



SEARCH BACKLASH. A computer screen shows the leaked online post from Guilin University of Electronic Technology warning of “hostile domestic and foreign powers” that were “wantonly spreading illicit and illegal videos” through the internet in Beijing, China. The Chinese university’s plan to conduct a blanket search of student and staff electronic devices have come under fire, illustrating the limits of the population’s tolerance for surveillance and raising concern that tactics used on China’s Muslim minorities may be creeping into the rest of the country. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

Backlash at Chinese university shows limits to surveillance

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It’s unclear what prompted the Guilin university’s planned search. It could have been a trial run to see how the public would react or an overzealous local administrator, said Christopher Colley, a National Defense College of the United Arab Emirates assistant professor who has lectured at Chinese universities.

Either way, he said, the backlash shows that though online censorship is common in China, physical searches of phones and laptops is an extreme measure that many will not accept.

“Most people in China are willing to tolerate Big Brother as long as it contributes to social stability, but for many, this is going too far,” Colley said.

Schools in Xinjiang have been conducting similar searches since the region’s highest court in early 2014 issued a notice forbidding audio and video recordings promoting terrorism, religious extremism, and ethnic division.

Teachers and administrators at Xinjiang Normal University’s College of Physics and Electronics searched electronic devices in every dormitory on campus on November 9, 2014. A post about the search on the school’s website says, “Through investigating violent and terroristic videos, religious extremism on campus has

been weakened.”

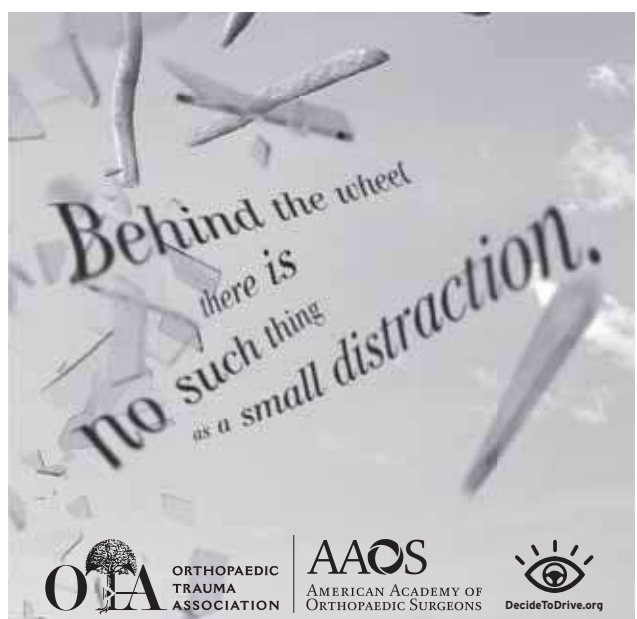
In 2017, China University of Petroleum’s branch in Karamay, a city in oil country in Xinjiang’s north, ordered various school departments to assign inspectors to search the computers of all teachers on campus.

Xinjiang is home to a large Uighur population, a Muslim ethnic group that has long harbored simmering resentment against rule from Beijing. A series of riots and attacks blamed on separatist Uighurs has prompted a sweeping crackdown on Muslims in the region.

China has rolled out one of the world’s most aggressive surveillance and policing programs both in Xinjiang and neighboring Tibet.

Uighurs are regularly singled out and stopped at checkpoints to have their smartphones scanned for religious content. As The Associated Press reported in May, they risk being detained and sent to internment camps if police find songs or videos they deem suspicious or apps that are commonly used to contact people outside China, such as WhatsApp.

“Xinjiang today appears to be the leading-edge of a highly intrusive and coercive surveillance society that the (Communist Party) is intent on constructing across China,” Leibold said.



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Req: MD or foreign equivalent; must have or be eligible for an Oregon Medical License; residency in Emergency Medicine; Board Certification eligible in Critical Care Medicine and Emergency Medicine. Please e-mail CV to Jonna.Frater@ohsu.edu or by mail to [Jonna.Frater](mailto:Jonna.Frater@ohsu.edu), OHSU, Mail Code UHN67, OHSU, 3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Rd., Portland, OR 97239.



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BIDS, SUB-BIDS & PUBLIC NOTICES

WORKSYSTEMS, THE PORTLAND METRO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD Meeting Schedule*

WORKSYSTEMS
1618 SW 1st Ave., Suite 450
Portland, OR 97201

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD Meeting Time: 7:30 to 9:30am

- January 11, 2019
- April 12, 2019
- July 12, 2019
- October 11, 2019

WORKSYSTEMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Worksystems Executive Committee meets the first Wednesday of the month from 11:30am-1:00pm.

Agendas for meetings will be posted on our website at least 5 days prior to meeting date.

*Meeting dates, time and locations are subject to change. For more information visit our website, www.worksystems.org, or e-mail jweller@worksystems.org.

Worksystems is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. To place a free relay call in Oregon dial 711.

The Asian Reporter is published on the first and third Monday each month.

The classified advertising deadlines for our next two print editions are:

- Dec. 17 to Jan. 6 issue: Friday, Dec. 14, 2:00pm
- Jan. 7 to 20 issue: Friday, Jan. 4, 2:00pm