Department of Chemical Engineering

University of Washington

**LEADERSHIP SEMINAR SERIES**

2:30-3:20 p.m., Wednesday, October 19, 2011

Physics Astronomy Building (PAA) Room A102

*Refreshments to follow in Benson Hall lobby.*

**"Engineering and the Outdoors”**

Pete Haggerty MS ’80

Vice President of Technology, Cascade Designs, Inc.

**Abstract:**

This presentation seeks to answer the question, “why engineering exist?”. Pete Haggerty will use his work at Cascade Designs, Inc., as a case study, to discuss the company’s history, products, business structure, and outlook. The presentation will also look at business principles, ethics, skills, and routes to success.

**Brief Bio:**

Pete Haggerty is the Vice President of Technology at Cascade Designs, Inc., based in Seattle, Washington. For over thirty-five years, Cascade Designs has been dedicated to making premier outdoor, recreational, and medical rehabilitation products that enhance the active lifestyles of its customers. Through its enduring commitment to innovation, the company has built strong brands such as: Therm-a-Rest®, MSR® (Mountain Safety Research®), SealLine®, Platypus®, and Varilite®.

Pete has been with the company since 1981, contributing to Cascade Designs’ significant growth through a variety of key management roles in Engineering, Quality Assurance, Research & Development, and Acquisition. He currently oversees Product Development, Engineering, and R&D Services for the company in his role as Vice President of Technology. Under his guidance Cascade Designs has, successfully launched technologically innovative products and boasted successful business ventures in the Outdoor, Medical Rehabilitation, and Military Personal Equipment sectors and engages in ongoing research contracts with both government and industry leaders

In addition to his current position, Pete also serves as Corporate Secretary and Member of the Board of Directors for Cascade Designs, Inc. and its wholly owned Irish subsidiary Cascade Designs Limited. Supervising both internal and external counsel, Pete also manages the legal and regulatory affairs of the company.

Pete is a former employee of Weyerhaeuser R&D and of the Ecole Française de Papeterie. He also holds Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Chemical Engineering from the University of Washington.