

Greetings Local Section Officers,

I hope you are well and are enjoying your summer so far! Please read below for some important information that impacts you and your section's operations.

Local Section Grant Program

For the past few years, SME has offered the Local Section Grant Program as a way to help our local sections finance special projects. **Unfortunately, we have received very little response to the program this year, so we have decided to extend the application deadline for this year's grants to August 15 in the hopes that some additional sections will submit grant applications.** We have budgeted \$20,000 for Local Section Grants this year, and we could lose that money if we don't spend it! The application form is attached. If you haven't submitted a grant request, I would be interested in knowing what's stopping you. Are there changes we could make to the program that would make it more valuable to more sections? I welcome any feedback you have, and I will do my best to incorporate your suggested changes.

Section Bylaws & Standardization

Last year, I asked all sections to send me a copy of their current bylaws. The response I received from most sections was along the lines of "What bylaws?" which is concerning. I am asking all sections to draft a new set of bylaws that clearly define your section's current operating practices. A sample set of bylaws may be found in our Local Section Operations Manual, available online at www.smenet.org/sections. As you may know, all of SME's current committees and Divisions operate on a standardized schedule that coincides with SME's Annual Meeting. **To help streamline our operations, we are asking our Local Sections to adopt a standardized schedule as well.** The standard schedule will make it easier for us to communicate more effectively and will coincide with the current Summer hiatus taken by many of our Local Sections. Effective in 2013, the standardized schedule is as follows:

- Officer Elections held in April, May, or June (depending on the frequency of your section's meetings)
- Officer Terms begin August 1 and end July 31 annually. Terms may be one year or two years, at the discretion of your local section.

Your current officers (or officers that you will elect in the next few months) will need to adjust their terms of service accordingly. *If your section has a compelling reason why you can't move to this new schedule, please call me to discuss.* Otherwise, please plan to adopt this new schedule, with officer elections and terms as listed above, beginning next year.

Minerals Education Coalition Awards

The Mineral Education Coalition (MEC) has developed several new awards and is now accepting nominations for those awards. The MEC Awards recognize demonstrated active involvement with the MEC's efforts either through development and use of educational materials with K-12 teachers and students or public outreach and awareness about mining and minerals. I encourage you to check out their awards page on our website and to nominate worthy individuals or groups within your section! ***Pay special attention to the MEC Organization Recognition Award (formerly the GEM Local Section Award) and the MEC Visionary Award (formerly the Mii Outstanding Achievement Award).*** [CLICK HERE](#) for more information on each award and to download the required award nomination form. **We have extended the nomination deadline to Friday, August 3 in order to obtain additional nominations.**

Henry Krumb Lecture Series

SME helps bring outstanding speakers to the Local Sections through the Henry Krumb Lecture Series. The program is offered to all local SME sections to enhance their appreciation and understanding of important new methods and technologies. ***There is no charge to your section for hosting a Krumb Lecturer!*** Lecturers are selected from the professionals who present technical papers at the SME annual meeting. The Series is administered by SME and is partially funded by a grant from the Seeley W. Mudd Memorial Fund.

This years' lecturers and the titles of their papers are listed below. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information on each lecture or to request a lecturer for your section. I encourage you to get your request in early to ensure that you will be able to secure your first choice! Lectures are limited to one per section per year. All requests must be submitted using the online form.

2012-2013 Henry Krumb Lecturers

- Dr. Dragan Bogunovic: *Integrated Production Management System--Step Further*
- Dr. Hamid Maleki: *The Importance of Geologic and Geotechnical Monitoring for Improving Stability in Deep Two-Seam Longwall Layouts*
- Mr. James Gusek: *A New Innovative Method for Mitigating Impacts from Acid-Producing Rock*
- Dr. Lucas Moore: *Methods for Removing Arsenic from Process Water*
- Dr. R. Larry Grayson: *Analysis of Small-Mine Compliance Feasibility With Proposed US New Respirable Dust Standards and Implications for Better Dust Control Methods*
- Dr. Rick Honaker: *Upgrading Powder River Basin Coal Using Dry, Density-Based Separator Technologies*
- Mr. Robert Dunne: *Water Water Everywhere and Not a Drop to Drink, Nor Do I Know Its Whereabouts*
- Dr. Vishal Gupta: *Electrokinetic Feature of Kaolinite and Other Selected Two Layer Silicate Materials*
- Dr. Yi Luo: *Locating and Determining the Status of a Thermal Event in Longwall Panel Using Mine Atmosphere Monitoring Data*

Officer Updates

REMINDER – If your section has changed officers in the past three months, please provide me with your new officer list ASAP! Sections that submitted their updated officers following the April edition were entered in a drawing to win three SME prize packs. The winners are: Tony Chavez, Coeur D'Alene Section; Kaitlin Sweet, Northern Nevada Section; and Alex Glover, Carolinas Section. I will be sending your prizes this week!

Thanks, as always, for your dedication to SME and your local members!

-Tessa

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