Welcome!

Today is our annual Faith & Business Symposium in the Carter College of Business Administration. Homecoming is a busy and fun weekend. We know that today’s speakers will provide additional value and great preparation for your future as Christian professionals.

• Attend a lecture during each regularly scheduled Friday COBA class.
• Dress business casual to make a good impression.
• Be engaged and ready to ask questions.
• Bring a notepad to take notes.

Friday, Oct. 28, we have replaced all business classes with various presentations throughout the day. Attendance at the presentations will be required and reported to your professors.
Blair Bryan

Blair grew up in Texas, Alabama, and Oklahoma. But, much of his life would be shaped during his four years, while a college student at Harding. He graduated as an accounting major, with an emphasis in Management. Following graduation, he worked a couple of years for Arthur Young & Co. in their Dallas office. He then shifted careers to Commercial Real Estate, where he worked for The Staubach Company in multiple offices throughout the US over the next 25 years. Eventually, he ended up owning 7 offices throughout the Southeast and was recognized as a leader in the industry nationally. Blair was on the Staubach leadership team, who orchestrated the sale of The Staubach Company to Jones Lang LaSalle for $660M. Once again, Blair shifted his career again, to focus on efforts that would strategically contribute to expanding God’s Kingdom. His wife Karen also attended Harding, as well as their 4 children.

Brant Bryan

One of the founding leaders of Fairways Equities and Cresa Global, Brant is a specialist in creative financing solutions through leases, purchases, joint ventures, and other financial structures. Having seen hundreds of different real estate finance transactions, Brant has been called a “technical expert who thinks outside of the box.” Brant has provided both financial and real estate leadership for over $8 Billion of projects of major corporations throughout the country and has facilitated private equity placements for over 30 start-up ventures. With extensive background in corporate real estate, real estate finance, and real estate accounting, Brant is a frequent speaker for real estate and financial organizations and has been quoted as an authority in these matters by the New York Times, CFO, National Real Estate Investor, and The Wall Street Journal. Brant and his wife, Melita, met at Harding. Several of their children and grandchildren have also attended Harding. They live in Dallas where they attend CareChurch, and are actively involved in many ministries locally and globally. Brant has been an adjunct professor at Abilene Christian University and at Harding University in Searcy. A graduate of the Harvard Business School, where he received his MBA, Brant brings a level of creativity to everything he does.

Robert Coggin

Robert currently serves as the Director of Facility Safety Services for National HealthCare Corporation (NYSE American: NHC) since 2006. He has been employed with NHC for twenty-five years. He directs the company’s fire, emergency management, life safety, and OSHA areas. He began his career in NHC’s Administrator-in-training program and as an Administrator. He graduated from Harding University with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in 1997. He also received his Master of Business Administration from Harding University in 2009. He has been a member of the Board of Trustees of Middle Tennessee Christian School (MTCS) since 2009. MTCS is a PreK-3 through 12th grade school. He is currently chair of the Finance and Investments Committee. He is also a member of the Governance Committee. Robert and his wife, Betsy, have been married for 17 years and live in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. They have three children and are active members of North Blvd. Church of Christ.

Sean Evans

Sean (pronounced “Seen”) is the General Counsel for Walton Enterprises, LLC, a family office serving the business, personal and philanthropic endeavors of the Walton family. In this role, Sean advises Walton family members on all types of legal and wealth planning matters. He and his team also oversee all legal aspects of the Walton Family Office, Walton Family Foundation, and affiliated entities. Prior to joining Walton Enterprises, Sean was a lawyer at large, international law firms mostly working on transactional and corporate matters. Sean graduated from Harding University (‘01) with a degree in accounting and a minor in Bible, earned a law degree from Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law and obtained an advanced law degree in tax from New York University School of Law. Sean is a licensed CPA in the State of Texas. Sean and his wife Rachel (’00) have been married for 22 years. They currently live in Bentonville, Arkansas with there three children: Ava (14), Eli (11), and Owen (9). They are members of Bentonville Church of Christ. Sean is the President of the Board of Directors of Bentonville Christian Academy, a private, Christian preschool and elementary school. Sean enjoys watching Kansas University basketball and spending time with his family.

Julie Guymon

Julie Guymon graduated Magna Cum Laude from Harding in 1986 with a BBA in accounting and is a licensed CPA (Arkansas). She joined the audit practice of Arthur Young & Company in Little Rock immediately following graduation. In 1988, she joined Dillard’s Inc. during a period of rapid growth for the company. Julie served in various accounting roles at Dillard’s assuming the role of Director of Investor Relations in 1997. As Director of Investor Relations, Julie brings together a passion for finance, communication and fashion to deliver vital company information to the investment community, media and other stakeholders. She also serves as the Corporate Spokesperson for Dillard’s and is certified in Crisis Communication from the Institute for Crisis Management. Julie serves on the Board of Directors of the National Investor Relations Institute Virtual Chapter and is a former member of the Arkansas Children’s Hospital Board of Directors. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Arkansas Society of Certified Public Accountants. Julie is married to Steve Guymon who served Harding as the Head Track and Field and Cross Country Coach for 17 years. Together, they have five adult children, two daughters in law, one son in law, two grandchildren and a spoiled Labrador Retriever named Baylor.
Lindy Ingram  

Lindy Ingram lived in Baton Rouge, LA prior to attending Harding University where she earned her BBA in Business Systems Analysis. She graduated from Harding University with her MBA (Masters of Business Administration) degree. While attending Harding she participated in the Chorus and was on the women’s softball team. Upon graduation, Lindy started her career and her family. Lindy moved to Texas and pursued a career in Accounting, working as the Controller for a banking technology company. She is the co-owner of Lone Star Behavioral Health, which includes a Psychiatric Hospital and the Houston areas largest Behavioral Health Partial Hospitalization and Outpatient Program. Lindy currently works as the Chief Executive Officer of all the Ingram’s medical facilities. In addition to her administrative duties, Lindy is a Certified Medical Compliance Officer and is certified as an instructor in Non-Violent Physical Crisis Intervention. She donates her time as a member on several community and charitable organizations. Lindy was recognized by Harding University as the Outstanding Alumni for Harding in 2018 in Business and currently serves on the COBA board. Lindy was asked to join the Harding University Board of Trustees in October 2019 and serves on the Risk & Compliance Committee. She recently completed her MJur in Healthcare Law at Texas A&M. Lindy considers herself an outdoorswoman, a creative grandmother and Christian.

Nathan Ingram  

Nathan Ingram lived in the mountains of Tennessee before attending Harding University where he earned BA degrees in Psychology and Bible. Upon graduation, Nathan took a job with the State of Tennessee and worked as a Prison Counselor, a CPS caseworker, a Juvenile Probation Officer, and the Coordinator of the State’s “Just Say No” programs. During these years, Nathan earned his Master’s degree from Tennessee Technological University in Educational Psychology. Nathan moved to Texas to pursue a doctoral degree in Public Health and began his current work in the Behavioral Health Field. Nathan is the owner of Lone Star Behavioral Health, a Psychiatric Hospital and the Houston areas largest Behavioral Health Partial Hospitalization and Outpatient Program. Nathan operates Lone Star as the President of the board of directors and is the owner of Tranquility Ranch and Tranquility Sand & Gravel. Nathan is a published author and his first book, Christ At The Coffee Shop, has had multiple reprints and distributions. Nathan often speaks at various community and charitable organizations, and was a featured speaker for Harding University during the dedication of their new business building. Nathan’s next book, How To Keep Fear From Scaring You To Death, is based on his experience while hunting lions in Africa. Nathan serves as an Elder at Woodland Oaks Church of Christ and was selected as the Outstanding Alumni for Harding in 2016 in Psychology. Nathan considers himself an avid outdoorsman, family man, storyteller and Christian.

Nick Kennedy  

Nick Kennedy is a serial entrepreneur and an executive life coach with over 20 years of experience building successful ventures. After accumulating over two million airline miles traveling for work while losing hours of productivity and family time, Nick founded RISE in 2014. A private airline, RISE created a two-sided marketplace that connected busy business executives with private plane operators to redefine travel in order to regain control of wasted time. By its acquisition by Surf Air in 2017, RISE had served thousands of travelers with private flying services. Prior to RISE, Nick began his career as a business development manager for EDS. He then went on to build multiple health care–centered businesses, including Galvanon (acquired by NCR), Global Health Grid, and eviti, Inc. (both acquired by NantHealth, Inc.). Now as a coach with over four thousand hours of experience for high-powered executives, he helps stuck executives become fully integrated spouses, parents, and businesspeople. Nick was named a 2017 EY Entrepreneur of the Year, awarded Dallas Business Journal’s 40 Under 40 and serves as a Capital Factory mentor and on the boards of several companies. He has been featured in NY Times, The Wall Street Journal, D Magazine, Texas Monthly, Dallas News, and the Dallas Business Journal. Nick splits his time between Texas and Colorado, along with his wife Angela and kids, Will, Sam, and Jane.

Esperanza Massana-Crane  

Esperanza is the director of the Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWOBE) Division for the Arkansas Economic Development Commission. In her role, Esperanza facilitates the growth, development and expansion of minority and women-owned businesses by helping them gain access to valuable information, new market opportunities and financial resources. She began her career at AEDC in 2013 in the Business Development division where she worked as project manager and then transitioned to serve as marketing director in 2016. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Central Arkansas Library System, the Board of Directors for the Girl Scouts – Diamonds and is a member of the Little Rock Sister Cities Commission. She is a graduate of the Greater Little Rock Class XXX and a graduate of Leadership Arkansas Class XII. In 2018, Esperanza was recognized in Arkansas Business’ “40 Under 40” list and in 2021 was honored as one of Arkansas’ 250 most influential leaders. This September, Esperanza was recognized as Woman of the Year in Business by the Women’s Foundation of Arkansas at their Annual Power of the Purse Luncheon. Esperanza graduated with honors from Harding University with a double major in Marketing and International Business and has an MBA from Harding. She lives in the Hillcrest community of Little Rock with her husband Christopher, son Sebastián, and their two furry rescue pets.
Paul Maynard

Paul graduated from Harding University in 1987 with a degree in Accounting. He also graduated again in 1988 with his Masters Degree in Accounting. He is currently a Senior Partner at Deloitte where he has worked for 20 years. At Deloitte, Paul leads global teams that serve large multinational food companies. Deloitte will have $67 billion of revenue this year, operate in 150+ countries and have over 415,000 people in its ranks. Prior to his time at Deloitte, Paul was an audit partner at Arthur Andersen. Paul and his wife Robin (Ross) Maynard (1989) are the proud parents of three children who have attended Harding. Allie (28), Matthew (22) and Jake (20). Robin is an attorney and serves on the Harding University Board of Trustees. Paul is very active in the Woodbury, Minnesota Church of Christ where he is an elder, worship leader, small group leader, bible class teacher and finance committee member. Paul is also passionate about other non-profits where he has served on the Board including New Life Academy and Flaming Pine Youth Camp. He has also been on the national finance committee for two U.S. presidential candidates and numerous U.S. Senate and House Candidates along with candidates for Governor and State Senate and House. Paul is a season ticket holder for the Minnesota Twins and Minnesota Timberwolves and has enjoyed traveling to nearly 40 foreign countries.

Daniela Misas-Katimi

Daniela is a holistic health coach with a passion for teaching individuals how to find a healthy lifestyle, while also enjoying a routine and a sustainable diet. She has worked professionally as a health and wellness promoter with companies such as Grupo Roble, Mall Cascadas, Planeta orgánico, and Lu Active. She was nominated as ambassador 2019 Voces Vitales Honduras Good profit collaborations with Black and Decker, Frigidaire, Mennen, Huggies, Bimbo Global Race, and others. She has published numerous recipe books and e-guides, and she offers both virtual and in-person programs. Daniela is a 2013 graduate of Harding University with undergraduate degrees in management and marketing. She was a part of the Honors College and graduated Magna Cum Laude. She lives in Honduras with her husband and her son.

Tom Watson

Tom serves as the chief executive officer (CEO) of FORVIS, a top 10 professional services firm that delivers its experience and service with a deep understanding of its clients' businesses, their needs, and what it takes to improve their business performance. As an international CPA and advisory firm, FORVIS serves clients in all 50 states and internationally. Tom is responsible for the leadership and strategic direction of the firm’s more than 5,500 personnel, including approximately 530 partners. Tom also serves as trustee of the FORVIS Foundation, FORVIS’ philanthropic fundraising organization. Previously, Tom served as CEO of BKD, LLP, a top 15 accounting and advisory firm that merged with DHG to create FORVIS. Tom also served as South Region managing partner and Dallas/Fort Worth/Waco market managing partner prior to assuming the CEO role. During his career, Tom specialized in providing services to healthcare organizations, where he provided audit and advisory services to some of FORVIS’ most complex clients. He also served as healthcare regional industry leader where he helped guide the growth of this industry in the firm’s South Region. He is a Fellow of the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) and a member of the President’s Council at Harding University. He is active in the community through involvement in numerous organizations. Tom is a 1992 graduate of Harding University, Searcy, Arkansas, with a B.B.A. degree.

Mike Williams

On June 1, 2022, Dr. Michael D. Williams became the 6th president of Harding University. Prior to his appointment at Harding, Williams served as the 8th President of Faulkner University from 2015-2022. During his tenure, Williams led the institution through a time of tremendous growth and progress. A significant achievement of his presidency was the creation of the College of Health Sciences. The crowning jewel of this project was the launching of an autism center. Williams' professional career includes a previous tenure at Harding spanning 28 years. From 1987 to 2003, Williams held a number of leadership roles within enrollment management. Harding experienced a time of unparalleled enrollment growth during his tenure. In 2003, Williams was appointed as vice president for university advancement. Williams' educational background includes an undergraduate degree in Accounting and an MBA from the Paul R. Carter College of Business at Harding. In 2008, he completed the Ed. D in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania. Williams has served in numerous leadership roles in professional organizations. Deeply committed to community development, Williams has also been involved as a leader in community organizations. He and his wife Lisa have been married 35 years. Lisa received her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Harding's Canon-Clary College of Education. They have two sons, Quentin and Cade. Cade and his wife, Cailin, are both Harding graduates as well.
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Room 101</th>
<th>Room 107</th>
<th>Room 110</th>
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<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Brant Bryan</td>
<td>Blair Bryan</td>
<td>Nick Kennedy</td>
<td>COBA CHAT: Leadership in Healthcare</td>
<td>Daniela Misas Katimi</td>
<td>Paul Maynard</td>
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<td>11 a.m.</td>
<td>Lindy and Nathan Ingram</td>
<td>Blair Bryan</td>
<td>Sean Evans</td>
<td>Mike Williams</td>
<td>Esperanza Massana Crane</td>
<td>The Road Less Traveled</td>
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<td>Capitalism or Greed: A Christian Entrepreneur's View on Making Money</td>
<td>Bootcamp for Leadership</td>
<td>Impressing Your Boss: A Framework for Thriving at Work</td>
<td>Inspired Leadership</td>
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<td>1 p.m.</td>
<td>Lindy and Nathan Ingram</td>
<td>Tom Watson</td>
<td>Sean Evans</td>
<td>COBA CHAT: Christlike Leadership</td>
<td>Julie Guymon</td>
<td>Robert Coggin</td>
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<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Nick Kennedy</td>
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<td>COBA CHAT: CEO Panel</td>
<td>Julie Guymon</td>
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<td>Buying Planes, Flipping Bikes, and Cheating Death: the Inside Story of Building Businesses and Creating a Legacy</td>
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<td>Tom Watson Mike Williams</td>
<td>From Race Street to Wall Street: Where Finance Meets Fashion and Faith</td>
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