Biometric Identification
Operation, Applications, Issues

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October 19, 2005
5:30 – 7:00 pm
Mackenzie Building 4359
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The new machine readable passport standard requires countries to include face recognition data. Applicants for US Visas now must present fingerprints. The UK government plans to issue biometric enabled identity cards to all citizens. In the last three years, biometric identification has become a technology that will impact all of our lives.

This talk will give an overview of biometric technologies, especially fingerprint, face, and iris recognition. We'll explore how they work, how well they work, when/how they don't work, and how they're evaluated.

Biometrics technology generates significant concern for its privacy and security implications. I'll give my opinions on these issues, as well as what problems they are likely to be able to solve, and which capabilities will remain "hype".