

NEWS RELEASE

July 23, 2014

SME cosponsors Diversity Summit

Focus on creating and sustaining inclusion in the mining professions

The Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Inc. (SME) is a cosponsor of the first Diversity in the Minerals, Metals and Materials Professions Summit. Hosted by The Minerals, Metals and Materials Society (TMS), the conference will be held at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., July 29-31. The summit will feature presentations and workshops tailored for professionals from industry, government and academia that focus on key insights and best practices for improving diversity and inclusion within each sector.

“Experiences in different cultures can help team members overcome a challenging team dynamic; can enable an engineer to imagine a new and unique solution; or can open new product markets,” 2013 TMS President Elizabeth Holm was quoted in the Presidential Perspective column, July 2013 [JOM magazine](#). “Moving beyond mere facts and figures, this summit will offer our professional members and their employers an opportunity to develop skills and tools to foster and to thrive in a diverse environment.”

Those encouraged to attend the summit include:

- Professionals and leaders in the minerals, metals and materials fields.
- Professionals in government, industry and academia.
- Human resources and diversity officers in science and engineering organizations.

Working sessions led by professional facilitators will identify challenges, strategies, resources and recommendations for creating and sustaining diversity. Panel discussions and working sessions incorporate inclusion training and leadership skills. Designed for early- to mid-career professionals, the opportunity to network with nearly 300 scientists and engineers enhances the value of the conference. In addition, a final report and diversity toolkit will be developed and made available online by fall 2014.

The summit banquet July 29 will honor the legacy of Ellen Swallow Richards, the first female member of the American Institute of Mining & Petroleum Engineers (AIME). Ms. Richards was a pioneer in applying science to improve community health and safety, and a founder of the ecology movement. The first Ellen Swallow Richards Diversity Award will be presented during the banquet. For more information and to register for the summit, please visit <http://www.tms.org/meetings/2014/diversity/home.aspx>.

* * *

SME is a professional society (nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation) whose more than 15,000 members represent all professions serving the minerals industry 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 John Hayden, Deputy Executive Director - Public Affairs and Government Relations, 303-948-4250 or hayden@smenet.org

SME exists to be THE resource and advocate for the mining community.

For further details, see www.smenet.org