

Introduction

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Universities have long played a significant intelligence role in the security of nation states. At Oriel College, University of Oxford, in 2017 I convened an international Colloquium on this theme, entitled Universities, Security and Intelligence Studies. The format was of an expert exchange of ideas amongst scholars, practitioners and policy-makers to explore in-depth the critical academic cartography of a relationship between universities and security and intelligence agencies.

The Oriel Colloquium followed from a security and intelligence seminar convened at the British Academy in November 2015, a special issue of the British Journal of Educational Studies on Education, Security and Intelligence Studies. and a multi-disciplinary and multi-institution 2016 seminar series on the same theme, including events hosted by the Oxford Intelligence Group (Nuffield College, Oxford), the Buckingham University Centre for Security and Intelligence Studies, and the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), Whitehall.

Keynote speakers at the Oriel Colloquium included: Professor Christopher Andrew (Emeritus Professor of Modern History, University of Cambridge, and official historian of MI5) and Professor Loch K. Johnson (Regents Professor of Public and International Affairs, University of Georgia, author or editor of thirty books on security and intelligence studies, including *The Oxford Handbook of National Security Intelligence*); Professor John Ferris (Professor of History, University of Calgary and (then) newly appointed official historian of GCHQ); Sir David Omand (Visiting Professor at King's College, London, and former director of GCHQ); and Richard J. Aldrich (Professor of Politics and International Relations, University of Warwick, author of *GCHQ* and, with Rory Cormac, *The Black Door: Spies, Secret Intelligence and British Prime Ministers*).

As well academic perspectives on security and intelligence studies, there were presentations from security and intelligence professionals: the former Senior Defence Economist to NATO and Adviser to the 12th NATO General Secretary; a speaker on national security resilience and counter-terrorism from the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), Whitehall; a speaker from US Military Intelligence at the United States Military Academy West Point; a former senior Cold War diplomat (Berlin Station); former CIA on the International Association for Intelligence Education; and speakers from the British Council, the Cabinet Office (Civil Contingencies Secretariat), Home Office (former Chief Scientific Officer), and Foreign and Commonwealth Office (National Security Directorate).

The Colloquium also maintained a special interest in the security and intelligence aspects of the arts, humanities and literature. Presiding over this section was Dr Alastair Niven LVO, OBE, a judge of the Booker Prize for Fiction in 1994 and of the Man Booker Prize in 2014, former Principal of Cumberland Lodge Windsor and President of English PEN, Alastair also uniquely held posts as Director of Literature at the Arts Council of Great Britain and Director of Literature at the British Council. Two notable literary agents for scholarly work and memoir on espionage were also represented: Andrew Lownie, founder-director of the Lownie Agency literary and author of *Stalin's Englishman*; and Bill Hamilton, director of the A.M. Heath Literary Agency and literary agent for the estate of George Orwell.

The *Routledge International Handbook of Universities, Security and Intelligence Studies* is the proximate culmination, then, of several years' work in establishing a distinctive academic sub-field of universities, security and intelligence studies.

The *Handbook's* academic cartography here provides a critical overview of the historical, contemporary and likely future relationships between universities and the security and intelligence agencies.

The Handbook is divided into eight sections which provide the prospective coordinates of a complex set of nascent research agendas as well as academic-practitioner interactions, all of which are interconnected by this relationship between universities, security and intelligence.

Part I
Universities, Security and Intelligence Studies:
An Academic Cartography

This opening chapter provides the intellectual frame for our understanding of the university-security-intelligence nexus across four critical domains: the operational; the epistemological; the ethical; and the existential.

Part II
Universities, Security, Intelligence:
National Contexts, International Settings

This section (with chapters from Loch K. Johnson; James Burns and Kevin Power; John R. Ferris; Richard J. Aldrich and Melina J. Dobson; Angela Gendron; Adrian Kendry; Rubén Arcos; Bodo Hechelhammer; Julie Fedor; Filip Kovacevic; Nigel Inkster), covers a wide university-security-intelligence range – the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada and the Commonwealth, continental Europe, Russia and China – of historical, contemporary and future-looking interactions.

Part III
Espionage and the Academy:
Spy Stories

Part III (with chapters from Andrew Lownie; Paddy Hayes) provides two narrative historical-biographical accounts of individuals who represent the broader landscape between universities and the security and intelligence agencies.

Part IV
Academic Analysis and Field Experience in Security and Intelligence:
Spies, Scholars and the Study of Intelligence

This section (with chapters from Gwilym Hughes; Daniel Larsen) shows the reciprocal interplay, a constant interchange, of personnel from universities to the security and intelligence agencies, and from security and intelligence agencies to universities, highlighted through the Oxford Intelligence Group (Nuffield College, Oxford) and the Cambridge Intelligence Seminar (Faculty of History and Corpus Christi College, Cambridge).

Part V
University Security and Intelligence Studies:
Research and Scholarship, Teaching and Ethics

Part V (chapters from David Omand and Mark Phythian; Joanna Kidd; Scott Parsons; Stephen Marrin and Sophie Victoria Cienski) treats of important issues for the practical goals of scholarship, research and teaching of security and intelligence both from within universities and the security and intelligence agencies themselves.

Part VI
Security, Intelligence, and Securitization Theory:
Comparative and International Terrorism Research

This section (chapters from Quassim Cassam; Lynn Schneider; David Johnson) provides specific international and comparative theoretical focus on terrorism research as an important dimension of security and intelligence within and beyond universities.

Part VII
Universities, Security and Secret Intelligence
Diplomatic, Journalistic and Policy Perspectives

This section (chapters from Robert Dover and Michael S. Goodman; Claire Smith; Michael Herman; Tristram Riley-Smith; Chris Westcott; John Preston) draws on a range of professional and academic expertise to explore the implication of security and intelligence in diplomacy, journalism and as an element of public policy.

Part VIII
Universities, Security and Intelligence:
Disciplinary Lenses of the Arts, Literature and Humanities

Part VIII (chapters from Andrew Glazzard; Helen Fry; Svetlana Lokhova; Liam Francis Gearon) demonstrates the extent to which security and intelligence practice, research and study far exceeds the traditional remit of commonly held notions of security and intelligence, and illustrates this with a diverse range of methodologically complex case studies from the arts, literature and the humanities.

A careful read of the contributor biographies of these contributors to the Handbook shows (and reiterates need for) a balance of academic and security and intelligence agency practitioner perspectives. These are some of the world's leading academics in security and intelligence studies, recognised voices. This is symbiotically combined with the insights of practitioners with remarkable depth of national and international security and intelligence practice in the field. In this volume, such voices are drawn together throughout to provide unique insights on interactions between universities and the security and intelligence agencies; and highlight at least some of the (still unfolding) implications for the academic disciplines of security and intelligence studies.

Further to illustrate the multidimensional case positioning universities in relation to critical analysis but also cooperations with security and intelligence communities, a closing supplementary section provides a selective international overview of national security and intelligence outreach, commentary and critique. It does this through a global (if necessarily partial) survey of official, policy and academic sources. This closing section further reiterates the richness of our collective theme. It illustrates too the genuinely global developments of a relationship little charted in any systematic way in the relevant literatures.

In all, what arguably makes this volume distinctive is the potential for high-level theoretical, methodological and practical outcomes of an interface rich in experience, insight, and knowledge. The historic and contemporary relations between universities and the security and intelligence agencies are however far from uncontroversial. Indeed, they are deeply so, contested and contestable across a range of domains: the operational, the epistemological, the ethical, and the existential.

Outlining these matters further in the framing chapter which follows this introduction – and however contentious relations between universities and the security and intelligence agencies are and are likely to remain – there is an emergent shared frame of argument and analysis. We argue that the matters in this volume are not – far from – matters of academic abstraction, but relate to contexts of genuine historic security threats which take manifest different forms in the present, as they are likely to do in the future.

Today these and unknown future threats relate as ever to the interests of nation states. Yet there is, too, ever more evidence to show these threats transcending national borders. Across national and transnational terrains, peoples and their nations, the world itself, now and in the future confronts a range of existential threats unlike those of the past. The threats have redefined academic and practitioner understandings of what security and intelligence mean, and what it means to study and research such subjects at universities. In addition to the cross-disciplinary scholarly insights which this volume provides, one practical hope for the future is that the combined knowledge and expertise of universities and the security and intelligence agencies may well provide, then, one component in addressing matters of existential threat.

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