Seminar on Complex Networks and Enterprises

**Topic: Strata and Structure in Complex Innovation Systems**

- **Who:** Dr. Raul Chao, Darden School of Business, University of Virginia
- **When:** October 20, 2008 – 3:00-4:00pm
- **Where:** Tennenbaum Institute, 760 Spring Street NW, TI Conference Room 129

**Description:** Innovation and new product development (NPD) are critical to firm success and are often cited as means to a sustained competitive advantage. Unfortunately, the question of which innovation programs to pursue and how they should be funded is not trivial. Furthermore, the complexity inherent in innovation systems exacerbates the challenges associated with managing innovation. In this presentation we will discuss complex systems in the context of innovation, R&D, and product/service development. We posit that a hierarchical perspective – one that considers the interactions present at the project, program, portfolio, and firm level – is needed in order to effectively manage complex innovation networks.

- **Bio:** Raul Chao is an Assistant Professor of Business Administration at the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia. His teaching and research interests include operations management, new product development, resource allocation strategy, and technology commercialization. Raul’s research is supported by grants from the Georgia Research Alliance, the KPMG Foundation, and 3M Corp. He is a Roberto C. Goizueta Foundation Fellow and a member of the Institute for Operations Research and Management Sciences (INFORMS), the Production and Operations Management Society (POMS), the American Economic Association (AEA), and the Academy of Management (AoM). He earned his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Johns Hopkins University, his M.B.A. and M.S. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Miami, and his Ph.D. in Operations Management from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Prior to joining the Darden faculty, Raul worked as a management consultant serving U.S. and Latin American organizations in a wide range of industries including pharmaceutical, biomedical, healthcare, financial services, hospitality, and media among others. He lives in Charlottesville, Virginia with his wife Cristina and their daughter Carolina Isabel.

For RSVP and questions, please email Dr. Rahul C. Basole (rahul.basole@ti.gatech.edu)