

7th Annual

OCRI SYMPOSIUM

October 1, 2025 | Digital Futures Building



**OHIO CYBER
RANGE INSTITUTE**

UNLOCKING POTENTIAL,
SECURING THE FUTURE

POWERED BY
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

AGENDA

8:30 - 9AM *Registration & Continental Breakfast*

9 - 10AM *Opening Remarks - Room 140*

10:15 - 11:15AM *Breakout Session 1 (Five Tracks)*

11:15AM - 12:30PM *Lunch - Room 140*

12:30 - 1:30PM *Breakout Session 2 (Five Tracks)*

1:30 - 2:15PM *Networking & Dessert - Lobby*

2:15 - 3:15PM *Breakout Session 3 (Five Tracks)*

3:30 - 4PM *Closing Remarks - Room 140*

Location:

University of Cincinnati
Digital Futures Building
3080 Exploration Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45206

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Breakout Sessions

Breakout Session 1

- Training Thousands of Public Employees: O-PCI's Impact and How You Can Help
- Proof of Personhood Protocol
- Cyber Control Towers: A Conceptual Framework for Coordinated Cybersecurity Operations
- Building a Cybersecurity Clinic
- Enhancing Cybersecurity Workforce Readiness Through Gamified Cyber Exercises

Breakout Session 2

- Increasing Ohio's Cybersecurity Posture Through Volunteer Efforts of the OhCR
- CyberSafe: Virtualizing Cybersecurity Awareness Training for K-12 Students
- New Courseware Developed for Introduction to Security of Satellite Systems
- Current Research and Projects at Ohio State University's Center for Design and Manufacturing Excellence (CDME)

Breakout Session 3

- Bridging Cybersecurity Education: Cybersecurity Testbed for Critical Infrastructure Protection
- Ohio Cyber Range - an Interactive Session on Using the Range
- Building Cyber Capacity Through Partnerships
- Lessons from the OCRI-Funded Summer Bootcamps Driving Youth Readiness in Cybersecurity
- Advanced Digital Forensics Techniques
- Mapping Your Cybersecurity Path

Breakout Session 1 10:15 - 11:15AM

Training Thousands of Public Employees: O-PCI's Impact and How You Can Help, Room 145

A showcase of O-PCI'S cyber training and its real-world impact on local governments across Ohio.

Presented by Peter Kobak and Jonathan Ludvigsen, O-PCI, UC; Grant Neeley, University of Dayton; Darren Rozenek and Engelbert Gal, City of Akron

Proof of Personhood Protocol, Room 150

A hardware-backed protocol developed at UC verifies human presence when logged in.

Presented by Michael Jones, PhD, Lindner College of Business, UC

Cyber Control Towers: A Conceptual Framework for Coordinated Cybersecurity Operations, Room 262

UC's School of Information Technology presents a conceptual framework called Cyber Control Towers to improve cyber operations.

Presented by Opetunde Ibitoye, PhD Candidate, SoIT, UC

Building a Cybersecurity Clinic, Room 362

Overview of Miami University's cybersecurity clinic, with resources to help others start similar initiatives in their communities.

Presented by James Walden, PhD, Joseph Nwankpa, PhD; and Tony Rose, MBA, Miami University

Enhancing Cybersecurity Workforce Readiness Through Gamified Cyber Exercises, Room 331C

Evidence shows gamified CTFs, red/blue team simulations, and adaptive learning can boost cybersecurity skills and readiness.

Presented by Joel Appiah, PhD Candidate, SoIT, UC

Breakout Session 2 12:30 - 1:30PM

Increasing Ohio's Cybersecurity Posture Through Volunteer Efforts of the Ohio Cyber Reserve, Room 145

Explore how Ohio boosted its cybersecurity posture through volunteer efforts to harness local talent, strengthening public resilience.

Presented by Ben Fraley, Christ Hospital

CyberSafe: Virtualizing Cybersecurity Awareness Training for K-12 Students, Room 150

CyberSafe at the University of Dayton empowers K-12 students with essential skills to safely navigate the Internet.

Presented by Zhongmei Yao, PhD, University of Dayton

New Courseware Developed for Introduction to Security of Satellite Systems, Room 262

An intro to the fundamentals of space systems, including satellites, ground stations, and users, general principles of wireless and satellite communications.

Presented by Avinash Karanth, PhD, Ohio University

Current Research and Projects at OSU's CDME, Room 362

A look at award-winning NSA-funded research, along with ongoing NSF-backed work on how to test blockchain systems.

Presented by Vimal Buck and Ted Allen, PhD, The Ohio State University

Bridging Cybersecurity Education: Cybersecurity Testbed for Critical Infrastructure Protection, Room 331C

UC's School of Information Technology presents on leveraging cybersecurity testbeds for infrastructure defense.

Presented by Taiwo Peter Akinremi, PhD Candidate, SoIT, UC

Breakout Session 3 2:15 - 3:15PM

Ohio Cyber Range: An Interactive Hands-On Session, Room 145

Learn about everything the Range has to offer.

Presented by Bekah Littlepage, Sam Bricking and Will Nguyen, OCRI, UC

Building Cyber Capacity Through Partnerships, Room 150

A discussion of the Cin-Day Cyber initiative, where schools, trade groups, and agencies unite to tackle cyber workforce gaps.

Presented by Cassie Barlow, PhD, and Patty Buddelmeyer, SOCHE

Lessons from the OCRI-Funded Summer Bootcamps Driving Youth Readiness in Cybersecurity, Room 262

Highlights of The Past Foundation's transformative impact of its cybersecurity summer bootcamps.

Presented by Kathy D. Wright, EMBA, M.Ed., PAST Foundation

Advanced Digital Forensics Techniques, Room 362

Intro to chip-off forensics, a mobile forensics tactic to recover data from a memory chip.

Presented by Stanley Smith, University of Akron; and Larry Atkinson, Professor, Lorain County Community College

Mapping Your Cybersecurity Path, Room 331C

A demo using the NICE Framework to map your path to cybersecurity careers, degrees and certifications.

Presented by Mark Bell, ADJ, and Bekah Michael, OCRI, UC

Scan for full
 breakout ➡
 descriptions



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