



Date:

Friday, March 26, 2010

Time:

3:15 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.

Presentation:

“Developing a Sustainable State of Mind”

Dr. Mark Daugherty

Principal, Collaborative Energy Ventures

How can you develop a sustainable state of mind within your organization? We all know people who don't have the slightest interest in sustainability. We try and reason with them to no avail. Everyone operates from a different worldview and has had different life experiences. It's inevitable that conflicting views will arise, even among reasonable people. You can approach conflict by wasting energy being angry or shutting down. If you follow these paths you are shirking your responsibility to engage the world. Instead we can view conflict as one way the universe is telling us this area requires skillful action. This is an area where opposing forces are meeting and generating destructive energy. We can use conflict as a signpost pointing us towards the issues that need our attention. Conflict creates opportunities to resolve opposing forces and create greater harmony. When engaging with conflict we always try to "take whole." Taking whole is at the heart of ancient Chinese strategies for dealing with conflict. In order to take whole we need to engage in an activity that is larger or higher than the activity that caused the conflict. We need to reset the stage, shuffle the deck, elevate our view. We need to create a solution that both sides to the conflict can agree upon and embrace. This talk will present strategies and simple examples to show ways to use the concept of "taking whole" to create a sustainable culture in an organization.

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Presenter Biography:

Dr. Mark Daugherty

Dr. Mark Daugherty currently serves as the Principal at Collaborative Energy Ventures, a consulting firm he formed to pursue work on sustainability. He also serves as the Director of Product Development at Tormach, where he is helping to develop a new breed of computer controlled machine tools for sustainable manufacturing, and as the CEO of Solrayo, which is using nanotechnology to develop advanced ultracapacitors for electrical energy storage. Mark has been involved in advanced energy systems research and development for over 30 years. Mark has served as the CEO and President of Virent Energy Systems, which is commercializing reforming technologies to produce renewable liquid fuels and chemicals from plant-based feedstocks. Prior to Virent he served as the Chief Scientist at DCH Technology which developed proton exchange membrane fuel cells based on technology licensed from Los Alamos National Laboratory. Earlier, at Los Alamos National Laboratory, Mark worked on several projects including high temperature superconductivity and hydrogen energy. He has also served as Manager of R&D at Superconductivity Inc. which developed commercial superconducting magnetic energy storage systems. Mark earned his PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Mechanical Engineering study liquid helium flow in superconducting cable-in-conduit conductors for fusion magnet applications. He holds a J.D. from Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California-Berkeley, where he specialized in environmental law. He has over 25 technical publications.