

LAW, POLICY, AND ENGINEERING

[Law, Policy, and Engineering Academic Panel Discussion]

Election Security in the 2020 Election

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Free Virtual Event

Register at bit.ly/LPE-election-security.

Join Penn State's Law, Policy, and Engineering (LPE) initiative for an academic panel discussion on election security in the upcoming 2020 elections. While officials are simultaneously preparing for two different types of voting, in-person and mail-in voting during a pandemic, multiple general safety and security fears continue to rise. Threats including foreign influence and interference, cyberattacks, use of social media to undermine confidence and disseminate misinformation, and general concerns with election infrastructure and serious vulnerabilities, remain. Public confidence in this year's election results is key to our democracy. Officials seek to ensure a safe, accurate, fair and accessible election where voters can cast a ballot safely and securely, and without putting their health at risk.

Panelists



Margaret Hu

Associate Dean for non-JD programs at Penn State Law at University Park and Professor of Law and International Affairs at Penn State

Hu is a faculty co-hire in the Institute for Computational and Data Sciences, and faculty in the Institute for Network and Security Research at Penn State. She has published several works on dataveillance and cybersurveillance, and is currently a member of the Advisory Board of the Future of Privacy Forum, a non-profit think tank in Washington, D.C., that promotes responsible data privacy policies. Previously, she served as senior policy advisor for the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and also served as special policy counsel in the Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC), Civil Rights Division, U. S. Department of Justice, in Washington, D.C. Hu is currently teaching the election security seminar at Penn State Law.



Andrea Matwyshyn

Associate Dean for Innovation and Technology and Professor of Law and Engineering Policy at Penn State Law at University Park and Professor in the School of Engineering Design, Technology, and Professional Programs at Penn State

Matwyshyn is the founding director of the Penn State PILOT Lab (Policy Innovation Lab of Tomorrow), an interdisciplinary technology policy lab. She is an academic and author whose work focuses on technology and information policy and law, particularly cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, consumer privacy, intellectual property, health technology, and technology workforce pipeline policy. She is a faculty affiliate of the Center for Internet and Society at Stanford Law School and in 2020, Matwyshyn is the Digital Studies fellow at the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress. PILOT lab is the creator of the tool Vote@Home, a resource on absentee and mail-in ballots available at pilotlab.org/vote.



Patrick McDaniel

Distinguished Professor of Computer Science and Engineering and the William L. Weiss Chair in Information and Communications Technology at Penn State

McDaniel is the Director of the Institute for Network and Security Research; co-director of the Systems and Internet Infrastructure Security Laboratory, and an ACM and IEEE Fellow. McDaniel served as the program manager and lead scientist for the Army Research Laboratory's Cyber-Security Collaborative Research Alliance and leads the NSF Frontier Center for Trustworthy Machine Learning. He was selected by the National Science and Technology Council in coordination with the Executive Office of the President of the United States to lead a technical workshop and co-author the subsequent report "Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity: Opportunities and Challenges 2019" with experts from across the nation on cybersecurity. McDaniel's research efforts centrally focus on network, telecommunications, systems security, language-based security, and technical public policy.



John Gastil

Distinguished Professor in Communication Arts and Sciences and Political Science and Senior Scholar at the McCourtney Institute for Democracy at Penn State

Gastil served as the inaugural director from 2013-2016. Prof. Gastil studies political deliberation and group decision making across a range of contexts. His newest books are Hope for democracy: How citizens can bring reason back into politics (Oxford, 2020) with Katie Knobloch and Legislature by lot: Transformative designs for deliberative governance (Verso, 2019) with Erik Olin Wright. His work on the Citizens' Initiative Review has helped evaluate an exciting new form of public deliberation that should improve initiative elections. Gastil's Jury and Democracy Project has investigated, and hopefully helped vindicate, the jury system as a valuable civic educational institution. His work with the Cultural Cognition Project in demonstrating the ways in which our deeper values bias how we learn about issues and form opinions.





Sandra Allain

Director of Law, Policy, and Engineering; Professor of Practice in the School of Engineering Design, Technology, and Professional Programs; and Lecturer in Law

Allain is the inaugural director of Law, Policy, and Engineering, joining Penn State in 2019. She previously served as an attorney in the Office of University Counsel at the University of Illinois, where she offered legal advice in intellectual property and technology transfer matters. Allain has a broad range of experience in private practice and as in-house counsel, including more than a decade in higher education in various administrative roles.

LPE is an initiative of Penn State Law in University Park, College of Engineering, and the School of International Affairs.

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