

Joint ECE/PLI Seminar

Title: Innovation – Growth and Renewal

Speaker: Chris Christopher, ECE Alumnus (BS '68, MS '74) and Retired Senior VP/General Manager of Hewlett-Packard

Time: Thursday, April 3, 2014, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Location: Scott Bioengineering Building, Room 101

Abstract: Innovation should be a vital commitment of any organization. It must be part of the fabric of each entity to ensure its growth and vitality. Yet, many organizations do not nurture innovation. The consequences are stagnation or departure of promising individuals and deterioration and slow death of the entity.

Whether you will work in a small or large, public or private company, for a government or philanthropic organization or be an entrepreneur, what do you intend to do? What role do you intend to play to ensure continuous personal innovation and to nurture an innovative entity environment?

Speaker Biography: Chris Christopher retired from Hewlett Packard Company in 2008 after more than 40 years of service. During the last three years with Hewlett-Packard, he was a Senior VP and General Manager leading an \$18B dollar organization covering desktop PCs, workstations, displays, virtualization systems and point of sale solutions. This role included responsibilities in long term strategy, product development, product marketing, supply chain, and total customer experience. During the last five years, he has consulted for HP and a number of startup companies in strategy, business plan development, operations, and executive coaching. He is currently engaged in a management consulting practice, CERT DELPHI Consulting, www.certdelphi.com and does volunteer coaching of entrepreneurs. He also serves on the Board of Directors of three companies.

Mr. Christopher earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from Colorado State University in 1968 and 1974, respectively. He completed the Executive MBA program in INSEAD – France. In 2008, he received the CSU College of Engineering Distinguished Alumni Award.

Mr. Christopher joined Hewlett Packard as a research and development engineer. Over the years, he had the opportunity to innovate with small and large businesses and serve in multiple executive leadership and management roles in R&D, manufacturing, engineering computer development, desktop computer software, operating systems, languages and graphics. He was born in Greece, where he finished his high school education before moving to the United States. He currently lives in Loveland, Colorado, with his wife Georgia. In his free time, he enjoys reading, the arts, bicycling, hiking, and fishing.

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