



World Affairs Council of Charlotte Underwriting and Table Purchase

WACC Speaker Series Panel

Dean Shelley Rigger, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty | Brown Professor of Asian Politics at Davidson College and Tate Nurkin, Expert on defense and national security issues, U.S.-China military-technological competition, and Indo-Pacific security

Thursday, October 3rd, 2024

Hilton Charlotte Uptown

VIP Reception: 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | **Lunch:** 12:00 – 1:30 p.m

Dean Shelley Rigger,

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty | Brown Professor of Asian Politics at Davidson College
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Benefits of Underwriting a Speaker Series Program:

- ◆ Increase corporate visibility through program and education sponsorships
- ◆ Build, maintain, and strengthen professional and client networks through Council events
- ◆ Reach out to high-level professionals and leaders in the Charlotte community
- ◆ Learn about international affairs and current events from foreign delegates, world leaders, state officials, and renowned authors.
- ◆ Support international education in the Charlotte community.



Shelley Rigger is Brown Professor of East Asian Politics and Vice President for Academic Affairs/Dean of Faculty at Davidson College. She has a PhD in Government from Harvard University and a BA in Public and International Affairs from Princeton University. She has been a Fulbright scholar at National Taiwan University (2019), a visiting researcher at National Chengchi University in Taiwan (2005) and a visiting professor at Fudan University (2006) and Shanghai Jiaotong University (2013 & 2015).

She is a non-resident fellow of the China Policy Institute at Nottingham University and a senior fellow of the Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI). She is also a director of The Taiwan Fund, a closed-end investment fund specializing in Taiwan-listed companies.



Tate Nurkin is an independent researcher, analyst, and consultant with over 25 years of experience on defense and national security issues, U.S.-China military-technological competition, and Indo-Pacific security.

In March 2018, Tate started OTH Intelligence Group LLC, a sole proprietorship LLC established to provide analysis, consulting, and training on defense technology, Indo-Pacific security, and defense industry and market issues. OTH also specializes in the design and delivery of scenario planning and strategic wargaming exercises to both public and private sector organizations.

Tate serves as a Non-Resident Senior Fellow with both Forward Defense and the Indo-Pacific Security Initiative within the Brent Scowcroft Center for Strategy and Security at the Atlantic Council. He is also a Non-Resident Senior Fellow with the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments (CSBA) where he supports Indo-Pacific-focused wargaming and defense technology



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Rigger is the author of two books on Taiwan's domestic politics, *Politics in Taiwan: Voting for Democracy* (Routledge 1999) and *From Opposition to Power: Taiwan's Democratic Progressive Party* (Lynne Rienner Publishers 2001). She has published two books for general readers, *Why Taiwan Matters: Small Island, Global*

Powerhouse (2011) and *The Tiger Leading the Dragon: How Taiwan Propelled China's Economic Rise* (2021). She has published articles on Taiwan's domestic politics, the national identity issue in Taiwan-China relations and related topics.

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analysis. Since 2019, he has served as a Partner with One Defense, a firm that helps commercial firms engage with the U.S. defense and national security community.

Tate is a frequent speaker and author and his analysis has featured on and in CNN, Defense News, Breaking Defense, Janes Defense Weekly, Janes Intelligence Review, Janes Navy International, Deutsche Welle, The Military Balance ('21-'24), The Hill, and Defence IQ, among many others. He has published several monographs on defense innovation and technology policy and AI development for defense through the Atlantic Council since 2019.

From 2006 to February 2018, Tate worked with defense intelligence firm Janes, including as the Executive Director of Strategic Assessments and Futures Studies. Prior to Janes, he worked at the Modelling, Simulation, Wargaming and Analysis team at Booz Allen Hamilton, the Strategic Assessment Center of SAIC, and Joint Management Services, a small defense consulting firm in Atlanta.

Tate holds a Master of Science in International Affairs from the Sam Nunn School of international affairs at Georgia Tech (1999) and a Bachelor of Arts in history and political science from Duke University (1994). He lives in the Charlotte, NC area.



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UNDERWRITING INFORMATION: Please contact Madison NeeSmith by phone (704-687-7758) or [email mneesmit@charlotte.edu](mailto:mneesmit@charlotte.edu) for table purchases and underwriting information.

ABOUT WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF CHARLOTTE: The [World Affairs Council of Charlotte](#) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization supported by funding from individual and corporate member dues, foundations and contributions. By serving as a regional center for education and discussion of world affairs, WACC seeks to provide leadership for global thinking, believing that a broad perspective is necessary for effective competition in the global economy and for responsible citizenship in an increasingly interdependent political world.