About the presentations

PART 1. IN SICKNESS AND IN HEALTH, SURVEILLANCE IN AN AGE OF COVID
Lesley SEEBECK, CEO of the Cyber Institute, ANU
In our digital society, we have grown used to being tracked; our movements, preferences, and social networks quantified, linked, logged and transmitted. The advent of COVID-19 is disrupting normality and accelerating many trends, including the widespread use of digital tools. With that has come increasing levels of surveillance and control unanticipated only months ago, in the name of public health. What can we say about the use of technology for this purpose? What is ‘normal’ going to look like post-pandemic? And what effects will such use of technology and tolerance of surveillance have on us and our society?

PART 2. SURVEILLANCE AND POLICING
Philippe Sabot, Lille University: Surveillance and its Ambiguities
We propose to explore some ambiguities of contemporary forms of surveillance. These have become both desirable, insofar as they relate to the protection of human life, and problematic, because they contribute to placing individuals in a network of data available for uses that are difficult to control.

Gregor Urbas and Peter Grabosky, ANU RegNet: Covert Online Investigations and Surveillance by Public and Private Actors
This presentation explores the use of covert online investigative methods by state agencies, and by individuals and institutions in civil society. We look first at their potential for abuse by state agencies, and the remedies available to the targets of illegal or otherwise questionable state practices. We then turn to non-state investigators, and note that the targets of private investigation have even less protection.

Georgiana Banita, Bamberg Universität: Black Futures Matter: Critical Narratives of Race and Predictive Policing
Starting from policing measures aimed at preempting black violence, from Terry Stops and the chokehold to predictive algorithms, this paper analyzes the specific nature of pre-crime racism. The argument is informed by scholarly, documentary, and quotidian critiques that expose the manufacture of putatively dangerous black futures. Whether subjective or systemic, these projections become self-fulfilling prophesies and shackling discourses that create and maintain a docile black underclass whose potentially violent futures override and overwrite their vulnerable present. In resisting prediction mechanisms and machines, black futures truly matter only to the extent that they become invisible.

PART 3. SPACE AND POWER
Lucie Cluzel, Panthéon-Assas: Safe Cities
In a context of tensions exacerbated by terrorist and health threats, cities are increasingly taking advantage of innovative technologies to put them at the service of an exclusively safe public order. This contribution aims to highlight the risks that these "techno-police" projects pose to fundamental freedoms in France.

Aliette Ventéjoux, Saint-Etienne: Space and Surveillance in Jonathan Raban’s novel Surveillance
This presentation aims at discussing how surveillance affects space – be it personal, global or even cyberspace – in Jonathan Raban’s novel Surveillance, published in 2006, as well as the author’s criticism of the use of surveillance in the American society after 9/11 throughout the novel.
Gavin Smith, ANU: The Work of Watching and Being Watched
Surveillance is typically conceptualised in terms of power asymmetries. Those entities operating the technologies, whether human or non-human machines, are assumed to occupy a position of power over those subjects being exposed. However, when relations of surveillance are empirically contextualised, the picture that emerges is more complex. This presentation reveals some of this complexity by accentuating the forms of labour that attend cultures of surveillance, and how this work of watching and being watched generates contradictions, messiness, failures, struggles, estrangement, exhaustion, and micropolitics.

Denis Beaubois, Sydney: In the event of Amnesia the city will recall
In this talk I will discuss my 1996 project In the event of Amnesia the city will recall. In this body of works I used public and private surveillance systems as a platform to generate a series of performance works. By using the vehicle of suspicion to create a captive audience the city was used as a personal repository to temporarily deposit one’s identity.

PART 4. SURVEILLANCE VS PRIVACY
Jelena Gligorijevic, ANU: Privacy as Liberty and Security: Implications for the Legitimacy of Governmental Surveillance
Security is often deployed to justify privacy-intrusive governmental surveillance. This is problematic because security, alongside liberty, is embedded within the very concept of privacy. Given as much, and given the derivative relationship between individual and collective interests in liberal democracies, an appeal to collective security cannot per se legitimise governmental surveillance: particularised, evidence-based arguments are required to address the deeper moral concerns for individual security and individual liberty.

Jennifer Merchant, Panthéon-Assas: Protecting Genetic Privacy
Alzheimer’s disease, Huntington’s disease, cystic fibrosis, some forms of cancer and potentially hundreds of others grave diseases are now capable of being detected through genetic analysis. This presentation explores the legal frameworks in the United States/Europe/France that attempt to prevent this highly sensitive private medical information from falling into ill-intentioned third-parties, and analyzes whether these protections are sufficient.

Jay Clayton, Vanderbilt: Overexposed: Genetic Privacy on Film and TV
Jay Clayton’s presentation outlines a new model of collaboration between humanists and scientists from a diverse range of fields. This multiyear project examines the role of culture in shaping public attitudes toward genetic privacy, including threats to privacy such as government and corporate surveillance as well as hacking.

PART 5. CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON SURVEILLANCE: POST-COLONIALISM, GENDER AND SOCIAL CONTROL
Settlers gaze into a murky glass. What emerges is not the violence of dispossession but a fantastical parallel universe of neat lawns, net curtains and neighbourhood watch. Peer through the net curtains, across the lawn and surveil the local park. It used to be a corroboree ground. It still is.

Yvonne-Marie Rogez, Panthéon-Assas: Policing the Margins: Political Challenges and the Homeless in California
An estimated 108,000 people sleep outdoors in California. This paper will present an overview of the legislation, case law, political issues and tensions raised by the need to deal with homelessness and its visibility. Looking towards the fields of legal studies, urban anthropology, as well as iconography, it will focus on the questions of efficiency and lawfulness raised by government action. Part of this paper will be dedicated to responses to the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Claire Wrobel, Panthéon-Assas: Gender and surveillance in Margaret Atwood’s fiction, from Bodily Harm (1981) to The Testaments (2019)**
Margaret Atwood’s work has consistently engaged with gendered surveillance, from the 1980s onwards. It makes up for the “gender blind” bias in surveillance studies by laying bare the complex mechanisms - from the most brutal to the most subtle - which produce the female surveilled subject and her docile body.

**PART 6. SURVEILLANCE, UTOPIA, SATIRE IN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BRITISH LITERATURE**
**Alexis TADIE, Professor at Sorbonne Université**
Is surveillance a condition of utmost happiness? While utopian schemes seek the good of all, this is rarely achieved without strict control over the population. Reading utopias through satirical authors, Swift or Pope for instance, will illuminate the contradictions of utopias and their reliance on surveillance.