, Boyd served as a defense and foreign policy advisor to Senator Angus King and as Senator King's representative to the Cyberspace Solarium Commission. Boyd also served as the director of AI-enabled warfighting capability development at the US Department of

Defense's Joint Artificial Intelligence Center and as the director of General Mark A. Milley's coordination group. Boyd was a senior military fellow at Stanford's Center for International Security and Cooperation and a Seminar XXI Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

## **Moderator: Julia Johnston**



Julia Johnston holds an M.A. in International Affairs from Carleton University, and a B.A. in Political Science from Simon Fraser University. She focused her studies and research on security and conflict, including terrorism and news media, election interference, and cyber security. She wrote her Master's research paper on the development of cyber deterrence strategies in European countries. Julia founded the CASIS Ottawa Student Chapter, where she organized career events for students interested in security and defence in the public and private sectors. She has also been actively involved in CASIS, serving as Secretary since 2021.

## **Panel 2: From Social Media to Satellite Imagery: Defining the Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) Landscape for Collection and Analysis**

### **Dr. Thomas Juneau**



Thomas Juneau is an assistant professor at the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Ottawa. His research focuses mostly on the Middle East, in particular on Iran and Yemen. He is also interested in Canadian foreign and defence policy, in the relationship between intelligence and policy, and in international relations theory. He is the author of *Squandered Opportunity: Neoclassical realism and Iranian foreign policy* (Stanford University Press, 2015), editor of *Strategic Analysis in Support of International Policy-Making: Case studies in achieving analytical relevance* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2017), co-editor of *Iranian Foreign Policy since 2001: Alone in*

*the world* (Routledge, 2013), and co-editor of *Asie centrale et Caucase: Une sécurité mondialisée* (Presses de l'Université Laval, 2004). He has also published many articles and book chapters on the Middle East, international relations theories and pedagogical methods, notably in *International Affairs*, *International Studies Perspectives*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *Middle East Policy*, *Orbis*, *International Journal*, and *Canadian Foreign Policy Journal*. Prior to joining the University of Ottawa, he worked for the Department of National Defence from 2003 to 2014, chiefly as a strategic analyst covering the Middle East. He was also a policy officer and an assistant to the deputy minister.

### **Dr. Leah West**



Leah West is an Assistant Professor of International Affairs at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University where she teaches public international law, national security law and counterterrorism. She completed her SJD at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law in 2020 where her research explored the application of criminal, constitutional and international law to state conduct in cyberspace. She is also the National Administrator of the Canadian National Rounds of the Phillip C Jessup International Law Moot, serves as Counsel with Friedman Mansour LLP, and was an inaugural McCain Institute National Security & Counterterrorism Fellow.



Leah is the co-author with Craig Forcese of *National Security Law* (Irwin Law, 2021, 2d Ed) and co-editor with Thomas Juneau and Amarnath Amarasingam of *Stress Tested: The COVID-19 Pandemic and Canadian National Security* (UCP, 2021). She is also the author of several peer-reviewed articles on legal issues concerning national security and cyber operations, a regular commentator on national security matters for Canadian and international media outlets, and has testified before both the House of Commons and the Senate, and the European Parliament.

Leah previously served as Counsel with the Department of Justice in the National Security Litigation and Advisory Group where she appeared before the Federal Court in designated proceedings and the Security Intelligence Review Committee. Before being called to the Ontario Bar in 2016, Leah clerked for the Honourable Justice Mosley of the Federal Court of Canada. Prior to attending law school, Leah served in the Canadian Armed Forces for ten years as an Armoured Officer; she deployed to Afghanistan in 2010.

## Meghan Conroy



Meghan Conroy is a US research fellow with the Atlantic Council's Digital Forensic Research Lab. Previously, she was an investigator with the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol. Conroy is also the co-founder and chief of staff of the Accelerationism Research Consortium and has seven years of experience working on issues related to national security and technology. She specializes in tracking the mainstreaming of extreme right-wing narratives, as well as the role of platform affordances and the ways in which influencers leverage them. Conroy graduated with distinction from the University of Nottingham with a master's degree in international security and terrorism. She was awarded the

inaugural Centre for Conflict, Security and Terrorism postgraduate dissertation prize for her thesis exploring the evolution and organizational learning undergone by the ISIS terror network since the early 2000s. Conroy also graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of South Carolina with a bachelor's degree in anthropology and a minor in political science.

**Micah Clarke**

Micah Clarke has a diverse work experience spanning multiple industries and roles. Most recently, in 2022, he joined Tadaweb as the OSINT Product Director. Prior to that, Micah worked as a Lecturer in Intelligence and National Security at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, where he led graduate seminars and mentored students on intelligence theory and practice. Micah also worked as an Owner at Decision Space, focusing on entrepreneurship. From 2018 to 2021, Micah served as the Principal & Director of Product at Moonshot CVE, where he was responsible for the technical team and product development. Micah also worked as the Program Director during this time. Before that, Micah worked as an Enterprise Program Manager at

ECS Federal, LLC, where he connected soldiers and analysts with the tools they needed and managed a team of PAI advisers. Micah also held the position of Senior Research Associate at The Conference Board of Canada, focusing on national security and public safety. Prior to that, Micah worked at The SecDev Group as a Mission Manager and Lead All-Source Analyst. Micah's career started at Public History Inc. as an Associate.

**Moderator: Yvonne Stys**

### Panel 3: Hearts, Minds, and Misinformation

#### Dr. Stephanie Carvin



Stephanie Carvin is an Associate Professor of International Relations at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs. Her research interests are in the area of national security and international security and international law. Currently, she is teaching in the areas of critical infrastructure protection and national security. Stephanie holds a PhD from the London School of Economics and published her thesis as *Prisoners of America's Wars: From the Early Republic to Guantanamo* (Columbia/Hurst, 2010). Her most recent book is *Stand on Guard: Reassessing Threats to Canada's National Security* (University of Toronto Press, 2021) which was nominated for the 2021 Donner Prize. She is the co-author of *Intelligence and Policy Making: The*

*Canadian Experience* (Stanford University Press 2021) with Thomas Juneau, and *Science, Law, Liberalism and the American Way of Warfare: The Quest for Humanity in Conflict* (Cambridge, 2015) co-authored with Michael J. Williams. From 2012-2015, she was an analyst with the Government of Canada focusing on national security issues.

#### Dr. Bessma Momani



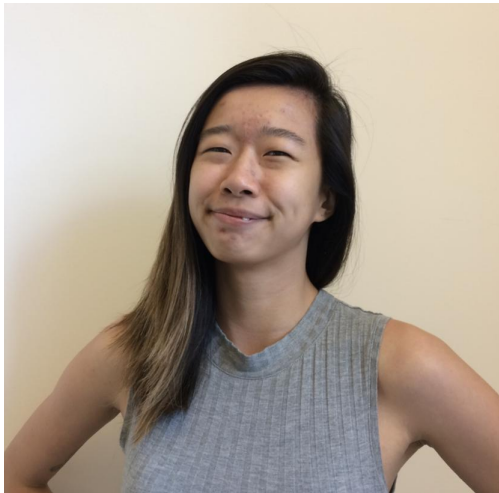
Dr. Bessma Momani is Professor of Political Science at the University of Waterloo. She is also a Senior fellow at the Centre for International Governance and Innovation (CIGI), and a Non-Resident Fellow at the Arab Gulf States Institute in Washington, D.C. She was a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at both the Brookings Institution and Stimson Center in Washington, D.C., a consultant to the International Monetary Fund, and formerly a visiting scholar at Georgetown University's Mortara Center. She is also a Fulbright Scholar. Dr. Momani currently sits on the National Security Transparency Advisory Group ([NS-TAG](#)) to advise the Deputy Minister of Public Safety Canada and other Government officials on improving transparency to Canada's national security and intelligence departments

and agencies. She has authored and co-edited ten books and over 80 scholarly, peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters that have examined international affairs, diversity and inclusion, Middle East affairs, and the global economy. Dr. Momani is a regular contributor to national and international media on global security and economic policy issues. She has written editorials for the New York Times, The Economist, The Globe and Mail, The Toronto Star, Newsweek, and Time Magazine.

## Dr. Shelly Ghai Bajaj

Shelly Ghai Bajaj (Ph.D., University of Toronto, 2022) is a Postdoctoral Fellow working with Dr. Bessma Momani on projects relating to identity, democracy, disinformation, and social media. She studies comparative politics of both developing and advanced industrial democracies and is interested in the politics of identity and ethnonationalist mobilization, political parties and party strategy, the use of social media by political actors, and South Asian politics. She is also interested in qualitative research methodologies, content analysis, and comparative historical analysis. Her work on Hindu nationalism and electoral politics has been published in *Asian Survey* (2017) and in an edited volume on *Politics and the Religious Imagination* (Routledge, 2010).

## Cherie Wong



Cherie Wong (she/her) is a politico, policy analyst, and advocate. With over 7 years of experience in public policy and advocacy, Cherie brings an intersectional lens to dismantle systems of oppression and marginalization. She is the founder and Executive Director of Alliance Canada Hong Kong (ACHK), a grassroots Hong Kong-Canada organization in support of the democratic development of Hong Kong and to combat the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) global authoritarianism.

## Moderator: Jessica Davis



Jessica Davis is a former senior strategic intelligence analyst with the Canadian Security Intelligence Service. She now works as an international consultant on counterterrorism, terrorist financing and women in terrorism. She is the president of Insight Threat Intelligence and the Canadian Association for Security and Intelligence Studies, a visiting senior associate fellow at the Soufan Center, and an associate fellow at the Royal United Services' Institute's Centre for Financial Crime and Security Studies and the Global Network on Extremism and Technology. She is also the author of "Women in Modern Terrorism: from liberation wars to global jihad and the Islamic State" (Rowman &



Littlefield, 2017) and “Illicit Money: Financing Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century” (Lynne Rienner, 2021).

#### **Panel 4: Covert Action, Direct Action, and Foreign Interference**

##### **Joanna Chiu**



Joanna Chiu is a B.C.-based senior journalist covering national and international news for the Toronto Star. A former correspondent in Hong Kong and Beijing, and a graduate of the Columbia University School of Journalism, she is the author of “China Unbound,” which examines the global political impacts of China’s rise. Joanna is also an expert commentator on broadcast networks and chairs the not-for-profit NüVoices network to support women and minorities in China-related fields. In 2012, she won a Human Rights Press Award for her story on refugees in Hong Kong.

##### **Dr. Benjamin Fung**



Prof. Benjamin Fung is a Canada Research Chair in Data Mining for Cybersecurity, a Full Professor of Information Studies (SIS) at McGill University, an Associate Member of Computer Science (SoCS) at McGill University, and a Co-curator of Cybersecurity in the World Economic Forum (WEF). He also serves as Associate Editors for IEEE Transactions of Knowledge and Data Engineering (TKDE) and Elsevier Sustainable Cities and Society (SCS). He received a Ph.D. degree in computing science from Simon Fraser University in 2007. Dr. Fung has over 130 refereed publications that span the prestigious research forums of data mining, machine learning, privacy protection, cybersecurity, and building engineering. His data mining works in crime

investigation and authorship analysis have been reported by media worldwide. His research has been supported in part by Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC), and Fonds de recherche du Québec - Nature et technologies (FRQNT). He is a professional engineer in software engineering registered in Ontario, and is primarily affiliated with the Data Mining and Security Lab (DMaS) at McGill SIS.

## Moderator: Bob Gordon



Robert W. (Bob) Gordon is the Executive Director of the Canadian Cyber Threat Exchange (CCTX). The CCTX is Canada's private sector organization for the sharing and analysis of cyber threat information, and enabling collaboration across all sectors. Most recently, Bob was a Director, Global Cyber Security at CGI. Prior to this, he enjoyed a long and successful career in the Federal Government, which included being the architect of Canada's first Cyber Security Strategy. Bob has had a unique career in a number of Canada's security, intelligence and law enforcement organizations: Public Safety Canada, Communications Security Establishment, Canadian Security Intelligence Service, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He held senior executive positions,

including at the Senior Assistant Deputy Minister level. He was responsible for science and technology, information management/information technology, and internal security programs (personnel, physical and information technology). Bob has also provided operational leadership in investigating and analyzing the full range of threats to the security of Canada, which included leading the CSIS Counter Terrorism program.

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