

SME FOUNDATION®



STEVE HOLMES

Dear SME and SME Foundation Members and Friends,

I think we are all glad to see 2020 behind us, and a new year 2021 ahead with a vaccine becoming available, COVID cases declining, and everyone anxious to get back to some kind of new normal. For the SME Foundation, 2020 was a challenging year. For our members and supporters, we found a way to go virtual with about everything we accomplished, and still managed to keep the Foundation healthy by funding the critical programs that are vital to the mining industry.

funds for critically important programs that support mining. These include the PhD Fellowship and Career Development Grant program, the Minerals Education Coalition (MEC), ABET accreditation for colleges and their programs in the mining field, the Professional Engineers Exam (PE) for licensure, and Miners Give Back. We also manage seven different scholarship funds (undergraduate, graduate and research) and give support to the Mining in Society Merit Badge.

future as much as it is a donation towards the success of mining in general.

Supporting these programs helps keep our industry strong, and equips the next generation of mining professors, engineers, metallurgists, exploration geologists, environmental and safety professionals to be ready to take on the challenges of a global industry that is critical to every aspect of our lives. Our largest fundraising effort supports the PhD Fellowship and Career Development Grant program which has been enormously successful in supporting and developing the next generation of mining professors to keep the mining schools viable. The SME Foundation has invested over \$4.8 million in this program to date, and will continue providing top PhD candidates with scholarship support for the next several years.

Like many of you, I have been a member of SME since my college days and I take great pride in supporting the mining profession that has supported me, my family and friends for many decades. I am truly honored to serve as the SME Foundation President for 2021–2023 and believe mining, and the SME Foundation, will experience some of the very best years in our history as we move beyond the pandemic that has so negatively impacted many. I believe individuals are anxious to get out, live life more normally, see friends, attend events and just experience all life has to offer. The SME Foundation will provide a terrific selection of opportunities from which we can all come together, once again. I invite you to join us so we can meet, or reconnect with you. I also invite you to consider supporting the SME Foundation and pay it forward for the future of the mining industry. We are so grateful for all of you who have supported us over so many years.

My thanks and appreciation,
Steve Holmes



People often ask, "What does the Foundation actually do, and why is it important?" It is not all that surprising that many of our members, whose SME experience is mainly in Local Sections across the US and other countries, do not have a good understanding of the SME Foundation. We plan to continue to educate SME's membership, our mining partners, suppliers and the general public on the programs we support, and why it makes a huge difference to the mining industry that these programs successfully continue.

The mission of the SME Foundation is to be the source of funding for education and outreach of SME and the community it serves. At the SME Foundation, we focus on raising

The SME Foundation, through MEC, has also funded a broad-based education program helping younger students gain a better, more realistic understanding of how modern mining works, and why it is vital to the quality of life everyone has a right to live. The Move Mining and Move Mining Next Gen competitions have proved successful in sharing ideas on how to change the public's perception of mining by motivating youth during key developmental years. Without ABET accreditation and the PE program, our mining education system would falter, with the industry scrambling to find highly qualified engineers, geologists and business leaders to run their businesses. Supporting the SME Foundation is undoubtedly an investment in mining's