Join us for a series of five lectures presented by some of Chapman University's outstanding faculty members and academic leaders.

11:30 a.m. • George H.W. Bush Conference Center, Beckman Hall, Room 404

October 6, 2022
The Architecture of Dance
Julianne O’Brien
Professor, Chair, Dance Department, College of Performing Arts

Performer, choreographer, academic leader and dance educator Julianne O’Brien will present her perspective on dance and architecture, which can be understood by observing elements of time and space. Join us to explore this concept with a lecture demonstration by O’Brien and two of the program’s students – which has been named one of the Best College Dance Programs in the U.S. You will also see a sneak preview of the site-specific choreography created by Professor Wilson Mendieta that will premiere at the opening of the new Sandi Simon Center for Dance. The center is housed in the historic circa-1918 Villa Park Orchards Association Packing House, an icon of Old Towne Orange and the region’s citrus-growing heyday. The adaptive reuse of the building will provide nearly 33,000 square feet for teaching studios, performance space and a training center dedicated to dancer health.

November 3, 2022
Happy Accidents - Looking Back on 20+ Years at Chapman
Erik Linstead '01, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Senior Associate Dean, Fowler School of Engineering

Erik Linstead has spent his entire adult life at Chapman. He showed up as a scared freshman studying computer science in 1998, and never really left. He has held many faculty positions, had a successful career in the aerospace industry and lent a hand building the Fowler School of Engineering. When his daughter showed up as a scared freshman studying computer science in 1998, and never really left. He has held many faculty positions, had a successful career in the aerospace industry and lent a hand building the Fowler School of Engineering. When his daughter

February 2, 2023
Dinosaur Remains in California: The How, Where and How Rare
Jack Horner
President, Fellow, Honors Program, Schmid College of Science and Technology, Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

When Jack Horner shows up to speak to an audience, he brings his unconventional thinking and creativity. In addition to his teaching, he has been the technical advisor for all of the Jurassic Park films. Dinosaurs – his passion in life – lived throughout the world for more than 150 million years, yet their remains are rare in many places such as California, Oregon and Washington. Come be delighted in learning basic geology, how dinosaur remains were preserved, how we know where to look for these remains, and how we extract them for study and display. He will also introduce a project he is involved with centered on the observation of dinosaur traits in modern animals.

March 2, 2023
Clearing the Path for Trailblazers: First-Generation Support in the School of Communication
Sara LaBelle, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Assistant Dean of Academic Programs and Faculty Development, Director, Graduate Student Instructor Program, School of Communication

Were you the first person in your family to go to college? If so, you know that being a “first-generation” student can be uniquely challenging. Defined as a student whose parent(s)/legal guardian(s) have not completed a bachelor’s degree, first generation students are often less certain of their ability to navigate the collegiate environment. Notably, the percentage of first-generation students at Chapman is growing, with roughly 20% of students being the first in their family to attend a four-year college or university.

A first-generation student herself, Dr. LaBelle will discuss the development of a student-driven initiative to support these students at Chapman. The School of Communication’s Trailblazer Program hopes to be a leader across campus in celebrating the unique strengths that our first-generation students bring to the campus community.

May 4, 2023
Forensic Evidence in the Courtroom: Constitutional and Other Limitations
Mario Mainero
Associate Dean for Bar Preparation and Academic Achievement, Gray Family Professor of Law, Fowler School of Law

From breathalyzer results to chemical analysis of alleged drugs to DNA evidence, forensic evidence plays an important part in moving the burden of proof in criminal cases. But introducing evidence requires satisfying the Constitution's Sixth Amendment Confrontation Clause, in addition to other rules if the evidence is produced through a novel technique. Evidence introduction is not always so easy, especially when the lab tech or scientist who performs the actual forensic work is unavailable to testify or there is insufficient scientific consensus on the method used to produce the evidence. This talk will survey different kinds of forensic evidence that prosecutors may seek to introduce, and the limitations on introducing such forensic evidence that can spell the difference between conviction and dismissal of a prosecution.