

Security Policies and Community Relationships

November 4 – 5, 2013

Speaker Profiles

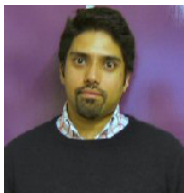
Day 1



B. Heidi Ellis, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in Psychology and Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital Boston, and a licensed clinical psychologist. She is also the Director of the Refugee Trauma and Resilience Center at Boston Children's Hospital, a partner in the National Child Traumatic Stress Network. Dr. Ellis' primary focus is on developing and disseminating mental health prevention and intervention programs for refugee children and their families. Over the past 10 years she has conducted a Community Based Participatory Research program with Somali youth and through this work has examined how social context factors such as discrimination and social marginalization relate to mental health and health behaviors. She is currently Principal Investigator of a longitudinal research project examining developmental pathways to and away from violence, including openness to violent extremism, among Somali refugee youth.



Michelle LeBaron is a professor at the UBC Faculty of Law and Distinguished Scholar in Residence at the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies. She joined UBC in 2003 after ten years teaching at the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. From 1990-1993, she directed the Multiculturalism and Dispute Resolution Project at the University of Victoria. Professor LeBaron lectures and consults around the world, and has practiced as a family law and commercial mediator. Her current research/practice work draws on dispute system design tools to build resilience in diaspora communities. She holds a JD from UBC, an MA in Counseling Psychology from Simon Fraser University and a BA from Chapman University in California. She was called to the Bar of British Columbia in 1982 and is the author of several books including *Bridging Cultural Conflict*, *Conflict Across Cultures* and—most recently—*The Choreography of Resolution: Conflict, Movement and Neuroscience*.



Tufyal Choudhury is lecturer in law at Durham University teaching international human rights law. He is a fellow of German Marshal Fund/Robert Bosch Stiftung Trans-Atlantic Forum on Migration and Integration and a senior policy advisor to the At Home in Europe Project of the Open Society Foundations. His research publications include 'British by Dissent: British Muslim responses to jihadi narratives of identity and belonging' in J. Deol and Z. Kazmi eds., *Contextualising Jihadi Thought*, *The Impact of Counter Terrorism Measures on Muslim Communities in Britain*, 'The Terrorism Act 2006: Discouraging Terrorism' in I. Hare and J. Weinstein (eds.) *Extreme Speech and Democracy*, and *Muslim Identity Politics and Radicalisation*. In addition to his academic research he is trustee at of Democratic Audit (<http://www.democraticaudit.com/>). He graduated from the Universities of London and Cambridge, and was called to the Bar as a member of the Inner Temple.



Alia Hogben is the Executive Director of the Canadian Council of Muslim Women (CCMW). The CCMW aims to ensure Muslim women are full participants in Canadian society and it seeks not only to empower Muslim women within the context of Canadian society, but also to promote an interpretation of Islam that is "humane, egalitarian and equality-driven". Alia has been named to the Order of Canada for her work on women's rights.



Imam Yusuf Badat is the main Imam and 'Director of Religious Affairs' at the Islamic Foundation of Toronto where he has served since 1999. Shaykh Yusuf Badat also serves as a teacher for Arabic, Islamic Studies, Quranic Studies and World Religions. He is active in interfaith, youth, community and social work. He has also been an instructor at the Toronto Shariah Program and the Uloom Program. Shaykh Yusuf Badat is the founder and director of Mathabah Inc. He is an active executive member of the Canadian Council of Imams



Shiraz Maher is a Senior Research Fellow at the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation (ICSR) at Kings College London where he is working on an intellectual history of al-Qaeda, exploring the development of its political thought. Prior to joining ICSR, Maher was a Senior Fellow at Policy Exchange where he worked on Foreign Policy and Security. A number of his policy recommendations about how to address theoretical and practical problems with aspects of the existing counter-terrorism policy were adopted by the coalition government.



Julia Berczyk works as a research fellow for the 'Institute for the Study of Radical Movements' at the 'Centre for Democratic Culture' in Berlin. She is also a doctoral candidate at the Department of Political Science at the University of Amsterdam. Affiliated with the program group 'Challenges to Democratic Representation', her dissertation addresses community-level approaches in countering terrorism and extremism and compares local policies and measures that have been implemented in Berlin and Amsterdam. Previously, she obtained her Master's Degree in 'Migration and Ethnic Studies' as well as 'European Studies' at the University of Amsterdam. During her occupation as a junior researcher at the university's 'Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies', she conducted research on political Islam in Berlin for the FORUM publication *Engaging with Violent Islamic Extremism*.

Robert Young, is the Executive Director of CSIS. With 27 years of experience with the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), Young has held a number of positions with the Service. At the commencement of his career, he worked as an investigator. He also has worked a number of years in the Middle-East. Most recently, he managed the operational program in Toronto from 2007-11. In March 2011, Robert was appointed as the Executive Director General for Counter-Terrorism at the Service's national HQ in Ottawa. Mr. Young received his BA in Political Science, Concordia University; MA International Affairs, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University and LL.L Law Degree, University of Ottawa.



Tiejia Thomas is a PhD candidate in Education at Concordia University (Montreal, Quebec, Canada). Interested in issues relevant to both educational communities and to society at large, such as democratic citizenship, diversity, multiculturalism, and globalization, her research lies at the intersection of citizenship education and educational technology. Through this research, she explores how the use of interactive online technologies impacts citizens' socio-political participation and identities, and the implication of this for Canadian citizenship education. Ms. Thomas is the recipient of a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada doctoral fellowship.

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Speaker Profiles Day 2



Sebastien Feve is a Program Associate at the Institute for Strategic Dialogue, an independent think-tank based in the UK. Working across the security and counter-extremism areas of work, he coordinates the Policy Planners' Network on Countering Radicalisation and Polarisation (PPN), an international network of eleven security and integration ministries from the United Kingdom, Canada, France, Germany, Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, Finland and Spain. He currently assists in developing ISD's work on counter-messaging and internet counter-radicalisation, and also manages www.counterextremism.org, a resource for policy makers, frontline practitioners and academics working on countering extremism and radicalisation. Prior to this, Sebastien worked on the Violence & Extremism and Citizens Programmes at Demos.



Patti Tamara Lenard is Assistant Professor of Ethics in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, at the University of Ottawa. She is the author of *Trust, Democracy and Multicultural Challenges* (Penn State, 2012). Her current research focuses on the moral questions raised by migration across borders, as well as on multiculturalism, trust and social cohesion, and democratic theory more generally.



Wesley Wark is a visiting professor at the University of Ottawa's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. He recently retired from the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs where he had taught since 1988. He served on the Prime Minister of Canada's Advisory Council on National Security (2005-2009) and served on the Advisory Committee to the President of the Canada Border Services Agency from 2006 to 2010. His most recent book is an edited volume: *Secret Intelligence: A Reader* (2009). Professor Wark has published extensively in the field of intelligence and security studies over the past 30 years. He is currently completing a book on *Spy Power*—a history of intelligence and international relations from 1900 to the present.



Anila Asghar is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Integrated Studies in Education at McGill University. Her research focuses on the complex interactions among Islam, modern science, culture, and education. She is particularly interested in the conflicted relationship between evolutionary science and religion in predominantly Muslim societies. She earned her doctorate from Harvard's Graduate School of Education.



Susan Benesch is a Faculty Associate of the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University, the Edith Everett Genocide Prevention Fellow at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and teaches advanced international human rights at American University's School of International Service. She started the Dangerous Speech Project (www.voicesthatpoison.org) in February 2010 as a pilot project for the U.N. Special Adviser for the Prevention of Genocide. This work has been extended into 2015 with an expanded focus on technology and social networks. Her interest in speech dates back to her first career as a journalist.



Amaranath Amarasingam, PhD, is a Post-Doctoral Fellow at York University's Centre for Refugee Studies. His dissertation research was on the Sri Lankan Tamil community in Canada, looking specifically at post-war politics and social movement activism. His more recent work has looked at former members of the Tamil Tigers in Sri Lanka itself, and their post-war challenges - touching on issues of resilience.



Hussein Hamdani holds a Bachelor of Law from the University of Western Ontario and a Master of Arts in International Relations from the University of Toronto. Mr. Hamdani is currently a partner at the law firm of Simpson Wigle LAW LLP and a law instructor at Wilfred Laurier University. He is one of the original members of the Cross Cultural Roundtable on Security where he advises the government on national security matters. He is active in the newcomer, immigrant and Muslim communities serving as Vice Chair of the North American Spiritual Advisor, Public Relations Officer with the Muslim Council of Greater Hamilton and Senior Advisor to the Muslim Youth of North America Organization. He also sits on the board of directors of the Special Investigations Unit and the Canadian Civil Liberties Association. He has given many talks and lectures on civil rights, as well as newcomer and Muslim communities issues. He came to Canada as a refugee from Uganda.



Shahed Amanullah As Senior Advisor for Technology at the US Department of State, Shahed Amanullah works on digital diplomacy and innovation projects for the Special Representative for Muslim Communities, who reports directly to Secretary of State John Kerry. In addition to his work in developing and expanding the Generation Change and Viral Peace projects, Shahed works with the White House and other USG departments on social entrepreneurship, social media policy, combating online extremism, and fostering innovation. Shahed has appeared in venues such as CNN, Newsweek, and Al Jazeera English, and has spoken at the Council on Foreign Relations and Center for American Progress. He has also published essays in academic journals and major newspapers, including the Washington Post. Shahed has been named as one of the 500 most influential Muslims in the world by Georgetown University & the Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre in Jordan, as well as one of the top 10 most visionary young Muslims by Islamica Magazine. He has also served on the boards of nearly a dozen national non-profit organizations focused on Muslim-American issues of identity. Shahed has a BS from UC Berkeley and an MBA from Georgetown University.