Department of Chemical Engineering

University of Washington

**LEADERSHIP SEMINAR SERIES**

2:30-3:20 p.m., Wednesday, December 7, 2011

Physics Astronomy Building (PAA) Room A102

*Refreshments to follow in Benson Hall lobby.*

“Charting your own successful career path”

William Rathvon BS ‘76

Retired Global Head — Resources, HSBC

**Abstract:**

Establishing a path to successful career begins with settling on an early perception of what success looks like as much as the path itself. Join me in a fateful, structured or random walk down one career path and experience some of the opportunities and choices confronting many as they progress through a career. How much does “fate”, planning, or random events play in a career outcome? What are some of the common key success factors, tipping points and hurdles that cause career changes or alters the course? What are some of the drivers for choices and opportunities? Today, the world is smaller and changing quickly. How does this changing landscape impact our planning and preparedness for the future? Join me in exploring experiences and gaining some insights through the experience of one UW Chemical Engineering alumni.

**Brief Bio:**

Will’s Chemical Engineering degree was instrumental for his success in the financial industry where he provided financial engineering advice and raised capital for numerous oil and refinery companies around the world.  He led financial advisory transactions and raised capital of over $50 billion during his career.  He began his career as a Chemical Engineer in the oil business and rose to managerial roles in both the upstream oil and refining business.  He went on to get an MBA at Harvard Business School and entered the international banking business dedicated to advise and raise capital for oil and chemical companies.  He rose to leadership positions in several banks leading teams of 200 people and managed a $1 billion business.  Recently he held a CFO role for a small Indonesian start-up oil & gas company and helped raise seed capital of $225 million.  In summary, Will has leveraged his Chemical Engineering and MBA degrees to help companies develop their process industries on an international basis.