Call for Papers

Panopticon: Surveillance, Suspicion, Fear

Saturday, April 2, 2016

The College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania is requesting proposals/abstracts for its fourth international conference, to be held on Saturday, April 2, 2016. The conference theme is “Panopticon: Surveillance, Suspicion, Fear.”

Abstract deadline: December 1, 2015.

With the advent of WikiLeaks and its disturbing revelations about the systematic and global surveillance conducted by the United States, Surveillance, Suspicion and Fear have permeated the public sphere in an unprecedented manner, spread to everyday life, and affected popular culture, fiction, society, communities, and politics. This interdisciplinary conference will examine the reality and representations of Fear, Suspicion and Surveillance in the social and natural sciences, mass media, pedagogy, visual arts, literature and popular culture.

All academic disciplines in the arts, humanities, social sciences, and sciences are welcome. Topics include but are not limited to:

- Discipline, crime and punishment,
- Spy fiction, drama, mystery, detective & crime fiction
- Representations of fear in cinema, television, theater, the news media and the creative arts
- Trust, mistrust, privacy, voyeurism
- Fear, insecurity
- Truth, deception, and (ab)use of power
- Panopticism, surveillance and social control
- Phobias, suspicion and paranoia
- Technology of surveillance (cameras, cyber surveillance, facial recognition systems, etc.)
- Closed Circuit Television and Social Control
- Whistle blowers; undercover operations
- Marketing fear and surveillance
- Politics of fear, anniversaries, memorials, political discourse, media, films
- The bad guy, the villain, Big Brother
- Foucault and panopticism
- Experience of fear, surveillance and terror
- Case studies in anthropology, criminal justice, history, sociology, philosophy, psychology, gender studies, postcolonial studies, psychiatry, etc.

Proposals/abstracts should be no more than 200 words. Please include with your abstract a short biographical note (name, work affiliation, publications, etc.), the title of the proposal, and your full contact information (e-mail, address, and phone number). Submission deadline: December 1, 2015. Please send your proposal to Abbes Maazaoui, at maazaoui@lincoln.edu.

A selection of papers (subject to the normal reviewing process and standards) may be published in the Lincoln Humanities Journal.