SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

Monday October 27, 2014
12:00 noon
Room MC252 (5 King’s College Road)

Professor Andrew Clement
Faculty of Information, University of Toronto

“Internet Privacy and Security after Snowden”

There have long been well-founded suspicions that state security agencies, notably the US National Security Agency (NSA), have secretly been conducting surveillance of internet communications, but the revelations from documents Edward Snowden leaked in June 2013 have surprised everyone in terms of the broad scope and fine grained detail of internet interception. This surveillance, and the related weakening of encryption standards as well as more targeted injection of spyware into thousands of computers around the world, has provoked widespread concern across the spectrum of cyber-security experts and civil libertarians. This talk will provide an overview of the various forms of recently revealed mass state surveillance, and highlight the technical and policy implications for those concerned about privacy, security and identity integrity, particularly from a Canadian perspective.

Andrew Clement is a Professor in the Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto, where he coordinates the Information Policy Research Program and with colleagues in Electrical and Computer Engineering co-founded the Identity Privacy and Security Institute (IPSI). With a PhD in Computer Science, he has had longstanding research and teaching interests in the social implications of information/communication technologies and participatory design. Among his recent privacy/surveillance research projects, are IXmaps.ca an internet mapping tool that helps make more visible NSA warrantless wiretapping activities and the routing of Canadian personal data through the U.S. even when the origin and destination are both in Canada; SurveillanceRights.ca, which documents (non)compliance of video surveillance installations with privacy regulations and helps citizens understand their related privacy rights. The SurveillanceWatch app enables users to locate surveillance cameras around them and contribute new sightings of their own; and Proportionate ID, which demonstrates through overlays for conventional ID cards and a smartphone app privacy protective alternatives to prevailing full disclosure norms. Clement is a co-investigator in The New Transparency: Surveillance and Social Sorting research collaboration. See http://www.digitallymediatedsurveillance.ca/