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**ACTION MEMO**

FOR: THERESA WHELAN, PTDO UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY

FROM: Kate Charlet, Principal Director, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Cyber Policy

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JAN 24 2017

SUBJECT: Approval for Recurring DoD-Sponsored Conference CYBER ENDEAVOUR

- This memo requests your approval for Conference CYBER ENDEAVOUR (CE) 2017, and for future exemption from this approval process in accordance with CE's status as a recurring DoD-sponsored conference.
  - The first CE conference was held at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) in 2011. Subsequent events have been held at NPS, MIT Lincoln Labs, and in 2017 at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA. Each year the event is sponsored by the DoD IO Center for Research (at NPS) and the Army Reserve's 335th Signal Command (Theater). will be held
  - The theme for CE17 is *Asymmetric Deterrence through Cyber Space (2022)—Threats, Concepts, and Solutions*. CE17 examines threats over the next five years from both state and non-state actors and explores concepts for deterring these threats with assistance from DoD and other U.S. Government agencies, industry, national laboratories, and academia with the aim of identifying potential solutions. An information sheet is attached at Tab A.
- Approval authority for conferences costing more than \$100,000 but not more than \$500,000 resides at the Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense level (Tier 2 Approval Authority for conferences).
- Approval officials are authorized to provide one-time approval for recurring DoD-sponsored or hosted conferences (e.g., annual conferences), in accordance with the DoD Conference Guidance, Version 4.0 (p.7, Paragraph III.3.e.), at TAB B.
  - Since the language in that document can be seen as ambiguous, we have confirmed that a single approval action can constitute approval for the entire upcoming yearly series.
  - DCMO recommends, and we agree, that we place some limit on the number of recurrences. We suggest limiting approval to four annual events including the upcoming one, aligning the resulting four-year series with the incoming Administration. Naval Postgraduate School agrees with this limit.

Prepared by: Mr. Charles Swett, DASD Cyber Policy, 703-697-3321


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RECOMMENDATION: That you approve CE17 and exempt the following three annual CE conferences from the approval process as a recurring DoD-sponsored conference, in accordance with the DoD Conference Guidance.

Approve:  \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

JAN 27 2017

**Attachments:**

TAB A: Information Sheet on CYBER ENDEAVOR

TAB B: Department of Defense Conference Guidance, Version 4.0

TAB C: Coordination