Seminar Speaker: Dr. Janis Terpenny, Penn State University
Industrial Engineering Distinguished Leadership Seminar Series

Time and Location: Monday, 10/31/16 from 1:25 to 2:15 p.m., Freeman Hall Auditorium

Title: Thoughtful Purposeful Leadership

Abstract:
Management and leadership are two very different terms with different objectives that call upon a different set of skills and methods. While there are varying definitions of each term, management is typically focused on managing resources and/or people. This might entail supervision, scheduling, planning, reporting, and more. Leadership requires moving (or leading) an individual, group, or organization in a common direction through activities/tasks that underpin a vision, goals and/or set of objectives. Many agree that being a ‘good’ leader is more challenging than managing. While many best practices have been researched, taught, and practiced, the main premise of this talk is that the first, and perhaps most important element to success in leadership, indeed in life in general, is to be aware of and appreciate what motivates oneself and others. This requires reflection and seeking the answers to several questions. Where is your (their) passion? What makes you/others happy? Why choose to do this rather than that? Why should I collaborate with you versus choosing to do something else? Why should I/we embrace and work on activities in my/our organization? Second, and related to the first element ... it is not only okay, but essential that each leader give themselves permission to own their style and methods of leadership. There is no one-size-fits-all! After providing the introduction and motivation for thoughtful purposeful leadership, specific methods and tools that the speaker has found very effective (and fun) will be shared. The importance of context and collaboration will be described, along with specific examples with industry and community partners. The talk will conclude by offering attendees the opportunity to share how we might, as a community of scholars, foster thoughtful purposeful leadership in our own personal journey and within our organizations.

Bio:
Janis Terpenny is the Peter & Angela Dal Pezzo Chair & Department Head of the Harold & Inge Marcus Department of Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering at Penn State University. She is also director of the Center for e-Design, a 7-university 30+ industry/government member NSF industry/university cooperative research center
Dr. Terpenny’s research focuses on engineering design and smart manufacturing (process and methods of early design; knowledge and information in design; product families and platforms; obsolescence in products and systems; complexity of products and systems; and cloud computing for design and manufacturing integration) and design education (multidisciplinary teams; impacts of project choice and context on engagement and learning; and the retention and success of underrepresented students). Previously, Dr. Terpenny served as department chair and Joseph Walkup Professor of Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering at Iowa State University. She served as the first technology thrust lead for Advanced Manufacturing Enterprise (AME) for the Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation Institute (DMDII). She has served as a program director at the National Science Foundation (NSF) and as professor at Virginia Tech and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She has 9 years of industry work experience with General Electric (GE). Throughout her career, she has served as PI or co-PI on over $14 million in sponsored research and is the author of over 165 peer-reviewed journal and conference publications. She serves as an associate editor for the *Engineering Economist* and is a Fellow of IIE and ASME, and a member of ASEE, INFORMS, Alpha Pi Mu, and Tau Beta Pi.