Letter from the President

Dear SME Members and Friends:

It’s been a series of “firsts” for the SME Foundation. The first Ph.D. Fellowship & Career Grant Development winners will be announced.

The Minerals Education Coalition (MEC) has been working diligently to create the first mining career bookmarks.

The Miners Give Back program awarded its first humanitarian grant.

The first member of the Legacy Club is Robert S. Shoemaker.

To find out how you can be a Legacy Club member, visit the SME Foundation website.

The SME Foundation is updating its website. Be sure to check out the new look.

The Foundation cannot thrive without the support and participation of SME Members like you.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best Regards,

Dennis Bryan

Dennis Bryan, Foundation President

SME Foundation Executive Committee

Dennis P. Bryan  SMEF President
Bart J. Hyita  SMEF Past President
Bill A. Hancock  Vice President
C. Dale Elifrits  Secretary/Treasurer
Robert P. Kudlawiec  Member-At-large

Grant Winners Announced Soon

The first Ph.D. Fellowship and Career Development program applications are in the final evaluation process. A total of 50 applications were submitted; 32 for the Ph.D. Fellowship and 18 for the Career Development programs. The winners will be announced on the SME Foundation website. Visit smefoundation.org for updates.

The Ph.D. Fellowship focuses on providing financial support to encourage qualified candidates with industry experience, and a desire to pursue an academic career, with the means of acquiring a doctoral degree in the field of mining engineering, mineral processing or extractive metallurgy at an accredited university.

The Academic Career Development Grant provides tenure-track assistant or associate professors with the financial support needed to better participate in activities such as research, publication and professional service, which are necessary to achieve tenure and promotion.

For more information visit: www.smenet.org/AcademicGrants/

ABET by the numbers

- 31 member societies, including SME
- 25 SME volunteer program evaluators available to make degree program visits
- 23 countries have accredited programs
- 14 accredited mining engineering degree programs
- 13 accredited geological engineering degree programs
- 9 program sites this fall will be evaluated
- 3 accredited geophysical engineering degree programs
- 1 geology program
- Same organization, new logo and branding

The ABET program ensures that high standards are maintained and recertifies university program accreditation. With an ABET accreditation, students, employers and member societies like SME can be assured that a program meets the quality standards that produce graduates prepared to enter a global workforce. Donate to ABET today to help secure the future of the program. Your gift makes a difference.

To donate to the SME Foundation, please visit us online.
Minerals Education Coalition

Earth Science Week – What can you do?

Again this year, the Minerals Education Coalition (MEC) will participate in American Geosciences Institute (AGI)’s Earth Science Week (ESW). MEC has developed and printed a trio of bookmarks to be included in the 2015 ESW educational resources packet supplied to 16,000 educators nationwide October 11 – 17, 2015. The bookmarks depict exploration, mining and reclamation with related careers of exploration geologist, mining engineer and environmental engineer. This information serves the theme of this year’s ESW “Visualizing Earth’s Systems: The many ways scientists monitor and represent information about Earth systems including land, water, air and living things.”

You, your SME Section, or SME Student Chapter can purchase ESW packets to distribute to educators in your local area.

The bookmarks depict steps in the mine process, with a focus on reclamation and careers in mining, to meet the ESW theme.

Boy Scouts of America

The BSA selected SME to lead the development of the new merit badge because of the dedication and expertise of SME’s members. During the past year, SME members have supported the Mining in Society merit badge by becoming merit badge counselors, hosting workshops and conducting mine tours to help Boy Scouts learn more about the industry. Mining has also been accepted as a STEM subject by Scouting, raising its profile even further. “The Mining in Society merit badge has stirred great interest among the Scouts and Scouting,” said SME member Frank McAllister, former Chairman & CEO, Stillwater Mining Company. “In fact, we are taking the merit badge to the World Scout Jamboree in Japan, July 28 - August 8, 2015.”

McAllister notes that more than 33,000 Scouts from more than 100 counties will be in attendance. The merit badge will be showcased at the City of Science exhibit, where gold panning demonstrations will entice visitors.

A collaborative effort with Japan Scouting, led by Rio Tinto-Japan, is being developed to showcase equipment from six different companies in conjunction with a detailed overview of the merit badge. The objective is to challenge the other visitor countries to adopt a mining merit badge for their programs.
First Miners Give Back grant awarded

Two SME student members were instrumental in awarding the first Miners Give Back grant in partnership with Engineers Without Borders (EWB). In February 2015, The EWB Southern Illinois Carbondale Student Chapter started project in Las Mojarras, Guatemala to provide the local community of with running water, improved sanitation and a higher quality of living.

Las Mojarras lies just south of the Mexican border and consists of approximately 550 people. About 25 of the families in the community and the primary school have direct access to running water while the secondary school and the rest of the community lack this basic human right. The shortage of water in different areas of the community has caused several sanitation issues and leaves latrines a scarcity in a densely occupied area. The chapter initiated the 5-year program with a water distribution project to provide water to the remaining areas of Las Mojarras. The team is engineering an elevated water tank in addition to their current water system. They intend to continually work hard to achieve this goal. The team will be implementing the first official assessment trip in August 2015.

SME student member Jace McGuire writes, “In order to reach our goal, we are constantly fundraising and applying for grants. It is going to take around $75,000 in infrastructure. We thank SME for supporting our goals in providing the community of Las Mojarras with running water, improved sanitation and a higher quality of life. We are interested in continuing a relationship with SME on this project. We are planning to give a presentation at the SME conference next February.”

5 things to know about Professional Engineer’s Exam Program

1. About 1 in 6 SME Members is a Professional Engineer (PE).

2. Obtaining a license to practice engineering is an important and recognized milestone in a person’s career. The PE credential is the gold standard in the industry.

3. Nearly 100 Mining/Mineral Processing engineers took the exam last year.

4. The PE committee is comprised of 42 talented SME volunteers.

5. PE licensure is increasingly required for work in the public domain, government positions and private engineering firms.

The PE program is funded through donations to the SME Foundation. Support the PE exam program with a donation to the SME Foundation.
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 to Creating Global Prosperity: The Campaign for Mining, please visit the Foundation website.

The mission of the SME Foundation is to be the source of funding for education and outreach of SME and the community it serves.

For additional information regarding the SME Foundation, please contact:
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