The Experience

“This has been such a fulfilling and invaluable professional experience, and one that I have already recommended to many up-and-coming national security professionals.”

“The atmosphere you have cultivated here is rare and special, particularly in the field of national security. You have challenged my biases and assumptions, engaged in my learning processes even when my level of understanding of a particular issue was embarrassingly meager, and encouraged me to be bold and creative.”

“The community that you have built here is special, and I look forward to hearing from the next generation of associates how the Lab has played a formative role in their careers.”

To learn more about CGSR’s activities and job opportunities, visit our website: cgsr.llnl.gov
Research Opportunities

Research Associates (RAs):
RAs have two primary responsibilities: (1) to provide research support to a CGSR staff member working in one of the major topical areas, and (2) to conduct an independent research project in consultation with an LLNL mentor and other experts. Appointments are for a period of up to four months.

Postdoctoral Fellowships (PFs):
PFs conduct independent research and contribute broadly to the Center’s mission. Fellowships focus on the following thematic areas: 1) Technology and national security, 2) Cybersecurity, 3) Extended deterrence and assurance of allies, and 4) Strategic net assessment. Appointments are typically for a period of two years (one year with the option to extend for a second year).

Alumni Affiliations
Past research associates and postdocs have gone on to work at the following institutions:
- International Atomic Energy Agency
- NATO
- U.S. Department of State
- U.S. Intelligence Community
- Nuclear Threat Initiative
- Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs

To Apply
Openings for research associate positions are on a rolling basis. Selections are made three times a year for spring, summer, and fall/winter quarters.
- Openings for postdoctoral appointments are posted online as they become available.
- U.S. citizenship not required.
- Security clearances not required.
- For more information, contact Wes Spain (spain1@llnl.gov).

Who Should Apply
As a multidisciplinary center, CGSR welcomes students from all disciplines with a diversity of intended career trajectories.

The Center’s Mission
The Center for Global Security Research (CGSR) was founded in 1992 to serve as a bridge between the technical and policy communities. It seeks to catalyze broader national and international thinking about the requirements of effective deterrence, assurance, and strategic stability in a dynamic security environment.

The Center’s Role
CGSR convenes workshops, sponsors lectures, conducts research and analysis, and generates publications. All of its work is unclassified. It focuses on five major topics:
- Major power rivalry and the changing dynamics of deterrence
- New regional challenges and challengers
- Integrated all-domain strategic deterrence
- Future of long-term cooperative strategies to reduce strategic dangers
- Future of long-term competitive strategies

Select Recent Publications
- Alex Campbell, “Persistent Engagement with Chinese Characteristics.” Lawfare.
- Jacek Durkalec, “European security without the INF Treaty.” NATO Review.