Professor says privacy is a state of mind

Since Sept. 11, expectations about information privacy have changed and Americans seem willing to tolerate a greater degree of surveillance. This doesn't surprise CSUS philosophy professor Randy Mayes. “A person’s rights aren’t being fundamentally violated by being watched,” he says. “Sometimes people misinterpret me as saying I think privacy isn’t important. I just use ‘privacy’ differently.”

Mayes says the concept of the “right to privacy” began with a 1980 Harvard Law Review piece that defined it as the right to be left alone. Eventually, that expanded to the right not to be bothered in private affairs. And as technology progressed, creating the ability to observe without bothering, it began to be considered a violation of privacy if a person was just looking. That goes too far, says Mayes. “There’s a great deal of good in observation,” he says. “If you think about it, in a liberal culture, knowledge is one of the things you value in and of itself. We should be careful about making exceptions to the idea that knowledge is an intrinsic good.

“The reason you don’t like people knowing about you is because you’re afraid of what they might think or do. It needs to be stipulated when it doesn’t harm, you can’t say your privacy has been violated.”

The harm comes when information gathering violates a person’s rationality, the privacy of one’s own mind. Mayes defines privacy as the right to exercise practical rationality without interference. “Privacy is a state of mind. It’s the freedom to keep people out of your conscious-

ness,” he says.

“If someone is spying or eavesdropping on you, and you aren’t aware of it, that’s very different. If I’m in a public space reading a book and someone is looking over my shoulder, if I don’t know they’re doing it, it doesn’t really hurt. But when you become aware of it, you can find it hard to concentrate, you’re mind is derailed,” he says.

“Even a peeping Tom hasn’t hurt anybody, except himself in a moral sense, until he’s discovered. Then he has intruded into the personal space of the person he’s watching. The right to privacy doesn’t prevent people from looking. It requires them to be discrete.”

Mayes also makes a distinction between privacy and the right to privacy. “The right to privacy doesn’t mean you get to keep everything private,” he says. “It’s like liberty—people have a right to it, but they still can’t do anything they want. They’re not allowed to steal. They’re not allowed to drive on the wrong side of the street. The government can violate liberties, but not the right to liberty.”

In the same way, a person can violate another person’s privacy, but not their right to privacy. It doesn’t violate privacy to collect information. The real concern is that the information will be used to harm other rights. He cites the example of a woman who was the subject of an unflattering videotape taken while she was in the stands at the U.S. Open tennis tournament.

David Letterman showed the video on his television program several times, poking fun at her. “The right to privacy doesn’t mean you get to keep everything private,” he says. “It’s like liberty—people have a right to it, but they still can’t do anything they want. They’re not allowed to steal. They’re not allowed to drive on the wrong side of the street. The government can violate liberties, but not the right to liberty.”

The goal is to educate a new cadre of leaders for the state’s community colleges and universities who can fill vacancies being left by a growing number of retirees.

“We’re looking for people who really love the atmosphere at colleges and universities, people who enjoy the intellectual and organizational challenges,” says Carlos Navarez, a CSUS professor of educational leadership and policy studies who is coordinating the new program.

The master’s degree will initially have a student affairs concentration, and in following years will expand to offer concentrations in community college leadership and in policy studies in higher education. The program will prepare leaders at all levels of campus administration.

Students in the program will take classes as a group for two years, with classes scheduled in evenings and on Saturdays. Classes will be on such topics as staff leadership, diversity, accountability, ethics, facilities and grants.

Navarez says interest in the program was high even before it was formally approved at the start of the fall semester. Now recruiting has begun in earnest. Applications are due Nov. 1. Early applications are encouraged due to the competitive admissions requirements.

The degree is being offered through the CSUS department of educational leadership and policy studies. For more information, contact the department at (916) 278-5388.

— Frank Whitlatch

New program will prepare higher education leaders

CSUS will launch a new master’s degree in higher education leadership next fall, becoming one of the few public universities in the state to offer such a program.

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Activist educator Kozol headed to campus

Jonathan Kozol – the author and educator who first came into the public spotlight when he was fired for reading a Langston Hughes poem to his students in the 1960s – talks at CSUS at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 30. The event is in the University Union Ballroom.

Kozol received the National Book Award in 1968 for his novel based on his teaching experiences called Death At an Early Age. Now considered a classic of progressive education, his novel has sold more than 2 million copies around the world.

He has recently authored a number of other works that deal with the dispossessed of American society, particularly children living in poverty. He is also widely recognized for his research on school finance, racial segregation, homelessness and social and medical conflicts of the poor. The Chicago Sun Times called Kozol, “today’s most eloquent spokesman for America’s disenchanted.”

Tickets for the event are $10 for general admission and $5 for CSUS students. They are available at the CSUS Ticket Office at (916) 278-4323 or at Tickets.com at (916) 766-2277.
Part-time instructors for spring 2003

The CSUS Bulletin welcomes submissions to the Professional Activities Section from faculty, administrators, and staff. Items are run on a space available basis. They should be no longer than 75 words and may be submitted to bulletin@csus.edu or faxed to 778-5290.

BILLY OWEN, communication studies, won first place and an honorable mention in the Hawaii Society of America 2002 Gerald Brady Memorial Contest for best unpublished senryu poetry.

BRENDA LOUIE, art, won a cash award honorable mention in the 2002 Visual Arts Fellowships, Commissioner’s Award category from the Sacramento Metropoli- tan Arts Commission, as well as resolutions of artistic achieve- ment from the Sacramento City Council and Sacramento County Board of Supervisors.

SUSAN O’HARA, teacher educa- tion, will present a paper titled “Literacy Through Science: Web-based Primary Source Documents Offer Unique Support” at the upcoming annual conference for the California Science Teachers Association in San Francisco in October.

DUANE CAMPBELL, bilingual/ -crosscultural education, was a panelist on “From Vocational Education to Workforce Prepara- tion” at the 14th annual Emo- tioning California Conference in Sacramento.

SCOTT MODELL and LOIS BOULGARIDES, kinesiology and health science, presented two papers at an international conference in Orlando Oct. 1 and 4. The papers were, “Full Risk Reduction: A Multidimensional Approach” and “Challenging the Stereotypes for Inclusive and Postural Control in Older Adults: It’s as Easy as 1, 2, 3.”

DON CARPER, organizational behavior and environment, gave the initial presentation and co-ordinated the academic portfolio of a program on American law for Korean legal professionals in July on campus. He made a presenta- tion on dispute resolution system design and resources in alterna- tive dispute resolution for judges and lawyers from Ghana in July.


MARK BASAGAL, anthropology, and students Stephen Overly and Wendy Force presented a paper on “Another Look at the Paleoindian Archaeology of Pleistocene Lake, China, California” at the Kelso Conference on the Archaeology of the California and Mojave Deserts, Sept. 27-29 at Red Rock Canyon State Park in California. Basagall also presented a paper on “Good Times in the Middle Holo- cene?” at the conference.

SUE COTE, criminal justice, presented a paper on “Breaking the Silence on Same-Sex Domestic Violence” at the 9th International Conference on Family Violence in San Diego, Sept. 24-28.

SUSAN WYCOFF, counseling, has been named an editorial board member for The Family Journal of the International Association for Marriage and Family Counselors.

LAUREL ZUCKER, music, has a new CD on Cantilena Records, The Complete Telemann Flutes for Flute, funded by Miyazawa Flutes. On Oct. 19 she will be giving a masterclass and concert at the Los Ange- les Flute Festival. On Oct. 26 and 27 she will be performing four concerts with the Merced Symphony.

Gwendolyn McGraw, music, has published an article, “An Introduction to Elementary Concepts in Viewpoint Theory of Music” in the Journal of the Austrian Musicological Society. She will be performing a recital involving the music of David del Tredici, John Cage, and John Adams at the University of California, Davis, December 20th. She currently has a contract with the University of California, Davis for a 2 year period of time as a teacher and independent researcher.
CSU effort addresses workforce needs

One major reason students attend college is to prepare themselves for future success in the workforce. The California State University system has long prided itself with graduating students with the knowledge, values, and skills of their chosen fields, along with the ability to apply what they’ve learned in real-world situations.

In an effort to improve and keep classrooms aligned with California’s workforce needs, the CSU system has launched a new project known as CSUAdvantage. The goal is to gather input from CSU students, faculty, and staff California employers about the skills graduates will need in the 21st-century workforce and how the CSU system can better prepare its students for their future careers.

A new interactive website, www.csuadvantage.org, offers a forum to share thoughts on this topic. The website discussion will be live until Thanksgiving. Comments will then be assembled into a report and will be used to redraft programs across the CSU system.

BROODING CONTEST The University Staff Assembly will hold its sixth annual Halloween Contest on Oct. 31. Judging will take place between 4 and 5:30 p.m. Staff members will be entered at random to first set up, first served basis. The academic development funds have fall and spring deadlines, with this year’s fall deadline of Oct. 25.

Applications and forms and details can be found on the USA website at www.csus.edu/usa. Details: Carol Downey at 278-6317 or downeycr@csus.edu.

INVESTING TIPS University transportation and parking has complimentary ticketing for Regional Transit buses and light rail.

They are being given away in an effort to reduce traffic congestion on campus and throughout the Sacramento Region. The tickets are valid until Oct. 31, and they never expire.

The seminar will include strategies, risks, and other issues related to investing in stocks, mutual funds, bonds, bond funds, real estate, REITs, commodities and more. It is open to the public.

For reservations and details: (916) 278-6295.

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For reservations and details: (916) 278-6295.
**Date changed for Nobel winner's visit**

The talk by 1992 Nobel Peace Prize recipient Rigoberta Menchu Tum has been moved to 7:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 18 in the University Union Ballroom. The Guatemalan civil rights activist will be unable to return from Europe in time for her previously scheduled Oct. 14 visit.

Tickets purchased for the Oct. 14 date will be accepted on the new date. Tickets remain $20 general/$10 for students, and are available at the CSUS Tickets Office at (916) 278-4323 and at Tickets.com at (916) 766-2277.

For more information about the program, contact the Multicultural Center at (916) 278-6001.

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**Privacy**

Continued from page 1

She attempted to sue her production company for violating her privacy.

“We’re subject to standards as a society,” she says. “At a public event a normal person would expect to have their picture taken but she would not expect to be humiliated. The picture doesn’t violate her privacy, the public humiliation does.”

Before Sept. 11, people were concerned about being tracked while visiting a website or about grocery stores collecting marketing information though shopping cards. “That’s not necessarily bad,” he says. “It’s not that I like these things, but I don’t think they violate my right to privacy.

“You need to think about the consequences. If you vilify information gathering under right to privacy you make it right to privacy too broad. What is important, what you really have a right to is space to think, to use practical rationality.”

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**Monday, Oct. 14**

**1:30 p.m., Curriculum Policies Committee**

3 p.m., Executive Committee

**Wednesday, Oct. 16**

1 p.m., Faculty Policies Committee

**Thursday, Oct. 17**

3 p.m., Faculty Senate, Foothill Suite, University Union

**Friday, Oct. 18**

3 p.m., Academic Policies Committee

**Monday, Oct. 21**

3 p.m., Committee on Diversity and Equity (CODE)

3 p.m., General Education Policies/Graduation Requirements Committee

**Tuesday, Oct. 22**

3 p.m., Executive Committee

All meetings are in Sacramento Hall 275 unless otherwise noted.