LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As this will be my final newsletter article as Foundation President, it caused me to reflect on the last two years. We knew that they would be challenging years as the Foundation approached its peak expenses for the critical PhD Fellowship and Career Development Grant Program along with the other important Foundation programs and activities. The pandemic then moved us to do so many things differently – personally, professionally, and here at the Foundation and SME. But as in the past, we all learned to adapt and kept moving forward together. Importantly the Foundation programs and activities continued to be recognized for their importance and significance to the mining industry, SME Foundation and SME members.

I have been honored to serve as your SME Foundation President these last two years. There are numerous people who I have had the pleasure to work with and am so grateful for their support and guidance. The Foundation Board of Trustees are dedicated volunteers who willingly commit their time and expertise to fundraising, committee assignments and Trustee meetings all focused on achieving the Mission of the Foundation. Every one of the SME Foundation staff who through their dedication are the “get it done” individuals who make the Foundation successful. The numerous committee members provide passion, direction and focus to the Foundation programs and activities.

My appreciation goes to Bill Hancock for his guidance and helpful advice as Past President; Steve Holmes for his drive and can-do attitude that will lead us successfully these next two years; and to Niki, Lorie and Megan for your direction, your patience, and your commitment to the Foundation.

And to each of you - our Foundation valued donors – thank you for the confidence that you place in the Foundation and its ability to serve the mining industry, SME members, academia, and the public. We are only successful with your past, current and future donations and support. Working together, we will continue to meet new and ongoing challenges to keep the SME Foundation strong and secure.

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this amazing organization.

With gratitude,
Mary B. Korpi
SME Foundation President

SME Foundation Executive Committee

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<td>President</td>
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<td>Steven C. Holmes</td>
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<td>J. Steven Gardner</td>
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<td>Hugh B. Miller</td>
<td>SME Past President</td>
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To donate to the SME Foundation, please visit us at: www.smefoundation.org
Learn more about the many resources available through MineralsEducationCoalition.org to help you and your local SME section or student chapter conduct outreach about the importance of mined minerals in your community. See the new mining careers video, learn more about becoming a counselor for the BSA Mining in Society merit badge, and see some of the other free and low cost educational resources MEC has to offer.

PRAZEN AWARD GIVEN TO THE MINERALS EDUCATION COALITION

Pat Jacomet, MEC Committee Chair, accepted the Prazen Living Legend of Mining Award on behalf of MEC. MEC was honored for its Move Mining and Move Mining Next Gen programs during the virtual 33rd Annual National Mining Hall of Fame Induction. Watch the presentation at https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1048108888953805.

MOVE MINING SEASON 5 LIVE EVENT—KEYNOTE SESSION AT MINEXCHANGE

The 5th Annual Move Mining Competition will take place as a keynote at the MINEXCHANGE 2021 SME Annual Conference & Expo. Five finalist teams will compete for the $5,000 Grand Prize on Thursday, March 4, from 8:30am-10:00am MT virtually broadcast to conference attendees. 24 teams from seven countries submitted concepts for the contest. Komatsu sponsors Move Mining. Go to MoveMining.org to learn more about the finalists, competition judges and live event emcee.

MOVE MINING NEXT GEN—IMPORTANT JANUARY DATES

K-12 students can win $1000 in the Move Mining Next Gen contest. Public voting is open for Move Mining Next Gen videos January 18 at noon MT through February 1 at noon MT. Be sure to go to MoveMiningNextGen.org to vote for your favorites!

VISIT THE MINERALS EDUCATION COALITION VIRTUAL BOOTH AT MINEXCHANGE
Mineral Processing Engineering and Extractive Metallurgical Engineering Program Criteria Update

By C. Dale Elfrits

Several years ago, SME members and mineral and metallurgical engineering faculty members raised the issue of the need for improved evaluation for ABET accreditation of mineral processing and extractive metallurgy B.S. engineering degree programs. Our colleagues in TMS historically evaluated these programs for the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of ABET. However, many practicing professionals felt that these evaluations might be better conducted by SME members. These SME professionals are thought to be more closely allied with the work of the mining industry and therefore with their educational needs. SME members Kathy Altman and Courtney Young began work with industry professionals and educators in these fields, both domestically and internationally, and were joined by Rick Honaker, SME Director, to develop degree program-specific criteria for these evaluation visits and accreditation actions. TMS was consulted in 2018 as this effort progressed, and, in 2019, TMS agreed to support this effort. Draft program criteria were developed, shared with practicing professionals, educators, and researchers working in these fields, and with TMS. At the February 2020 SME Board of Directors meeting, draft criteria were approved and forwarded to the Engineering Accreditation Commission’s Criteria Committee for consideration and adoption.

These proposed program criteria were approved by the Engineering Accreditation Commission’s Criteria Committee and by the Commission at its July 2020, meeting. These criteria were approved by the EAC Board of Delegates and ABET Board of Delegates at their meetings this past November. The draft degree program criteria for Mineral Processing Engineering and Extractive Metallurgical Engineering Program evaluation can be found at the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET site, https://www.abet.org/accreditation/accreditation-criteria/, when the file is posted later this winter. Scroll to the “EAC Criteria” and look for the “2021-2022 Criteria.” The proposed program criteria will be posted in the last part of the “2021-2022 Criteria” booklet file under “IV. Proposed Changes to the Criteria.” SME and EAC ask that comments about these proposed criteria be forwarded to ABET before June 2021, to be considered by the EAC Criteria Committee, as it continues to make perfect the proposed criteria for adoption.

To donate to the SME Foundation, please visit us at www.smefoundation.org
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.