

# AIR UNIVERSITY LANGUAGE, REGIONAL EXPERTISE & CULTURE SYMPOSIUM

MARCH 29 - 30, 2017 | MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE



## Call for Proposals

In July 2016, the new Chief of Staff of the Air Force, General David L. Goldfein, laid out his priorities for his tenure. The three main priorities were to strengthen squadrons, focus on joint task force leadership, and to maintain “coalition at the core” of all our operations. All of the CSAF’s priorities entail some form of cultural, linguistic and regional expertise, the LREC Symposium will focus on the theme of “Coalition at the Core.”

The Air Force uses the term “coalition” specifically to describe the practice of working with other countries’ governments and militaries toward common goals. However, one might also use the term to indicate the diverse intercultural partnerships and alliances that we build on a daily basis within our Air Force, across US sister services, within American society, and of course, with people in other countries. To be “coalition at the core” implies being able to navigate intercultural experiences at every level of Air Force activity, whether at home or abroad.

With this broader definition of coalition in mind, the Air Force Culture and Language Center invites proposals for papers and presentations for the 2017 AU LREC Symposium. The proposals should highlight how the Air Force is building, maintaining, or growing a core of coalition-minded Airmen.

The conference will provide experts in the field a platform for academic exchange on topics specific to culture and language education in the military. It will also provide a forum for any military personnel to share their experiences or lessons learned pertaining to language and

culture. Unlike other forums that focus on the broader military-academia nexus, this conference is tailored to addressing the language and culture needs that are relevant to the US Air Force (AF), which have been growing and receiving added attention over time, as well as the wealth of experience that educational and operational endeavors have created. We invite presenters and participants to discuss critical cultural, regional, and linguistic research topics that have relevance for the AF and the US military in general.

**To submit a proposal, please follow these guidelines:**

Proposals must be submitted by 1 February 2017 via the “Register Now” page on this website.

All proposals must be submitted in Microsoft Word or PDF formats.

Further information: There will be two types of sessions: individual papers/presentations and panel discussions. Descriptions of each are below. The Symposium organizers will organize sessions based on similarity of topics. If you would like to propose an entire panel discussion around one issue, please contact the organizers at [af.clc@us.af.mil](mailto:af.clc@us.af.mil).

**Proposals for Individual Papers/Presentations:**

- Individual papers or presentations are formal presentations by one or more authors, preferably on topics listed in the Focus Areas later in this document. Papers may be based on original research, lessons learned, or overall experience.
- Each presentation will be limited to no more than 25 minutes in length, including a question-and-answer period. Sessions will be organized into 90 or 120 minute blocks, each with a session facilitator to keep time and coordinate question and answer periods.
- Selected individual papers will be submitted for publication via the Air University Press.
- All proposals must include the following, in this order:
  - Your name, unit or organizational affiliation, and location
  - Title of your paper or presentation
  - Key words (up to 5): this is for quick reference to the topic of your material
  - Abstract (200-500 words): this will be used by the Symposium organizers to evaluate your proposal
  - Brief description (up to 20 words): this will be used in the Symposium schedule to draw attendees to your session!

### **Proposals for Panel Discussions:**

- Panel discussions are in-depth discussions between presenters and attendees on a topic pertaining to regional cultural issues of global interest for military education and training, with a discussant as moderator. Preferred topics are listed in number 3 of the Focus Areas below.
- Each panel discussion will begin with a brief introduction by a discussant (approx. 10 mins), followed by brief presentations by each panel member (approx. 10 mins each), followed by an open discussion with the audience. Sessions will be organized into 90 or 120 minute blocks, depending on the number of people in the panel.
- All proposals must include the following, in this order:
  - Your name, unit or organizational affiliation, and location
  - Topic of your presentation
  - Key words (up to 5): this is for quick reference to the topic of your material
  - Abstract (200-500 words): this will be used by the Symposium organizers to evaluate your proposal
  - Questions for further discussion (at least 3): these will be used to organize panels and may be presented to the audience for discussion

### **Focus Areas:**

Listed below are the focus areas for submitting proposals. Please tailor your proposal to one of these areas.

- 1. Coalition-centered PME:** approaches and/or courses focused on coalition-building and culture.
  - a.** Strategic/joint planning courses
  - b.** Language and culture courses as the heart of coalition-centered PME.
- 2. Experiences of collaboration with military and non-military partners**
  - a.** Conflict zone missions
  - b.** Humanitarian missions
  - c.** Joint military exercises
- 3. Regional cultural issues pertaining to global areas of interest for coalition-centered experience.** Panel proposals will be organized into regional or coalition-focused areas (such as those listed below)
  - a.** Europe
  - b.** Asia-Pacific
  - c.** Middle East

- d. Africa
- e. The Americas
- f. NATO
- g. State Partnership Programs

### **Submission Review:**

Submissions will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

- Provides comparative insights into a specific topic relevant to current military engagements
- Describes specific knowledge and skills and/or improvement in teaching and learning
- Suggests timely and critical topics with a regional focus (for panel discussions)

### **Facilities:**

Rooms for the Symposium will be equipped with computers, overhead projectors, and screens. Wireless Internet access will also be available.

### **Timeline for Submissions:**

Proposals must be submitted by 1 February 2017, via the Symposium website: <http://culture.af.mil/symposium>

Selectees will be notified no later than 3 March 2017.

You must send your full presentation to event staff at [af.clc@us.af.mil](mailto:af.clc@us.af.mil) by 22 March 2017, so we can avoid any problems due to compatibility of files or network outages. A full presentation can be a Powerpoint or other type of visual presentation, OR a completed paper plus a Powerpoint/visual presentation.

If you would like to be considered for an **individual paper award**, please send your completed paper along with your presentation.

The Symposium will be held 29-30 March 2017, at Air University facilities at Maxwell AFB, AL.