



DR. KRIS R. NIELSEN LECTURE SERIES IN INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Introduction: Dr. Kris R. Nielsen was the Chairman and President of Pegasus Global Holdings, Inc., an international consulting services company to private and public companies, primarily in energy and infrastructure industries. He provided strategic direction to the firm's operation and was a recognized leader in risk management. He served as an expert witness in legal proceedings around the world and as an arbitrator and mediator for dispute resolution. Dr. Nielsen passed away on February 16, 2013. He was a consummate professional and a compassionate human being. He understood the connection between innovation and entrepreneurship—a hallmark of his business acumen.

Purpose: The **Dr. Kris R. Nielsen Lecture Series in Innovation and Entrepreneurship** is designed to publically acknowledge the role of innovation in science and engineering and how it interacts with management to create entrepreneurial ventures that foster social benefits. The Nielsen Lecture is the result of the partnership between the Patricia Galloway and Kris Nielsen Foundation (located in Cle Elum, WA) and the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I4IE) at Central Washington University (CWU). The Nielsen Lecture series supports the educational mission of the I4IE and contributes to promoting regional economic development.

Annual Nielsen Lecture: The Dr. Kris R. Nielsen Lecture Series in Innovation and Entrepreneurship is presented annually in the spring (i.e., April or May) on the CWU campus in Ellensburg under the purview of the I4IE. The Nielsen Lecture provides the platform to:

- feature a prominent regional or national speaker with expertise in innovation and entrepreneurship;
- provide a small group lunch gathering with a special focus on CWU students and faculty from selected academic areas (e.g., science, business and construction management, among others); and
- highlight the achievements associated with the Patricia Galloway and Kris Nielsen Foundation and with those entities supported through its grant funding.

Funding for the Nielsen Lecture: Initial funding to support the Dr. Kris R. Nielsen Lecture Series in Innovation and Entrepreneurship is provided by the I4IE through private funds.

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