Biometrics for Security and Counterterrorism
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Speaker Biographies

Peter Swire

Peter P. Swire is the C. William O'Neill Professor of Law at the Moritz College of Law of the Ohio State University and a Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress. He lives in the Washington, D.C. area, teaches in Ohio during the fall semester, and is Director of the law school's Washington, D.C. summer program.

From 1999 until January, 2001 Professor Swire served as the Clinton Administration's Chief Counselor for Privacy, in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. In that position, he coordinated Administration policy on the use of personal information in the public and private sectors. Among his many activities there, he was the White House coordinator for the proposed and final HIPAA medical privacy rules and chaired a White House task force on updating wiretap laws for the Internet age.

Professor Swire has published extensively, testifies regularly before the Congress (including recently about biometrics and privacy), and is quoted frequently in national and international press. He is faculty editor of “The Privacy Year in Review,” published by I:5, A Journal of Law and Policy for the Information Age, which is distributed to all members of the International Association of Privacy Professionals. He is lead author of Information Privacy: Official Reference for the Certified Information Privacy Professional. These and his other writings appear at www.peterswire.net.

Professor Swire graduated summa cum laude from Princeton University and in law school was a Senior Editor of the Yale Law Journal. He received a Rotary Fellowship to study in Brussels in 1981-82 and clerked for Judge Ralph K. Winter, Jr., of the Second Circuit. He practiced in the Washington office of Powell, Goldstein, Frazer & Murphy from 1986 to 1990 before entering law teaching.

John Sylvester

John V. Sylvester IV is currently a Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy and the Department of the Navy’s senior policy advisor on information sharing. Mr. Sylvester has previously served as Special Assistant for Homeland Security to the Assistant Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, led Department of Defense Inspector General evaluations of highly classified national intelligence matters, taught for more than 15 years as a Professor of Law at the US Military Academy at West Point, and served for nearly 5 years as General Counsel to an urban police department in upstate New York. Mr. Sylvester began his legal career nearly 30 years ago as an associate trial attorney with a small Park Avenue law firm in New York City. Mr. Sylvester has also served with the US Army for 24 years, achieving the rank of Colonel in the US Army Reserve.
**Thomas Dee**

Tom Dee, a native of New York City, served in the United States Navy from March 1980 until his retirement in Feb 2007. He began his career as a Surface Warfare Officer but transitioned to the Navy’s Special Operations Officer Community after earning his Surface Warfare designation onboard USS Sacramento (AOE-1) in 1983. As an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Officer he served in numerous operational assignments worldwide, including as officer-in-charge of EOD detachments in Europe and the Pacific, Operations Officer of an EOD Group and Executive Officer of the Navy’s largest and most diverse EOD Mobile Unit. He served as EOD Officer and Chief of Staff during mine clearance operations in the North Arabian Gulf following Operation Desert Storm and he was privileged to culminate his operational career as Commanding Officer of EOD Mobile Unit EIGHT in Sigonella Italy where he provided Navy EOD combat support to joint operations in Bosnia (SFOR) and Kosovo (KFOR), and provided EOD capability throughout the U.S. European and Central Commands.

Ashore, Tom Dee served as a staff officer for the Commander of US Naval Forces Europe. Later in his career he was selected to establish and lead a new branch within the Expeditionary Warfare Division of the Chief of Naval Operations staff (N757) to consolidate requirements, programs and resources supporting diverse expeditionary capabilities, to include EOD, Naval Coastal Warfare, Non-lethal weapons and expeditionary anti-terrorism. As Chairman of the Neutralize Integrated Product Team (IPT), for the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization (JIEDDO) from 2004 through 2006, he led multi-service efforts to identify, fund and field capabilities required by US forces engaged in counter-IED operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. From 2003 until his retirement from the Navy, he served as the Department of Defense Deputy Manager for Joint Service EOD Technology responsible for providing common techniques and procedures, and compatible equipment and life cycle support, for the EOD forces of the four military services and select government agencies. He completed his active duty Navy career as the Commanding Officer of the Naval EOD Technology Division in Indian Head Maryland where he was responsible for providing technical support to operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and for executing science and technology, acquisition, and information programs for the joint service EOD community. Mr Dee assumed responsibilities as Director of Defense Biometrics, Office of the Secretary of Defense, in Feb 2007.

Mr. Dee holds a Master of Sciences Degree (National Resource Strategy) from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense University; a Master of Arts Degree (International Relations) from University of Southern California; and a Bachelor of Arts Degree (History) from New York University. He is married to the former Nicola Hollow of Cornwall, England. They and their two teenagers, Hannah and Thomas, live in Great Falls, VA.

**Duane Blackburn**

Duane Blackburn serves as a policy analyst in the Office of Science & Technology Policy (OSTP), Executive Office of the President (EOP). He chairs interagency groups that coordinate S&T policy for biometrics, identity management and domestic IEDs under the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC). His other technology areas within OSTP include information sharing, privacy, law enforcement and border technologies. Typical duties include serving as the lead S&T voice in EOP review and approval of agency plans, regulations and testimony, advising senior administration and agency officials, and participating in government-wide policymaking.

A career civil servant, Mr. Blackburn served as program manager at the FBI, National Institute of Justice, and DoD prior to his appointment at OSTP. He has managed RDT&E programs in biometrics, data analysis, interdiction technologies, drug detection and screening, tagging and tracking, communications and GIS systems. He served as the FBI’s Agency Representative to the NSTC from 2003-2006.
Mr. Blackburn holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Electrical Engineering from Virginia Tech, and was a finalist for a 2002 Service to America Medal.

Patricia Cogswell

Ms. Cogswell is the Associate Director for Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Office of Policy (Screening Coordination Office). Ms. Cogswell’s portfolio includes setting policy and direction in order to harmonize the many DHS screening programs and investments. These programs include many of DHS’ immigration reform efforts, those involving screening to identify known or suspected terrorists, and the integration of biometric technologies and capabilities.

In addition to Ms. Cogswell’s current position, since the creation of DHS in 2003, Ms. Cogswell also served as the Chief Strategist for DHS’ US-VISIT Program, and as the Director, Immigration Services Modernization at the US Citizenship and Immigration Services. Ms. Cogswell’s background prior to the creation of DHS was with the former Immigration and Naturalization Service. Ms. Cogswell is an attorney. Unlike most attorneys, however, Ms. Cogswell has spent her entire government career in program management and operational activities, rather than practicing law.

Ms. Cogswell received her J.D. from the College of William and Mary and is a member of the Virginia State Bar. Ms. Cogswell received her B.A. in Mathematics from the University of Pennsylvania.