• Director's Message
• Member Spotlight: Jeff Kinder
• Research
  o @Risk
  o Positive Energy: Trust in Transition
• Outreach
  o Luncheon with Dr. Lundy Lewis
  o Luncheon with Dr. Victoria Haines
  o Canadian Energy Politics: Growing Polarization, Growing Frustration
• Teaching / Training
  o Canadian Science Policy Fellowship Program
  o Student Spotlight: Justin Ngalamulume
• ISSP member activities
• Director’s Video Message
Dear Rafael Dezordi,

Welcome to this issue of the ISSP News,

Winter is just around the corner and the ISSP is having a very active fall program of research, teaching and outreach.

In research, both our @Risk and Positive Energy projects advanced considerably on conducting, mobilizing and disseminating research on risk management (@Risk) and public confidence in energy decision-making (Positive Energy).

In teaching, we helped to train Mitacs Fellows for the third year in a row, as part of the Canadian Science Policy Fellowship program. We also welcomed the 2018 cohort in our Collaborative Master’s program in Science, Society and Policy.

And in outreach, we held two luncheon talks and a public panel. First, Dr. Lundy Lewis, our 2018-2019 Canada-US Fulbright Visiting Research Chair, talked about his research using humanoid robots to enhance social skills in children with autism and other cognitive/emotional deficits. Second, Dr. Victoria Haines from Loughborough University in the UK, talked about the role of user-centred design in residential energy demand reduction. Lastly, Positive Energy held a two-day workshop with senior energy leaders to help plan the next three years of research and engagement. The public panel, Canadian Energy Politics: Growing Polarization, Growing Frustration, featured Nik Nanos as the keynote speaker.

The new year is off to a very active start – stay tuned for upcoming events and opportunities to engage with the ISSP.

Kind regards,

Monica Gattinger, PhD
Jeff has 30 years of experience in government science, technology and innovation policy in the US and Canada. His US experience includes the National Science Foundation, the National Academies and the Naval Research Laboratory.

In Canada, Jeff has worked at Industry Canada, Natural Resources Canada and the Council of Science and Technology Advisors. In 2014, he supported the External Advisory Group on Government Science and Technology (the Knox Panel). Most recently, he led the Federal S&T Secretariat supporting the Minister of Science, the Deputy Minister Champion for Federal S&T and related initiatives. He is now on interchange with the Institute on Governance where he leads the Science & Innovation business line and the ASPIRE Lab – an innovation collaboratory.

At the University of Ottawa, Jeff is a Senior Fellow of the ISSP and an Adjunct Professor at the Telfer School of Management where he co-teaches an executive-level Managing for Innovation course. Jeff is a member of the board of the Canadian Science Policy Centre, a member of the Mitacs Canadian Science Policy Fellows Advisory Committee, and a past co-chair of the Ottawa Science Policy Roundtable.


He holds a PhD in public policy, a Master’s in science, technology and public policy, and a BS in physics.
@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.

This fall, the @Risk Research Team started turning the tremendous amount of work that was done over the past 18 months into publishable outputs. Publications in the pipeline draw on both the empirical case study analyses and conceptual discussions among research team members. A final @Risk workshop to present and discuss the project’s findings is planned for May 2019. In the meantime, members of the Research Team are getting ready to present their work at this year’s Canadian Science Policy Conference in Ottawa and at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Risk Analysis in New Orleans later in the month.

Please visit the @Risk project website, our @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.

In late October, the Positive Energy research team hosted a workshop with senior energy decision-makers to solicit feedback on its proposed research and engagement agenda for Trust in Transition, the next three-year project of the Positive initiative. Trust in Transition will identify how to strengthen public confidence in energy transition decision-making arrangements, with a particular focus on polarization, roles and responsibilities among public authorities and models of and limits to consensus-building. Following this productive workshop, the Positive Energy research team is now close to finalizing its detailed research strategy for the Trust in Transition project.

The two-day workshop also included a public-facing component, a panel discussion titled **Canadian Energy Politics: Growing Polarization, Growing Frustration**. More information about the public panel appears below, in the Outreach section of the ISSP News.

More information about the second phase of Positive Energy can be found below.
OUTREACH

LUNCHEON WITH DR. LUNDY LEWIS
SEPTEMBER 11 | FSS 4004 | UOTTAWA

At the luncheon talk Using Humanoid Robots to Enhance Social Skills in Children with Autism and Other Cognitive/Emotional Deficits, Dr. Lewis discussed the procedures and results of an 8-month pilot study with children on the autism spectrum, in which human-robot interaction protocols were designed with a goal of developing essential social skills, such as joint attention and turn-taking.

Children are fascinated by robots and readily engage in social interactions with them in the form of imitation, game-playing and exercises. Dr. Lewis also demonstrated the robot used in the study and discussed his research plans for his time at the ISSP as the Canada-US Visiting Fulbright Research Chair in Science and Society.
The ISSP was pleased to host a luncheon talk with Professor Victoria Haines from Loughborough University in the United Kingdom.

In the UK, the residential sector currently accounts for approximately a third of the energy used and so energy demand reduction in this sector is a key part of the country's strategy for carbon reduction. However, energy demand reduction has typically been addressed from an engineering perspective, with only recent consideration of the requirements of users and the implications for design.

Dr. Haines talk, *The role of user centred design in residential energy demand reduction*, aimed to show how information about occupants’ experiences, values and practices relating to residential energy demand reduction can inform an engineering audience and so enhance engineering-focused energy research. It also featured a range of evidence drawn from a number of major multi-disciplinary UK residential energy research projects she undertook over the past decade.
What are the sources of polarization in Canadian politics? Is polarization growing over time? What impact is it having on Canadian governance, and, in particular, on energy politics and decision-making? Does polarization affect public authorities’ ability to make evidence-based decisions? What can be done to reconcile opposing viewpoints and establish a basis for constructive dialogue and decision-making in highly polarized contexts? Canadian Energy Politics: Growing Polarization, Growing Frustration aimed to tackle these important questions.

Keynote speaker Nik Nanos, Chair of Nanos Research, illustrated and explained growing polarization and partisanship in Canadian politics. Dale Beugin, Executive Director of Canada’s Ecofiscal Commission and Lisa DeMarco, Senior Partner of DeMarco Allan LLP talked about their day-to-day work in support of evidence-informed decision-making on climate policy and regulation at a time when these issues are becoming increasingly polarized.

The ISSP was proud to partner again with Mitacs to provide training on science policy, evidence-informed decision-making and public administration to the 2018-2019 cohort of the Canadian Science Policy Fellows program in Ottawa. The Fellowship program, which places post-doctoral fellows and faculty members in science policy positions in government departments and agencies, is in its third year of operation.
Tell us a bit about yourself.

Born in Katende, a small county of The Democratic Republic of Congo, to parents who never attended University, I can attest to the fact that very few students, like me, have walked the improbable path to graduate studies. I lived in Belgium for almost 5 years before I arrived in Canada in the summer of 2008. After working for more than 5 years in banking industry I decided to go back to school and obtained an Hon. BA in Public Administration with a minor in management in May 2016, followed by a Collaborative Master's Degree in Public and International Affairs and Science, Society and Policy in August 2018.

Why did you choose to enroll in the ISSP's Collaborative Master's program in Science, Society and Policy?

Driven by public policies, especially health policies, I consider myself a strong believer in scientific facts and evidence. This led me to enroll in the program, in which I became the first student to receive a specialization in Science, Society and Policy (SSP) in August 2018 from the school of Public and International Affairs. As a public policy analyst aspirant, I wanted to better understand how science shapes policy and politics, knowing that policy making always involves considerations beyond the evidence.

How has, or will, the Collaborative Master’s program help(ed) you with your career objectives or research?

First of all, I now understand what it means to be a Pure Scientist, Science Arbiter, Stealth Issue Advocate or Honest Broker of policy alternatives. These are the very important concepts in policy analysis because they help you to identify "who is who" and eventually guide you towards evidences based decision. Overall, I feel well equipped with the rigorous tools I needed to conduct research and policy analysis.

What does the research you completed for your MRP or thesis focus on?

My MRP focused on using the electronic medical records (EMRs) in Canadian primary health care. EMRs can improve efficiency, effectiveness and quality of health care. Despite these benefits, the adoption and use of EMRs in Canada
continue to face substantial resistance from users. **In my research**, I have identified and examined the main barriers to using EMRs and proposed new solutions to bring all the key players (policymakers, patients, health professionals and politicians) on board in order to accelerate the adoption and use of EMRs.

**Where do you see yourself in five years’ time? Do you plan on pursuing a PhD? Do you see yourself in academia? Working for the government / private sector / civil society?**

I am working as an Information Officer at the University of Ottawa while looking for a position in the government or civil society. I am also preparing myself for PhD studies next year. In five years, I see myself as a health policy analyst in a public or private organization.

**ISSP MEMBER ACTIVITIES**

**Kelly Bronson**, Core Member of the ISSP, participated on a North Carolina State University Genetic Engineering and Society Center colloquium via Youtube titled **From GMOs to big data: the curious disappearance of food politics’**.

**Kamiel Gabriel**, ISSP Senior Fellow, was one of the keynote speakers at the **9th International Conference on Hydrogen Production**, which was held in Zagreb, Croatia. The title of his presentation was **Thermolysis Reactor Scale-Up For Pilot Scale Cu-Cl Hybrid Hydrogen Production**. This is part of the efforts at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) to reduce GHG emissions and decarbonize transportation.

**Monica Gattinger**, Director of the ISSP, was the keynote speaker at the annual conference of the
Electricity Distributors Association in Toronto, Ontario. She has also published a column with the Daily Oil Bulletin entitled **Canadian Energy — Between An Economic Rock And A Progressive Hard Place.**

**Jeremy Kerr,** Core Member of the ISSP, gave the **Ada Lovelace Lecture on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI)** at York University on October 22. He also proposed the creation of an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion working group from the NSERC Council, which was created and held its first EDI working group meeting in NSERC’s history in October. Dr. Kerr published a paper, **Sirois-Delisle, C., and Jeremy T. Kerr. 2018. Climate change-driven losses among bumblebees are poised to accelerate. Scientific Reports,** featured in **La Presse** and **Radio Canada** articles, as well as an interview on **CBC Radio 1.** Another paper, **Ivan Semeniuk, Soroye, P., N. Ahmed, Jeremy T. Kerr. 2018. Opportunistic citizen science data transform understanding of species distributions, phenology, and diversity gradients for global change research. Global Change Biology,** was featured in a **Globe and mail article.**