Jennifer Sims

Jennifer Sims is a former member of the Public Interest Declassification Board (PIDB) and was appointed to a three-year term by President George W. Bush in December 2008. Most recently, she was a senior fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. Sims is a former visiting professor in the Security Studies Program and Director of Intelligence Studies at Georgetown University. Prior to this, she taught as a professorial lecturer at School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. Sims served as senior intelligence advisor to the undersecretary of state for management from December 1998 to May 2001 and as deputy assistant secretary for intelligence policy and coordination in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research from 1994 to 1998. From November 1990 to April 1994, she served as a professional staff member on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and as foreign affairs and defense advisor to Senator John Danforth. In 1998, Sims received the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal for her work on developing intelligence support for diplomatic operations. She has written extensively on nuclear arms control and intelligence, including Icarus Restrained: An Intellectual History of American Arms Control, 1945-1960 (Westview Press, 1991) and co-edited volumes with Burton Gerber, Transforming US Intelligence (Georgetown University Press, 2005) and Vaults Mirrors and Masks: Problems in US Counterintelligence Policy (Georgetown University Press, 2008). Her most recent book, Decision Advantage: Intelligence in International Politics from The Spanish Armada to Cyberwar, was published in 2022 by Oxford University Press. Sims received her Bachelor of Arts from Oberlin College and her Master of Arts and Ph.D from the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University.