

Sheri A. Alpert

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EDUCATION

George Mason University, The School of Public Policy; Fairfax, VA. Ph.D., 2001. Concentration: Science and Technology Policy. Field: Bioethics and Public Policy. Dissertation Title: "Machine Tractable Human Tissue: Policy Implications for Medical Privacy." Dissertation Chair: Seymour Martin Lipset

Indiana University, School of Public and Environmental Affairs; Bloomington, IN, M.P.A. (Public Affairs, specialization: Policy Analysis)

University of Texas at Austin, M.A. in Communications (Film & Video Production)

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, B.A. (History)

EXPERIENCE

Research Associate, Novel Tech Ethics Program; Bioethics Department, Dalhousie University (2006-present)

Responsible for developing and carrying out research program related to neuroethics, in conjunction with two grants awarded by the Canadian Institute for Health Research. The focus of this research is on emerging neurotechnologies (e.g., brain-computer interface devices), regulatory frameworks within which they are developed and tested, and the process of assessing and mitigating risks from the devices. Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Science, Technology and Values (STV) Program, University of Notre Dame (2000-2006) Associate Director (2000-2002); Acting Director (2002-2004); Director (2004-2006)

Responsible for running day-to-day aspects of the undergraduate program in Science, Technology and Values including overseeing budget, advising over 125 students, devising course offerings for the program, coordinating courses and events with other programs and departments across the University. (For courses I have taught, see "Courses Taught" section below.) Also worked with a Science College Associate Dean to develop a graduate program in Clinical Medical Ethics and Bioethics at Notre Dame, by designing curriculum, devising the budget, identifying teaching faculty, and writing supporting documentation for the approval process (2001-2003). Concurrent appointment in Biological Sciences Department (serving as teaching mentor, "Human Genetics, Evolution & Society"); Spring semester, 2003. Notre Dame, IN.

Visiting Instructor, University of Notre Dame (2000)

Taught 50 students in two sections of a senior-level course entitled, "Computers, Ethics, and Public Policy" for the John J. Reilly Center for Science, Technology, and Values and the Program in Computer Applications. Designed the syllabus and all elements of the course. (Taught while on a sabbatical from the Internal Revenue Service.) Notre Dame, IN.

Policy Analyst, Office of the Privacy Advocate, Internal Revenue Service (1991-2000)

Analyzed privacy and ethical implications of compliance, technology, legislative, and other privacy-relevant initiatives within the IRS, making recommendations to top IRS executives. Evaluated and formulated IRS policies, procedures, and guidelines for protecting taxpayer privacy and data confidentiality. Specialized in: third party access to taxpayer data (including access/use for statistical purposes), electronic commerce, the Internet, and authentication methodologies. Responded to public and Congressional inquiries on privacy issues. Washington, D.C. & Lanham, MD.

Policy Analyst, National Bioethics Advisory Commission (1997)

Wrote paper on privacy and bioethics issues for Commission's report on medical research using stored human biological materials. (Report was released in mid-1999.) Analyzed state legislative activities on genetics issues generally, and privacy issues specifically. Kept members of the Commission apprised of policy issues and news accounts on genetics issues, particularly those relevant to their work on stored biological materials. Provided other advice and assistance as requested. Rockville, MD.

Information Resources Management (IRM) Planning Specialist, Information Resources Management Service, General Services Administration (1987-1991)

Served as project manager/consultant to Federal agencies in devising and implementing plans for managing information resources, per Federal regulations and OMB Circulars. Principal author of GSA publications on IRM organizational issues and strategic IRM planning. Falls Church, VA.

Evaluator, Information Management and Technology Division, General Accounting Office (1986-1987)

Planned, researched, analyzed, and wrote foundation materials for GAO study identifying management practices necessary for effective Federal agency IRM programs. Washington, D.C.

Policy Analyst / Budget Examiner, U. S. Office of Management & Budget (1985-1986)

Performed program and policy analysis; legislative and regulatory review and analysis; and budget analysis, review, and execution of Federal telecommunications, mass communications, and information technology and management programs and agencies (including the Federal Communications Commission, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration in the U.S. Department of Commerce). Washington, D.C.

CONSULTING

Consultant, Institute for Ethics, American Medical Association (1998-1999)

Wrote paper comparing various legislative proposals on medical privacy/confidentiality introduced in the 105th Congress. Participated in writing and reviewing documents for the "Ethical Force Program" initiative on medical privacy and confidentiality. Helped develop a white paper on existing policies on medical privacy and confidentiality; including a review of various policies from existing health care organizations. Alexandria, VA and Chicago, IL.

Consultant, Santa Clara University School of Law (1994)

Analyzed social & privacy implications of the Intelligent Transportation Systems program, under a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. Santa Clara, CA.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Alpert, S. (2008). Privacy and Clinical Genomic Medicine, or Marcus Welby, M.D. Meets the \$1,000 Genome. *Cambridge Quarterly of Health Care Ethics* (forthcoming.)

Alpert, S. (2008). Neuroethics & Nanoethics: Do We Risk Ethical Myopia? *Neuroethics* (forthcoming, March). (Note this is a new journal that will begin publication in March 2008.)

Alpert, S. (2008). Brain-Computer Interface Devices: Risks and Canadian Regulations. *Accountability in Research*. 15(1): (in press).

Alpert, S. (2007). Canadian Medical Device Regulations: Ready for Prime Time? *Canadian Journal of Law and Technology*. 6 (2): 109-117.

Alpert, S. (2003). Protecting Medical Privacy: Challenges in the Age of Genetic Information. *Journal of Social Issues*. 59(2): 301-322.

Wynia, M., Coughlin, S., Alpert, S., Cummins, D., Emanuel, L. (2001). Shared Expectations for the Protection of Identifiable Health Care Information: Report of a National Consensus Process. *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, February; Volume 16 pp. 100-111.

Naser, C. and Alpert, S. (2000). Genetic Information, Ethics, Ethical Issues in Tissue Banking and Human Subject Research in Stored Tissues. In the *Encyclopedia of Ethical, Legal, and Policy Issues in Biotechnology*. Murray, T. and Mehlman, M., eds. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. pp. 363-389.

Alpert, S. (1996). Computers in Government: The Need to Consider Ethics. *Science and Engineering Ethics*. 2(2): 225-227.

Alpert, S. and Haynes, K. (1995). Intelligent Transportation and Geographic Information Systems: The Privacy Intersections. *Proceedings of the Conference on Law and Information for Spatial Databases*, 198-211.

Alpert, S. (1993). Smart Cards, Smarter Policy: Medical Records, Privacy, and Health Care Reform. *Hastings Center Report*. 23 (6): 13-23.

Alpert, S. (1990). Information Technology and the IRM Organization, *ICA Information - An International Journal on Information Technology in Government*, June (43).

WORKS IN REVIEW

Fenton, A. and Alpert, S. Extending our view on using BCIs for Locked-In Syndrome. *Neuroethics*.

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Articles

Alpert, S. (2008). Cost Recovery and the Future of the Medical Device Regulation Program in Canada. *Health Law Review* (forthcoming).

Alpert, S. (2007). Brain Privacy: How Can We Protect It? *American Journal of Bioethics - Neuroscience*. 7(9): 70-73.

Alpert, S. (2007). Total Information Awareness, Forgotten But Not Gone: Implications for Neuroethics. *American Journal of Bioethics - Neuroscience*. 7(5): 24-26.

Alpert, S. (2002). Medical Privacy: The Data Wars. *Dissent*, Summer; pp. 8-11.

Alpert, S. (2000). Privacy and the Analysis of Stored Tissues. In *Research Involving Human Biological Materials: Ethical Issues and Policy Guidance, Volume II: Commissioned Papers*. Rockville, MD: National Bioethics Advisory Commission; January; pp. A-1- A-36.

Alpert, S. (1995). Privacy and Intelligent Highways: Finding the Right of Way. *Santa Clara Computer and High Technology Law Journal*. 11 (1): 97-118. Reprinted in *The International Privacy Bulletin*, 1995; 3(3): 1 & 9-19.

Chapters

Alpert, S. Health Care Information: Confidentiality, Access, and Good Practice. In Goodman KW, ed, Ethics, Computing and Medicine: Informatics and the Transformation of Health Care, 1998; Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press.

White Paper

Naser, C. and Alpert, S. Medical Records Privacy: An Ethical Analysis. White Paper written for the National Coalition for Patient Rights. May 1999.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Associate Editor, *Neuroethics* (Springer Netherlands). Will begin publishing in March 2008.

Member, Editorial Board, *Accountability in Research* (Taylor & Francis).

Peer reviewer for *The Journal of Law, Medicine, and Ethics*; *The Internet Encyclopedia* (John Wiley & Sons, Inc.); *The American Journal of Bioethics*; *Science & Public Policy*; Elsevier B.V.; and the RAND Corporation.

Contributor and Reviewer, *Protecting Privacy in Computerized Medical Information*; U.S. Congress, Office of Technology Assessment report (OTA-TCT-576); September 1993.

COURSES TAUGHT

- “Computers, Ethics, and Public Policy” (STV 457) (2000-2004)
- “Technology and Social Change” (STV 395) (2002, 2003, 2005)
- “Science Policy and Politics” (STV 428) (2004-2005)
- “Technology, Privacy, and Civil Liberties” (STV 465) (2004)
- “Spy Culture: Surveillance, Privacy & Society” (STV 461) (2005)
- “Science, Technology, & Values in Contemporary Society” (STV 400) (topic: ethics & genetics) (2000)

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

Member of planning committee for September 2006 University of Notre Dame conference, “Commerce & Politics of Science.”

Served on Notre Dame’s University Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects (2001-2003).

Served on Faculty Advisory Committee for the Third Annual National Undergraduate Bioethics Conference; Notre Dame, IN; March 1-3, 2001.

NON-UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

Member, Clinton Administration’s National Information Infrastructure Task Force, Privacy Working Group. August 1993 - October 1996.

Member, Advisory Committee, American Association for the Advancement of Science study, “Health Care and Information Ethics: Protecting Fundamental Human Rights.” 1994-1996. Resulted in book of the same title: A. Chapman, ed. (1997) Kansas City: Sheed and Ward.

Member, Program Committee, Fifth Annual Conference on Computers, Freedom, and Privacy; March 26-29, 1995; Burlingame, CA.

Member, U.S. Department of the Treasury policy team evaluating the Health Security Act (103rd Congress, H.R. 3600). Evaluated the privacy implications of the legislation. November 1993.

PRESENTATIONS (PEER REVIEWED)

“Brain-Computer Interfaces: Risks and Regulations” Poster presented at “Implanting Change: Ethical Issues in Neural Implants,” Pennsylvania State University; State College, PA; August 26-28, 2007.

“Brain-Computer Interfaces and Canadian Medical Device Regulations: Trials & Travails” Canadian Bioethics Society Annual Conference; Toronto. June 1, 2007.

“Neuroethics & Nanoethics: Do We Risk Ethical Myopia?” presented at “From the Brain to Human Culture: Intersections between the Humanities and Neuroscience,” Bucknell University; Lewisburg, PA. April 20, 2007.

“The Tug of War Over Patient Records,” presented at the American Public Health Association Annual Conference; Indianapolis, IN; November 12, 1997.

“High Speed Genetic Testing: Implications for Policy and Ethics,” organizer, presenter and session co-chair, Joint meeting of the Society for Health and Human Values, the American Association of Bioethics, and the Society for Bioethics Consultation; Baltimore, MD; November 6, 1997.

“Federal Government and Computer Technology: Portent of the Panopticon?” Presentation to the 1997 International Symposium on Technology and Society, sponsored by the Institution of Electrical Engineers; Glasgow, Scotland; June 21, 1997.

“Intelligent Transportation Systems: Paving Over Privacy?” Panel organizer, Fifth Annual Conference on Computers, Freedom, & Privacy; Burlingame, CA; March 29, 1995.

“Intelligent Transportation and Geographic Information Systems: The Privacy Intersections,” presented at conference on Law & Information for Spatial Databases; Tempe, AZ; October 29, 1994.

“Medical Records, Privacy and Health Care Reform,” panel organizer and presenter, Third Annual Conference on Computers, Freedom, and Privacy; Burlingame, CA; March 11, 1993.

“Information Technology and the IRM Organization,” presented at 23rd annual conference of International Council for Information Technology in Government Administration (ICA); Oslo, Norway; October 18, 1989.

OTHER PRESENTATIONS & PARTICIPATION (INVITED)

“Brain-Computer Interface Devices: Issues for Public Policy, Humanities & the Social Sciences,” University of Texas, Medical Branch; Galveston, TX; March 30, 2007.

“Privacy Issues in Neurosciences,” McGill University; Montreal, Quebec, Canada; April 7, 2006.

“Privacy in an Era of Emerging Medical Technologies,” University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston; Houston, TX; December 19, 2005.

“Gene Chips, Medical Records, & HIPAA,” 12th annual University of Miami bioethics conference; Miami Beach, FL; April 16, 2004.

“Privacy, Ethics, and Policy: The Case of Health & Genetic Information,” Indiana University; Bloomington, IN; January 23, 2004.

“Protecting Medical Privacy: Challenges in the Age of Genetic Information,” Rochester Institute of Technology; Rochester, NY; January 21, 2003.

“Clinical, Ethical, and Legal Issues in Medical Genetics,” presided over panel discussion at the Second Annual Conference of the North Central Indiana Ethics Consortium; Notre Dame, IN; February 23, 2001.

"Protecting Medical Privacy: Challenges in the Age of Genetic Information," Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; Blacksburg, VA; February 26, 2001.

"Protecting Medical Privacy: Challenges in the Age of Genetic Information," University of Wisconsin, Madison; Madison, WI; February 15, 2001.

"The Federal Government and Computer Technology: Portent of the Panopticon?" University of Maryland; College Park, MD; March 14, 2000.

"Privacy Issues in Biomedical and Clinical Research," National Research Council, Forum on Biotechnology, invited participant; Washington, D.C.; November 1, 1997.

"Privacy Versus Public Access to U.S. Geospatial Data: Finding Common Ground," panel chair and presenter to the International Conference of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association; Toronto, Canada; July 23, 1997.

"Managed Care and Privacy of Medical Records," workshop presentation to the Greater Washington (D.C.) Coalition of Mental Health Professionals and Consumers; January 11, 1997.

Electronic Clearance Systems Policy Forum, sponsored by Eno Transportation Foundation; Lansdowne, VA; October 24, 1996.

Privacy and Intelligent Transportation Systems Policy Workshop, sponsored by ITS America; Washington, D.C.; July 26, 1995.

"Privacy and Intelligent Highways: Finding the Right of Way," presented at symposium on privacy issues in Intelligent Transportation Systems, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation in association with the Santa Clara University School of Law; Santa Clara, CA; July 30, 1994.

"Medical Records, Privacy, and Health Care Reform," presented at the 18th Regional Conference on the History and Philosophy of Science, "Privacy and New Information Technologies;" Boulder, CO; April 23, 1994.

OTHER RELEVANT TRAINING

"Bioethics Intensive" course, Georgetown University, Kennedy Institute of Ethics; June 1997.