# GW CSPRI Newsletter

June 2, 2014

From the **Cyber Security Policy and Research Institute** of **The George Washington University**, www.cspri.seas.gwu.edu.

This newsletter is a weekly summary of events related to cyber security policy and research, with a special focus on developments and events in the Washington, DC area.

*Faculty and student readers of this newsletter with new and important cyber security research to report (especially new papers or results by GW faculty and students) are encouraged to send notifications of this to cspriaa@gwu.edu. A short (up to three sentences) description of why you think the research is important is required.*

## Contents



# Announcements

Edward Snowden gave his first US interview since the NSA leaks with NBC Nightly News.

**Click here to see it.**


# Events

-June 2-3, **CyberSecureGov** - This conference will explore how government security personnel and managers are identifying opportunity in the midst of intense budgetary setbacks, what new

technologies and policies are emerging to help agencies balance their IT investments and maintain support for a robust cyber defense capability, the status of key security initiatives such as CDM, FedRAMP, HSPD-12 and others, the government's investments in the areas of human capital, IT acquisition, guidance/policy and legislation that are impacting agency personnel and their contractors, and how collaboration between government, academia and industry is working to prepare the federal workforce of tomorrow. DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 300 Army Navy Dr., Arlington, VA 22202. More information.

-June 2-3, 5:30 p.m., **BITS Internet Security Forum** - The BITS Internet Security Forum will identify opportunities to solve increasingly complex risk management challenges facing financial institutions by enhancing and strengthening trust and access to our online and global brand presences. Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert Street, NW. More information.

-June 3, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., **Privacy and Facial Recognition** - The Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) will host a meeting. American Institute of Architects, 1735 New York Ave. NW. More information.

-June 4, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., **International Implications of the National Security Agency Leaks** - The Brookings Institution will host two panel discussions to explore the continued effects of Snowden's disclosures. The first panel will address the regional reactions to the NSA revelations and what, if any, repercussions they may have for American diplomacy, soft power and trust. The second panel discussion will focus on how the leaks have influenced internet governance, trade and the intelligence community and what those consequences may mean for the future international order. Brookings Senior Fellow Peter W. Singer will moderate both sessions. This event also will be Webcast. Brookings Institution, Falk Auditorium, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. More information.

-June 4, 2:30 p.m., **The Location Privacy Protection Act of 2014** - The Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology and the Law will hold a hearing on a bill by the same name introduced by Sen. Al Franken, (D-Minn.). Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Room 226. More information.

-June 4-5, **The 4th International Summit on the Future of Health Privacy** - Engage with thought-provoking lectures, interactive panels, networking and discussion during the two-day Summit. Areas of discussion will include: patient ID, consumer education, mobile app privacy, international cybersecurity, data for research, ethics, and business models. Hart Auditorium, McDonough Hall, Georgetown Law Center, 600 New Jersey Ave NW. More information.

-June 5, 8:55 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., **DC Metro Cyber Security Summit** - This conference series seeks to connect C-Level and senior executives responsible for protecting their companies' critical infrastructures with cutting-edge technology providers and renowned information security experts. Sheraton Premiere, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Tysons Corner, VA 22182. More information.

-June 5, 2:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., **AFCEA Presents: Insider Threat to Small Business** - One of the biggest myths is that "I'm too small for cyber attackers to care about me." This common

misperception leads to tremendous vulnerabilities as companies do not understand implications for their intellectual property and/or their link to others as part of the larger supply chain. Bill Wright will brief on Symantec's recently released 2014 report on cyber attacks, including the devastating facts on attacks on small- and medium-sized businesses. Michael Theis, from the CERT Insider Threat Center at Carnegie Mellon University, will discuss the Center's current research aimed at establishing best practices to mitigate insider threats, including techniques for identifying insider threats and strategies for building a robust insider threat program. AFCEA International, 4400 Fair Lakes Court, Fairfax, VA 22033. More information.

June 5, 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., **The National Security Agency Debate: One Year Later** - A debate on the future of U.S. intelligence collection authorities. The resolution is "U.S. surveillance authorities require fundamental reform." Arguing in favor are Jameel Jaffer of the ACLU and Julian Sanchez of the CATO Institute. Arguing in opposition are John "Chris" Inglis, former NSA deputy director, and Carrie Cordero, director of national security studies at Georgetown Law. Brookings Senior Fellow Benjamin Wittes will moderate the event. The Brookings Institution, Falk Auditorium, 1775 Massachusetts Ave. NW. This event also will be Webcast. More information.

-June 10, 10:00 a.m., **Emerging Technologies and the Future of Global Security** - A discussion of the book by the same name, which is available via the Web site of the Center for Global Security Research. The speakers will include Zachary Davis and Ron Lehman from the Center for Global Security Research, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory; Michael Nacht, Thomas and Allison Schneider Professor for Public Policy, University of California, Berkeley; and Mathew Burrows, director, Strategic Foresight Initiative, Brent Scowcroft Center on International Security, Atlantic Council. 1030 15th St NW, 12 Floor. More information.

-June 11, 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., **The 2014 Cloud Computing Policy Conference** - The 2014 Cloud Computing Policy Conference USA will bring together over 150 delegates from the digital industries, the public sector, civil society and policymaking communities to debate the priorities facing the US cloud computing sector. It will explore market developments in cloud computing and how businesses and government administrations can best exploit the opportunities offered by the technology. Central to the discussions will be a debate on how to frame and deliver the necessary measures to restore trust following the PRISM revelations, ensuring that at both and home and abroad, the US continues to lead the way in cloud innovation and services. W Washington DC Hotel, 515 15th St NW. More information.

-June 11, 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m., **What to Consider When Preparing to Purchase Cyber Insurance** - Join Christine Marciano, cyber insurance expert and president, Cyber Data Risk Managers, for this webinar to learn what your organization needs to consider before purchasing cyber/data breach insurance coverage. More information.

# Cyber Security Policy News

-In his first network television interview since fleeing the United States last year, NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden sat down with NBC Nightly News for a wide-ranging

discussion about why he did it. Snowden told NBC he had tried to go through official channels before leaking documents to journalists, and said he repeatedly raised objections inside the NSA, in writing, to its widespread use of surveillance. In response to his actions, Snowden said, the message he received was "more or less, in bureaucratic language, 'You should stop asking questions.'" NBC said it confirmed with two U.S. officials last week that Snowden sent at least one email to the NSA's office of general counsel raising policy and legal questions.

The National Journal managed to get a copy of that email, which it published here. However, the message appears to show Snowden merely asking for clarification about a recent training course he had taken. Meanwhile, Snowden insists that he sent more than just one email.

But how does the public judge his actions? According to a poll by the same television news outlet that aired his interview, not so favorably. NBC found that more Americans opposed Edward Snowden's decision to flee the U.S. with thousands of stolen documents and reveal confidential details about the NSA's surveillance programs than those who support his actions. Perhaps unsurprisingly, younger respondents have a more favorable opinion of the former NSA contractor, while older respondents are more disapproving, NBC said the poll reveals.

The former head of the NSA said Snowden's action had done "irreparable, irreversible harm" to the security and safety of the United States, vis-a-vis those nations or actors that wish this nation ill will. That same day, news broke that an unprecedented, three-year cyber espionage campaign launched by Iranian hackers used fake social networking accounts and a bogus news Web site to spy on military and political leaders in the United States. "ISight Partners, which uncovered the operation, said the targets include a four-star U.S. Navy admiral, U.S. lawmakers and ambassadors, and personnel from Afghanistan, Britain, Iraq, Israel, Saudi Arabia and Syria," Reuters reported last week. "The firm declined to identify victims and said it could not say what data had been stolen by the hackers, who were seeking credentials to access government and corporate networks, as well as intelligence on weapons systems and diplomatic negotiations."

-The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) last week recommended that Congress require the consumer data broker industry to be more transparent and to give consumers greater control over their personal information. In a 57-page report (PDF) on the data broker industry, the FTC found that data brokers operate with a fundamental lack of transparency. "The Commission recommends that Congress consider enacting legislation to make data broker practices more visible to consumers and to give consumers greater control over the immense amounts of personal information about them collected and shared by data brokers," the FTC said in a news release.

FTC Chairwoman Edith Ramirez weighed in on the report via an editorial at CNN: "We found that data brokers collect billions of pieces of data on nearly every American consumer, often merging online and offline information," Ramirez wrote. "Data brokers are also making potentially sensitive inferences about consumers -- about their health, financial status, and ethnic backgrounds. And consumers have little if any window into this process, let alone meaningful control or choice about how their data is shared among businesses. We need better transparency into how data brokers collect and use our personal information to help ensure that we not go

down a path that leads to unfair exclusion, but rather one that widens opportunities for all consumers."

-Google last week announced the availability of new form that users can fill out to request that the search engine take down links to results that are "inadequate, irrelevant or no longer relevant, or excessive in relation to the purposes for which they were processed." As The Hill reports, the so-called "Forget Me Online" form is Google's response to losing a European court ruling calling for the "right to be forgotten" on the Internet. "The European high court this month ruled in favor of a Spanish man who asked Google to take down links to newspaper articles about his home being repossessed and auctioned off," The Hill writes. "The articles were accurate but no longer relevant, he said, and were hurting his reputation. The ruling opened the floodgates to people asking for embarrassing or compromising links to be taken down. That's likely to lead to a headache for Google, which is responsible for more than 90 percent of European search requests, and free speech advocates have warned that it could have disastrous effects on journalism and the public record."

*The Cyber Security Policy and Research Institute (CSPRI) is a center for GW and the Washington area to promote technical research and policy analysis of problems that have a significant computer security and information assurance component. More information is available at our website, http://www.cspri.seas.gwu.edu.*