Director's Message

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ISSP member and researcher activities
Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>,

Welcome to this issue of the ISSP News,

The ISSP has had a very active winter in research, teaching and outreach.

In research, we are pleased to announce the restructuring of the ISSP's activities into five thematic Research and Engagement Clusters: Arctic Change, Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, Energy, Inclusive Innovation and Risk, Technology and Security. The @Risk team is getting ready to host its annual meeting and the Positive Energy initiative released a study titled *Canada’s Energy Future in an Age of Climate Change: How Partisanship, Polarization and Parochialism are Eroding Public Confidence.*

In teaching, the 2018 cohort in our Collaborative Master’s program in Science, Society and Policy are deep into coursework and we are recruiting for next year.

In outreach, we collaborated to organize a panel with the Institute on Governance, held our annual winter panel with The Royal Canadian Institute for Science, launched the new Positive Energy report and held two talks, one with ISSP Senior Fellow Stephen Blank and the other with Queen's University Professor Sergio Sismondo.
Dr. Jeremy Kerr has a long-standing passion for conservation and the search for answers to broad-scale questions in ecology. His PhD, at York University with Laurence Packer, focused on how environmental factors affect diversity in ecosystems and began to address how human activities were affecting those patterns. This work led to the Governor General’s Gold Medal and a postdoctoral position at the University of Oxford, with Lord Robert May and Sir Richard Southwood, where he expanded his focus on global change and the changing prospects for conservation.

Since joining the University of Ottawa’s Department of Biology in 2002, he has won a provincial Early Researcher Award, the University of Ottawa Young Researcher Award in Science and Technology in 2009, been elected to a Visiting Senior Research Fellowship at Mansfield College and the Centre for the Environment at the University of Oxford, and was selected for the Global Young Academy of Scientists, one of perhaps 6 Canadians to have done so.
Jeremy is convinced that powerful scientific evidence can rapidly improve practical problems. To this end, he has worked to improve endangered species legislation in Ontario and, through the International Boreal Science Panel, to gain commitments from governments across Canada to establish vast new protected areas in the boreal wilderness.

His work remains focused on big questions in ecology and conservation, particularly on how species respond to recent, rapid climate change and sharply rising incidence of climate-related extreme events.

**RESEARCH**

**ISSP RESEARCH CLUSTERS**

This spring, the ISSP is introducing five new research and engagement clusters. The thematically structured Clusters leverage uOttawa expertise in key areas of science-society-policy. They will each be led by a Core Member of the ISSP. Collectively, the Cluster leads span four faculties and comprise both emerging and established scholars.

- The **Arctic Change** cluster will be headed by **Jackie Dawson**, Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Environment, Society and Policy, as well as Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Environment and Geomatics, Faculty of Arts.
• The **Artificial Intelligence and Robotics** cluster will be headed by **Jason Millar**, Candidate for a Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Engineering and Society, as well as Assistant Professor, School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Faculty of Engineering.

• The **Energy** cluster will be headed by **Monica Gattinger**, Director of the ISSP, as well as Full Professor at the School of Political Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences.

• The **Inclusive Innovation** cluster will be co-headed by **Kelly Bronson**, Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Science and Society, as well as Assistant Professor, School of Sociological and Anthropological Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, and by Professor **Sandra Schillo**, Telfer School of Management.

• The **Risk, Technology and Security** cluster will be headed by **Mark Salter**, Full Professor at the School of Political Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences.

The new Research and Engagement Clusters will enable the ISSP to leverage its strengths, realize synergies, secure larger tricouncil grants and other sources of external funding, and expand ISSP networks and reputation within and beyond the University.

Of course, many ISSP members research, teach and engage well beyond these Cluster areas, and the ISSP will continue to support and promote their efforts.

We are excited to officially launch the new research and engagement clusters in the coming weeks. In future, the ISSP newsletter will inform you about the activities in each cluster.

If you would like to know more, please visit the ISSP website, follow the ISSP Twitter account or contact the ISSP’s Research Director, **Dr. Marisa Beck**.
@Risk: Strengthening Canada’s Ability to Manage Risk, is a SSHRC / Genome Canada funded two-year research project (2017-2019) that focuses on how to reconcile the tensions inherent in public decision-making in situations where experts and public stakeholders have different perceptions of risk and preferences on how to mitigate risk. The research goal is to identify conceptual frameworks and mechanisms to strengthen Canada’s risk management capacity in situations where expert and lay public assessments of risk differ.

The @Risk Research Team has been productive in 2019: case study leads are embarking on a new round of empirical data collection, researchers are writing up findings, and the interdisciplinary team is preparing scholarly manuscripts on key theoretical concepts. We are looking forward to maintaining our momentum all the way through to our annual workshop in May 2019, where the team will present and discuss the results of their work and plan the next steps for the project.

Please visit the @Risk website, follow the @Risk Twitter account or contact Dr. Marisa Beck for more information.
Positive Energy uses the convening power of the university to bring together university experts and key decision-makers from industry, government, Indigenous communities, local communities and environmental organizations to determine how energy resources can be developed in a way that garners acceptance and benefits society at large. Positive Energy undertakes pragmatic, applied, solution-oriented research to find out what works, what doesn't, and how various energy interests can seek and obtain broad social support for energy policies, regulation and individual energy projects.

The research team has officially kicked off its work on Canada's Energy Future in an Age of Climate Change, the next three-year phase of Positive Energy. Current research interrogates political polarization around energy issues in Canada–its causes, severity, and consequences. The team has been busy reviewing the literature, preparing fieldwork, planning events, and building new collaborations.

Please find below the report, Canada’s Energy Future in an Age of Climate Change: How Partisanship, Polarization and Parochialism are Eroding Public Confidence, which unpacks the core challenges and opportunities when it comes to building confidence in public authorities making decisions about Canada's energy future in an age of climate change. The study also unveils Positive Energy's research and engagement program for the next three years.

Canada’s Energy Future in an Age of Climate Change: How Partisanship, Polarization and Parochialism are Eroding Public Confidence
(PDF file)
Save the date — the first major conference of the next phase of Positive Energy will take place on October 7 and 8, 2019.

Please visit the Positive Energy website, follow the Positive Energy Twitter account or contact Dr. Marisa Beck for more information.

OUTREACH

INCLUSIVE INNOVATION: WHAT WORKS? WHAT NEXT?

MARCH 1 | 2:30 PM | IOG | 60 GEORGE STREET

EVENT ORGANIZED BY:
KELLY BRONSON, LOUISE EARL,
JEFF KINDER AND SANDRA SCHILLO

ISSP Core members Kelly Bronson, Sandra Schillo, Senior Fellow Jeff Kinder and the Institute on Governance (IOG) hosted a seminar on inclusive innovation.

Innovation is widely recognized to spur economic growth but its negative effects include the propensity to exclude certain groups in innovation-led benefits and to present risks disproportionately. Despite wide recognition of the need to be more inclusive during innovation processes, there is little clarity about what this means in practice. Who are we to include in order to drive equitable gains from innovations? Does inclusive innovation refer to
more ethical design or governance of technologies, or both? Does innovation include policy-making and social innovation?

This seminar attempted to build clarity around “inclusive innovation” from the ground-up: by reflecting on what people in positions of decision-making power, both in government and industry, are doing to further the inclusive innovation agenda. This workshop specifically focused on what we might consider the first two levels of inclusive innovation—1) The "who," or, who are the people participating in innovation processes? 2) The “what,” or what types of innovation activities are considered?

Photos and bios of the participants are available at the event's website.

The Institute for Science, Society and Policy and the Royal Canadian Institute for Science were delighted to host the first panel of the second year of the ISSP-RCIScience Lecture Series. The series focuses on the impact of emerging science and technology on society. On March 5, we discussed the science, policy and societal implications of climate change.

Climate change is a defining challenge of our time. How can communities develop a plan for the future? Scientists say that a key planning tool involves mapping vulnerabilities to climate change. What does that mean? How is a community declared vulnerable to climate change? Where does the data come from, how is risk calculated and what does it mean? What will this mean to the health and economic development of the community?

Photos, bios of the participants and videos are available at the event's website.
Positive Energy was delighted to launch its latest report *Canada’s Energy Future in an Age of Climate Change: How Partisanship, Polarization and Parochialism are Eroding Public Confidence*, where report authors Monica Gattinger and Michael Cleland presented the study, and thought leaders on Canadian energy and climate policy debated it.

Growing levels of political and economic uncertainty, partisanship, parochialism and polarization within and beyond Canada are creating an increasingly challenging environment for those charting Canada’s energy future. In this timely study, Cleland and Gattinger articulate why Canada is facing these challenges, what their impacts are on public confidence in energy and climate decision-makers, and what needs to be done to move forward.

Photos, bios of the participants and videos are available at the [event's website](#).
The ISSP organized the third Food for Thought lunch with Dominique Robert and Martin Dufresne, Associate Professors in the Department of Criminology. Their conference, which was given in French, was titled Facticité et controverses scientifiques. Une rencontre entre la neuroscience et la psychopathie.

Since its birth, the concept of psychopathy proposed by Robert Hare and the technology in which this construct is embodied, the Psychopathy Checklist (PCL and later PCL-R), are controversial, especially in the scientific community. Despite this, the technology is commonly used in the federal correctional system in Canada, and elsewhere, to identify the risks of violence and recidivism by criminalized individuals. How does psychopathy succeed in gaining scientific status in the face of such controversies? Mobilizing the tools of semiotics of scientific texts, the presentation will focus on a recent episode in the career of this fact. Inspired by the sociology of scientific knowledge, specifically the actor-network theory, the presentation will document the neuroscientific shift in psychopathy and its attempts to reinforce and renew its facticity. The presentation was not intended to defend or undermine the construct that is psychopathy. Rather, Robert and Dufresne proposed that the act of documenting the reinvention of psychopathy and, in the process, the controversies that animate this construct, is a contribution to the necessary democratization of science and technology.
The ISSP was delighted to host Stephen Blank, Senior Fellow at the ISSP, for a public lecture on the history and future of decision-making.

We live today in a moment of remarkable historic transition – the end of “The 70 Good Years” and the emergence of a new global order. We leave a world largely characterized by linear change in many critical dimensions, and enter a new world in which discontinuous change is the rule. We leave a world in which change has been generally clear, one step proceeding upon another. We enter a world in which future scenarios diverge widely. The key drivers of this powerful transformation are technology, climate change and demographics.

Photos, videos and bios are available at the event's website.
The ISSP had the pleasure of hosting a talk by Professor Sergio Sismondo from Queen's University. Entitled Big Pharma’s Invisible hands, the talk explored the mechanisms by which pharmaceutical industry manufactures supply and demand for pharmaceuticals.

Hidden from public view, many invisible hands of the pharmaceutical industry channel streams of drug information and knowledge from contract research organizations (that extract data from experimental bodies) to publication planners (who produce ghostwritten medical journal articles) to key opinion leaders (who are sent out to educate physicians about drugs).

Photos and bios are available at the event’s website.

The ISSP organized the fourth Food for Thought lunch with Catherine Mavriplis, Faculty Affiliate, ISSP, as well as Associate Professor, Engineering, University of Ottawa and NSERC Canada Chair for Women in Science and Engineering. Her talk was titled Empowering Women in Science and Engineering from the Classroom to the Boardroom.

The NSERC Chair for Women in Science and Engineering for the Ontario region has been promoting the participation and advancement of women in science and engineering educational programs and professional employment for over seven years. The bilingual Chair program has developed a strong following through a comprehensive communications campaign, meaningful professional development programming, engaging interdisciplinary research projects, and strategic partnerships in the science and engineering community. The talk discussed some highlights of the program and the outlook for the coming year(s) within the current political climate.
September 2018 marked the fourth year that the ISSP has offered its collaborative Master's Program with eleven participating departments and faculties. We've continued to experience a steady rise in the number of inquiries from students and faculty members alike about the admission criteria and program requirements.

The **ISSP Collaborative Master's program** provides an opportunity for existing graduate students to gain additional training. To be accepted into the Collaborative Master's program, students must be admitted to one of the participating programs at the University of Ottawa.

For more information, please contact **Professor Daniel Paré**, the Program Coordinator.

Denise Amyot, Chair of the ISSP Advisory Committee, as well as President and CEO of Colleges and Institutes Canada, was quoted in The Canadian Press article **Canada to boost presence overseas to attract more international students.**
Jackie Dawson, Core Member of the ISSP, as well as Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Canada Research Chair in Environment, Society and Policy and ArctiNet’s scientific co-director at the University of Ottawa, received great news as ArticNet had its funding renewed at a level of $32,475,000 over five years. Dr. Dawson was quoted in The Nunatsiaq News article The Big Thaw.

Paul Dufour, Senior Fellow of the ISSP, as well as Adjunct Professor at the University of Ottawa, finished his work on The Value of Science in Society and Culture: Selections from the Speeches, Essays and Articles of G. Herzberg, co-authored with Agnes Herzberg.

Monica Gattinger, Director of the ISSP and Chair of Positive Energy, as well as Full Professor, School of Political Studies at the University of Ottawa, was interviewed by SiriusXM Canada Talks, about her article Canada’s Energy Future And The Perils Of Dangerous Optimism; was quoted in the Globe and Mail article Is Indigenous energy investment the key to economic reconciliation? and wrote an op-ed with Michael Cleland for The Hill Times Infrastructure Policy Briefing called On infrastructure, Kermit’s right: It’s not Easy Being Green.

Rees Kassen, ISSP Core Member, as well as Full Professor, Department of Biology, University of Ottawa, began his help to organize the World Biodiversity Forum next February in Davos, Switzerland, as a part of his new responsibilities as a member of the Science Steering Committee of bioGENESIS, an initiative of Future Earth.

Ian Kerr, ISSP Core Member, as well as Law Professor at the University of Ottawa and Canada Research Chair in Ethics, Law and Technology, was interviewed
by Prof. Talks on **Ethics and Law: Autonomous Vehicles, AI in Hospitals & Autonomous Weapon Systems**, and was quoted on the Ottawa Citizen article **Transforming health care with AI: tons of potential, but not without pitfalls**.

**Jeremy Kerr**, ISSP Core Member, as well as Full Professor, Department of Biology, University of Ottawa, was interviewed by University Affairs in the article **How apps and online databases are helping conservation science to thrive**, about the launch of EButterfly North America.

**Margaret McCuaig-Johnston**, Senior Fellow at the ISSP, wrote an Op-ed for the Ottawa Citizen, titled **Canada must take stronger action against China to free our 'detainees'**.

**Marc Saner**, Inaugural Director and Core Member of the ISSP, as well as Full Professor and Chair of the Geography, Environment and Geomatics Department at the University of Ottawa published **Which ecosystems provide which services? A meta-analysis of nine selected ecosystem services assessments**, written with Michael Bordt.

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