

# SSSP news

Institute for Science, Society and Policy  
May 2017



## Message from the director of the ISSP



Dr. Monica Gattinger

Dear Readers,

It has been a whirlwind of activity at the Institute over the last few months - all very exciting!

I'd like to bring three key highlights to your attention, and I invite you to peruse the entire issue of the SSP News to discover the full breadth of our activities.

First, on the research front, I am delighted to announce that the Institute secured a two-year Partnership Development Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council for our [@Risk project](#). Co-funded by SSHRC and Genome Canada, @Risk will develop conceptual frameworks and mechanisms to strengthen Canada's risk management capacity in situations where expert and general public assessments of risk differ. A multidisciplinary research team featuring leading academics at uOttawa and beyond will work with public, private and non-profit partners comparing and strengthening risk governance in the fields of energy, public health and genomics.

Second, our [Positive Energy](#) project on how to strengthen public confidence in energy decision-making, continues to garner increasing traction with public, private and civil society leaders. We published [System Under Stress: Energy Decision-Making in Canada and the Need for Informed Reform](#), and held a high-level workshop in March on how to balance and bridge local and higher-order decision-making interests in energy. Positive Energy was also commissioned by the [National Energy Board Modernization Expert Panel](#) to prepare a study recommending how to strengthen public confidence in the

NEB's mandate and governance structures. The study can be found [here](#).

Third, in outreach, teaching and training, we hosted the D. Allan Bromley Memorial Lecture and Public Event on 5-6 April 2017, an annual event that brings faculty and graduate students together to discuss Canada-US science relations. The ISSP co-organizes the Bromley event with George Washington University's [Institute for International Science & Technology Policy](#). This was a particularly auspicious year for the Bromley given political changes in the United States. We were honoured to host Kei Koizumi, who worked under President Obama in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), to give this year's Memorial Lecture. Faculty and students also participated in two-days of high-level presentations, meetings and discussions at uOttawa, on Parliament Hill and at the Council of Canadian Academies.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the SSP News. We welcome your feedback and comments.

Kind regards,  
Monica Gattinger



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## Spotlight: Margaret McCuaig-Johnston

This issue of the SSP News shines the spotlight on **Margaret McCuaig-Johnston**, Senior Fellow at the Institute for Science, Society and Policy, and International Relations Executive - particularly on partnerships with China - at the University of Ottawa. Since arriving at the ISSP four years ago, Margaret has been publishing, lecturing and advising government on recent trends in China's science, technology and innovation system - this at a time when China's system is undergoing a massive overhaul of policies, programs, and priorities, and Canada may be about to embark on free trade negotiations with China. Her research has been published by the Asia-Pacific Foundation of Canada, and by the China Institute at the University of Alberta, where she is also a Senior Fellow. Margaret also edited the English translation of China's National Innovation Index, and served for seven years as a member of the Canada-China Joint Committee on Science and Technology.

Margaret has been engaging with others in the ISSP to advance Canada's own STI system through the Institute's ongoing initiatives and events. She is also Vice-Chair of the Board of the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory Laboratories (SNOLAB). During a 37-year career in government, Margaret served in senior management positions - most recently as Executive Vice-President of NSERC, overseeing strategic priorities, relations with central agencies, research policy, international relations, and corporate planning.

"It has been such an honour to serve Canada as an official in the federal government," she says. "A career in the public service offers so many opportunities to contribute to our country and have a real impact that improves the lives of Canadians. One of the things I really enjoy at the Institute is talking with students about the options they have today for careers in government where they can see the real impact of their work - whether it's in public policy, at a lab bench, in communications, and everything in between. It's so exciting that they have their whole career ahead of them, and can contribute to program, policy and scientific changes, while at the same time having amazing career experiences in Canada and abroad."



Margaret McCuaig-Johnston

Margaret served for five years as Assistant Deputy Minister of Energy Technology and Programs at Natural Resources Canada, and was appointed to the Assistant Deputy Minister level in 1999 with her first assignment at the Economic Development and Corporate Finance Branch of the Department of Finance. Prior to that she was Director General, Manufacturing and Processing Technologies at Industry Canada and Assistant Secretary of the Prime Minister's National Advisory Board on Science and Technology. She was also Director of Science Strategy and InnovAction in the (then) Department of Industry, Science and Technology, and Senior Advisor in the Privy Council Office. Prior to that, for eight years Margaret held policy and management positions in the Government of Ontario in the areas of federal-provincial

Margaret has an MA in International Relations focused on China from York University, an Honours BA in Political Economy from the University of Toronto, and speaks French and Mandarin. Her role at the ISSP has allowed her to combine her science and technology policy experience with her life-long interest in China, and she is now one of the few researchers in Canada working in that space.



## 5 April 2017: Bromley Memorial Lecture - Kei Koizumi

The Institute for Science, Society and Policy was pleased to host the Bromley Memorial Lecture, featuring speaker **Kei Koizumi**, former Assistant Director for Federal Research and Development and the Senior Advisor to the Director of the National Science and Technology Council at the U.S. White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). Mr. Koizumi is currently a visiting scholar in science policy at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). uOttawa Faculty of Social Sciences dean, **Marcel Merette**, gave an introductory welcome, and Mr. Koizumi was introduced by his long-time colleague and ISSP Senior Fellow, **Jeffrey Kinder**.



Kei Koizumi

Mr. Koizumi spoke on "[Science for Policy, and Policy for Science: Lessons Learned in the Obama White House](#)" (PowerPoint). Science and technology policy is undergoing a major shift within the U.S. Under the Obama administration, the importance of scientific and technological advice in policy making was underscored. This lecture - attended by roughly 100 people - spoke to real examples and lessons learned at the White House OSTP, and offered thoughts on what a solid science-advice organization should look like.

Also discussed was policy for science, technology and innovation (STI), with a focus on the importance of a central organization at the highest level of government to formulate, implement, and coordinate STI policy. ISSP Director **Monica Gattinger** and ISSP Fellow and Adjunct Professor **Paul Dufour** chaired the session. (The presentation is available on video on the ISSP website, under "Events.")

As part of the broader Bromley event, which was organized by **Paul Dufour** and ISSP Head of Operations **Sherry Wasilow**, six George Washington University graduate students and faculty members joined five graduate students from the ISSP for two days. Programming included a site visit to the Council of Canadian Academies, and the Bacon and Eggheads breakfast talk on Parliament Hill, "[Building a climate-smart world: How development research helps the global population adapt to climate change](#)" by Robert Hofstede of the International Development Research Centre. Presentations to the visiting faculty and students featured [Jeffrey Kinder](#) (Federal Science and Technology Secretariat), Margaret McCuaig-Johnston (ISSP), [Monica Gattinger](#) (ISSP), [Patrick Leblond](#) (uOttawa), [Nick Vonortas](#) (GWU), [Rees Kassen](#) (uOttawa), and [Miguel Rodrigues](#) (U.S. Embassy).

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## ISSP 2016-2017 Panel Series: Panels on Open Data and Electrification

### Panel 2: What are We to Make of Open Data Policies?

Open data policy refers to the idea that some data should be freely available to everyone to use and republish as they wish, without restrictions from copyright, patents or other mechanisms of control. On 11 November 2016, the ISSP hosted an expert panel discussion about the



Left to right: Robert Giggey, Teresa Scassa, Daniel J. Paré, Renee Sieber

promises and pitfalls of open data policy: "What are we to make of open data policies?" ISSP Core Member and Professor **Daniel J. Paré**, president of the [Canadian Communication Association](#), chaired the event, which was the second of the ISSP's panel series for the 2016-2017 academic year.

The speakers included: Professor **Renee Sieber**, McGill School of Environment & Department of Geography, McGill University; Professor **Teresa Scassa**, Canada Research Chair in Information Law, Faculty of Law, uOttawa; and **Robert Giggey**, Program Manager, Content Design & Development, ServiceOttawa, City of Ottawa.

### Panel 3: Electrification: From the What to the How

An economy-wide transition from current fuel-based energy use to one dominated by electricity may be able to satisfy future energy demands, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This would require changing an array of devices, such as vehicles, across all sectors of the economy, as well as a much larger electricity generation and transmission infrastructure system than exists today. On 17 January 2017, the ISSP hosted a special presentation by

**Allan Fogwill**, President and CEO of the [Canadian Energy Research Institute](#), on "Electrification: From the What to the How." Mr. Fogwill discussed a newly released report called "[Greenhouse Gas Emissions reductions in Canada through Electrification of Energy Services](#)."



Left to right: Allan Fogwill, Monica Gattinger, Francis Bradley

ISSP Director, Professor **Monica**

**Gattinger**, chaired the session. A discussion among Mr. Fogwill, Professor Gattinger, and **Francis Bradley**, Chief Operating Officer, Canadian Electricity Association, followed Mr. Fogwill's remarks.



### Sir Peter Gluckman: Science advice in a post-truth era

The need for good science advice is back, and more important than ever in a post-truth era where "objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief." **Sir Peter Gluckman**, Chief Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of New Zealand and Chair of the International Network of Government Science Advice, made these remarks during his presentation called "Science Advice in a Troubled World," which was hosted by uOttawa's [Institute for Science, Society and Policy](#) (ISSP) on 16 January 2017. The event was attended by almost 200 people.

Gluckman's presentation was highly timely, said uOttawa President Jacques Frémont during his words of welcome. Back in 2003, Canada established an Office of the National Science Adviser, which was disbanded by the Conservative government in 2008. The Trudeau Liberal government made an election



Left to right: Mehrdad Hariri, Monica Gattinger, Sir Peter Gluckman

problems, Gluckman noted, they are less adept at finding workable, accessible and meaningful solutions. "The kind of science that leads to problem definition is very different from what is needed in a response [to a problem,]" he said. "Solutions often involve other forms of science - like economics or business - which increase complexity. He called for "two basic kinds of brokerage" -- one group close to the government executive, and a broader academy that can support and inform that group. Trust, and an absence of hubris, are imperative for this partnership to work, he noted.

"The ISSP was delighted to host Sir Gluckman," said ISSP Director Dr. **Monica Gattinger**. "Grappling with these issues is complex but pivotal. The Institute's current and forthcoming research focuses squarely on how to strengthen policymaking practices in this challenging governance context."

The event was co-hosted by the ISSP and the [Canadian Science Policy Centre](#) (CSPC), and was the inaugural session of the CSPC's [Canadian Science Policy Lecture Series](#). The session was [video-recorded and can be accessed here](#). Sir Peter's presentation can be accessed in two ways: "[Science Advice in a Troubled World](#)" (PowerPoint), and "[Scientific advice in a trouble world](#)" (text).

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## ISSP awarded SSHRC Partnership Development Grant

In early April, the ISSP was awarded a SSHRC Partnership Development Grant for a major research project titled *@Risk: Strengthening Canada's Ability to Manage Risk*. The project's 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 two-year (2017 - 2019) project will focus on six case studies in the energy, health and genomics sectors. The multidisciplinary partnership involves researchers from 11 Canadian and U.S. universities and four partner organizations. ISSP Core group members **Scott Findlay** (Biology) and **Dan Paré** (Communications), ISSP fellows **Heather Douglas** (UWaterloo) and Gregor Wolbring (UCalgary), incoming ISSP Fulbright Research Chair, **Jennifer Kuzma** (North Carolina State University), ISSP Director **Monica Gattinger** (Principal Investigator) and ISSP staff members **Marisa Beck** (Postdoctoral Fellow) and **Stewart Fast** (Senior Research Associate) are all named on the grant.

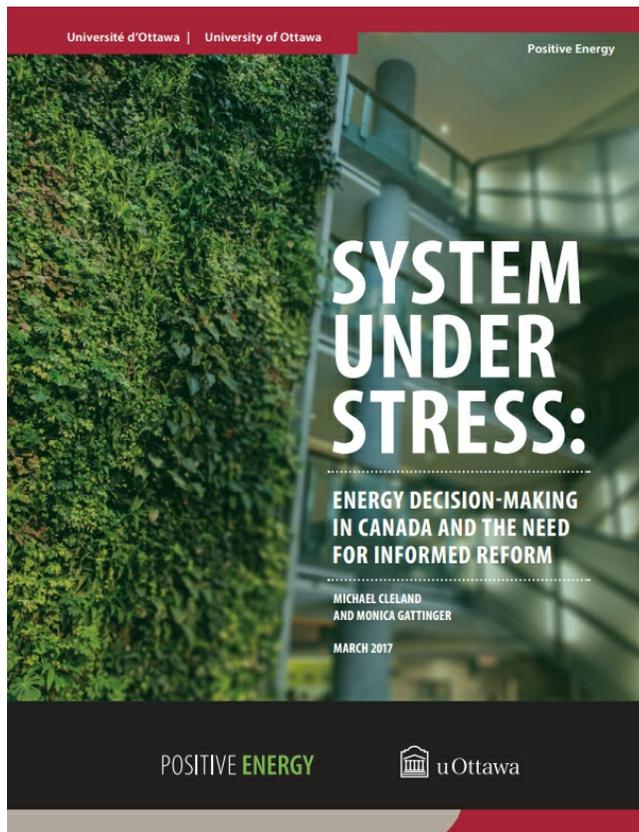
As a project that considers the societal impacts of genomics, federal funding for @Risk is cost shared by SSHRC and Genome Canada, with additional contributions from uOttawa's Faculty of Social Sciences and project partners: the Canadian Public Health Association, Canadian Nuclear Laboratories, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, and the Genetic Engineering and Society Center at North Carolina State University.

For more information on the @Risk project, please see the [@Risk webpage](#).

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## Positive Energy Project: Strengthening Public Confidence in Energy Decision-Making

Positive Energy's research focus over the next six months targets how to strengthen public confidence in energy decision-making. *System Under Stress: Energy Decision-Making in Canada and the Need for Informed Reform*, a study co-authored by uOttawa Senior Fellow **Michael Cleland** and ISSP Director **Monica Gattinger** was released in March 2017. The paper articulates why Canada is facing challenges when it comes to energy decision-making, and identifies key stress points in the decision-making system.



The study has garnered much attention amongst energy decision-makers. Cleland and Gattinger have been invited to make multiple presentations to regulators and policymakers, and they published an [opinion piece in \*The Hill Times\*](#) laying out the core ideas and recommendations in the paper. In addition, Positive Energy was commissioned by the [National Energy Board Modernization Expert Panel](#) to prepare a report on how the NEB's mandate should be reformed to strengthen public confidence in the organization.

The *System Under Stress* paper lays the framework for upcoming discussion papers that will each focus on one of three stress points in energy decision-making: the policy/regulatory nexus; the balance between local authorities and higher level decision authorities; and engagement, information and capacity. A high-level workshop convening energy leaders will be held for each of the stress points. The first workshop took place on 20-21 March at uOttawa; the second will take place in June 2017, and the third in October 2017.

For more information, please contact ISSP Senior Research Associate Dr. **Stewart Fast** ([sfast@uottawa.ca](mailto:sfast@uottawa.ca)).



## Brown Bag Lunch Series

The Institute for Science, Society and Policy (ISSP) initiated a brown bag lunch (BBL) seminar series in 2016. The sessions are designed as informal gatherings where existing and potential ISSP members can share their ongoing research.

Our third BBL was held on 28 February 2017, and featured Dr. **Dee Williams**, Deputy Regional Director, Alaska Region, U.S. Geological Survey, who is our Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Science and Society for the 2016-2017 academic year. His presentation drew from his Fulbright research, discussing Indigenous knowledge as applied to Arctic science and regulatory policy, and was titled [Indigenous Knowledge as Evidence: Notes from Alaska](#).

Upcoming BBLs are scheduled to begin once again in the fall of 2017. Information about speakers and topics are forthcoming. If you are interested in participating in the BBLs as presenter or attendee, please contact Dr. **Daniel Paré** at [dpar2@uottawa.ca](mailto:dpar2@uottawa.ca) or Dr. **Sherry Wasilow**, ISSP Head of Operations, at [swasilow@uottawa.ca](mailto:swasilow@uottawa.ca).



## The ISSP Welcomes Postdoctoral Fellow Marisa Beck



Dr. Marisa Beck

**Marisa Beck** joined the ISSP in March 2017 as a Postdoctoral Fellow with the Positive Energy research project. Marisa completed her PhD in Global Governance at the Balsillie School of International Affairs (University of Waterloo), where she held a Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship. In 2014-15, she was a Visiting Researcher at the Integrative Research Institute on Transformations of Human-Environment Systems (IRI THESys) at the Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany. Marisa's research focuses on the politics and processes of evidence-based decision-making in climate and energy policy, and she is particularly interested in understanding the drivers of policymakers' demands for and use of evidence in decision-making. She holds an MSc in Environmental Policy and Regulation from the London School of Economics, and a graduate degree in Business Administration from the University of Mannheim in Germany. Before coming to Canada in 2012 for her PhD, Marisa worked as an analyst for global carbon markets with a leading research and information provider for carbon and clean energy markets in London, UK.

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## ISSP submits SSHRC Partnership Grant Letter of Intent for new project on Public Confidence in Energy Transition (PCiET)

On 15 February 2017, the ISSP submitted a Letter of Intent to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's Partnership Grant program for a project titled *Public Confidence in Energy Transition* (PCiET, pronounced "piece it" as in piecing the various elements of transition together). The project goal is to strengthen public confidence in Canada's low-carbon energy transition through research on, and engagement with, the energy transition decision-making system.

To date, the PCiET partnership involves 27 leading researchers from nine universities and 14 partner organizations, including government departments, energy regulators, industry associations, NGOs and academic institutes in Canada and the United States. ISSP Director Monica Gattinger is the principal investigator, and the research team includes seven faculty members from uOttawa in the faculties of Arts, Engineering, Science and Social Sciences, ISSP Senior Research Associate Dr. **Stewart Fast** and ISSP postdoctoral fellow Dr. **Marisa Beck**. If the application is successful at the letter of intent stage, the Institute will submit a full proposal in the fall of 2017.

Please contact Dr. Fast ([sfast@uottawa.ca](mailto:sfast@uottawa.ca)) if you would like to learn more.

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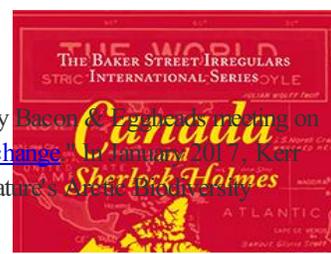
## ISSP Network Member Activities

ISSP Fellow **Peter Calamai** co-edited - along with Mark Alberstat - "**Canada and Sherlock Holmes**," a selection of the best Holmesian writing from Canada that was published in December 2016 as part of the [Baker Street Irregulars International Series](#).

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ISSP Fellow and Adjunct Professor **Paul Dufour** was a member of the Council of Canadian Academies [expert panel report on subnational science policy](#) that was released in April 2017. Paul also wrote several *Fast Policy Facts* columns for *Innovation This Week*, produced by [Research Money](#); was interviewed in *Science* for "[Review of Canadian science calls for better oversight, coordination-and more money](#)," providing comments on the release of the Naylor Expert Panel on [Canada's Fundamental Science Review](#); and also moderated the Canadian Science Policy Centre's [panel discussion on the 'March for Science'](#) at the University of Ottawa on 18 April 2017.

ISSP Core Member **Jeremy Kerr** gave a presentation in October 2016 to the Parliamentary Bacon & Eggheads meeting on "[The great biodiversity challenge: Conserving nature through a century of unprecedented change](#)". In January 2017, Kerr presented "Modelling Arctic-organisms' response to climate change" at the Museum of Nature's Arctic Biodiversity Symposium. The talk was livestreamed by [Canadian Geographic](#).



On 22 March 2017, ISSP Senior Fellow **Margaret McCuaig-Johnston** presented at an industry stakeholder Forum organized by [Natural Resources Canada](#) on her research regarding China's STI Trends and Priorities, as well as at the annual Bromley Event April 5, 2017. She also chaired a discussion on China's STI at the [Annual Gala of the Royal Canadian Institute for Science](#) on 22 April 2017.



ISSP Faculty Affiliate **Kevin Orr** directed "[Un-Countryed](#)," a play about the fall of the Berlin Wall, at the Arts Court Theatre during the month of February 2017.

**Jessica Ross**, an MASc student in Chemical Engineering and a student in the ISSP's [Collaborative Master's in Science, Society and Policy](#) program, won an award in 2016 for her [policy proposal](#), "Securing phosphorus: Contaminant or commodity? Rethinking food for our future," from the Canadian Science Policy Centre (CSPC). The Collaborative Master's is designed to allow students registered in one of the participating uOttawa master's programs to specialize in science and innovation policy. The award was presented by the Honourable **Kirsty Duncan**, Minister of Science, at the 2016 CSPC Conference.

ISSP Core Member **Marc Saner** presented at the [Workshop on Principles & Guidelines for Government Scientific Advice](#) at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Network for Government Science Advice Conference (INGSA) in Brussels in September 2016.



@MarcSaner describes INGSA workshop that has started process to respond to WSF declaration #EUINGSA16



ISSP Senior Fellow **Gregor Wolbring** was awarded the Bachelor of Health Sciences [Research Mentor Award](#) in November 2016 from the University of Calgary's Cumming School of Medicine.

## ISSP Network Member Publications

Pagano, Maria E., Christina M. Delos-Reyes, **Sherry Wasilow**, Kathleen M. Svala, Steven P. Kurtz. 2016. "Smoking Cessation and Adolescent Treatment Response with Comorbid ADHD." *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment* 70:21-27.

Robillard, Cassandra M. and **Jeremy Kerr**. 2016. "Assessing the shelf life of cost-efficient conservation plans for species at risk across gradients of agricultural land-use." *Conservation Biology*. DOI: 10.1111/cobi.12886.

**Saner, Marc**. 2016. "Temporal and Spatial Dimensions in the Management of Scientific Advice to Governments." *Palgrave Communications* 2:16059; DOI: 10.1057/palcomms.2016.59, open access.

**Saner, Marc** and Michael Bordt. 2016. "Building the Consensus: The Moral Space of Earth Measurement." *Ecological Economics* 130:74-81.

**Wolbring, Gregor** and Lucy Diep. 2016. "The Discussions around Precision Genetic Engineering: Role of and Impact on Disabled People." *Laws* 5(3):37; DOI: 10.3390/laws5030037, open access.

**Young, Nathan**, Marianne Corriveau, Vivian M. Nguyen, Steven J. Cooke and Scott G. Hinch. 2016. "How do potential knowledge users evaluate new claims about a contested resource? Problems of power and politics in knowledge exchange and mobilization" *Journal of Environmental Management* 184(2): 380-388.

**Young, Nathan**, Vivian M. Nguyen, Marianne Corriveau, Steven J. Cooke, Scott G. Hinch. 2016. "Knowledge users' perspectives and advice on how to improve knowledge exchange and mobilization in the case of a co-managed fishery." *Environmental Science & Policy* 66: 170-178



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