



Dupont Summit 2014

..... Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy Issues

December 5, 2014 ♦ Historic Whittemore House, Washington, DC

The Policy Studies Organization

Panel

“Exploring Drones: Predators and Privacy”

“Drones: The Next Wave Of Technology With Social Privacy Issues”

Robert Gordon – *American Public University*

Despite, widespread concern by Americans, drones is rapidly becoming the next wave of technology to watch. With regards to drones, the [FAA has already issued limited licensee for research as well as for commercial use](#). Although personal privacy is a concern, most Americans are not opposed to having a drone delivery them pizza upon demand. Both [Amazon.com](#) and [Domino's Pizza](#) have taken steps to make drone delivery a reality. The [US movie industry](#) is already applying for use as this technology offers an inexpensive manner to offer great fly-over shots used so often in action movies. In addition, [the energy sector is experimenting with drones to monitor pipelines in remote areas](#). It is a lot cheaper and safer to send a drone to fly over a pipeline for an inspection than to send people by truck or helicopters into some of the remotest regions of Alaska.

Although the US has great concerns about the social implications of this new technology, the question is emerging who will regulate this technology. Although the FAA is taking action regarding drones, [privacy issues are the domain of the individual states](#). However, individual states do not regulate the airspace above. So, who become the regulator and protector of privacy and airspace when they are combined? It would appear that this would be a place where the federal government should step in, however, even that solution brings along greater privacy issues with Americans.

In closing, there are certainly privacy issues emerging with regards to drones and these issues extend to companies as well as [individuals because the technology is becoming affordable](#). In fact, there have already been some incidents where [private citizens have flown drones into Independence Day fireworks events](#). It is just a matter of time before a larger incident happens that hurts or kills people that will cause swifter regulation and registration to happen.



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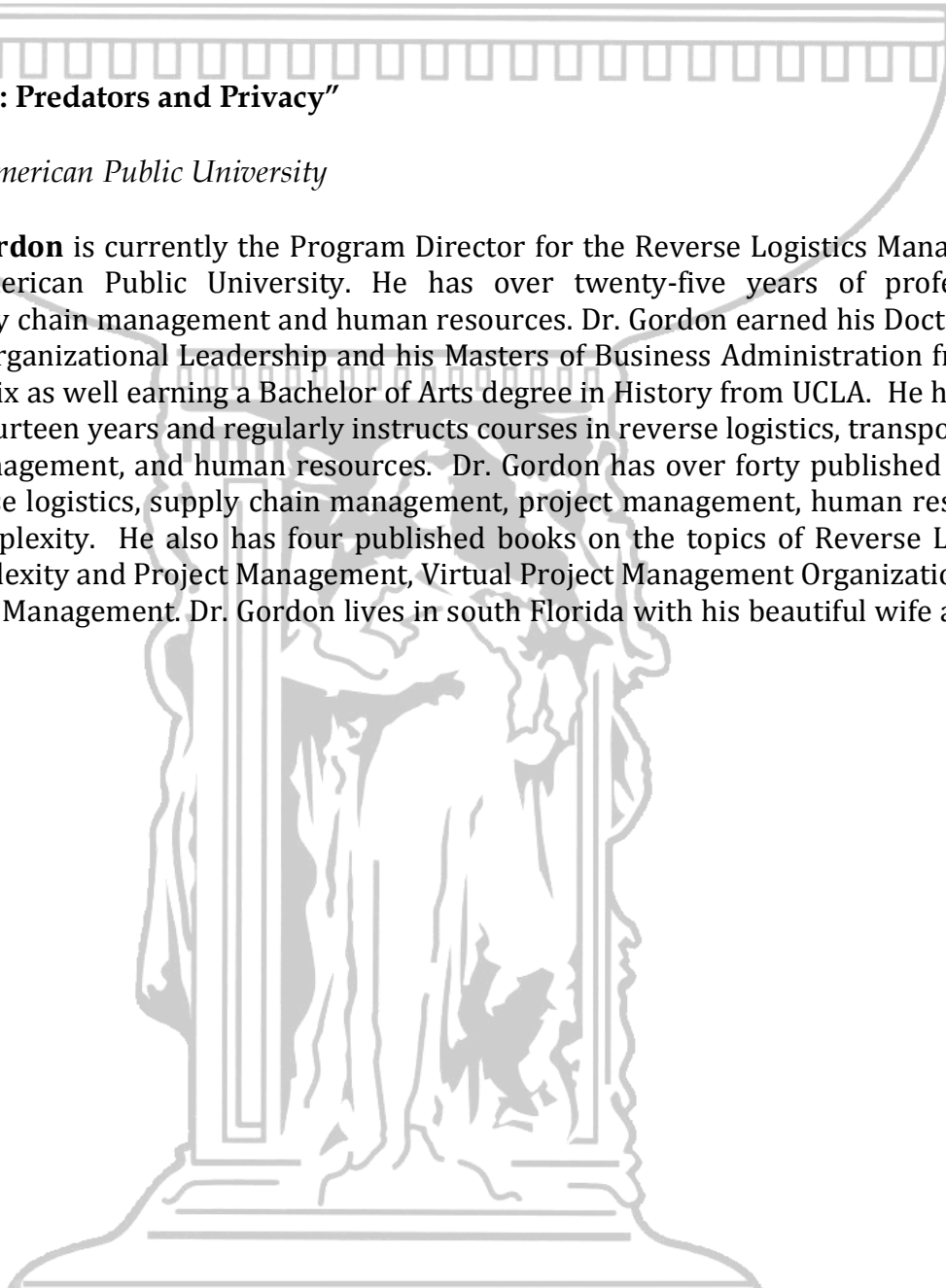
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Panel Biography

"Exploring Drones: Predators and Privacy"

Robert Gordon - *American Public University*

Dr. Robert Lee Gordon is currently the Program Director for the Reverse Logistics Management department at American Public University. He has over twenty-five years of professional experience in supply chain management and human resources. Dr. Gordon earned his Doctorate of Management and Organizational Leadership and his Masters of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix as well earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from UCLA. He has been teaching for over fourteen years and regularly instructs courses in reverse logistics, transportation, drones, project management, and human resources. Dr. Gordon has over forty published articles pertaining to reverse logistics, supply chain management, project management, human resources, education, and complexity. He also has four published books on the topics of Reverse Logistics Management, Complexity and Project Management, Virtual Project Management Organizations, and Successful Program Management. Dr. Gordon lives in south Florida with his beautiful wife and two children.





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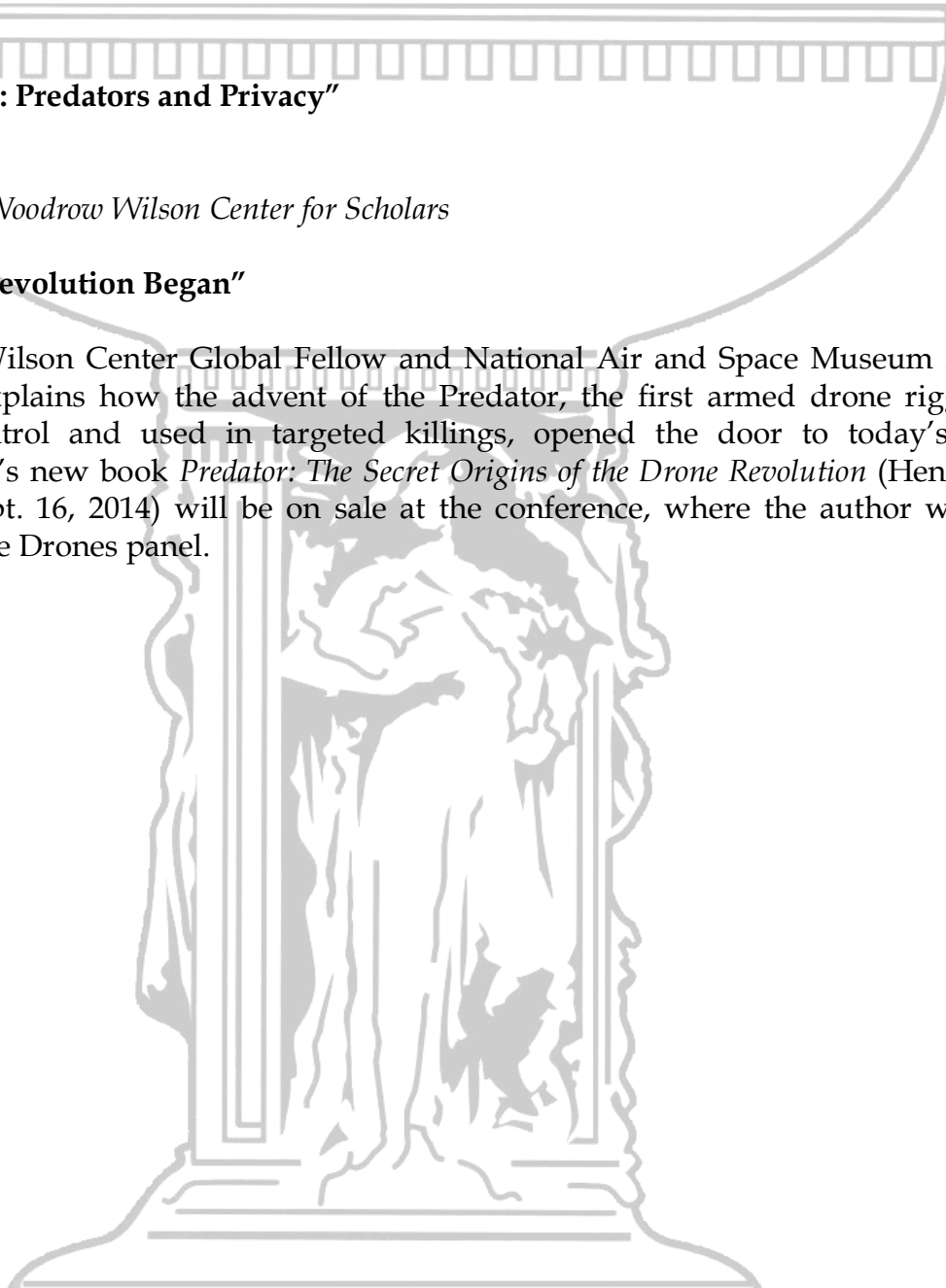
"Exploring Drones: Predators and Privacy"

Speaker

Richard Whittle – *Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars*

"How the Drone Revolution Began"

Richard Whittle, Wilson Center Global Fellow and National Air and Space Museum 2013-14 Verville Fellow, explains how the advent of the Predator, the first armed drone rigged for global remote control and used in targeted killings, opened the door to today's drone revolution. Whittle's new book *Predator: The Secret Origins of the Drone Revolution* (Henry Holt and Company, Sept. 16, 2014) will be on sale at the conference, where the author will sign copies following the Drones panel.





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Richard Whittle – *Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars*

Richard Whittle is the author of *Predator: The Secret Origins of the Drone Revolution* (Henry Holt and Company, September 2014), and of *The Dream Machine: The Untold History of the Notorious V-22 Osprey* (Simon & Schuster, 2010). A Global Fellow in International Security Studies at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, during 2013- 14 Whittle was also Verville Fellow at the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum. He writes occasionally for *Air & Space Smithsonian*, the web site *Breaking Defense*, and other publications, and from 1984-2006 covered the Pentagon and other Washington beats for *The Dallas Morning News*. Earlier in his career, Whittle wrote about defense and foreign policy for *Congressional Quarterly* and was an editor at National Public Radio. His articles have been published in the *Christian Science Monitor*, a wide range of other newspapers and magazines, and on *The Atlantic Monthly* web site. He has also appeared as an interview guest on "The Daily Show With Jon Stewart," C-SPAN, NPR and a variety of other television and radio broadcasts.

Fluent in German, Whittle also speaks conversational French. He has written in German for newspapers including *Die Zeit* (Hamburg), *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* (Zurich) and *Süddeutsche Zeitung* (Munich). He has also served on occasion as a guest commentator on German and Swiss public radio.

Whittle began his career as a reporter for *The News and Observer* of Raleigh, North Carolina, after graduate study in government at William & Mary College and in journalism at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He and his wife live near Washington, D.C.