Department of Chemical Engineering

University of Washington

**LEADERSHIP SEMINAR SERIES**

2:30-3:20 p.m., Wednesday, November 16, 2011

Physics Astronomy Building (PAA) Room A102

*Refreshments to follow in Benson Hall lobby.*

**“A Sampling of Real-World Projects Encountered during the Course of a Career”**

Michael Strand PhD ’73

Former Vice President, Med Data

**Abstract:**

The speaker will discuss a variety of projects encountered during his career.

Examples include computer simulations as well as bench, pilot and industrial scale processes. Projects involving collaborative efforts between medical and engineering teams are discussed. Examples of heat transfer projects and mass transfer projects are presented. The speaker will share some of his experiences encountered during the startup phase of Med-Data, Incorporated.

**Brief Bio:**

Mike Strand is one of four founders of Med-Data, a private company incorporated in Washington in 1980 under the original name of Medical Data, Inc. Mike served as vice president of the corporation until he retired in 1996. Med-Data provides medical billing, coding, collections and management services to the medical community. While at Med-Data, Mike was responsible for the technical side of the company. He managed the software program design and development team as well as the production facility and the staff associated with printing and mailing billing statements.

Prior to his involvement in Med-Data, Mike was a principal of Rainier Engineering, a private engineering company. Rainier Engineering was awarded a grant from the Department of Energy to study the recovery of ethylene glycol from used antifreeze. Other Rainier Engineering projects dealt mainly with modeling and heat transfer. Mike was active in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, serving as chairman of the Puget Sound section in 1977-78 and as national program chairman for the 1980 meeting in Portland.

Mike holds a B.Ch.E. degree from the University of Minnesota and a Ph.D. degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Washington. He is a licensed professional engineer in the State of Washington. After receiving his doctoral degree, he joined the faculty of the Chemical Engineering Department at UW as a Research Assistant Professor in 1973. He worked closely with the teams assembled earlier by Professor Albert L. Babb (Chemical and Nuclear Engineering) and Professor Belding H. Scribner (School of Medicine) during their years of pioneering research on the artificial kidney. Mike modeled mass transfer of waste metabolites from the patient's bloodstream during kidney dialysis. He also created the software program for the control system of a machine designed to treat the blood of patients with sickle cell anemia.