“After Geopolitics? From the Geopolitical Social to Geoeconomics”

Deborah Cowen and Neil Smith
“Geopolitics was as much a project of the making of ‘national society’ as of national territory.” (26)
Geopolitics: Territory and Identity

Us and Them

Friday, March 18, 2011
“Governmental reason... posits the state as the principle for reading reality and as its objective and imperative.” (Foucault, 22 March 1978)
Governmentality: Police and the primacy of the commodity

“insofar as there was this relationship between raison d’État and an urban privilege, between police and the primacy of the commodity, that the living and better than just living, the being and well-being of individuals really became relevant for government intervention…” (Foucault, 22 March 1978)
Neoliberalism and the primacy of the commodity transposed

“‘An annex of the US state,’ even though it also serves the interests of the ‘transnational bourgeoisie as a whole.’” (Harvey, 2003: 73)
“The historical role of merchant capitalists has entailed the constant probing and rolling back of spatial barriers and the opening up of new modalities of movement and spaces for trade.” (Harvey, 2003: 95)
Who Counts in the Canadian Social?

“[the] recasting of the form and meaning of territorial state boundaries.” (31)
Iraq: Geopolitics or Geoeconomics?

“We should not...think solely of Iraq but consider the geopolitical condition and significance of the Middle East as a whole in relation to global capitalism.” (Harvey, The New Imperialism: 19)
Geo\textit{economic} Governmentality

National and global security collaborate to distinguish between useful and costly flows of populations and commodities.
What is the definition of the new ‘social’?
Does nationality and ethnicity factor into this ‘social’?
Has the state lost its monopoly on violence?
Did it ever have it?
What will the borders of the future look like?