



SOMP



UNIVERSIDAD
NACIONAL
DE COLOMBIA
SEDE MEDELLÍN

**Universidad Nacional de Colombia
Society of Mining Professors (SOMP)
4th Regional Meeting Latin America
Medellín – Colombia
May 26th - 28th - 2016**

Introduction

4th SOMP Regional Meeting (Society of Mining Professors), Latin America version, was held in Medellin, Colombia during May 26th to 28th 2016.

The regional meeting of SOMP - Latin America aims to bring the academic mining community and foster growth and collaboration, like so facilitate the exchange of information, research, teaching and collaborative activities among its members.

This regional meeting was an excellent opportunity to share knowledge and information, academic programs and strengthen the undergraduate and graduate programs in the area of Mineral Resources, the related research groups and a strategy to strengthen mining research in the region in the area of Geology, Mining and Metallurgy.

President of the meeting:

- Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena
Universidad Nacional de Colombia



International Committee

- Valdislav Kecojevic
SOMP President 2016- West Virginia University – USA



Participating countries:

- Argentina
- Chile
- Brazil
- Peru
- Ecuador
- Colombia
- Cuba
- Mexico
- Spain

SOMP members from:

- United States
- Germany
- United Kingdom
- Namibia

13 Countries

42 professors

28 School of mines

Academic activities:

- Presentation of different Latin American Schools and Programs
 - Workshop in five different topics: Mining research, inter-academic cooperation, university/companies/state relationship, academic topics, students and new technologies.
- Accreditation initiatives: ABET, EURACE, Latin American
- Industrial Experiences in Mining Engineers formation
- Think Tank on Mining
- SOMP experiences
- Workshop in Future on Mining Engineer Education. What kind of Mining Engineers we are forming?
- Colombian Mining Congress
- Field trip: underground limestone mine

Social activities:

- Welcome cocktail
- Gala dinner
- BBQ
- Touristic visit to Medellin
- Touristic visit to Guatapé (little town near to Medellin)

Some conclusions:

What kind of mining engineer we want to educate?

- Undergraduate: Comprehensive training, universal, including values
- Graduate: Specialization according to interests, opportunities and talents
- Learning mode: more room, more active learning in the classroom
- Programs to skills

Next meetings:

We discuss about to realize the SOMP Regional meeting Latin America every two years. Peru, Brazil and Chile are candidates to organize the meeting. They are going to present their options in order to define the best option during the SOMP general meeting in Washington D.C. this September.

Photos:



