

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



What a year we tied up for 2024 - thanks to everyone who helped us cap off such a great year. Special thanks to the **17 Corporate Roundtable Partners, 82 VIP Donors, and 1,081 total donors in 2024.**

We had a couple of great events this fall, including the Conference for the Advancement of Science Teachers (CAST) in San Antonio in mid-November, and our annual SMEF Golf Outing in

Arizona at the end of November, which had a record year.

We are very focused on supporting the ABET and PhD Fellowship and Career Development programs in 2025. These two programs are crucial to the industry and major investments of the Foundation's time and resources. Both of these programs are in critical years of continuance with ABET looking for a primary supporter and the PhD Fellowship and Career Development programs transitioning through some of the last of the program's biggest cohorts. While both of these programs require continuous support, 2025 will need to re-establish momentum for ABET and sustain momentum for the Development programs.

Upcoming events: The Annual SME Foundation Gala will be held on Sunday, February 23rd at the Hyatt Regency in Denver Colorado as part of the SME's 2025 MINEXCHANGE. Our theme this year is "All that Glitters is Gold" and we are thrilled to be back in Denver. Last year's Gala was among our biggest and most exciting, so plan to join us this year as we kick off the annual meeting and celebrate the Foundation's great year.

Best,

Tom Rauch
SME Foundation President

Please join the SME Foundation for its
Annual Gala Dinner and Silent Auction

*All that
Glitters
is Gold*

I ♥ MINING

SME
FOUNDATION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025

Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center

6:00 pm-7:00 pm | Cocktail Reception and Silent Auction

7:00 pm-8:30 pm | Dinner Program

8:30 pm-10:30 pm | Entertainment and Dancing

Dress: Business or Gold Attire

Buy your tickets or tables when you register for
MINEXCHANGE at **SMEAnnualConference.org**.

Contact the SME Foundation at
smefoundation@smenet.org for additional information.

All proceeds go to benefit the SME Foundation and the programs it serves.
www.smefoundation.org

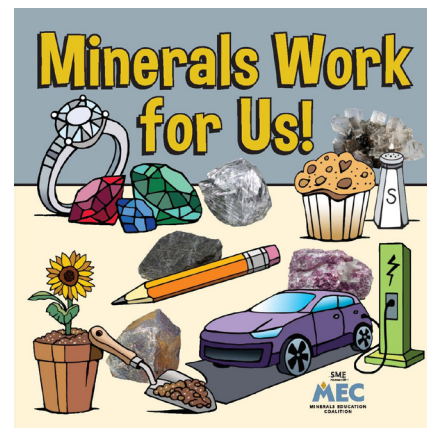
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COMING SOON: NEW MEC CHILDREN'S BOOK—MINERALS WORK FOR US!

Get ready to embark on an exciting adventure into the world of minerals with *Minerals Work for Us!* This delightful children's book reveals how important the Earth's treasures are in our daily lives, from sparkling diamonds to powerful lithium in electric cars. Perfect for curious kids ages three to six, the colorful illustrations and simple, engaging text bring science and everyday life together in a fun and accessible way. This book will be sold on the MEC website, in the SME online bookstore and in-person at the SME bookstore at MINEXCHANGE 2025.



NSTA NATIONAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN PHILADELPHIA



Richard Schwering and Dick Beach from the SME Colorado Section MEC talk to teachers at the NSTA event in Denver in March 2024

The next NSTA Conference on Science Education will be held in Philadelphia, PA, March 26-29, 2025. MEC will display and provide free educational materials designed to help teachers educate their students on the importance of minerals and mining in their daily lives. Knowledgeable volunteers will talk to teachers about their work in the minerals industry. We plan to distribute more than 2,000 rock and mineral kits to teachers to use in their classrooms. To donate/learn about the sponsorship levels and benefits MEC is offering, contact Megan Martin at martin@smenet.org.

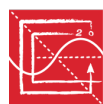
NATIONAL OUTREACH COLLABORATION UPDATE

Ryan Miles, Colorado Mining Association Education (CMAE) Foundation, presented "How to Introduce Mining to Educators through Professional Development" to 30 participants at the National Outreach Collaboration (NOC) virtual meeting on December 16, 2024. To view the meeting, visit the **NOC Community** by first logging into your **SME Account** and the **SME Community**.

The next NOC meeting will be held in-person on Monday, February 24 at the 2025 MINEXCHANGE Conference in Denver. If you are interested in joining, please contact Chris Earnest, NOC Chair, at earnest@arizona.edu.

SME PE STUDY GUIDE EDITION 9 WILL SOON BE PUBLISHED

Submitted by Dr. Andrew P. Schissler, PE



NCEES
advancing licensure for
engineers and surveyors

The SME PE Committee has been working on Edition 9 of the SME PE Study Guide. The Study Guide will have a practice exam for

the Mining/Mineral Processing (MMP) PE Exam as the highlight. The Edition is now in final editing and formatting between the Committee and the SME Publishing Department. The new practice exam includes revised MMP test specifications that were completed November 2024. The MMP test specifications are systematically reviewed and updated every seven years through surveys sent to practicing PE's in the US. The PE Committee submitted a pre-funding proposal addressing the value of licensure to the NCEES Foundation. If the letter of inquiry is selected, SME may send a detailed proposal in the summer of 2025.

Plans are underway for the SME PE Committee events at MX 2025 which includes the first all-SME reception for member PE's. The reception will be held Sunday, February 23rd, during the opening of the Exhibit Hall. The reception's objectives are for PE's to network, and to encourage students to pursue licensure, and take the FE exam before leaving college.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. TAGHI SHERIZADEH FOR RECEIVING TENURE AT MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY!



Dr. Taghi Sherizadeh was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure in September 2024 at Missouri University of Science and Technology, Department of Mining and Explosives Engineering. He was a 2022 recipient of the SME Freeport-McMoRan Career Development Grant. With over a decade of experience in numerical modeling, constitutive model development and

fracture mechanics, his research focuses on improving the safety and efficiency of mining and subsurface operations. He has applied advanced computational techniques and experimental rock mechanics to study mine excavation stability, surface subsidence and underground storage solutions for oil, gas and nuclear waste.

Committed to advancing sustainable resource extraction and safety, Dr. Sherizadeh's work continues to shape the fields of mining engineering, geomechanics, and clean energy technologies.



ABET

ABET ACTIVITY UPDATE

Submitted by Rick Honaker; ABET Chair – Visitor Selection Committee

SME members who volunteer as trained ABET Program Evaluators (PEVs) have again completed a campus degree program evaluation visit cycle successfully, including new PEV observation (practice)

visits. Thanks to all these dedicated SME member volunteers! SME PEVs visited three mining engineering degree programs and three geological engineering degree programs. Five new PEVs who had finished all training completed their required observation visits. The availability of these new PEVs will ease the PEV assignments for the 2025 cycle.

The next important SME event in support of our ABET degree program accreditation responsibilities is the **Annual General ABET Information and Training Session** that will occur at MINEXCHANGE 2025 on Saturday, February 22nd at the Colorado Convention Center. This program will start with lunch at noon (reservations are required; contact Mona Vandervoort at vandervoort@smenet.org by February 7th). After lunch, we will work through a number of case studies from past campus PEV visits as a method to review the ABET General Criteria and our Program Criteria as well as their applications. This program is open to all volunteers who are interested in becoming ABET degree program evaluators (PEVs) and all others who are interested in the process of degree program accreditation, including faculty members, administrators and industry advisory committee members.

SME NEW YORK SECTION MAKES SECOND \$75K DONATION TO THE SME FOUNDATION

Thank you to the SME New York Section for their generous contribution of \$75K to the SME Foundation General Fund. This is the second \$75K donation made by the NY Section in less than two years in support of the SME Foundation's critical programs and initiatives.

This donation was made in memory of **Mark Emerson** and in honor of **Michael Cramer**, recognizing their lifelong participation, leadership and dedicated support of the New York Section's efforts in developing the Current Trends in Mining Finance Conference (CTMF) into its current success. It also honors their longstanding membership and dedication to SME and NY SME.



**The Foundation of the
Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration**

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www.smefoundation.org

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| Pg. 3 | PE Study Guide Edition 9, Congratulations to Dr. Taghi Sherizadeh, ABET Activity Update, SME New York Section Donation |

THANK YOU!

Thank you to our Corporate Roundtable Partners for their encouragement, support and assistance in creating a stronger industry around the world, developing tomorrow's professionals and leaders, and strengthening relationships within our communities. To find out more or to lend your support, please visit smefoundation.org.



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