CECS Engineering Leadership & Innovation Institute Seminar Series Fall 2012

Eli² seminars provide practical and engaging leadership advice to the students in the UCF College of Engineering and Computer Science (CECS). Our speakers share their unique, fascinating experiences in creativity, innovation, collaboration and solution delivery to help prepare students to deliver world-changing solutions.

Fall 2012 speakers include:

Friday, September 7
Larry Bonner
Manager, Distribution Operations
Progress Energy Florida
(Subsidiary of Duke Energy)
Keeping It Real: A Perspective from the Inside

Friday, September 21
Jeff Vahle
Executive V.P., Facilities and Operations Services
Walt Disney Parks and Resorts Worldwide
Leadership & Innovation: A Global Perspective

Friday, October 5
Joanne Puglisi '73
Director, F-35 Program
Lockheed Martin Simulation Training & Support
So You Want to Be an Engineer!

Friday, October 19
Andy Schwalb '84
Vice President and Chief Information and Technology Officer
NASCAR and NASCAR Media Group
Leading Technology in a High-Speed World

Friday, November 2
Eric Singleton '86
Senior V.P., Technology & Applications, Chico’s FAS Inc.; and Co-Founder, Altaairstar LLC (PropertyManagerUSA.com)
The Edge: Why It’s Important to Find It and Go Over

Friday, November 16
Dr. J. Greg Hanson ’87
Senior V.P. and Deputy General Manager, Air Force and Technology Services Group
NCI Information Systems Inc.
Technology Innovation & Leadership in Government
As Director of the Engineering Leadership & Innovation Institute within the UCF College of Engineering and Computer Science (CECS), I am proud to announce the Fall 2012 eli² Seminar Series. This semester, both myself and Dr. Charles Reilly, CECS Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, will be leading the series.

As shown on the front of this card, we are hosting an exciting group of leaders. Each focuses on a topic related to our mission: help students discover their burning desire and confidence to create, innovate and collaborate to deliver world-changing solutions. At the undergraduate level, our goal is to create professional contributors. We strive to transform the undergraduate engineer into a working professional who possesses leadership skills and the ability to contribute in a global, team environment.

Since the series’ launch in Spring 2011, more than 300 students have learned from dynamic leaders within commercial and government organizations. Their value and lasting, positive impact on our students are reflected in the testimonials below:

"Being in this course has definitely changed me for the better, and has opened my eyes to all the possibilities that my life holds."

"The classes changed my way of thinking and gave fundamental examples of what it takes to be a good leader and that good leaders are not born, but are developed."

"The most memorable point for me throughout these presentations was the fact that a good leader is always a good listener."

"Each person helped me become a better leader by challenging myself every day to increase my personal leadership skills. This is by far one of my favorite courses taken at UCF."

"It has changed how I approach the decisions I make within the work place, as well as how to approach future career opportunities and make important career decisions."