



# Mining and Exploration Division

2009 Executive Committee Meeting

9:00 AM to 12:00 pm

Hyatt - Denver, CO

Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2009

## Opening:

The regular meeting of the Mining and Exploration (M&E) Division Executive Committee was called to order at 9:25 AM on February 22, 2009 by Chairperson Dayan Anderson.

## Present:

Dayan Anderson

Steve Holmes

Bob Schafer

Catherine Dreesbach

Hugh Miller

Bill Warfield

Joe Driscoll

George F. Saunders

Bob Washnock

## Absent:

Due to work assignment, John Wiebmer will no longer be serving on the M&E Executive Committee.

## Guests:

Tim Arnold

David Kanagy

Abani R. Samal

Matt Blattman

Eunhye Kim

Sam Shoemaker

Michael Cruickshank

Steve Kral

Madan M. Singh

Peter Darling

Jose L. Lee

Collin Smith

Tara Davis

George Luxbacher

Eileen Sullivan

Don Dwyer

Jane Olivier

Nikhil Trivedi

AnnMarie Estrada

Jon Price

Will Wilkinson

Jim Humphrey

Janet Robinson

## **A. Approval of Agenda**

There agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

## **B. Approval of Minutes**

Mid-year meeting attendees received the minutes via email. Bill Warfield made a motion to accept the minutes and Steve Holmes seconded. The mid-year meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

## **C. Open Issues**

### **1. Mining Engineering Handbook Update - Dedication to Richard Gertsch**

Peter Darling, the Managing Editor for the upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the SME Mining Engineering Handbook, and Jane Olivier, Manager of Book Publishing for SME, reported on the status of the re-write. The book will be approximately 1,850 pages: one volume with 132 chapters and approximately 270 authors. The goal is to make chapters approximately 16 pages long, practical, and geared toward people who are 3 to 5 years out of school.

Peter wanted international authors, as well as non-academic authors, to broaden the appeal of the Handbook and encourage industry buy-in. He has found quite a few international authors, but has had less success finding non-academic authors. Approximately 70% of the authors are from academic institutions. Hugh Miller pointed out that there are many professors in North America who spent years in industry prior to teaching.

Peter is looking for volunteers to write chapters, to act as “stand-by,” or backup, authors, and to review for technical accuracy. Peter emphasized that this will be a world-class publication, and that he is looking for experienced authors. Tim Arnold said SME can help through networking.

There are 16 chapters that need authors and must be completely re-written:

1. Rock Breaking – Mechanical
2. Impoundmentss and Tailings Dams
3. Waste Piles / Mounds
4. Design and Management of Water and Sediment Control Systems
5. Surface Mining of Heavy Oil
6. Solution Mining: In-Situ Techniques
7. Backfilling Methods of Mining
8. Sublevel Caving
9. Froth Floatation
10. Gravity Concentration and Heavy Media Separation
11. Mine Services / Product Support
12. Compressed Air Power
13. Mineral Prospecting and Exploration
14. Genesis of Mineral Deposits
15. Ground Control Methods
16. Evaluation of Mineral Properties

The 24 sections that need stand-by authors and technical reviewers are as follows:

1. Introduction (Mining Current and Future Trends)
2. Mineral Prospecting and Exploration
3. Project and Mining Geology
4. Mineral Economics
5. Mine Economics Management and Law
6. Mine Project Development
7. Evaluation of Mining Methods and Systems
8. Production Operations
9. Ground Mechanics
10. Mine Services/ Production Support
11. Surface Mine Development
12. Surface Mining
13. Surface Mining – Mechanical Extraction Methods
14. Surface Mining Associated with Water
15. Ug Mine Development
16. Ug Mining Comparison Methods
17. Ug Mining Self Supporting Methods
18. Ugmining Supporte Methods
19. Ug Mining Caving Methods
20. Mineral Processing
21. Mineral Processing
22. Health and Safety
23. Environmental Issues
24. Community Issues

Peter already has an author for “Sustainable Development,” which will be written as a separate Chapter. It falls under Section 6: Mine Project Development. There are 5 chapters in this section:

1. Mine Project Development
2. Land Acquisition and Permitting
3. Site Environmental Considerations and Assessment
4. Mine Closure and Completion Planning
5. Sustainable Development

Peter discussed the possibility of not including the chapter on Surface Mining of Heavy Oil, because he thinks the industry is dead. However, many agreed that the topic should still be a part of the Handbook. Hugh Miller suggested a possible author for this chapter. There was also general concern over dropping topics from the Handbook. Steve Holmes said we should have input from a much larger group before doing anything like this. Peter said this is not a decision that would be made lightly. The protocol he will follow will be: (a) have the chapter written by

an author; (b) use a backup author; (c) reprint the old chapter; (d) Peter will write the chapter; or (e) as a last resort, the chapter will be dropped.

Draft chapters are due to Peter no later than mid may.

Peter explained the writing and reviewing process and associated deadlines. Peter will receive manuscripts from authors no later than Mid-May of 2009. He checks for content, explanation of slang, and scientific explanations. After he receives answers from the authors to any questions he has, he sends the paper to two technical reviewers. They have a maximum of two weeks to review the manuscript, make any technical comments, and send the comments back to Peter. He wants all technical reviews finished no later than mid-June. Peter assembles the information from the technical reviewers, together with the comments from the editor, and then sends the comments back to the original author. After Peter receives the revised manuscript, it then goes to Jane Olivier.

Jane said that the Handbook will go through the typical publication process. There will be lots of iterative editing, formatting, proofing, indexing, etc. The projected launch date is the 2012 Annual Meeting. Jane also mentioned that the e-book program is planned to begin this year. She thinks the Handbook will probably be published in print and e-book format simultaneously.

The group brainstormed on ways to find authors and technical editors in a timely manner. Steve Holmes, Tim Arnold, and George Sanders are on the Publications Committee and all agreed to help with this effort.

Dayan Anderson said the M&E Division would like to have a dedication to Richard Gertsch. Jane said the deadline for getting something to her would be June of 2010. Hugh said he already has something written up and will circulate it to the group.

**Action Items:**

- *Jane Olivier will email the chapter index to members of the M&E Executive Committee, and will also email updates once a month.*
- *Catherine Dreesbach will email M&E Executive Committee members the list of chapters outlined above.*
- *Steve Holmes will coordinate an effort by the M&E Executive Committee to find authors for the 16 chapters without authors, and to find stand-by authors and technical reviewers for the other 24 chapters. M&E members will submit names and contact information to Steve. Peter needs this information no later than the end of the first week in March.*
- *Hugh Miller will circulate the dedication page for Richard Gertsch via email.*

2. Final Approval/Close-Out of By-Law Changes

There is one task remaining for the approval of the M&E Division bylaws. The M&E Executive Committee needs to send a letter to the governance committee to inform them that we are re-incorporating the Minerals Resource Management Committee into the new 'bucket' program structure. The letter should be written jointly by current Minerals Resource Management Committee Chair, Bob Schafer, and the M&E Division Chair, Hugh Miller. The Governance Committee will be presenting the information to the Board of Directors at the Mid-Year Meeting.

**Action Item:**

- *Hugh Miller and Bob Schafer will send a letter to Jessica Kogel (on the Governance Committee), explaining the change.*

### 3. M&E Call for Volunteers/Student Representatives

Dayan Anderson reported that she had received several responses to the email she recently sent, soliciting involvement from M&E Division members. There were many new faces at the meeting, and she initiated a discussion of how we can involve people further. She asked if we wanted to look into the possibilities of job shadowing or student representatives.

Several ideas were discussed:

- Job shadowing.
- Student representatives from each school.
- A student session in each division at annual meetings.
- Having students chair sessions.
- Student co-chairs.
- One student paper in each session.
- Ask advisors to assign students.
- Have students present a senior design project, or where they worked on their summer vacation.

Hugh Miller said only a small percentage of people end up in the Young Leaders program. He suggested having a short course geared toward someone in the first 5 years of their career. Having a “value added” element for this age group might give companies a justification to send a young person to the conference. Bob Schafer remembers having had difficulty in the past with short courses for young people.

Several students were present at the meeting and had comments. Janet Robinson from Montana Tech suggested coordinating this effort with faculty advisors at each school, and being specific about what we want students to volunteer for. Kristyn Kiley from Colorado School of Mines pointed out that it can be intimidating being an undergraduate student at the meeting, and that the kinds of opportunities being discussed would be great for students. Eileen Sullivan, also a CSM student said that many undergraduate students don’t have time to write papers. All students present said that they would be willing to chair.

#### ***Action Item:***

- *Bill Warfield will suggest to each of the Program Area Managers (PAM’s) the idea of having student co-chairs or student papers in sessions.*
- *Catherine Dreesbach will circulate a the contact information that will be collected during the business meeting on Wednesday.*

### **D. New Business**

#### 1. AGI Liaison – Welcome Jon Price

Dayan welcomed Jon Price as the SME Liaison to the American Geological Institute (AGI). Jon explained that AGI is an umbrella organization of membership societies. SME is a member of AGI. AGI has a focus mainly on the U.S., even though some of the member societies have a broader focus. Because most geologists in SME are in the M&E Division, it makes sense for M&E to supply a liaison. Jon represents SME in AGI; not the other way around.

Jon reported that *Geotimes Magazine* is now called “*Earth*” and is designed for the general person who is interested in geology related topics. It is a good opportunity for advertising. There are many articles that relate back to SME, and there are some SME members involved in writing some of those documents. AGI also has a website called “*GeoScienceWorld*”, which is similar to *OneMine*. GSA plays a big role in *GeoScienceWorld*, and there are many other geological societies involved in it. Abani Samal suggested linking *OneMine* and *GeoScienceWorld*. Bob Shafer said *OneMine* should be speaking directly with *GeoScienceWorld*. It is clearly competition to the for-profit websites for journal publications.

**Action Item:**

- *Jon Price will write a one page summary to let AGI know what is going on in SME. He will send it to M&E Executive Committee members for review. He will also make sure that information from AGI is distributed to other divisions within SME.*

2. Update on 2009 Meeting

Bob Washnock, M&E Program Chair for 2009, reported on the 2009 Annual Meeting Programming. This is the first year of programming using the new “bucket” structure: Mine Operations, Innovation and Technology, Geosciences, and Management. The M&E Division ended up with the highest number of presentations, but the lowest number of preprints. Following is the breakdown:

Mine Operations – 6 sessions, 38 presentations

Innovation and Technology – 4 sessions, 25 papers

Geosciences – 6 sessions, 34 papers

Management / Mine Safety – 1 session, 5 papers

Total – 17 sessions, 102 papers, 13 preprints

Bob acknowledged the 4 PAMs: Dereke Cooke, Steve Holmes, Mike Ressel, and Bob Shafer. He said that Jim Humphrey and Catherine Dreesbach had each put 2 sessions together. Catherine said that Bill Hustrulid and Steve Iverson, both of NIOSH, should get most of the credit for the underground sessions.

Tara Davis also announced that there would be live internet streaming for several sessions. For 2009 login will not be necessary, but the archived versions will only be accessible to members.

3. Update on the 2010 Meeting (B. Warfield)

Bill Warfield (M&E Program Chair for 2010) introduced the 4 PAMs for the 2010 Annual Meeting in Phoenix. Catherine Dreesbach (Operations) and Sam Shoemaker (I&T) were both present at the meeting. Jess Kindler is the PAM for the Management Bucket and Herb Welner is the Geosciences PAM. Joe Driscoll will be organizing a “Hot Topics” session for the meeting.

There will be a Spanish language session, in an effort to bring in membership from the Mexican and South American contingent. Sam has already organized the Spanish session and said there are no topic restrictions. Incidentally, Jose Lee from SME Mexico was present at the meeting.

4. Scholarship Update

Joe Driscoll announced the 2009 Student Scholarship recipients: Everett Brill, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (SDSMT); David Brokering, CSM; Seth Mittle, University of

Kentucky; and Anna Perry, University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). The Pfleider scholarship was awarded for the first time in 10 years to Chris McCarrick, SDSMT. There were very few scholarship applicants. M&E Scholarship recipients were awarded \$1,500 each and the Pfleider Scholarship recipient was awarded \$1,000.

Bill and Hugh had looked through the bylaws to find out if a change was needed to be able to enlarge the applicant pool. They opened the scholarships up to one person from each department at each school. The scholarships are open to sophomores and above. There are no changes that need to be made to the bylaws, but the scholarship lists and department lists should be updated.

Bob Shafer reported on the status of the Steven Potter Scholarship and Galway Resources Internship. He gave AnnMarie a list of Geology Departments. The Potter scholarship is fully endowed to award \$2000 per year. Galway Resources has not been contacted yet. There is no internship at this time.

5. Dayan Announced the 2009 Awards:
  - a. Dickersen: Thomas E. Finch
  - b. M&E Distinguished Service: Jami Gerard-Dwyer
  - c. Jackling: Harry "Red" Conger
  - d. Outstanding Young Professional: Donald C. Dwyer
  - e. Peele: Not awarded this year

Hugh Miller and Bill Warfield have checked the bylaws to see if any changes need to be made in the matter of revising the criteria for the Peele Award. The bylaws would not need to be changed.

#### **Action Item**

- *Hugh Miller and Bill Warfield will revise the criteria for the Peele Award and circulate the revisions to the Executive Committee. A decision will be made at the 2009 mid-year meeting.*

6. Operators Forum Update – Organized by M&E Members Jami and Donald Dwyer  
M&E Division members Don Dwyer and Jamie Dwyer organized the Operators Forum for 2009. Don was present and acknowledged Stantec for their donation to the event. He said the forum would be kicked off with a *OneMine* presentation, followed by a game, “Are you smarter than a 5<sup>th</sup> year engineer?”
7. AIME Workshop – Engineering Solutions for Sustainable Development: Materials and Resources, July 2009, Switzerland  
Dayan reported that the conference will be held July 22-24, 2009, at Ecole Polytechnique federale de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland. Other AIME member societies, including the Society of Petroleum Engineers, will be involved. More information can be found at [www.spe.org/events/aime/](http://www.spe.org/events/aime/). The deadline for registration is May 29, 2009.
8. Budget  
The committee briefly went through the budget report. The Pfleider Scholarship is self sufficient. The fund for the scholarship was at \$25,300, and one scholarship was awarded this year. The rules state that a \$1000 scholarship can be awarded as long as the balance is over \$25,000.

The M&E scholarship money had been in safe funds, but the investments were rearranged prior to the market crash. The Dickerson fund is fine until more plaques need to be purchased. The committee had recently purchased 12 plaques.

Many items were donated for the silent auction on Wednesday. However, out of 250 available seats for the luncheon, only 135 were sold. Money from purchase of luncheon tickets and auction items go toward the M&E budget.

9. Other issues

- Guest speakers at the meeting also included: David Kanagy, SME Executive Director; George Luxbacher, 2008 SME President; Will Wilkinson, Incoming 2009 SME President; and Nikhil Trivedi, 2010 SME President Elect.
- George Luxbacher reported on what had been taking place in SME during 2008. He encouraged everyone present to attend the board meeting. He highlighted the incorporation of the Mineral Information Institute into the SME Foundation. He also said that *OneMine* was formally introduced at MINExpo this year and the use has been impressive, particularly among student members. He talked about the importance of obtaining preprints to continue to supply *OneMine* with current papers. Many *OneMine* users are looking at papers that are quite old.
- George also brought a UCA calendar to show how their division did something creative and different to promote their division. UCA has a lot of vitality, and we should consider looking at what they are doing. He also acknowledged Joe Driscoll's "M&E Buckets" presentation and said that the disc has been used as an example of innovation at the other Division meetings. He said that this year's Annual Meeting has a total of 3,500 registrants, up 11% from last year, and up 5% from Denver 2 years ago.
- Will Wilkonson thanked George Luxbacher for his leadership during the past year. Financially, he said SME is in good shape, but given the current economic situation, we will be facing many challenges in the coming year. Our younger members are more vulnerable to layoffs, and we need to find a way to keep young people involved in our organization. Student membership this year achieved a record number of 1,024. We usually lose about 25% of our student membership right after they finish college. SME is trying to provide some incentives to retain these people.
- Will thanked the M&E Division for its support over the years. The M&E Division is the largest in the Society, with a little over 5,000 members. M&E sponsors the Jackling Award, which is one of the most prestigious awards in SME, but there will be only 135 attendees at the luncheon. Will said, as a division, we need to figure out how to increase that number.
- Will introduced Michael Cruikshanks, who is representing the International Marine Minerals Society. The Society is one of SME's partners in OneMine. Will also announced that we have 35 titles ready to go into "e-book" format, which is expected to be launched this year.
- Nikhil Trivedi spoke of the amazing talent base in SME. He said the next few years will be a test of our resolve to make SME more relevant and compelling. The people who give approval for young people to come to our meetings are non-mining people. We need to give them a reason to send their young people. He wants all of us to help in this endeavor.
- David Kanagy reported the meeting was on pace to have about 4,700 attendees this year, but due to the economic downturn, attendance was lower. On the positive side, all the booths at the exhibit were sold out and there were vendors on a waiting list.
- George Saunders remarked that part of Joe Driscoll's vision in the Bucket Presentation was that M&E should take a worldwide leadership role in safety. He proposed that the 2012 meeting in Seattle should be "Face to Face with Safety", with a focus on mine safety in China. George

Luxbacher said he will make sure the 2012 SME President talks to George Saunders about the Seattle meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Dayan Anderson at 11:55 A.M. The next mid-year meeting will be September 25-27, 2009, Opryland Hotel, Nashville, Tennessee.

Minutes submitted by: Catherine A. Dreesbach

Approved by: Hugh Miller