

# ISSP news

Institute for Science, Society and Policy  
January/February 2016



## Welcome message from the new director of the ISSP

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to have been appointed Director of the University of Ottawa's Institute for Science, Society and Policy (ISSP). Since coming on board last fall, I have become increasingly impressed by the breadth and depth of the ISSP's network of leading scholars, fellows, affiliates and students at the University of Ottawa and beyond. Everyone has given me a warm and enthusiastic welcome, and I am excited about charting the future together.

Inaugural Director Dr. Marc Saner built a first-rate Institute, and I look forward to building on the solid foundations he put in place. I plan to focus on strengthening the Institute's research capacity and research programs, its outreach efforts, notably convening dialogue between and among academics and senior practitioners on salient issues of science, society and policy, and expanding our teaching and training programs, including our recently launched Collaborative Master's in



Dr. Monica Gattinger

(now Ipsos-Reid) and TELUS.

If we have not yet met, please say hello at one of our upcoming events. I look forward to meeting you.

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Dr. Gattinger brings her expertise in interdisciplinary research and teaching in the areas of energy, culture, policy, and governance to the ISSP. She is Associate Professor at the School of Political Studies, and Chair of the [Positive Energy project](#). Monica was an elected member of the University of Ottawa's Board of Governors from 2012 to 2015, and she sits on the Editorial Boards of the University of Ottawa Press and the journal Canadian Public Administration. Gattinger holds a Ph.D. in public policy from Carleton University. Prior to joining uOttawa, she held positions at the Canada West Foundation, Angus Reid

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## ISSP Adjunct Professor Paul Dufour writes Canada chapter in recent UNESCO Science Report



Professor Paul Dufour

On 10 November 2015, UNESCO released its "UNESCO Science Report, Towards 2030," with the intention of stimulating a global debate on relevant policy issues. The ISSP's very own Paul Dufour, authored the Canada chapter as the first entry under "A closer look at regions and countries" (pp. 106-127).

Dufour focused his analysis on three challenges: a lack of aggressive private-sector commitment to innovation; the lack of a strong national agenda for talent and science education; and the former government's downsizing of science agencies and departments. It remains to be seen what changes the 19 October 2015 election of a new government may entail for these challenges.

"With a new Canadian government and plans to celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary underway, an opportunity exists to place sound science and reliable knowledge at the centre of decision-making and

nation-building for our society and economy," he said.

The 'UNESCO Science Report: towards 2030' was designed to address trends and developments in science, technology, and innovation policy and governance between 2009 and mid-2015. The objectives were to collect baseline information on the concerns and priorities of countries in order to orient direction and implementation, as well as drive assessment, toward a 2030 agenda for sustainable development.

The full-text PDF can be downloaded [here](#).

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Professor Dufour has been senior adviser in science policy with several Canadian agencies and organizations over the course of the past 30 years. He has had practical science and technology policy experience for over three decades with organizations such as the Science Council of Canada, Ministry of State for Science and Technology, and Foreign Affairs, and has served as interim Executive Director to the Office of the National Science Advisor. He teaches a science policy introduction course to 4th year science students.



## **MOU Between the ISSP and the Chinese Academy of Science (CAS): Collaboration with the CAS Center for Innovation and Development**

On 21 September 2015, Dr. Monica Gattinger of the ISSP and Dr. Mu Rongping, Director General of the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Center for Innovation and Development (CID) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for collaborative research and training. Under the MOU, the two centres will collaborate in the areas of research and graduate training and, more specifically, cooperate each year on a joint research project or task, with the added potential of each country exchanging at least one researcher per year.

The CID is a leader in developing and researching science and innovation policy, and in advising on evidence-based decision-making and management initiatives. It is affiliated with both the [Chinese Academy of Sciences](#) (CAS) and the National Development and Reform Commission, and has direct connections through Dr. Mu with the CAS University School of Public Policy and Management.



Mu Rongping, Director General of the CID, University of Ottawa President Allan Rock, CAS President Bai Chunli, ISSP Director Monica Gattfanger, and Margaret McCuaig-Johnston, Senior Fellow at ISSP

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## Positive Energy Big Ideas Energy Leaders' Dialogue

Positive Energy (PE), a project of the ISSP's Collaboratory on Energy Research and Policy, uses the convening power of the university to bring together leading energy stakeholders on the challenges of securing social acceptance and support for energy development.

On November 6th 2015, PE hosted its first in a series of Big Ideas Energy Leaders' Dialogues to explore cutting-edge, innovative ways to solve the complex challenges of energy development. PE, in partnership with the Economic Club of Canada, welcomed a panel of experts and leaders with various perspectives on energy to discuss what it might take to develop a consensus on energy development in Canada. The lively discussion was moderated by The Honorable Perrin Beatty, President and CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, and addressed a variety of questions, including climate change, Indigenous involvement in energy and market access.

Dialogue participants included: Brian Ferguson, President and CEO of Cenovus Energy; JP Gladu, President and CEO of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business; Michael Cleland, Chair of the Board of the Canadian Energy Research Institute and Senior Fellow at the ISSP's Collaboratory on Energy Research and Policy; Brenda Kenny, President of the Canadian Energy Pipeline Association; Peter Robinson, CEO of the David Suzuki Foundation; and Stéphanie Trudeau, Vice President of Strategy, Communication & Sustainability at Gaz Métro. Audience members included senior leaders from business, government, Indigenous, environmental NGO, academic, and media organizations.

The event was web-streamed live by CPAC for viewers across Canada and beyond, and can be viewed [here](#).



Left to right: The Honorable Perrin Beatty, Brenda Kenny, Brian Ferguson, JP Gladu, Mike Cleland, Peter Robinson, and Stéphanie Trudeau.



## Spotlight: Dr. Jackie Dawson



Dr. Jackie Dawson

This issue of the SSP News shines the spotlight on a member of our core ISSP group, Dr. Jackie Dawson, Associate Director of Arctic Development, Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography, and holder of the Canada Research Chair in Environment, Society and Policy.

Dr. Dawson examines resilience in communities where environmental change has resulted in the restructuring and transformation of local economies. She focuses on communities experiencing ruined economies due to changing environmental conditions, as well as communities witnessing new economic opportunities due to the changing environment.

"The world is experiencing unprecedented socio-environmental problems," she said.

"Climate and social change, political reform, and large-scale development have led to rapidly changing global conditions." This has made it critically important to identify, define, and effectively govern the complex interdependencies that exist between humans and the natural environment, she added.

"Canada's greatest environmental challenge as well as opportunity is climate change," she said. "And I would even argue that it's climate change in the Arctic. That region is warming at twice the rate of the global average."

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Dr. Dawson has a strong history of publication and research on the human and policy dimensions of environmental and economic change.

[Website](#)

[YouTube](#)

## New ISSP staff



Dr. Stewart Fast, Senior Research Associate

Dr. Stewart Fast brings significant energy and environment research expertise and a strong interdisciplinary background to the ISSP. His past experience includes a postdoctoral fellowship at Queen's University's Institute for Energy and Environmental Policy, Visiting Researcher at Lund University's International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics, and Manager of Certification Standards for Canada's national environmental

labelling program.

Stewart's Ph.D. research (Geography, University of Ottawa) examined social responses to new renewable energy technologies, and he has more than a dozen publications in this topic area. Stewart also holds a B.Sc. in Plant Science (McGill) and his M.A. (Carleton) employed spatially explicit life cycle assessment (LCA) to evaluate biofuels. Stewart sits on the Board of the Ottawa Renewable Energy Co-operative, a highly successful local energy-generating co-op, and also serves as an expert examiner of applications to Ontario Centres of Excellence for funding to support commercialization of innovative technologies and services. Stewart will be focusing his efforts on building the research program at the ISSP, along with undertaking community-based research for the ISSP's [Positive Energy project](#).

Sherry Wasilow comes to the ISSP with a strong and varied background in writing, communications, journalism, policy development, analysis, and research. Her past experience includes serving as Associate Editor for the Canadian Journal of Communication, science writing for an American addiction journal, media analysis for the federal government, legislative analysis and policy planning for the state of Texas, public information projects in both Canada and the U.S., and teaching English in Guatemala.

Sherry is currently wrapping up her dissertation on military/media relations, with a focus on embedded reporting, through the School of Journalism and Communication at Carleton University, where she received both a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Doctoral Fellowship and a Robert McKeown Doctoral Scholarship in Communication. She also has an M.A. (journalism) from The University of Texas at Austin, a Graduate Diploma (journalism) from Concordia University, and a B.A. (political science) from the University of Calgary. Sherry is responsible for operations at the ISSP, including communications, strategy, logistics and project management.



Sherry Wasilow, Head of Operations

## Alumni of the ISSP's Positive Energy Project



Lawrence Keyte, Research Associate

Lawrence Keyte is a northern alternative energy researcher, specializing in understanding Arctic energy issues, needs, and resources from the community perspective, and the link between community involvement and successful implementation of sustainable energy projects and policy. Inspired by two decades of working in the North, Lawrence believes in clean and sustainable energy projects which are embraced by residents, enhance local capacity and health, keep energy dollars local, and bring long-term social, economic and environmental benefit to northern and Indigenous communities. He recently completed an M.A. in Sustainability Studies at Trent University in Peterborough, Canada, where his thesis research focused on energy resilience, specifically success factors for northern Indigenous communities moving from fossil fuel dependence into more local, autonomous, clean and resilient energy futures. Lawrence recently returned to POLAR Knowledge Canada, where he will be working on building research teams and research on salient Northern issues. While he was with the ISSP, he led the organization of a national workshop on Indigenous engagement in energy planning, provision and development. Attended by Indigenous leaders, government representatives, academics and industry leaders, the session was undertaken under the auspices of the [Positive Energy project](#).

ISSP Director, **Professor Monica Gattinger**, chaired a [panel discussion](#) exploring the various approaches to structuring the Chief Science Officer role, a key commitment of the new federal government, on the 18 January 2016 at the University of Ottawa. Panelists included: **Paul Dufour**, Adjunct Professor and Fellow, Institute for Science, Society and Policy, uOttawa; **Patrick Fafard**, Associate Professor, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, uOttawa, and **Rees Kassen**, Full Professor, University Research Chair in Experimental Evolution, uOttawa. **Janet Bax**, Interim President of the Council of Canadian Academies, served as discussant.



Dr. Wendell Wallach

ISSP Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Science and Society, **Dr. Wendell Wallach**, recently spoke about his latest book, "A Dangerous Master: How to Prevent Technology From Slipping Beyond Our Control," at the University of Ottawa on 26 January 2016. Fulbright Canada was in attendance, as were many professors, students, ISSP researchers and fellows, and government representatives.

ISSP Senior Research Associate **Dr. Stewart Fast** served as a panelist for the 2016 Fulbright Lecture by Dr. Martin D. Heintzelman called "Understanding the Varying Impacts of Cross-Border Wind Development," on Thursday, 28 January 2016 at the University of Ottawa.

ISSP Senior Fellow **Mike Cleland** was a member of the Council of Canadian Academies' Expert Panel on Energy Use and Climate Change, producing the report "Technology and Policy Options for a Low-Emission Energy System in Canada," available [here](#).

ISSP Senior Fellow **Margaret McCuaig-Johnston** and ISSP research assistant **Moxi Zhang** published a report entitled [China's Innovation Incubators: Platform for Partnerships](#) in September 2015. The Asia-Pacific Foundation of Canada has called it ground-breaking work. The paper explores the various models of Chinese and Canadian start-up incubators and accelerators, identifies where collaboration is already happening, and suggests potential for future cooperation.



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