Recipients of the 2016 mining academic grants

SME and the SME Foundation are pleased to announce the recipients of the 2016 Ph.D. Fellowship and Academic Career Development Grants. The program initiative focuses on rebuilding the U.S. mining school faculty pipeline to address the decline of viable tenure-track candidates at universities offering degrees in mining engineering, mineral processing or extractive metallurgy.

The program allocates to each recipient:

- Academic Career Development Grant - $100,000 per year for a maximum of three years: provides assistant or associate professors with the support towards achieving tenure and promotion.
- Ph.D. Fellowship Grant - $60,000 per year for a maximum of four years: provides support to students with industry experience and a desire to pursue an academic career with the means to acquire a doctoral degree.

Recipients of the 2016 mining academic grants are:

**Freeport-McMoRan Career Development Grant:**

Dr. Andrea J. Brickey  
Associate Professor, Mining Engineering & Management, South Dakota School of Mines

Dr. Charles K. Kocsis  
Associate Professor, Mining & Metallurgical Engineering, University of Nevada-Reno

**Robert S. Shoemaker Ph.D. Fellowship Grant:**

Gail L. Heath – Mining Engineering, University of Arizona

**Ph.D. Fellowship Grants funded from other sources:**

Richard M. LaDouceur – Metallurgical & Materials Engineering, Montana Tech

Penny L. Padgett – Mining Engineering, University of Kentucky

The 2017 grant application period is December 1, 2016 through January 31, 2017.

For more information on the SME mining academic grant programs, please visit [www.smenet.org/students/grants-scholarships](http://www.smenet.org/students/grants-scholarships).

Letter from the President

Dear SME Members and Friends:

The 4th of July has come and gone which makes the summer seem like it is half over. This summer is shaping up to be rather hot here in the west (Nevada) with a lot of turbulent weather back east.

Our corporate sponsors continue to appreciate the programs the SME Foundation supports in light of a somewhat “soft” commodity environment. Programs such as PE, ABET, MEC, Scholarships, Miners Give Back and the Ph.D. Fellowship and Career Development Program are essential to keeping our industry front-and-center with both our members and the public. In this period of industry challenges, the Foundation’s strategy in asking for support, both from corporate and individuals, includes recognizing the importance of maintaining stewardship of our existing contributor base and keeping them on board with recognizing that supporting the Foundation is an investment in the future of the industry.

As President of the Foundation, and on behalf of the Board of Trustees and SME staff, I thank you for your support of our programs. Please continue that financial support to help strengthen and enhance our industry for the next generation.

Lastly, the Midyear SME meeting is at the end of September in Las Vegas during MINExpo. The Trustees of the Foundation will be there strategizing on how to best woo you to help support the industry.

Best Regards,

Dennis P. Bryan

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To donate to the SME Foundation, please visit us at [www.smefoundation.org](http://www.smefoundation.org)
The importance of mining and minerals was the topic of discussion at the MEC booth during the 4th Annual USA Science & Engineering Festival, April 16-17, 2016 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C. More than 365,000 people attended the festival, including 60,000 students and their teachers. MEC staff and local volunteers conducted conductivity experiments with minerals and handed out information on the exciting careers in the mining industry.

The Professional Engineer License

The Professional Engineer (PE) License is the gold standard for professional competency. In the industry, PEs are considered among the most qualified and capable mining professionals supporting operations worldwide. As the industry expands and currently faces lower prices for minerals, companies see a greater need for professional quality.

Of the SME membership, roughly 2,000 members are licensed Professional Engineers.

Professional Engineers Exam Program

The SME Professional Engineers (PE) program consists of a 51-member SME Committee composed of volunteer engineers, all licensed PEs. This committee’s main objective is to write, review, and establish questions for the 80-question Professional Engineers exam administered every October for the Mining/Mineral Processing license. Additional functions of the committee include examination assembly, and a periodic full 7-year examination review.

The 17 PE members travel and take the actual PE exam to be administered this year. This activity is called the Cut Score Panel that determines the passing score for the next 7 years. The budget for this activity is $15,000. Please join SMEF's support of the Mining/Mineral Processing Licensing effort by your most valued contribution.

Contributions can be sent to: SME Foundation, 12999 E. Adam Aircraft Circle, Englewood, CO 80112.

Upcoming Events:

PE Exam Review
Denver, CO
September 10-14

Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Foundation Midyear Board Meeting
Las Vegas, NV
September 28-30, 2016

Visit the Foundation Booth at MINEexpo
Las Vegas, NV
September 26-28, 2016

Minneapolis, MN
October 27-29, 2016

Portland, OR
November 10-12, 2016

Columbus, OH
December 1-3, 2016
New Minerals Education Coalition Website

Minerals Education Coalition (MEC) launches its new website on August 1, with a new look and improved functionality to better deliver online minerals and mining education. The home page will feature rotating visuals with mining and minerals themes that will change over time. Site visitors will choose from three areas of MEC content to begin their exploration of educational content:

- Mining and Minerals
- K-12 Education
- Outreach and Awareness.

Under Mining and Minerals, the Minerals Database is now searchable by Rocks, Minerals and Elements. The Reclamation section has new examples and images arranged by mining sector.

The educational resources format will allow teachers to search the K-12 educational materials by:

- Grade level (K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12)
- Resource type such as Lessons/Activities, Audio/Visual, Teacher Guides, etc.
- Commodity type: Aggregates, Industrial Minerals, Metals or Coal and Energy
- Commodity sub-type such as Metals: Gold, Copper, etc.

As MEC’s offerings grow, this new format will ensure a teacher’s ability to find educational materials focused on the specific mineral and mining topics for which the teacher is searching. Of course the teacher search tool for national and state standards correlations will continue on the site. This format will allow the MEC social media sites to be highlighted even more, with a scrolling MEC Twitter feed on the home page. Additionally within the new format, there is the opportunity for interactive infographics to be developed in the future.

Example of new reclamation story content: The Mosaic Company reclamation area at the South Pasture Mine in Hardee County now provides high quality habitat replacement. Phosphate mining was completed there in 2007.

Mining and Minerals Educational Materials

Support local schools, teachers & students with a fun summer activity where kids can learn about mining and minerals.

- MEC offers gold and gem panning supplies ($4.50-$15) that provide lots of hands-on fun along with interesting mineral education. The gold ore panning instructions are in 10 languages!
- Back-to-school time is near, and teachers in your area would love to receive mining and minerals resources for their classroom that are correlated to state and national educational standards. MEC has a great selection of grade appropriate supplemental materials for K-12 classrooms in the MEC online store.
- The MEC Blue Marble poster is extremely popular with teachers and students due to its virtually indestructible vinyl material and the beautiful minerals paired with each element on the periodic table. Available in English and Spanish, this double-sided, full-color vinyl poster is $20 in the MEC online store.
- MEC Educational Kits—Rock Odyssey for Elementary/Middle School ($25) and Rocks Build America for Middle School/High School ($50)—are filled with useful Earth science educational resources for the classroom.

For all these exciting projects and more visit: https://www.MineralsEducationCoalition.org/store
Thank You!

The SME Foundation thanks our Corporate Roundtable Partners for their encouragement, support and assistance in creating a stronger industry around the world, developing tomorrow’s professionals and leaders, and strengthening relationships within our communities. To find out more or to lend your support, please visit the Foundation website at www.smefoundation.org.