



Cryptologic History Symposium April 30 – May 2, 2025 Call for Papers



The Center for Cryptologic History (CCH) and the National Cryptologic Foundation (NCF) invite proposals for papers and posters to be presented at the **19th Cryptologic History Symposium** on **April 30 – May 2, 2025**. The Symposium will be held in-person at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab Kossiakoff Center in Laurel, Maryland on **Wednesday, April 30 – Thursday, May 1, 2025**. Following the Symposium, attendees will be given an opportunity to tour the recently renovated National Cryptologic Museum on **Friday, May 2, 2025** and learn about resources available through the National Cryptologic Museum Library. Attendees may also want to consider attending the NCF general membership meeting which will precede the Symposium at the Kossiakoff Center on **Tuesday, April 29, 2025**.

CCH and the NCF reserve the right to modify or cancel the Cryptologic History Symposium, including a hybrid in-person/virtual event, or an all-virtual platform with a potentially abbreviated program if warranted.

Theme

The theme for the 2025 Cryptologic History Symposium is “**Engage the Past – Educate the Future.**” From antiquity to the present, rigorous scholarship and technological innovation have advanced the science and art of cryptology. This rich heritage is told through stories of the people, technology, and events that have propelled cryptologic history and catalyzed innovation. Their stories can provide context to past events, a better understanding of the present, and a path toward a more secure future.

All topics relevant to the history and application of cryptology are welcome, and in particular its intersection with signals intelligence, cybersecurity, technological innovation, and national security. An interdisciplinary approach is encouraged, as are submissions from those who are new to the field, including students. A broad perspective will ensure the variety and diversity of exchange that has been a tradition of this symposium.

Purpose

Since 1990, the Cryptologic History Symposium has served as an opportunity to present historical scholarship found in unclassified and declassified cryptologic records and engage in discussion about their significance to history. The event is an occasion for historians and those interested in history to gather for reflection and debate on relevant and important topics from the cryptologic past. Regular speakers include historians from CCH, the Intelligence Community, the defense establishment, the military services, scholars from American and international academic institutions, veterans of the cryptologic profession, graduate and undergraduate students, and noted authors. Past symposia have featured scholarship that sets out new ways to consider our cryptologic heritage. The conference provides many opportunities to interact with leading historians and other experts. The mix of practitioners, scholars, and interested observers guarantees a lively debate that promotes an enhanced appreciation for past events and their applicability to current and future issues.

Proposals

Proposals MUST be unclassified. Those who have a lifetime obligation of prepublication review are responsible for ensuring their proposals and associated presentations/posters have had the appropriate reviews. Proposals for single presentations or full panels (two to four speakers) are welcome. CCH staff will form panels from single presentations with the goal of putting like topics together. Presenters should be prepared to speak for approximately 15-20 minutes; proposals for a longer time slot should include a strong justification and will be considered, but not guaranteed.

Proposal packages should include the following:

- A title
- An abstract of no more than 500 words
- The amount of time required for the presentation; if longer than 20 minutes, please provide a justification (not applicable for poster presentations)
- A 150-word biographical sketch for each speaker, which will be used in the published program
- Full contact details of the speaker(s) (address, email, telephone number)
- Optional: A CV or resume for the speaker(s) that includes relevant publications and presentations

Please submit your proposals by **September 5, 2024** to CCH via email or mail:

Email: cchevents@nsa.gov

Address: Center for Cryptologic History (CCH)
Suite 6886, ATTN: Symposium Committee
9800 Savage Road
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755

Proposals received after **September 5, 2024** will be considered on a space-available basis. CCH will notify you about the final status of your proposal by **December 12, 2024**, but may contact you for discussion before that date. If accepted, all slide decks and other technology requirements must be submitted to CCH by **April 21, 2025**.

Estimated Costs

Registration fees for the 2025 Symposium have not been finalized at this time, but for planning purposes the fees in 2019 (the most recent in-person event) were as follows. A modest increase is anticipated for 2025. Speakers and attendees may register for only one day or both days (April 30 – May 1, 2025):

Registration Rate Category	Daily Fee
Standard	\$70 / day
Student (with student ID)	\$35 / day

Speaker – Non-US Government Employee	\$0 on speaking day; Standard or Student rate on additional day
Speaker – US Government Employee	Standard or Student Rate each day

The daily registration fee includes lunch plus morning and afternoon refreshments on April 30 – May 1, 2025. Admission to the National Cryptologic Museum on May 2, 2025 is free to all attendees, but no lunch or refreshments will be provided on that day.

Registration for the NCF general meeting on April 29, 2025 is handled separately through the NCF. See www.cryptologicfoundation.org for details of their meeting.

There is no sponsored event hotel and CCH cannot make lodging or transportation recommendations for out-of-town attendees. Lodging and transportation arrangements are the responsibility of each attendee. Questions should be directed to Melissa Mann or John Tokar at cchevents@nsa.gov or 301-688-2336.

About the Center for Cryptologic History (CCH)

The National Security Agency (NSA) established the Center for Cryptologic History in 1989. CCH keeps history alive by enhancing the knowledge and decision-making abilities of the Intelligence Community (IC). A critical asset, the CCH provides a historical and objective account of cryptologic history for the NSA, IC, Department of Defense, other government agencies, academia, and the general public. At the CCH, we believe learning from the past can help improve future decision making and strengthen the public's understanding of cryptology's role in national security.