



## **DR. MICHAEL HICKS**

*George and Frances Ball Distinguished Professor of Economics and Director of the Center for Business and Economic Research, Ball State University*

Michael Hicks is the George and Frances Ball Distinguished Professor of Economics and Director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at Ball State University. He holds an undergraduate degree in economics from Virginia Military Institute and masters and doctoral degrees from the University of Tennessee. He has held faculty and research center leadership positions at the Air Force Institute of Technology, Marshall University and the University of Tennessee.

His research focus is primarily on the location, size and composition of households and businesses. These questions involve economic geography, public policy and quality of place. He has authored three books, over 50 scholarly papers and several hundred technical studies.

Dr. Hicks is best known for research on the role of automation and trade on labor markets, healthcare outcomes and local economic vulnerability. His current research is focused on the role quality of life plays in household and business location decisions.

He has testified as an expert witness in several court cases, including *Caperton v. Massey*, the case which inspired John Grisham's novel *The Appeal*. He has also testified to the U.S. House and Senate, and four state legislatures.

His research has been reported in such places as the *Economist*, the *Atlantic*, *Rolling Stone*, *Vanity Fair*, *Slate*, *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *NPR*, *CNN*, *CSPAN*, *CNBC*, *Fox Business* and *The Nightly Business Report*.

Michael is a retired infantry officer with peacekeeping and combat service in the Middle East and Africa. He is a father of three to: an Air Force Lieutenant, a Cadet at VMI and a freshman at Butler University.