Air Force Cyber Strategy Conference
23- 24 Jan 2018
Maxwell Air Force Base
Montgomery, AL

Introduction

- The Air Force Cyber College is engaged in a multi-year research effort to contribute to a better understanding of the structural sources of cyberspace challenges

- The AF Cyber Strategy Conference is an exploratory and interactive learning event to identify multifaceted aspects of key research topics

- Serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences among cyber professionals from interagency, joint, industry, academic, civil society and international partners

- Our plenary session/breakout session format is designed to illuminate complexities and challenge the assumptions of analysts, operators and decision-makers

We are inviting you to help us in an effort to generate rapid insights about key topic areas that may not be well understood

Conference Mission

#1

Engage in discovery to offer solutions to wicked problems

Generate rapid insights about key areas that may not be well understood

#2

Better understanding of the structural sources of cybersecurity challenges

Contribute to the design of a common strategy that will serve as framework for better-informed policies

The result of our long-term effort will be the sharing of experiences and selected best practices as a viable, near-term basis for informing national cybersecurity

Conference Design

- Conference brings together ~120 technologists, practitioners, policymakers, and other cyber experts

- Attendance limited to best balance between the needs of focused and explorative discussions:

  – Participants invited from across society by the organizing committee on the basis of their expertise and involvement in cybersecurity processes

- Days are structured as follows:

  – Morning/afternoon panels help frame thematic issues for breakout sessions

  – Breakout sessions bring participants together to identify issues and craft actionable strategic recommendations for senior leaders

Topics of Interest

- Assuring critical missions in a contested cyber environment by identifying and mitigating vulnerabilities, and understanding threat actors

- Cyber resilience, cyber assurance, and force modernization

- Developing cyber policy and strategy based on levels of resilience

- Cyber targeting, signaling, escalation, and de-escalation

What we're talking about is a paradigm shift
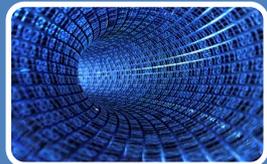
Explore Wicked Problems with Strategic Design Sprints

Strategic design leads to more coherent cyberspace concepts, policy, strategy, stratagems and doctrine

Analyze Strategic and Operational Contexts

Engage policymakers, practitioners and technologists to gain their perspectives on the application of cyberpower for purposes of the state

Research Production

Draft reports and policy briefs capturing the groups' findings. Ensure key ideas maintain their integrity during the strategic design process

Senior Leader Engagement

Identify implementable recommendations to senior leaders across government. Engage with stakeholders throughout process to ensure relevance

Modified Delphi Methodology

- Design sessions will utilize a modified Delphi methodology
- Delphi Methodology: Originally developed by the RAND Corporation in the early 1950s, "Its object is to obtain the most reliable consensus of opinion of a group of experts. It attempts to achieve this by a series of intensive questionnaires interspersed with controlled opinion feedback"*
- Modified Delphi methodology to survey participants in breakout sessions on questions related to overarching conference themes at the beginning/end of sessions to better understand shifts in attitude
- Participants are asked to complete questionnaires, examining a wide range of variables, trends, and futures, currently or with the potential to affect national security and military operations in cyberspace
- Questions are scored on a five point Likert scale with "strongly disagree" and "strongly agree" representing opposite ends of the scale
- Results will be computed and displayed in order to determine statistically significant divergences of opinion within the room, and amongst the breakout groups.
- The participants will then spend the remainder of the 1.5 day workshop openly debating the questions posed aided by survey results

Request an Invitation!

http://www.airuniversity.af.mil/CyberCollege/AirForceCyberConference2017/