NEWS RELEASE – May 31, 2017

SME announces recipients of 2017 mining academic grants
Program supports Ph.D. Fellowships and Mining School Faculty Development

The Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Inc. (SME) and the SME Foundation are pleased to announce the recipients of the 2017 Ph.D. Fellowship and the Academic Career Development Grants. The objective of the grant program is to help rebuild the mining school faculty pipeline which will provide the graduates that will become the leaders of the global mining and minerals industry.

“The long-term challenges that threaten the viability of U.S. mining schools and the looming workforce shortage are of utmost importance to the entire mining community,” stated SME Executive Director David L. Kanagy. “To address these challenges, SME and the SME Foundation are proud to award these grants to ensure the sustainability of U.S. mining schools and their faculty. We offer our congratulations to these dedicated industry educators.”

The program allocates to each recipient:

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

Recipients of the 2017 mining academic grants are:

**Freeport-McMoRan Career Development Grants**
- **Shimin Liu**, Assistant Professor of Mining Engineering, Penn State
- **Catherine Johnson**, Assistant Professor of Mining Engineering, Missouri S&T

**Shoemaker Ph.D. Fellowship Grant**
- **Shane Lee**, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, Materials Engineering & Science

**McIntosh Ph.D. Fellowship Grant**
- **Heather Lammers**, Colorado School of Mines, Mining Engineering, Mining and Earth Systems

**Ph.D. Fellowship Grant funded by other sources**
- **Danielle Rocha**, Colorado School of Mines, Comminution & Grinding, Mining and Earth Systems

The 2018 grant application period runs December 1, 2017 through January 31, 2018. For more information on the SME mining academic grant programs, please visit [http://www.smenet.org/students/grants-scholarships](http://www.smenet.org/students/grants-scholarships).

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SME is a professional society (nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation) whose members represent all professions serving the mining, minerals and underground construction industries in more than 100 countries. SME members include engineers, geologists, metallurgists, educators, students and researchers. SME advances the worldwide minerals community through information exchange and professional development.

For more information, contact Jackie Dorr, Communications Manager, 303-948-4244 or dorr@smenet.org.

SME exists to be the premier resource and advocate for the mining community.
For further details, see [www.smenet.org](http://www.smenet.org)