Opening:

The regular meeting of the Mineral Processing Division was called to order at 9 AM on February 23 in Salt Lake City by Corby Anderson.

Attendance

Corby Anderson – Division Chair 
John Uhrie – Associate Division Chair 
Anthony Staley – First Regional Vice Chair 
Rich Johnson – Second Regional Vice Chair 
Mark Jorgensen – Secretary/Treasurer 
Mike Moats – Technical Program Coordinator 
Erik Spiller – Membership Coordinator 
Jim Metsa – Executive Committee Elect 
Lisa Schlenk – Outstanding Young Engineer 
D. R. Nagaraj – Technical Content Advisor 
Emily Wunder – SME Representative 
Tessa Baxter – SME Representative 
Rod Hill –Mine Health & Safety Division for SME 
Jayson Ripke – Division Past-Chair (2013) 
Courtney Young – Division Past-Chair (2012)

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed and promptly deviated from.

B. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September mid-year meeting in San Diego were approved.

C. Open Issues

- Membership
  - The MPD currently has 2,557 members of which 219 are student members.
• Scholarships
  o This year the MPD will award $15,000 in seven scholarships ranging in value from $1000 to $4000.

• Student Poster Session
  o The Student Poster session has grown to 34 posters. The increase in size has resulted in the session being held in a separate area from the MPD luncheon.
  o Each student who participated received a $100 gift as well as a free admission to the MPD luncheon valued at $50.
  o Winners of the poster contest received scholarships

• Award Financing
  o In discussing Division finances, it was noted that MPD has a large almost self-sustaining scholarship fund and a low general fund.
  o The low general fund is due to a drop in corporate sponsorship for the Gaudin, Richards, Wadsworth and Taggart awards.
  o It was decided that some revenue from the Division’s chief fundraisers, the MPD calendar and the Scotch Nightcap, would in the future be shifted to support the general fund.

D. New Business

• Health and Safety
  o The MPD is always concerned about health and safety.
  o Rod Hill, a representative from the Mine Health and Safety committee, outlined a proposal for a new division of SME. He explained that for 2014 there are 19 session in which 113 papers will be presented on health and safety.
  o With this level of participation there is likely enough interest to start a new division.
  o Members of the Executive Committee expressed interest in also having some of these papers interspersed into different technical sessions within the MPD.
President’s Update – John Marsden

- Notably, SME is in good financial shape and that membership is growing.
- One of his concerns was that he felt that education sustainability was in crisis. He stated that “the pipeline for faculty is thin” and that SME has formed a special Education Committee to assess the situation and determine what ideas or solutions might be possible.
- Three members of the MPD serve on the SME Education Sustainability committee, Mike Moats, Courtney Young and John Keller. The committee has noted that there is a checkered existence of mineral process faculty in different colleges and universities. There is not a “critical mass” large enough to sustain a program. Also, federal funding is considered critical for research; however, only selected solicitations are currently available through the Department of Energy (mostly for critical materials) and the Metal Division within NSF excludes extractive metallurgy.
- One of the comments during the meeting was that in order to fill extractive metallurgy positions, some companies are hiring chemical engineers and retraining them as metallurgists. MPD may have a role in retraining people to work in the mineral processing industry.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 12 PM by John Uhrie.

Minutes submitted by: Mark K Jorgensen

Approved by: John Uhrie