

Panel 2: Developing Capabilities in Sense-Making

Speaker: Helen Margetts

Director, Oxford Internet Institute



Helen Margetts is the Director of the Oxford Internet Institute (OII) and Professor of Society and the Internet at the University of Oxford. She is a political scientist specialising in e-government and digital era governance and politics. She investigates political behaviour, digital government and government-citizen interactions in the age of the Internet, social media and big data, using experiments and data science methodologies. She has over a hundred books, articles and policy reports in this area and most recently *Political Turbulence: How Social Media Shape Collective Action* (Princeton University Press, 2015). In 2003, Helen and Patrick Dunleavy won the 'Political Scientists Making a Difference' award from the UK Political Studies Association. She is Co-Director of OxLab, a laboratory for social science experiments and editor of the journal, *Policy and Internet*. She holds the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Professorial Fellowship for 'The Internet, Political Science and Public Policy: Re-examining Collective Action, Governance and Citizen-Governance Interactions in the Digital Era' (2011-4).

Professor Margetts joined the OII in 2004 from University College London where she was a Professor in Political Science and Director of the School of Public Policy. She began her career as a computer programmer/systems analyst with Rank Xerox after receiving her B.Sc. in Mathematics from the University of Bristol. She returned to studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) in 1989, completing a M.Sc. in Politics and Public Policy in 1990, and a Ph.D. in Government in 1996. She worked as a researcher at LSE from 1991 to 1994, and as a lecturer at Birkbeck College, University of London from 1994 to 1999.