

NEWS RELEASE

Center for Information Assurance and Cybersecurity

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University of Washington

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UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF THE INFORMATION AGE

A colloquium series that explores issues from our "point-and-click" world

Almost everyone enjoys the convenience of checking email at their favorite wi-fi enabled coffee shop. It's comfortable and convenient to multi-task while sipping a frothy latte in a welcoming environment where your friends can meet you.

But did you know that the simple act of flipping open your laptop and connecting to a public wireless network can expose your privacy and make you open to attack from enterprising criminals? As technologies make our lives more and more convenient, they also expose our privacy in unprecedented ways and make us vulnerable to potential harm.

To create awareness and initiate changes in the systems that create vulnerabilities for everyday computer users, The Center for Information Assurance and Cybersecurity will hold a six-session colloquium entitled "Unintended Consequences of the Information Age."

The first session, "Privacy: Reconciling Reality," will feature a panel discussion about new federal and state laws meant to protect our privacy. The discussion will examine what the laws are designed to achieve, how they impact everyone from the general public to researchers to system managers to private organizations; and the strategies and tools under development to enhance information privacy and protection. The discussion will be moderated by Ed Lazowska, Bill and Melinda Gates Chair of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Washington.

Panelists include:

- **Kirk Bailey**, Chief Information Security Officer for the University of Washington
- **Ivan Orton**, King County Prosecutor experienced in cybercrime prosecution and co-author “Cybercrime: The investigation, Prosecution and Defense of a Computer-Related Crime.”
- **John Christiansen**, the Christiansen Information Technology law firm
- **Ken Kousky**, president of the IP3, Inc., a leading marketing research firm providing exclusive coverage of emerging technologies for information assurance and IT security

The session will be held on Tuesday, April 25, from 6 – 9 p.m. in Kane Hall at the University of Washington campus.

The second in the series, “At Odds: Victims Rights vs. Free Speech,” will examine the muddy crossroads where online anonymous free speech can morph into harmful, targeted crimes of hate. This moderated discussion will focus on how two tenets of the American consciousness – a deeply held belief in the value of *laissez-faire* economics and in the first amendment – collide with real-life victims of internet crime. State Attorney General Rob McKenna will introduce the discussion.

The second panel will include Joelle Ligon, a former victim of Internet stalking who was responsible for the first cyberstalking law in Washington state, and recent changes in the Federal cyberstalking law.

This colloquium series is produced and funded as a public service from the University of Washington’s Center for Information Assurance and Cybersecurity (CIAC). Four additional lectures will feature discussions on privacy and security. This series is sponsored in partnership with the Information School and the University of Washington's initiative for Global Human Security and the. All lectures and discussions in the series are free and open to the public.

CIAC has been designed to integrate industry, academia and the Pacific Northwest community to promote multi-disciplined, regional collaboration, produce innovative research directions and educational programs and develop information assurance professionals who are well prepared to contend with the dynamics of the Information Age.

The Center’s mission is to identify, address and promote solutions for information and cybersecurity issues. As a catalyst for research, invention, innovation, education, public awareness and entrepreneurship in information assurance, the Center’s vision is to contribute to the

advance of human security in the global community. The Center promotes the practice of accepted and emerging security standards in the broad field of information assurance.

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