

The Wolfe Institute

*The Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities
presents*

A Frederic Ewen Lecture in Civil Liberties and Academic Freedom

Should the NYPD be Spying on Our Campuses?



Last fall, independent journalist Aviva Stahl wrote a story for *Gothamist* about an undercover policewoman who had been spying on Muslim students at Brooklyn College. The story follows on previous revelations over the last several years of NYPD surveillance of Muslim students at Brooklyn College and at other CUNY campuses. Early this year, the NYPD finally settled two lawsuits challenging their surveillance policies, although questions have since been raised about the nature and scope of the settlement and about how much it will deter the NYPD from spying on vulnerable communities. Is such surveillance legal? Is it necessary? What are the ramifications for civil liberties and for academic freedom when the police conduct covert surveillance on a college campus? What responsibilities do university administrators carry? How should faculty and students respond to such revelations? These questions, and more, will be addressed by the following panelists:

Sarah Aly is a graduating senior in the Macaulay Honors program at Brooklyn College and is president of Brooklyn College's Students for Justice in Palestine, having served on its board for four years.

Ramzi Kassem is associate professor of law at the City University of New York where he directs the immigrant & non-citizen rights clinic and supervises the Creating Law Enforcement Accountability & Responsibility (CLEAR) project, which primarily aims to address the legal needs of Muslim, Arab, South Asian, and other communities in the New York City area that are particularly affected by national security and counterterrorism policies and practices.

Aviva Stahl is an independent journalist who writes about prisons, national security, and immigration detention.

Rabia Ahsin Tarar is a graduate student at Columbia University pursuing a master's degree in Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African studies.

Moderated by **Moustafa Bayoumi**, Professor of English at Brooklyn College.

**Tuesday, February 23, 2016
3:40 to 4:55 p.m.
Woody Tanger Auditorium
Brooklyn College Library**

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