Speaker Bios

Chaouki T. Abdallah is the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at UNM. He joined the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at UNM in 1988 where he is currently Professor, and was formerly the department chair. He is the recipient of ECE’s Lawton Ellis Award, UNM School of Engineering Senior Research Excellence Award, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Millennium medal. His research has been funded by NSF, AFOSR, NRL, and national laboratories among many others.

John P. Bortner is a senior member of the Cyber Mission Management, Directorate for Analysis, Defense Intelligence Agency. He has over 30 years experience in national security as a defense contractor, military research and development quality assurance manager, information systems security officer, and intelligence officer. He has led intelligence analysis of threats to Department of Defense and Coalition computer networks and U.S. critical infrastructure.

Jess Bravin covers the U.S. Supreme Court for The Wall Street Journal. Mr. Bravin is the author of "The Terror Courts" (Yale, 2013), an award-winning account of military trials at Guantanamo Bay. Mr. Bravin is a graduate of Harvard College and the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law.

Anne Callaghan is a State Department Senior Foreign Service Officer, Diplomat in Residence at UNM. Prior to this assignment, Anne was Consul General at the U.S. Consulate General in Vancouver, Canada (2011-2014) and leader of a Provincial Reconstruction Team in southeastern Iraq (2010-2011).

Dr. Walt Cooper is currently serves as Director of Veteran Experience, a newly created position at the Department of Veterans Affairs. Prior to joining VA in 2014, he spent 14 years as a U.S. Army Green Beret. For four years, Walt has served as Chairman of the Board of the Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project, a non-profit organization that provides legal assistance to displaced Iraqis and Afghans applying for resettlement in the West.

Jed Crandall is Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of New Mexico. His research focuses on Internet censorship and surveillance, including techniques to measure censorship on the Internet and research into software that threatens online freedoms. He is an internationally cited expert on the Chinese internet firewall.

Theresa "Teri" Duncan is an Albuquerque-based attorney who was part of the legal team for Terry Lynn Nichols, who faced the death penalty for his alleged role in the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. Her practice includes litigation on behalf of a prisoner at Guantanamo Bay Naval station, Mohamedou Ould Slahi, author of the New York Times bestselling book, "Guantanamo Diary". She graduated from the University of New Mexico School of Law.

Michalis Faloutsos is Chairman of the Department of Computer Science at UNM. His research interests include computer networks and security, spanning wireline and wireless networks. His paper on power-laws of the Internet topology received the ACM SIGCOMM Test of Time award. Recently he has focused on the classification of traffic and web-security, and co-founded a cyber-security company in 2008.

Frank Gilfeather is the director of the National Security Studies Program at the University of New Mexico (UNM). He has served in various administrative positions at UNM and is currently the Director of the Office of Strategic Initiatives in the Office of Student Affairs. He is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at UNM, he has over 40 years of experience in teaching and research and 25 years’ experience in program direction and management in government and universities.

Gregory (Greg) L. Heileman is Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Associate Provost for Curriculum at the University of New Mexico. He was the recipient of ECE’s Lawton-Ellis Award for combined excellence in teaching, research, and student/community involvement. He has published extensively in cyber security and is the author of the text Data Structures, Algorithms and Object-Oriented Programming, published by McGraw-Hill published in 1996.

Dr. Peter Highnam was named IARPA Director on 30 August 2012. Dr. Highnam joined IARPA in February 2009 as the Office Director for Incisive Analysis. Prior to IARPA, he was a senior advisor in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and was a DARPA program manager with programs in electronic warfare and airborne communications. He is a co-inventor on three patents in commercial seismic explorat ion and holds a doctorate in computer science from Carnegie Mellon University.

Nancy Hollander is a partner at the law firm of Freedman Boyd Hollander. She served as a consultant to the defense in a high profile terrorism case in Ireland, has assisted counsel in other international cases and represents two prisoners at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, including Mohamedou Ould Slahi, author of the New York Times bestselling book, "Guantanamo Diary". She is past president of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, obtained her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan, and earned her law degree from the University of New Mexico School of Law.

Lieutenant General (Retired) Bradley C. Hosmer (USAF) chairs the Board of Directors of the Armed Forces Services Corporation (AFSC). He served as Inspector General of the Air Force, the President of the National Defense University, and the Vice Director of the Joint Staff where he was fully engaged in all security and policy matters involving the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Chairman, JCS. He retired in 1994 as the Superintendent of the US Air Force Academy and is currently a Regent of the University of New Mexico.
David Iglesias is the Director of the J. Dennis Hastert Center for Economy, Government and Public Policy, and Associate Professor of Politics and Law at Wheaton College. He was the United States Attorney for the District of New Mexico between 2001 and 2007. He obtained his bachelor’s degree from Wheaton College, and law degree from the University of New Mexico School of Law.

Bob Jung is a Senior Researcher at FireEye, a leading worldwide cyber security provider. Mr. Jung specializes in visualization and automated dynamic analysis of malware. Since graduating from the UNM Computer Science Department in 2002, he received a Master’s in Computer Science from Cornell and has spent 9 years at Sandia National Laboratories researching various aspects of Information Security and figuring out clever ways to break stuff.

Dr. Suleiman K. "Sul" Kassicieh is Distinguished Professor of Management and the Anderson School of Management Endowed Chair in Economic Development at the University of New Mexico. He has published over 100 technical and management papers in such journals as Operations Research, California Management Review, Management International Review, Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice, Journal of Business Venturing, IEEE Transactions in Engineering Management among many others.

Dr. Laura A. McNamara is Principal Member of Technical Staff at Sandia National Laboratories. She’s spent her career partnering with computer scientists, software engineers, physicists, human factors experts, I/O psychologists, and other analysts. Most of her projects involve challenges in analytic technology adoption. She has worked with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, the Missile Defense Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the nuclear weapons programs at Sandia and Los Alamos National Laboratories.

J.J. Messner became the Executive Director of The Fund for Peace in October 2014 after having been the Director of FFP’s Sustainable Development & Security program for nearly four years. He has also co-directed FFP’s Fragile States Index and coordinated the country data and trends analysis program as well as FFP’s media and communications outreach.

Manuel Montoya is Assistant Professor in the Anderson School, Finance, International, Technology and Entrepreneurship (FITe) Department. He is a Rhodes Scholar and has numerous published articles in global structures, international management and development, and interdisciplinary studies of the world political economy.

Dr. Erika Monahan is Assistant Professor of Russian History here at UNM. She earned here PhD at Stanford University and joined the faculty in 2008. Her first book, The Merchants of Siberia: Trade in Early Modern Eurasia, is forthcoming from Cornell University Press.

Dr. Emile Nakhleh served 15 years with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) before retiring in 2006. He founded the Agency’s Political Islam Strategic Analysis Program, Regional Analysis Unit, in the Office of Near Eastern and South Asian Analysis, and Senior Analytic Service. Dr. Nakhleh is currently Research Professor in Political Science at UNM, is a prolific writer of political commentaries, and serves as a special assistant to the Provost for national security academic programs.

Dean Emerita Elizabeth Rindskopf Parker served as dean of the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law July 2002-June 2012. A widely-published scholar and frequently-cited expert on matters of national security law and terrorism, she served in key federal government positions, most notably as general counsel for the National Security Agency, principal deputy legal adviser, Department of State, and general counsel for the CIA.

Serhii Plokhy is the Mykhailo Hrushevsky Professor of Ukrainian History at Harvard University. His research includes the intellectual, cultural, and international history of Eastern Europe, with an emphasis on Ukraine. His most recent book is The Last Empire: The Final Days of the Soviet Union (Basic Books, 2014), which is a finalist for the 2015 Pushkin House Russian book prize.

Dawinder "Dave" S. Sidhu is Assistant Professor at the University Of New Mexico School Of Law. His expertise is constitutional law, criminal law, and national security. From 2013-14, Sidhu served as a fellow at the Supreme Court of the United States. He has been a legal observer of military commissions at Guantanamo. He has earned degrees from the University of Pennsylvania (B.A.), Johns Hopkins University (M.A.), and George Washington University (J.D.).

Dr. James Tegnelia is the former director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) and former vice president, Department of Defense Programs at Sandia National Laboratories. Dr. Tegnelia is Research Professor in the Nuclear Engineering Department at UNM and a special assistant to the Provost on national security programs. He has also lectured at Georgetown University. Currently he is a member of the Defense Science Board.

Dr. Gregory F. Treverton is Chairman of the National Intelligence Council. The National Intelligence Council supports the Director of National Intelligence in the DNI’s role as head of the US Intelligence Community (the IC). The NIC serves as the IC’s center for long-term strategic analysis. Treverton holds an A.B. summa cum laude from Princeton University and an M.P.P. and Ph.D. in economics and politics from Harvard University.