The Net has become the most intensive surveillance instrument in human history. Universities, because they are hubs of digital culture, are now primary centers of digital surveillance. Of course, almost all the time almost everyone is only being spied on for profit. It wasn’t supposed to be this way. In this lecture, I consider the difference between how it was supposed to be and how it is. I also consider what we’d better do about it, while we still can.

Eben Moglen, is Founding Director of the Software Freedom Law Center and Professor of Law and Legal History at Columbia University Law School. He earned his PhD in History and his law degree at Yale University, during what he sometimes calls his “long, dark period” in New Haven. After law school he clerked for Judge Edward Weinfeld of the United States District Court in New York City and for Justice Thurgood Marshall of the United States Supreme Court. He has taught at Columbia Law School since 1987, and has held visiting appointments at Harvard University, Tel Aviv University and the University of Virginia. In 2003 he was given the Electronic Frontier Foundation’s Pioneer Award for efforts on behalf of freedom in the electronic society.

Monday, December 5, 2011
6:30 to 8:10 p.m.
Woody Tanger Auditorium
Brooklyn College Library

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