

The Aviation Speaker Series at ASU's Polytechnic campus presents

# Battle of Britain: Command, Control and the Dowding Factor



## featuring Mike Lavelle '71

Aviator and aviation historian

**Thursday, Oct. 18, 2018 | 3 – 4:30 p.m.**

ASU's Polytechnic campus

Peralta Hall, room 207 [asu.edu/map](http://asu.edu/map)

The summer of 1940 brought the greatest air battle in history to the skies above England, the Battle of Britain. How did the Royal Air Force overcome overwhelming odds against Germany's Luftwaffe? What stopped the German air offensive? Was it British planning, command structure, aircraft, and leadership or was it the Luftwaffe's aircraft capabilities, undefined mission objective, and lack of leadership? Did the RAF win or did the Luftwaffe withdraw from their offensive? These and other questions will be addressed as Mike Lavelle presents a case study of leadership in technology and systems integration, reflecting on the leadership of Air Chief Marshall Hugh Dowding and lessons from "The Battle" that can be applied today.

The fall 2018 **Aviation Speaker Series** events are organized by ASU's College of Integrative Sciences and Arts, Faculty of Interdisciplinary Humanities and Communication.

A 1971 ASU graduate, **Mike Lavelle** has 50+ years of aviation/aerospace experience, including 12 years at Cessna Aircraft Company and 24 years with the Boeing Company. Lavelle's assignments were in flight crew and maintenance training management roles for both commercial and military programs. After retiring from Boeing he spent seven years as a director at the Museum of Flight in Seattle.

An FAA flight instructor with 7000+ hours in a variety of aircraft, he is also a certified airframe and powerplant mechanic. A Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society of Great Britain and now an aviation historian, his areas of interest span from the early days of aeronautics into the jet age.