

Instrumentation Research
Weizmann Institute of Science
Summer 1986



Hard Drive Research Harvard Univeristy 2006

## Background and Bio

## Career #1: Science writer & entrepreneur

## 1983-1987 — Massachusetts Institute of Technology

- SB Chemistry; SB Political Science; SB Science, Technology & Society
- Thesis: Radio Research, McCarthyism and Paul F. Lazarsfeld



## 1987–1988 — Columbia University School of Journalism

- MS Journalism (Science Journalism)
- Thesis: Tenant Screening Services in the United States —

## 1988–2002 — Freelance writer, computer consultant, entrepreneur

- 1988–1993 Science writer @ The Christian Science Monitor
- 1988–1990 Consultant @ Polaroid, medical imaging workstation
- 1995–2002 President @ Vineyard.NET Internet Service Provider
- 1997–2002 Columnist @ The Boston Globe
- 2002-2005 Columnist @ Technology Review
- 1998–2005 Founder, Treasurer, Chief Scientist @ Sandstorm



## First focus area — impact of computers on society

#### Tenant Screening Services or Tenant Blacklisting?

BY SIMSON L. GARFINKEL

uth Cisneros is trapped in her apartment by a computer she has never seen. Seven years ago, Cisneros'

landlord of three months wanted her out. "I don't want you here and that's that," Cisneros said the landlord told her.

The landlord sued to have Cisneros evicted, but the judge dismissed the suit as groundless. At the end of the year, Cisneros' landlord had a change of heart and renewed the lease. Twice more the cycle repeated. The only real effect of the suits was to put a notation in a private company's computer that somebody had filed three times to get Cisneros evicted.

The problem is that nearly all of Southern California's landlords use that computer to help evaluate rental applications. If somebody has ever tried to evict you. you don't get the apartment. Often you don't even get a phone call back.

In March 1987, Cisneros applied to live in the Promenade Apartments. Her application was rejected because the computer, operated by the UD Registry Inc., provided the Promenade with a record of the three eviction attempts. Even a letter from Cisneros' new landlord saying that she was a model tenant wasn't enough to counteract the judgement of the computer.

California state law forbids companies from reporting eviction actions in which the tenant is victorious. But the owner of the computer, Harvey Saltz, said having a suit dismissed is not the same as having the tenant win in court. Cisneros, along with eight other people, have filed suit against UDR for damages resulting from faulty reporting. The case is still pending.

Computerized tenant screening services (TSSs) like UDR now operate in many cities. TSS operators say they provide an uish "good" tenants from "bad"

of her allegations are true and that nothing

Attempts to regulate TSSs have failed in several states and in Congress. As for the that federal Fair Credit Reporting Act — the law that Congress passed in 1970 to stymie abuses in the credit reporting industry few of its terms are applicable to TSSs, and the information reported, like successfully the agency which polices the law says that it may not even apply.

applicant's credit and eviction history is displayed on the operator's computer screen within fifteen seconds. "People get all of the information before they hang up the phone," said Saltz. "We give the little guys access to big

brother," said Neil Van Sant, co-owner of Ties Landlord Information Exchange (Howell, New Jersey). Much of the information reported by TSSs has always been available, but until now it has always been too cumbersome for landlords to search the records. Screening services change

The theory is that if a person has a history of being a problem tenant the behavior pattern is likely to continue. But some of defending a rent strike in court, can only be used by landlords to discriminate



Big Brother is Watching

\$30 for a report. This charge can be passed indispensable tool that allows landlords to on to tenants as an "application fee." The dent of the New Jersey Tenants Organiza-

against a tenant who knows his rights. "It's Most services charge between \$10 and not a credit check its's an organization check," said Phyllis Salowe-Kaye, presi-



AIDS and The Soundex Code

by Simson L. Garfinkel

ECTROSPHERE

## The Dean of Disaster

Plane crashes, nuclear reactor accidents, explosions at chemical plants – if computers were at fault, Peter Neumann knows all about it.

By Simson L. Garfinkel



e's a fantastic storyteller, he's always ready with a pun, and he can play two recorders at once simultaneously piping out both melody and accompaniment - while he beats the rhythm with his foot. But to hundreds of thousands of people around the world, Peter G. Neumann is best known for moderating RISKS-Forum, one of the Internet's most widely read electronic forums.

last page of Communications of the Association for Comput ing Machinery, the journal of the ACM. He's also putting the finishing touches on a book about software safety and risks Its tentative title? "RISKS: The Book - as opposed to RISKS the movie and RISKS the game," Neumann jokes.

Neumann got his start with computers in 1953 as an undergraduate at Harvard. There he worked on the Har-

Especially relevant given the increased focus on Algorithmic Transparency & Accountability

## 15 Books (1991–2014) — 9 collaborators

- 1991 Practical UNIX Security (w/ Gene Spafford)
- 1992 NeXTSTEP Programming (w/ Michael Mahoney)
- 1994 PGP: Pretty Good Privacy
- 1994 The UNIX-Haters Handbook (w/ D. Weise & S. Strassmann)
- 1996 Practical UNIX and Internet Security (w/ Gene Spafford)
- 1997 Web Security and Commerce (w/ Gene Spafford)
- 1998 Stopping Spam (w/ Alan Schwartz)
- 1999 Architects of the Information Society (w/ Hal Abelson)
- 2000 Database Nation
- 2002 Web Security, Privacy & Commerce (w/ Gene Spafford)
- 2002 Building Cocoa Applications (w/ Michael Mahoney)
- 2003 Practical UNIX and Internet Security (w/ Gene Spafford & Alan Schwartz)
- 2005 RFID: Applications, Security and Privacy (w/ Beth Rosenberg) + contributors
- 2005 Security and Usability (w/ Lorrie Cranor) + contributors
- 2014 Usable Security: History, Themes and Challenges (w/ Heather Lipford)

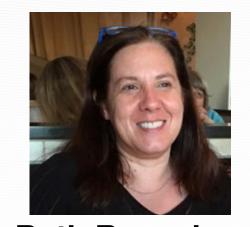


Hal Abelson



**Lorrie Cranor** 





Alan Schwartz



**Gene Spafford** 



**Steve Strassmann** 



**Daniel Weise** 



### Career #2: Academic

#### 2002-2005 — Massachusetts Institute of Technology

- PhD Computer Science
- Thesis: Design Principles and Patterns for Computer Systems That Are Simultaneously Secure and Usable



#### 2006–2007 — Harvard University School of Eng. and Applied Sciences

- Postdoctorate fellow, Center for Research on Computation and Society
- Digital forensics and privacy



#### 2007–2014 — Naval Postgraduate School (Monterey & Arlington)

- Associate Professor (tenured 2012), Dept. of Computer Science.
- Digital forensics and privacy
- Advised IT Director & CIO on NPS network, academic computing systems & supercomputer

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#### 2015-2016 — National Institute of Standards and Technology

- Information Access Division
- Big Data and Privacy (De-Identification)
- NITRD National Privacy Research Strategy
- Cybersecurity "High Assurance Domain" project



# Affiliations with 11 US and 2 international colleges & universities. Proven academic & corporate researcher.

### Current and past affiliations with many universities:

- Student Bryn Mawr College (1981-1983), MIT (1983-1987; 2002-2005), Columbia (1987-1988)
- Non-teaching payroll employee Weitzmann Inst. (1985), Brown (1987), Harvard (2005-2006)
- Visiting researcher University of Washington (1997), University of Auckland (2005)
- Faculty Northeastern (2005), Harvard (2004-05), NPS (2006-14), George Mason (2015), Georgetown (2015-16)











#### Established academic researcher:

- 22 refereed journal articles (1988-2016); 39 refereed conference papers (1998-2015)
- 2 PhD committees; 18 masters students; >45 program committees
- 3 conference chairs; 4 conference co-chairs; 1 associate editor (Computers & Security)
- ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) Fellow; member ACM US Public Policy Council

## Established corporate researcher:

- 7 patents;
- 2 products (SBook, PhoneSweep) that successfully commercialized AI-based research



## Experience with other federal agencies

#### Commerce — Employee for 2 years (2015-2016)

- June 29 Government Data De-Identification Stakeholder's Meeting; 105 registered attendees from 67 different agencies
- Census Joint research on privacy issues · Privacy training for Federal Privacy Council

#### DOD — Employee for 8 years (2005-2015)

- Navy/Naval Postgraduate School Taught courses; research
- DARPA Performer on 2 projects; provided guidance on human subjects issues
- NSA (National Security Agency) Taught courses; technology transfer
- DIA (Defense Intelligence Agency) Technology transfer; embedded in an intelligence center; mentoring
- USMC (United States Marine Corps) Performer, technology transfer

#### DHS (Department of Homeland Security) (2008-2014)

• Performer; technology transfer; source-selection

#### FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) (2007-2014)

• performer; technology transfer, teaching & mentoring

#### **NSF**

Grant recipient; panels

## Experience with legislative process and oversight committees

### **Testimony**

- Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation (2000) Internet privacy
- Subcommittee on Privacy, Confidentiality & Security, National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (2016)

De-Identification

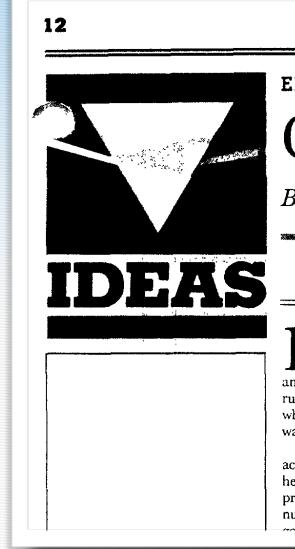
## Responding to oversight requests

- Prepared statements and reports for numerous "data calls"
- Responded to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests

## Volunteer work, Electronic Privacy Information Center

- In-depth discussions on technology with EPIC Director & advisory board
- Directed three technology migrations (web hosting; email service; Internet connection)

## Deep commitment to diversity and equity.



THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

Tuesday, May 9, 1989

## **EDUCATION UNTAPPED HUMAN RESOURCE**

Gender Gap on the Science Track

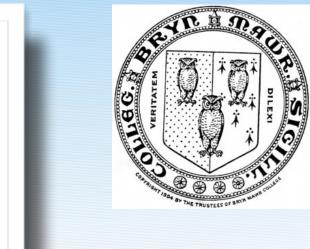
Because of stereotyping, girls don't receive the encouragement boys get to give science a serious try

By Simson L. Garfinkel Special to The Christian Science Monitor

ence museum, poised before ence. an exhibit on magnetism: The boys

States will decline 19 percent, according to the US Census Bureau. Although the population is expected to increase slowly after that, by the year 2010 one in every three 18year-olds will be black or Hispanic, ICTURE a second-grade minorities that thus far have been class on a field trip to a sci- largely excluded from studying sci-

Last year, a congressionally run up and play with the controls, mandated task force on Women, Miwhile the girls remain in the back, norities, and the Handicapped in Science and Technology concluded This scene, repeated daily that if the US is to maintain its poacross the United States, is at the sition as a world leader in science, heart of a pressing educational more women and minority students problem, according to a growing must be attracted to the traditionalnumber of scientists, educators, and ly white, male fields of science and





COLLEGE



My work shows the importance of reaching out to groups that have been historically marginalized.

I have experience with non-traditional students & scientists

Tuesday, February 27, 1990

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

## Tirst Wife's Role in Einstein's Work Debated

Researchers differ about the contribution Mileva Maric '-Einstein made to major discoveries

By Simson L. Garfinkel Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

NEW ORLEANS

been largely neglected by male bi- to Maric' that have been pub- Einstein left Maric' in 1914. about women disappear," said grant from the West German gov- wrote: "For the work on the A LBERT EINSTEIN ernment. For example, she says, sometimes helped his first wife do the household Einstein: The Human Side – New has a certain similarity with has a certain similarity with

ographers," said Dr. Troemel- lished, there are frequent refer- She frequently had to take in Troemel-Ploetz. "It doesn't mean Ploetz, who is working in the ences to "our research" and "our boarders to buy food for herself that they were intentionally de-United States with a research work." In one letter, Einstein and the couple's two children. stroyed: It is just negligence."

chores: "He felt sorry that after Glimpses From His Archives," yours... and which also pre- when the two of us together will

"Certain aspects of his life have In the 41 letters from Einstein awarded the 1921 Nobel Prize. letters have survived. "Sources

ters to him are preserved, compared to 41 of his to her, but you could not pick 10 of his so devoid of discussions of nhysics." aroued John

## Bio summary

Two careers — science journalist & government academic

Committed to interdisciplinary work

Committed to scientific communication

Committed to diversity of all kinds