

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING  
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

# LEADERSHIP SEMINAR SERIES



## Pulp, Patents and Politics

### **Scott Korthuis BSME and BScE '82** **Product Manager, Oxbo International Corporation** **Mayor of Lynden, WA**

**Wednesday, October 16, 2019**

Lecture 2:30-3:20 p.m. | PAA A110

Reception 3:30-4:20 p.m. | Benson Lobby

#### **Abstract**

When Korthuis left the University of Washington in 1982 he began his career in the pulp and paper industry. His chemical engineering background and training helped him develop more efficient cleaning systems for pulp and he later pioneered a new bleaching sequence for the mill. After six years in this industry his career took a major change: Korthuis became a partner in an upstart manufacturing company that built specialty harvesting equipment and took him to various corners of the world. His mechanical engineering skills helped him develop machines and earn multiple patents for the harvesting of blueberries, coffee, grapes, oranges and olives.

His engineering degrees, which developed many technical skills as well as problem-solving skills, have been key to his success. Korthuis credits this platform for nurturing leadership skills which have now taken him into politics where he is now also the Mayor of Lynden, WA. An engineering degree is a ticket to success in almost any field. Join Korthuis as he recounts some of the highlights of his career and offers insight and encouragement.

#### **Bio**

Scott Korthuis received BSME ('82) and BScE ('82) degrees from the University of Washington and is a registered professional engineer. Currently a Product Manager for Oxbo International Corporation, he has worked extensively over the past 20 years developing harvesting equipment for raspberries, blueberries, grapes, olives and coffee. He is also currently Mayor of Lynden, WA