

## Mech 410: Global Engineering Leadership **Distinguished Lecture Series**

#### **Speaker: Dave Waldron**



Dave Waldron is co-founder and Principal of Synapse Strategies, a management consultancy dedicated to helping organizations of all kinds 'bridge the gap to a sustainable future'.

Dave has over 15 years experience initiating, directing and advising on trend-setting sustainability leadership initiatives for local communities, businesses, academic and government clients, and teaches sustainability leadership through UBC Continuing Studies.

He was Director for Sustainability at the David Suzuki Foundation and before that, led the design and delivery of a unique Master's Program, Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability, at BTH, Sweden.

Dave has a Master's degree in Resource and Environmental Management from SFU, where he is an Adjunct Professor, and a Bachelor's of Applied Science (Civil Engineering) from UBC.

## The Context for Global Engineering Leadership: Concepts and Applications

"Global social, ecological and economic changes are inextricably linked and accelerating. Considering the aggregate, current trends are fundamentally unsustainable. Global leadership in the 21st Century will require the ability to envision and create an attractive, sustainable society of the future. For the engineering profession, this means serving in an exciting and challenging era of transformational technological and behavioral change. Increasingly, this will mean having not only a clear understanding of the societal and ecological context but also embracing new concepts and techniques for being successful in this era."

This seminar introduces some major unfolding global trends – social, ecological and economic – and introduces basic implications and practical ideas for engineers that seek to serve the best interests of global society as a whole.

Time: 3:00pm Tuesday, May 15th, 2012 Location: Hugh Dempster Pavillion 110, UBC









## Mech 410: Global Engineering Leadership Distinguished Lecture Series

### Panel: Sheldon Green, Chandran Thiruchittampalam, Peter Ladner

Sheldon Green (Ph.D., Mechanical Engineering, CalTech 1988) joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering at UBC in 1989 and was appointed Head in 2007. Recognized as ASME Fellow for his research accomplishments in fluid mechanics, Sheldon's teaching interests include curriculum development, novel teaching methods, and assessment accuracy. In service Sheldon values competence, frank but respectful dialogue, and peer mentoring.

Chandran Thiruchittampalam graduated in Civil Engineering from the University of Ceylon (Sri Lanka) in 1964, obtaining a Master's Degree in Water Resources Technology from Birmingham University, UK, before immigrating to Vancouver in 1974, where he worked with the consulting firm Associated Engineering. Working with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) as an Engineering Specialist after joining the Federal Government in 1989, he served for 12 years as a diplomat at the Canadian High Commissions, managing Canada's development assistance programs in Ghana, India, Slovakia and Bangladesh.

Peter Ladner, Fellow at SFU Centre for Dialogue, is the co-founder and weekly columnist at the award-winning Business in Vancouver weekly newspaper, part of the Business in Vancouver Media Group. Elected to Vancouver City Council in 2002 and 2005, he ran for Mayor in 2008, and remains active on a range of regional economic development and community issues. Peter has more than 35 years of journalistic experience in print, radio and television and is a frequent speaker on business, community and food issues.

### Leading From Behind: Service as a Leadership Practice

In this panel, these three distinguished persons with experience in a range of leadership and service roles will discuss their views on how engineers serve and lead in our society, both at home and abroad, in a range of roles and contexts. Moderator Alaya Boisvert will guide discussion with the audience on the concept of the servant leader in an engineering context.

Time: 3:00pm Thursday, May 17th, 2012 Location: Hugh Dempster Pavillion 110, UBC









## Mech 410: Global Engineering Leadership **Distinguished Lecture Series**

## Speaker: Ralph Sultan, Ph.D., P.Eng. MLA West Vancouver - Capilano



Ralph Sultan graduated from UBC in Mechanical Engineering in 1956, where his exploits as President of the EUS helped overcome his spotty academic performance.

With his newly minted degree, Ralph found employment for two years at Union Carbide Corporation, moving on to Harvard for the next 15 years where he earned three degrees (M.B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics) and taught at the Harvard Business School as an associate professor.

He then worked at the Royal Bank of Canada where he served as Chief Economist, and then as Sr. VP of their Oil and Gas and Mining Global Group in Calgary. Next, he moved on to a career in investments and was generally involved in the Toronto financial sector. Returning to Vancouver with his RN wife (whom he met at an EUS mixer while still at UBC in the 50'), he lead a fiberboard joint venture with Bechtel in Williams Lake.

When his wife died suddenly, he took up politics, which has occupied him since 2001. As the only professional engineer in the provincial legislature, he is much occupied with legislation concerning the training, governance and liabilities of the engineering profession.

### The Four Worlds of Engineering

Ralph will describe how he leveraged his UBC experience in student politics, and his training in engineering, mathematics and business into Harvard and The Royal Bank, the mining industry, and the financial sector - not to mention politics. He will reflect on career strategies he has observed over the decades and will speculate about trends in the engineering world which will probably impact graduates of today, and the four worlds of engineering within which graduates of today may find themselves - or choose. Time permitting, he will be glad to try and answer questions.

Time: 3:00pm Tuesday, May 22nd, 2012 Location: Hugh Dempster Pavillion 110, UBC









# Mech 410: Global Engineering Leadership Distinguished Lecture Series

#### Speaker: Leila Harris, Ph.D.



Leila M Harris is an Assistant Professor with a joint appointment in both the Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability and the Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality and Social Justice at the University of British Columbia. She is also Associate Director of the Program on Water Governance (PoWG).

Her work focuses on nature-society issues, including inequality and environment, political ecology, as well as water politics, access, and governance in the Global South.

### Social and Political Dimensions of Water Use and Access

Access and use of water are issues that are strongly connected to social and political processes. In this talk, Leila will review political ecological and ethnographic works that provide evidence for the ways that water use and access require understandings beyond technological know-how. In particular, she will discuss gender dimensions of irrigation infrastructure in Turkey, gender dimensions of sanitation infrastructure in India, and stress and politics associated with everyday access to water in a range of other contexts to flesh out these ideas. The different case study examples together will help to expose the types of issues that should be considered with the design and implementation of water projects, particularly in the developing world.

Time: 3:00pm Tuesday, May 29th, 2012 Location: Hugh Dempster Pavillion 110, UBC









# Mech 410: Global Engineering Leadership Distinguished Lecture Series

### **Speaker: Linc Kesler, Ph.D.**



Linc Kesler is the Chair of the First Nations Studies Program, the Director of the First Nations House of Learning, and Senior Advisor to the President on Aboriginal Affairs. Since 2007 he has co-chaired a series of committees that developed and now tracks the implementation of UBC's Aboriginal Strategic Plan.

His research in early modern and Indigenous studies has focused on the relationship between changes in communications technology and concepts of knowledge, power, and identity.

He has also developed software for the simultaneous and searchable display of video and text. His Indigenous ancestry is Oglala Lakota from the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota.

### Contexts of Work: Rethinking Priorities and Timelines in Working with First Nations

Time: 3:00pm Thursday, May 31st, 2012 Location: Hugh Dempster Pavillion 110, UBC









# Mech 410: Global Engineering Leadership Distinguished Lecture Series

### **Speaker: Catherine Roome, P.Eng.**



Catherine, an electrical engineer by profession, is President & CEO for the BC Safety Authority (BCSA) - a risk management company with 280 employees which is committed to public safety, and is a 2007 and 2010 Canadian Top 100 Employer, 2007, 2008 & 2011, British Columbia Top 50 Employer and Top 25 Family Friendly Employers in Canada for 2010 & 2011.

Catherine was Vice President, Engineering when she joined the BCSA in 2005, and as Chief Operating Officer she received Business in Vancouver's "Influential Women in Business" award in 2008. In 2009, Catherine received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Victoria. She is Chair of the Board for Actsafe, an agency providing health & safety services to the motion picture and performing arts sectors.

Catherine believes passionately that our generation's responsibility is to bring forward new ideas. Her leadership style is to "encourage that unique brilliance and potential that exists in everyone." Catherine has a fairly unhealthy drive for results, is working on letting go of control, and is a perpetual optimist.

### **Questions About Values**

Catherine Roome will address questions engineers may have about their values and professional life: I want to bring my values to work. How will I know the organization I work for is making the right decisions - decisions I can live with as an engineer? What will tell me that the organization I work with is aligned to my values?

We are building new technologies and applying them in ways our parents never dreamed possible. Is this the beginning of a new age where we will be able to re-set how society works? What things do we value today that we want to hold onto in the future, and what are outdated systems and values that are holding us back? And are there recent world events that show us that we may already be in this change?

Time: 3:00pm Tuesday, June 12th, 2012 Location: Hugh Dempster Pavillion 110, UBC





