

Hacking the Surveillance State: A Conversation with Barrett Brown



Barrett Brown is a US journalist and the founder of **Project PM**, a crowd-sourced investigation into the cyber-industrial complex. He was an unofficial spokesperson for **Anonymous** before he renounced his ties to the collective in 2011. He's written two books, in addition to several articles about politics and journalism in the digital age.

In 2012, the **FBI** raided his house, and later that year he was indicted on 12 federal charges. The most controversial charge, linking to hacked data, was dropped, but in 2015 Brown was sentenced to 63 months in prison. **Reporters Without Borders** cited Barrett's prosecution among its reasons for the US dropping 14 spots on its press freedom rankings in 2014.

While in prison, Barrett continued to write a column from jail for **The Intercept**, for which he has won a National Magazine Award and a New York Press Club journalism award. He is now writing a "combination memoir/manifesto" and working on **Pursuance**, a software platform that he designed to help journalists, researchers, and activists collaborate.

Thursday, March 21st from 2:00 – 3:30 in Golisano 101

Co-Sponsored by the Social Justice House, NUEJAC, and the Communication Studies, Computer & Information Sciences, and Political Science Departments