

Co-sponsored by the Institute of Practical Philosophy and the Department of Philosophy

## **BIG DATA AND THE SURVEILLANCE OF EVERYTHING**

**Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 3:30-5:00pm**  
**Bldg. 356, Rm. 109 (Theatre)**  
**Vancouver Island University**  
**Free Public Lecture**



Imagine a world where data collection is so pervasive that every rain drop can be counted, not to mention every movement and every change. Companies buy systems to detect that what you are doing is out of the ordinary before you even finish. Governments curb terrorism by exploiting big data at the cost of any reasonable expectation of privacy. Doctors initiate better treatment earlier by finding the needle in the haystack that could save your life.

All of these examples have one thing in common: They rely on a new paradigm for data analysis that is known as big data. For better or for worse, big data has the potential to leave no stone of your life unturned. Interested? Come join Dr. Nik Richers to learn more about the ethical implications of a future that is already here!

*Dr. Nik Richers works in the field of big data and received his doctorate in philosophy from York University in Toronto in 2001. He is interested in a broad range of philosophical topics, such as ethics, philosophy of technology, and Wittgenstein's philosophical therapy. In his current role in the field of big data, he advises software developers and designers on how to make complex software products easier to use.*

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