

NEWS RELEASE

Aug. 31, 2007

Purdue offers seminar for distance learners in Palmdale, CA

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Purdue University's Division of Engineering Professional Education, known as ProEd, will offer the seminar, Getting the Most out of Your Online Course, on Oct. 10, 2007, 6 – 7:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public, and will take place at the AERO Institute, 38256 Sierra Highway, in Palmdale, Calif.

The session will be geared to learners who are taking an online course or considering an online course in undergrad or graduate level education. High school students who are nearing graduation and thinking about taking a distance course would also benefit from the seminar.

The Purdue seminar will be team-taught by Dr. Chuck Krousgrill, professor of mechanical engineering and academic director of ProEd, along with Vickie Maris, director of professional development programs for ProEd. Krousgrill, who will be participating in the seminar at a distance, is a veteran instructor of undergraduate and graduate level courses in mechanical engineering.

“Dr. Krousgrill employs many innovative tools that make his courses accessible and educational to distance learning students like myself,” says Brian J. Cieslewicz, senior mechanical engineer with L-3 Communications / Communication Systems – West, and a graduate student earning his master’s degree at a distance through ProEd at Purdue University. “As a working engineer, I travel on a regular basis as part of my job. Dr. Krousgrill’s online resource availability and his accessibility were keys to my success in the course given how much time I spend on the road with my job.”

Maris will bring her experience as a distance learner in a graduate program and also as an instructional designer who works with faculty instructors in preparing materials for the distance learning environment. While working full time, she is studying to earn her master’s in education through the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Purdue University. Like many of the students who take distance courses through ProEd, Maris is juggling the responsibilities of job, home life and school. She and Krousgrill will share best practices that learners can use to get the most of the distance education environment. Topics from networking with other learners to technical tools available for communicating with the instructor will be covered.

Krousgrill and Maris will be assisted in the seminar by Purdue distance students in the Palmdale area who have taken or are taking courses at a distance through ProEd. This will provide attendees with opportunity to meet distance students and ask questions one-on-one.

The seminar is part of an educational partnership between Purdue and the AERO Institute in the Antelope Valley of California that provides instructors and professional engineers the opportunity for professional development and enrichment.

Pre-registration is advised but not required. To register for the free seminar, contact Marsha Nance, coordinator, professional development programs, (765) 494-7018 or nance@purdue.edu.

Krousgrill.Maris.Seminar

Sources: Vickie Maris, (765) 496-6845, vjmaris@purdue.edu

Chuck Krousgrill, (765) 494-2549, krousgri@ecn.purdue.edu

Related Web sites:

Purdue Division of Engineering Professional Education Web site: www.ProEd.Purdue.edu