

# FAITH IN THE WORKPLACE

ALUMNI SPEAKER SERIES



## Schedule

Oct. 24  
4 p.m.

### Location

Pryor-England Science  
Center 113

### Presenter

Dr. Terry Rickard

Oct. 25  
3 p.m.

### Location

Cone Chapel

### Presenter

Mitch and Elizabeth  
Breitweiser

Oct. 25  
3:30 p.m.

### Location

Cone Chapel

### Presenter

David L. Duke

Oct. 25  
4 p.m.

### Location

Cone Chapel

### Presenter

Dana D. Deree

## Welcome!

This speaker series aims to foster meaningful conversations, spark curiosity and provide valuable career guidance to our students. It offers a unique opportunity for attendees to hear from our distinguished alumni who have made their mark in various fields. From industry innovators to award-winning artists, our alumni have demonstrated the power of a Christian liberal arts education to shape critical thinkers, problem solvers and creative visionaries.

## Mission

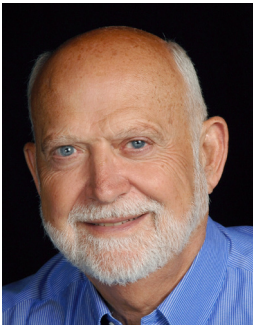
We, the College of Arts and Sciences, walk with our students, mentoring as we teach, using the best tools of the liberal arts and scientific inquiry — classical study and hands-on exploration. We seek to lead our students on the path to true thriving and faithful service in their lives, careers and continued studies.



## FAITH AND ARTS AND SCIENCES

*"... inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." — 1 Thessalonians 1:3*





## **Dr. Terry Rickard**

**Topic: “Computing with Words and Applications in Making Subjective Decisions”**

*Affiliate professor in the College of Arts and Sciences and Noah Oppermann, computer science major*

Dr. Terry Rickard has more than 50 years of experience in advanced technology and financial organizations specializing in research, management and technology development with expertise in signal processing, neural networks, financial engineering and type-2 fuzzy systems. He currently serves as managing partner of Royalty & Streaming Advisors LLC, CEO of Silver Predator Corporation, board member of Till Capital, Ltd., and chief data scientist at Meraglim, Inc., a predictive analytics company. Rickard is also the first appointed affiliate professor of Arts and Sciences at Harding University, advising students pursuing graduate studies in engineering and computer science. A co-inventor of the OptiMark transaction system, he has authored more than 80 publications, holds 11 patents and earned a doctorate from the University of California San Diego.

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## **Mitch and Elizabeth Breitweiser**

**Life Imitating Art**

*Outstanding Alumni*

Mitch ('00) and Elizabeth Breitweiser ('06) are a dynamic duo in the world of comic illustration, celebrated for their contributions to both mainstream and independent comics. Mitch's striking and emotive artwork and Elizabeth's vivid and atmospheric coloring have brought iconic characters and stories to life. The Breitweisers have worked on major titles such as “Captain America,” “Winter Soldier” and “Drax the Destroyer,” and their unique style has left a lasting impact on the Marvel Universe. They are also the creative force behind their independent publishing venture, Allegiance Arts, where they continue to innovate in the comic medium.

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## **David L. Duke**

**Topic: “Inspiration to Impact: Navigating Innovation in Tech and Business”**

*Outstanding Alumnus*

David L. Duke ('00) is the senior director of information technology, analytics and data sciences for Lilly, where he leads cutting-edge initiatives in health care technology. With a deep expertise in algorithm development and a passion for enhancing patient care, Duke oversees the creation and implementation of innovative solutions that drive the future of connected health care. His work focuses on leveraging advanced data analytics and AI to improve patient outcomes, streamline care processes and support personalized medicine. His leadership and vision are instrumental in advancing the integration of technology in health care, making a significant impact on the industry and individual lives.

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## **Dana D. Deree**

**Topic: “Fostering Success: From Foster Kid to Diplomat to Founder/CEO”**

*Botham Jean Inspiration Award*

Dana D. Deree ('93) founded Arkansas Global Connect, a company with a client list of internationally known firms that was acquired by BDV Solutions in April 2024. He previously enjoyed a distinguished two-decade diplomatic career, retiring as a senior Foreign Service Officer in 2021. He is also a Marine Corps combat veteran, former Navy officer, and six-year Arkansas public school teacher. His cross-cultural collaboration and strategic planning expertise have made him a key figure in the public and private sectors. He holds undergraduate and master's degrees from Harding. He enrolled at the University after experiencing extreme poverty and homelessness as a child and aging out of the foster care system.