

Policing scholarship is increasingly concerned with understanding the ways in which non-police institutions and groupings participate in the governance of security. Scholars have focused in particular on the challenges to 'command and control' governance that such institutions reveal in their day-to-day practices. There is however much that scholars do not know about the plurality of actors involved in the governance of security, the mentalities that guide their practices and the mundane ways in which these actors relate to one another in achieving particular outcomes.

The purpose of this seminar is to discuss, and seek feedback on the set of explanatory and normative questions guiding an ARC Linkage project that members of Security 21 are currently undertaking with Victoria Police. This project has two main objectives. The first is to 'map' the different forms of security governance operating in 7 empirical areas ranging from youth safety, to family violence to sexual offending. The second objective is to build new strategic models, based on an assessment of such maps, in order to improve governance at different process and outcome levels. This project is not based on the assumption that 'networks' are necessarily desirable in either enhancing efficacy or democracy in governance. It is rather informed by a 'nodal governance' perspective which suggests that there are various ways in which governance institutions ('nodes') can or should co-exist. It is hoped that this project will extend on and improve existing typologies of nodal relationships and their costs and benefits.