



# Deterrence and Assurance

Academic Alliance Newsletter

<http://www.stratcom.mil/Academic-Alliance/>

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Notes from the Director:  
USSTRATCOM, Director Plans and Policy  
Major General Clinton E. Crosier

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Greetings Alliance Members,

The Academic Alliance is definitely on Gen Hyten's mind! During his 15 May 2017 "All Hands Call" meeting with all USSTRATCOM military, civilian and contractor support personnel, Gen Hyten specifically stated that it is his hope that faculty and student members of the Academic Alliance will help define and explain what is meant by the term "21st Century Deterrence" and what it takes to deter adversaries and assure Allies & partners now and into the future. Hopefully his clear statement will inspire Alliance members to think creatively about the task and to articulate clearly their ideas, concepts and solutions.

My tenure at the helm of the Academic Alliance is ending as I depart for my next assignment as the Director of Operational Capability Requirements on the Air Staff. However, I am happy to announce that Maj Gen (USAF) Nina Armagno is replacing me as the Director of Plans & Policy and is excited about teaming with you to continue the progress we've brought to the Alliance over the past two years.

Thank you for making the Academic Alliance so successful. I look forward to its continued growth in protecting our Nations, Allies, and partners and deterring threats & conflict. Keep up the great work!

*Clint Crosier*

## Recent Events

**Baltic Defence College (24 May 17).** Maj Gen Andis Dilāns (BALTDEFCOL Commandant) hosted Gen Crosier in Tartu, Estonia for a series of meetings and engagements including an overview of the BALTDEFCOL's history, mission, courses and research activities; and a formal invitation for the BALTDEFCOL to join the USSTRATCOM Deterrence & Assurance Academic Alliance. The program continued with a presentation and open discussion titled "USSTRATCOM Deterrence Overview" with students of the Joint Command and General Staff Course 2016/2017, the Higher Command Studies Course 2017, and BALTDEFCOL Faculty.



## Recent Events (continued)



**DA3 RESEARCH DAY @ USSTRATCOM (8 May 17).** The 2017 DA3 Research Day featured seven 40-minute presentations by 17 students representing the National Defense University (NDU), the University of Northern Iowa (UNI), the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), and the University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL). The primary purposes of the event are to: (1) provide DA3 student researchers with an opportunity to present their research and findings in a public forum, (2) introduce current research and thinking concerning D&A issues to USSTRATCOM subject matter experts, (3) establish and strengthen personnel networks between Command personnel and academia, and (4) familiarize next generations to USSTRATCOM, missions, and possible employment opportunities. Listed below are the presentation topics, presenters, and advisors.

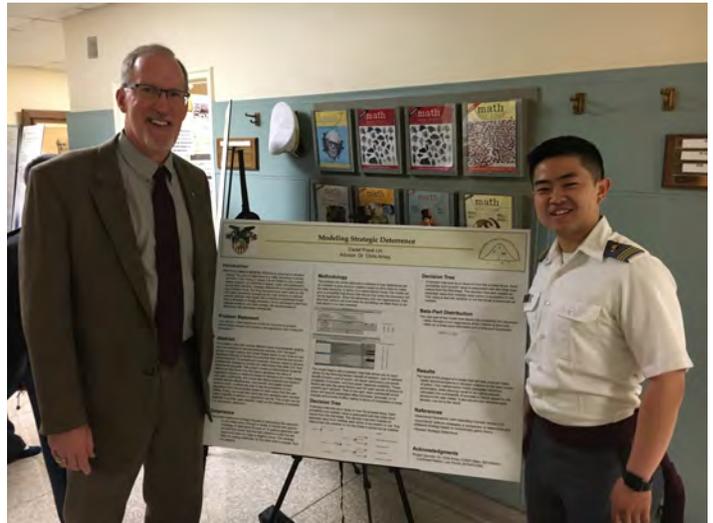
- Topic #1: *"Deterring China in Space: Protecting U.S. Satellite Infrastructure"*
  - Presenters: Jennifer Hohenberger, Kelley McCaa, Attison Paxton (University of Nebraska at Omaha)
  - Advisor: Dr. Lana Obradovic
- Topic #2: *"Recapturing the Right Stuff: Another Step towards a United States Grand Strategy for Space"*
  - Presenter: Lt Col David Anderson (USSTRATCOM NDU Fellow -- National Defense University)
  - Advisor: Mr. Paul Bernstein
- Topic #3: *"The Future of Strategic Partnerships in East Asia"*
  - Presenters: Joe Lindeman, Henry Imperial, Gavin Fusco (University of Nebraska at Lincoln)
  - Advisor: Dr. Christopher Bohn (ROTC)
- Topic #4: *"Balancing Chinese Ambition with U.S. Obligation in the South China Sea: A Future Scenario Analysis"*
  - Presenters: Rachel Urban, Riley Barrett, Lauren Taylor, Tristan Hilderbrand, Kiera Welch (University of Nebraska at Lincoln)
  - Advisor: Dr. Tyler White
- Topic #5: *"Hypersonic Weapons and Arms Control"*
  - Presenters: Alex Coe, Melissa Throener, Janae Aune (University of Nebraska at Lincoln)
  - Advisor: Dr. Rupal Mehta
- Topic #6: *"Integrated Deterrence Strategy of the Advancing Battlefield"*
  - Presenter: Jacob Harberts (University of Northern Iowa)
  - Advisor: Dr. Evan Renfro
- Topic #7: *"Traditional Deterrence and "Gray Zone" Conflicts"*
  - Presenters: Devin Beck, Eunice Lopez, Juan Membreno (University of Nebraska at Omaha)
  - Advisor: Dr. Lana Obradovic

## Recent Events (continued)

**West Point Capstone Research Project Presentations (4 May 17).** The West Point Capstone Presentations Day featured two research projects sponsored by USSTRATCOM in conjunction with the Academic Alliance. A 6-member team from the Social Sciences Department examined current issues in the cyber realm and offered policy recommendations to resolve them. In a separate effort, the Mathematics Department's CDT Frank Lin explained his "Modeling Strategic Deterrence" proposal as a means to understand the complex dynamics and relationships within a deterrence operation.



"Norm Development in Cyber Team" Pictured (L-to-R).  
CDT Steven Pederson, CDT Lexie Johnson, CDR Loren Croft,  
CDT Jackson Tamasitis, CDT Marco Aveledo & CDT Cole  
Witter. Advisor: MAJ Nerea Cal



"Modeling Strategic Deterrence" Pictured (L-to-R).  
Dr. Chris Arney (Advisor) & CDT Frank Lin.

**Columbia University Capstone Outbrief (3 May 17).** Student researchers from Columbia University's School of International & Public Affairs presented their "How to Innovate USSTRATCOM's Deterrence & Assurance Operations" capstone project outbrief to Mr. Leo Florick. Their research focused on how private sector and commercial business practices could be applied to improving the effectiveness of the Command's operations. The team's actionable recommendations targeted four goal areas:  
(1) creating a workforce and culture supportive of innovation, (2) improving strategic readiness through an increased use of wargaming, (3) cultivating and leveraging the Command's reputation, and (4) expanding engagement with outside partners and leverage their resources and expertise. Their faculty advisor is Mr. Howard W. Buffett.



Pictured (L-to-R):  
Mr. Tedros Abraham, Mr. David del Cuadro-Zimmerman, Mr. Leo  
Florick (USSTRATCOM/J55), Mr. Shakib Noori, Mr. George Rano  
(Project Co-Manager), Mr. Léo Isaac-Dognin (Project Co-Manager). Not  
pictured are Mr. Devansh Mehta and Mr. Thomé Nicocelli.

## Recent Events (continued)



Senior Leader Meeting at the Baltic Defence College.



Students at the Baltic Defence College.

**Georgia Tech Sam Nunn School (9 May 17).** Gen Hyten personally welcomed the Georgia Tech Sam Nunn School of International Affairs into the Academic Alliance while engaging in a roundtable discussion with 16 faculty members. The lively conversation covered many topics related to USSTRATCOM's mission responsibilities including nuclear proliferation, nuclear latency, emerging technologies, cyber security, and space policy. The School of International Affairs' numerous experts on these topics make it a natural and beneficial fit into the Academic Alliance.

**Naval Post Graduate School (18 May 17).** A key goal for the Academic Alliance is to leverage innovative thinking occurring at civilian and military academic institutions. The latest military education institution to officially join the Alliance is the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterrey, CA. On 18 May, Gen Hyten visited NPS and gave a lecture to the student body, stressing the importance of the study of deterrence and assurance by both military and civilian professionals.

**Harvard University (24 May 17).** Prior to providing remarks as part of the AFROTC commissioning ceremony at Harvard University, Gen Hyten held brief discussions with faculty at the John F. Kennedy School of Government. Faculty members were interested in discussing the Commander's views on the upcoming Nuclear Posture Review, force modernization, strategic stability, and extended deterrence.

**King's College London (30 May 17).** In discussions with UK Ministry of Defence Academic Alliance faculty and students at King's College, London, Maj Gen Crosier identified the importance of international collaboration and its crucial role in 21st century strategic deterrence. According to Crosier, "we rely on our academic alliance members to develop those concepts and understanding of where we're going with strategic deterrence in the 21st century. Expanding to include allied academic institutions drives differing perspectives and insights vital to deterrence in a multi-polar world."



Open discussion session with King's College London faculty, students, and invited guests during USSTRATCOM/J5 visit to the Strand Campus.

## New Academic Alliance Members

U.S. Strategic Command would like to welcome the Georgia Tech Sam Nunn School of International Affairs (Mr. Joseph Bankoff), Naval Post Graduate School (VADM Ronald A. Route), and the Baltic Defence College (Major General Andis Dilāns) as the newest official members of the Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance. We are looking forward to collaborative efforts to tackle the immense deterrence challenges we face in the 21st Century.

## Upcoming Events

**U.S. Strategic Command Deterrence Symposium (26-27 Jul 17).** If you haven't registered for the 8th Annual USSTRATCOM Deterrence Symposium, do so now! <https://www.stratcomds.com>. Registration will remain open until 18 July. The academic alliance panel is set, and will feature two undergraduate students, two U.S. military school students, and one international PhD candidate. We are also conducting the STRATCOM "Experience Day" following the Symposium. This half-day event is designed for Academic Alliance members and international government, military, and media dignitaries. Contact Mr. Mike Powell (402) 232 7758 / [michael.powell6.civ@mail.mil](mailto:michael.powell6.civ@mail.mil) for Symposium questions, and Mr. Doug Vance (402) 232 5702 / [douglas.w.vance.civ@mail.mil](mailto:douglas.w.vance.civ@mail.mil) for the Experience Day.

**3rd Annual DA3 Conference and Workshops at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln (Tentatively set for 15-16 Mar 18).** The University of Nebraska at Lincoln is pleased to announce it will host the 2018 DA3 Conference and Workshops. USSTRATCOM is looking forward to working with UNL on this important event. Dr. Tyler White will provide additional details in the September Quarterly Newsletter.

**Call for 2017-2018 Research Topics (Suspense Date: 15 Aug 17).** Mr. Vance has begun the process of developing the List of Suggested Deterrence & Assurance Research Topics for the 2017-2018 academic year. The 2016-2017 list is still available for reference on the DA3 website. If you have any specific topics or research areas you would like to recommend for the new list, please email them directly to Mr. Vance for consideration. Our goal is to distribute the revised list at the end of Aug 17.

## USSTRATCOM Academic Alliance Points of Contact

### Mr. Doug Vance

USSTRATCOM/J55  
901 SAC Blvd STE BB16 Offutt  
AFB, Nebraska 68113  
Phone: (402) 232-5702  
Email: [douglas.w.vance.civ@mail.mil](mailto:douglas.w.vance.civ@mail.mil)

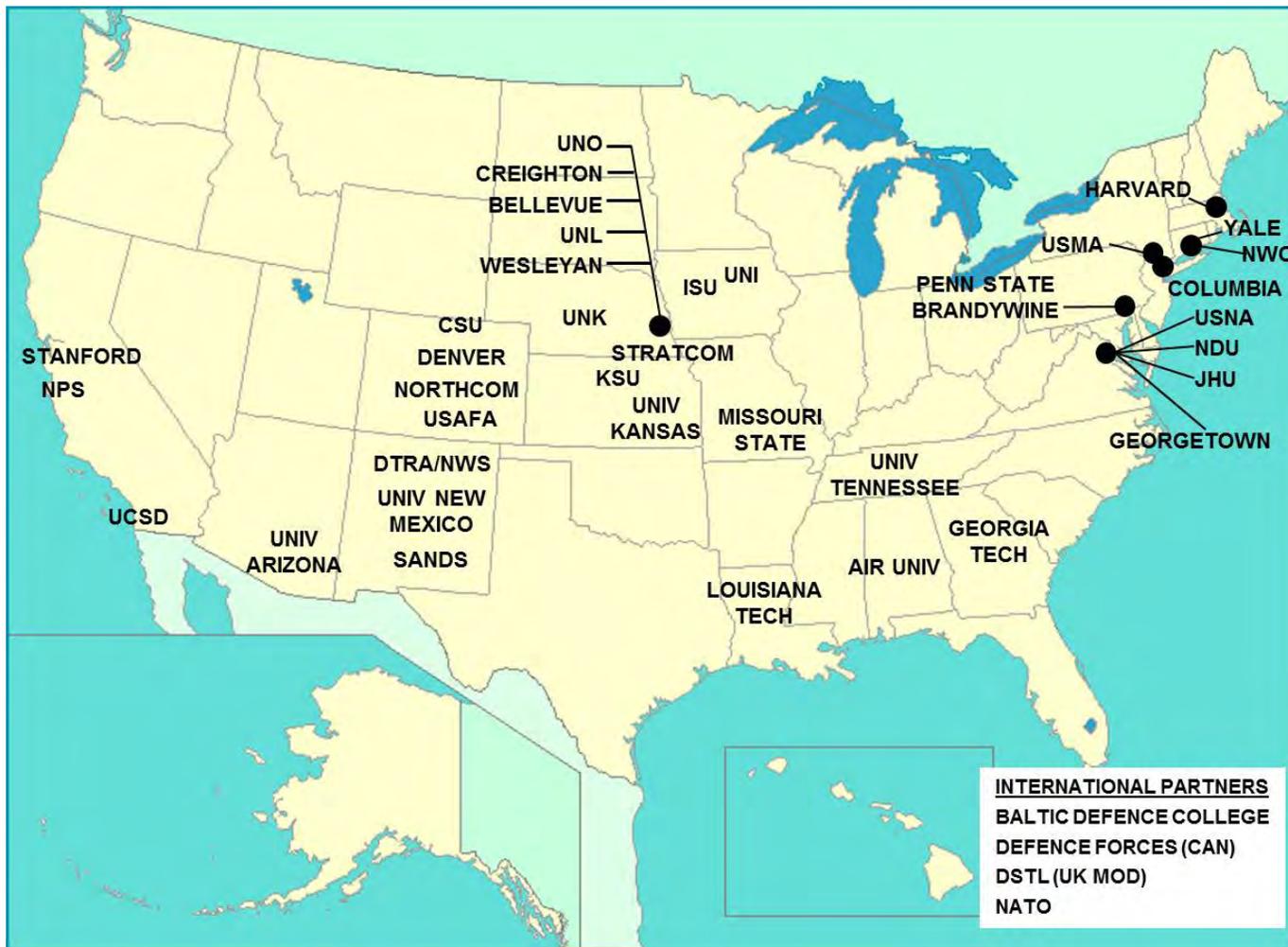
### Mr. Leo Florick

USSTRATCOM/J55  
901 SAC Blvd STE BB16 Offutt  
AFB, Nebraska 68113  
Phone: (402) 232-4912  
Email: [leo.florick2.civ@mail.mil](mailto:leo.florick2.civ@mail.mil)

### Mr. Pat McKenna

USSTRATCOM/J55  
901 SAC Blvd STE BB16  
Offutt AFB, Nebraska 68113  
Phone: (402) 294-1958  
Email: [patrick.j.mckenna5.civ@mail.mil](mailto:patrick.j.mckenna5.civ@mail.mil)

## Deterrence and Assurance Academic Alliance Members and Partners



Nicholas Taylor	<a href="mailto:ntaylor@mail.dstl.gov.uk">ntaylor@mail.dstl.gov.uk</a>	UK Ministry of Defence
Blake McMahon, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:russell.mcmahon.1@us.af.mil">russell.mcmahon.1@us.af.mil</a>	Air University
Col (ret) Zdzislaw Sliwa	<a href="mailto:Zdzislaw.Sliwa@baltdefcol.org">Zdzislaw.Sliwa@baltdefcol.org</a>	Baltic Defence College
Darius Watson, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:dwatson@bellevue.edu">dwatson@bellevue.edu</a>	Bellevue University
Peter Harris, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:peter.harris@colostate.edu">peter.harris@colostate.edu</a>	Colorado State University

## Members and Partners (continued)

Howard W. Buffett	<a href="mailto:hwb2107@columbia.edu">hwb2107@columbia.edu</a>	Columbia University
Erika Moreno, PhD.	<a href="mailto:erikamoreno@creighton.edu">erikamoreno@creighton.edu</a>	Creighton University
Maorong Jiang, Ph.D	<a href="mailto:MaorongJiang@creighton.edu">MaorongJiang@creighton.edu</a>	Creighton University
Mike Kelly, JD. Rebecca	<a href="mailto:michaelkelly@creighton.edu">michaelkelly@creighton.edu</a>	Creighton University
Murray, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:RebeccaMurray@creighton.edu">RebeccaMurray@creighton.edu</a>	Creighton University
Matthew Kroenig, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:mhk32@georgetown.edu">mhk32@georgetown.edu</a>	Georgetown University
Adam Stulberg, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:adam.stulberg@inta.gatech.edu">adam.stulberg@inta.gatech.edu</a>	Georgia Tech, Sam Nunn School of International Affairs
Matthew Bunn, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:matthew_bunn@hks.harvard.edu">matthew_bunn@hks.harvard.edu</a>	Harvard University
Doug Jacobson Ph.D	<a href="mailto:dougj@iastate.edu">dougj@iastate.edu</a>	Iowa State University
Steffen Schmidt, Ph.D	<a href="mailto:sws@iastate.edu">sws@iastate.edu</a>	Iowa State University
Dr. Mack Shelley, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:mshelley@iastate.edu">mshelley@iastate.edu</a>	Iowa State University
Ellen Pirro, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:ebpirro@iastate.edu">ebpirro@iastate.edu</a>	Iowa State University
Michael Lotito	<a href="mailto:Michael.lotito@jhuapl.edu">Michael.lotito@jhuapl.edu</a>	Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory
Jonathan Bierce	<a href="mailto:Jonathan.bierce@jhuapl.edu">Jonathan.bierce@jhuapl.edu</a>	Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory
Andrew G. Long, Ph.D	<a href="mailto:aglong@ksu.edu">aglong@ksu.edu</a>	Kansas State University
Christopher Yeaw, Ph.D. (Formerly)	<a href="mailto:Chris.Yeaw@LTRI.org">Chris.Yeaw@LTRI.org</a>	Louisiana Tech University
Keith B. Payne, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:keith.payne@nipp.org">keith.payne@nipp.org</a>	Missouri State University
Paul Bernstein	<a href="mailto:Paul.Bernstein@ndu.edu">Paul.Bernstein@ndu.edu</a>	National Defense University
Robert Oberst, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:rco@nebrwesleyan.edu">rco@nebrwesleyan.edu</a>	Nebraska Wesleyan University
Andrew Boerlage	<a href="mailto:apboerla@nps.edu">apboerla@nps.edu</a>	Naval Postgraduate School
Steve Cimbala, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:sjc2@psu.edu">sjc2@psu.edu</a>	Penn State-Brandywine
Adam B. Lowther, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:adam.lowther@us.af.mil">adam.lowther@us.af.mil</a>	School of Advanced Nuclear Deterrence Studies, Global Strike Command

## Members and Partners (continued)

Amy B. Zegart, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:zegart@stanford.edu">zegart@stanford.edu</a>	Stanford University
Harold Trinkunas, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:antanas@stanford.edu">antanas@stanford.edu</a>	Stanford University
Taylor McLamb	<a href="mailto:wj@stanford.edu">wj@stanford.edu</a>	Stanford University
Brian Ten Eyck	<a href="mailto:bteneck@email.arizona.edu">bteneck@email.arizona.edu</a>	University of Arizona
Erik Gartzke, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:egartzke@ucsd.edu">egartzke@ucsd.edu</a>	University of California, San Diego
Deborah Avant, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:Deborah.Avant@du.edu">Deborah.Avant@du.edu</a>	University of Denver
Jill Schmieder Hereau	<a href="mailto:Jill.SchmiederHereau@du.edu">Jill.SchmiederHereau@du.edu</a>	University of Denver
Don Haider-Markel, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:prex@ku.edu">prex@ku.edu</a>	University of Kansas
Marc Warburton, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:mwarburton2@unl.edu">mwarburton2@unl.edu</a>	University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Tyler White, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:twhite4@unl.edu">twhite4@unl.edu</a>	University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Chuck M. Rowling, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:rowlingcm@unk.edu">rowlingcm@unk.edu</a>	University of Nebraska - Kearney
Michelle Black, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:michellblack@unomaha.edu">michellblack@unomaha.edu</a>	University of Nebraska - Omaha
Lana Obradovic, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:lobradovic@unomaha.edu">lobradovic@unomaha.edu</a>	University of Nebraska - Omaha
Emile A. Nakhleh, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:enakhleh@unm.edu">enakhleh@unm.edu</a>	University of New Mexico
Evan Renfro, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:evan.renfro@uni.edu">evan.renfro@uni.edu</a>	University of Northern Iowa
Russel Hirst, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:rkh@utk.edu">rkh@utk.edu</a>	University of Tennessee
Moriba K. Jah, Ph.D	<a href="mailto:moriba@utexas.edu">moriba@utexas.edu</a>	University of Texas - Austin
Damon Coletta, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:damon.coletta@usafa.edu">damon.coletta@usafa.edu</a>	U.S. Air Force Academy
LTC Scott Handler, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:Scott.Handler@usma.edu">Scott.Handler@usma.edu</a>	U.S. MilitaryAcademy - West Point
Willie Curtis, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:wcurtis@usna.edu">wcurtis@usna.edu</a>	U.S. Naval Academy
T. Negeen Pegahi, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:negeen.pegahi@usnwc.edu">negeen.pegahi@usnwc.edu</a>	U.S. Naval War College
CDR Keith Patton	<a href="mailto:keith.patton@usnwc.edu">keith.patton@usnwc.edu</a>	U.S. Naval War College
Ed Campbell	<a href="mailto:edward.j.campbell10.civ@mail.mil">edward.j.campbell10.civ@mail.mil</a>	U.S. Northern Command
Elizabeth H. Bradley, PhD	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.bradley@yale.edu">elizabeth.bradley@yale.edu</a>	Yale University
Nuno Monterio, Ph.D.	<a href="mailto:nuno.monteiro@yale.edu">nuno.monteiro@yale.edu</a>	Yale University

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**15 - 16 March 2018**

**The University of Nebraska at Lincoln Will Host the  
3rd Annual DA3 Conference and Workshops  
(Lincoln, Nebraska)**

**Theme: "Understanding 21st Century Deterrence"**



**For Information - Contact:**  
**Dr. Tyler White**  
twhite4@unl.edu  
(402) 472-9443  
Abstracts Due: Dec 2017

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**26 - 27 July 2017**



**2017 USSTRATCOM Deterrence Symposium**  
(CenturyLink Center, Omaha, Nebraska)

*Registration: [www.stratcomds.com](http://www.stratcomds.com)*

*Contact Mr. Mike Powell for Details:*  
*[michael.w.powell6.civ@mail.mil](mailto:michael.w.powell6.civ@mail.mil) or (402) 232-7758*

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**28 July 2017**



**2017 USSTRATCOM Experience Day**  
(Offutt AFB, Omaha, Nebraska)  
**"An Introduction to the Command's Missions,  
Capabilities & Operations"**

*Contact Mr. Doug Vance for Details:*  
*[douglas.w.vance.civ@mail.mil](mailto:douglas.w.vance.civ@mail.mil) or (402) 232-5702*