Dr. Winkler’s address will describe the steady development of the global communications grid with the U.S. at the center. He emphasizes that this grid is the overlooked - and perhaps more essential - component to understanding the recent revelations about the NSA’s monitoring of global communications. This is a study in an intricate but overlooked collision of diplomatic, military, strategic, and technological history. Jonathan Winkler is associate professor of history at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio.