

The 2016 Patuxent Defense Forum

“Privacy, Ethics and UAVs: Was George Orwell a Prophet?”

Call for Papers

George Orwell’s book *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, published in 1949, describes a future in which "Big Brother" is omnipresent, watching citizens’ every move in a state of perpetual war. With Unmanned Aircraft Vehicles (UAV) and modern wars that don’t seem to end, this future seems to be approaching us quickly. But is it? Can the availability of sophisticated technology alone push us into accepting unmanned aircraft in our backyards? What benefits can the UAVs offer that are so great that we would accept their inevitable “unwanted advances,” occasional as they may be, into our spheres of privacy? How do we balance the benefits of technology with our individual rights? How do we keep UAVs from infringing on our Constitutional rights for privacy while they are helping law enforcement officials fight crime and terrorism, private companies deliver goods to our doorsteps, or farmers to tend to their crops? What are the generational differences in the perception of individuals’ rights to privacy?



These questions will be asked at the **11th Annual Patuxent Defense Forum** on **June 2, 2016**, at St. Mary’s College of Maryland, St. Mary’s City, Maryland. The forum is organized by the *Center for the Study of Democracy* at St Mary’s College of Maryland and *The Patuxent Partnership*, a non-profit organization that works with government, industry, and academia on initiatives in science and technology; hosts programs of interest to the Navy and the broader DoD community and advances education through STEM based initiatives.

Proposed Conference Themes:

- Privacy, Transparency and Accountability
- Commercial and Personal Use of UAVs
- Proliferation of Drones and New Ethical Challenges

Please email paper proposals to Adrienne Dozier, Operations Manager, Center for the Study of Democracy at St. Mary’s College of Maryland, at amdozier@smcm.edu. Proposals should include the title, the institutional affiliation, and a short abstract of no more than 150 words. Proposals are due by **April 20, 2016**. Accommodations will be provided for panelists.

