Welcome to the first annual Spring “Professions in Technology Lecture Series” entitled “Energy”. The relationship between WV energy resources and technology will be explored by professionals from different industrial sectors. The intent of the series is to enlighten and inform students, faculty, and professionals alike regarding standardized practices, trends, and emerging technologies in the world of “Energy”.

**Coal Lecture Series Speakers**

**Michael McMillion**  Consol Energy Inc.

Michael McMillion obtained Bachelor of Science Mechanical Engineering and Master of Business Administration degrees from West Virginia University. His entire career has been employed with Consol Energy Inc in assignments in Mining Operations Maintenance, Engineering and R&D. He has developed, directly and cooperatively with OEMs, advanced systems for coal cutting and haulage in underground and surface mines. In mining operations, he has managed maintenance staff, planned support for mining activities and solved equipment problems with all types of equipment. Currently, the most important assignments are directed to engineer safety solutions into mining equipment.

**Richard Mezan**  FirstEnergy

Rick Mezan is originally from Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania. He obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree from Penn State University. Upon graduation from college, he accepted a position with Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel Corporation’s Primary Operations in Steubenville, Ohio. In the eleven years he was with Wheeling-Pitt, his major responsibilities included his involvement in the 80 million dollar upgrade of the 80” Hot Strip Mill and the design, installation and start-up of a new tin plating facility called Ohio Coatings Company. He has spent the last eleven years with FirstEnergy Corporation. Prior to accepting his current position as Technical Service Manager at the Harrison Power Station in 2011, he served FirstEnergy at the Bruce Mansfield Plant in Shippingport, Pennsylvania. There he was project lead for the Flue Gas Desulfurization, FOG plant, and turbine control system upgrades. In his role as Technical Services Manager he is responsible for the outage and engineering departments.

**Michael Plumley**  Brickstreet Insurance

Michael Plumley is a graduate of Bluefield State College with a Bachelor of Science in mining engineering. He also holds a Master of Arts degree from Marshall University in business administration and a Master of Science in mine safety. Plumley has been employed in the coal industry for more than 33 years. Most recently, he worked as a mine safety inspector for West Virginia Office of Miner’s Health Safety and Training. Prior to that he worked 30 years for Cleveland Cliffs – North American Coal, formerly U.S. Steel Mining, LLC. During that time he was a member of the mine rescue team, National Mine Rescue Champions, 2005. His mine rescue experiences include rescue and recovery as well as underground firefighting. Other positions he has held include director of training and supervisor of safety.

His certifications include; mine foreman in West Virginia and Virginia, underground and surface electrician, shot fire, EMT-first responder, mine rescue team member and welder. He is an instructor in West Virginia CDL/hazmat license; Department of Labor, Part 48 MSHA; gas testing; West Virginia mine rescue; and qualified diesel. He also is past president of NMRA Welch Post 1 Smoke Eaters, a continuing education mine foreman and adjunct professor of mining engineering at Bluefield State College.

He was a guest speaker for the 2003 Society of Mining Engineers conference, 2003 West Virginia State Champion, pre-shift completion. He serves on the Industrial Advisory Board at Bluefield State College as well as the director of the Annual Mine Rescue meet sponsored by Bluefield State College and Welch Post 1.

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**Future Lectures**

Gas: March 22, 2012
Alternative: April 26, 2012

(Dates subject to change)