

# **Seminar by Dennise L. Riddle**

## **“Faith, Hope and Innovation”**

**Thursday, February 26, 2009**

**3:00 p.m.**

**MRDC 4211**

**Hosted by: Bill Wepfer**

### **“Faith, Hope and Innovation”:**

This presentation examines the fashionable subject of innovation. I will first offer a unified lexicon of what it is and the three phases of its maturation. We will dig deeper into the neglected phases and prescribe principles of healthy implementation, as well as a self-test of predictable viability. Finally we will study a commercial benchmark and discuss the methodology replication to academia.

### **Bio - Dennis Riddle:**

Dennis Riddle recently retired from an extensive career at Milliken & Company. Born and reared in Madison, Wisconsin, he received a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Tulane University while playing NCAA basketball. Dennis began his career at Milliken Research. He then continued his education entering the University of Florida where he received the M.S. and Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering. His work there in computer aided design of spatial kinematics led to a career of exploiting modeling and simulation tools in many phases of engineering and business. Dennis returned to Milliken Research before taking an unexpected turn as Business Manager in Milliken’s Chemical Division. Dennis’s career continued to accumulate a heterogeneous mix of leadership responsibilities in development, manufacturing, marketing and finance while all being tied to common threads of technology and innovation. His most significant contribution

grew a seed, nurtured by innovation, to the fastest growing business in Milliken's history. Dennis takes pride in continued learning at an accelerated rate through and after his career.

Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Bill Wepfer or Melody Foster at 4-7478.