NEWS RELEASE
April 13, 2016

UCA of SME awards $70,000 in scholarships
Students will attend World Tunnel Congress in San Francisco

The Underground Construction Association of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Inc. (UCA of SME) is proud to host the 2016 World Tunnel Congress (WTC2016) April 22-28, 2016 at the Moscone Center in San Francisco, CA. Organized in partnership with the International Tunneling and Underground Space Association, WTC2016 will bring together professionals from around the world to exchange technical resources, current products and personal experiences associated with global tunneling, underground space and construction projects.

The UCA of SME Young Members are presenting 47 scholarships totaling $70,000 in cash and benefits to promising college students who desire to develop their skills in the underground construction and tunneling industry. Scholarships include full registration to the WTC2016 conference, invitations to the welcoming reception and special networking events, as well as a one-year student membership to the UCA of SME. Forty-three Attendance Scholarship recipients will receive travel assistance to the conference in addition to their registration and membership fees. Travel assistance includes airfare, lodging, transportation and meals up to $1,000.

Additionally, four Conference Scholarship recipients will receive awards of $5,000 each:

- Michael Kennedy, University of California, Berkeley
- Yuanli Wu, Colorado School of Mines
- Maxwell Engen, Colorado School of Mines
- Adam Reinbold, Colorado School of Mines

More than 2,500 visitors are expected to attend the event. With more than 400 technical presentations, combined with training, poster and oral sessions, attending WTC2016 provides unique opportunities for students to advance their careers by learning firsthand from leading experts in the industry.

The mission of the UCA of SME is to promote the responsible development and use of underground space and facilities. In addition to hosting WTC2016, UCA of SME presents the George A. Fox Conference and the North American Tunneling Conference, and provides the technical publications Tunneling & Underground Construction magazine and the North American Tunnel Demand Forecast. For more information about UCA of SME, please visit http://www.smenet.org/uca.

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SME is a professional society (nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation) whose more than 15,000 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