I have the great honor to be the President of the Society of Mining Professors / Societät der Bergbaukunde (SOMP) at a very important moment for our society, our countries, and our entire world. A moment when mining activity, more important than ever, is being questioned from many fronts and factions. A moment of change, of transformation. A moment in which we are immersed in the fourth industrial revolution. A moment in which it is important to make decisions regarding the development of our society in a sustainable way that is committed to the environment.

It is important to question ourselves in knowing the answers to these questions: What are our roles as professors? What is the profile of the professionals we are training? We cannot continue teaching the same subjects in the same way. Twenty years ago, sustainability in mining was an academic problem, and very few companies considered it; mobile phones were an anecdote, and technological developments (although evident) had not been assumed by society as their own. The language was different, and social networks did not have the predominance they have today.

I have found in the SOMP a space to begin solving many of the challenges and concerns that I've had as a professor, and I have found a space to project many of the dreams I've had regarding the possibilities for my students. My first annual meeting of the Society was in Arequipa, Peru in 2011, under the leadership of Mario Cedrón, whom I recognize as one of the drivers behind mining education in Latin America. For me, Mario opened the doors to international academic discussion; this is reflected today through the number of academic relationships between the School of Mines of the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Medellín (to which I proudly belong) and many institutions throughout different countries of the world.

This year, I would like to see the SOMP continue to enable joint research and education projects, as well as other collaborative efforts among our members. I would like to see capacity building in many developing countries, a continuing support of curriculum development and the teaching of earth sciences in different universities, and an ability to share new teaching technologies. I would like to see the support of publications and conducting joint conferences, implementing models of collaborative teaching, enabling exchanges and academic visits, contributing to the mentoring of younger members, and many more activities that are promoted by this great organization.

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I invite you to the SOMP Annual General Meeting and conference in Medellín, the industrial city of Colombia, from June 30th through July 3rd, 2020. It is indeed an honor for us to host this meeting in Colombia, which will be the first SOMP meeting and conference after the first Regional Meeting in Latin America in May 2016. The SOMP meeting and conference is co-hosted by the School of Mines at Universidad Nacional de Colombia and AIMC (Asociación de Profesionales del Sector Minero Colombiano – Colombian mining sector professionals), under the guidance of our Secretary-General Vlad Kecojevic. The SOMP has set a very ambitious Strategic Plan for the next decade; therefore, we have planned several open and interactive sessions and workshops that will help us reach the goals set in our strategic plan and help our society excel in the future. The partners program has been designed to include several interesting, exciting activities, including visits to some places in Medellín and the surrounding areas. We have also planned a premeeting optional tour and a post-meeting field trip to a mining project. I hope that the upcoming meeting in the city of Medellín, will be tremendously beneficial and fun for all members. It will not be just another international conference, but rather an unforgettable experience; the meeting will be accompanied by strong technical content integrated with informative and practical forums and discussion panels, which will cover our areas of greatest interest for future educational needs, collaborative research opportunities, member development, and capacity development for new mining programs in different parts of the world. Finally, the meeting will be a great opportunity to establish contacts and develop long-term professional relationships. We look forward to greeting you in Medellín, Colombia, in June 2020.

Best regards/Mit freundlichen Grüßen und Glückauf!
From the desk of SOMP Secretary-General

Dear SOMP Members,

Greetings from Morgantown, West Virginia, and welcome to the 51st Newsletter from the Society of Mining Professors (SOMP) / Societät der Bergbaukunde! I am writing this note in early December, and a brutal winter has returned to my beloved West Virginia. At the same time, my thoughts and prayers are with my friends and colleagues in Australia who are battling raging fires this summer. Wherever you are, please stay safe!

It is hard to believe that we are closing yet another year; however, it has been a very exciting and productive year for our Society, with so many achievements and accomplishments from our members. I do hope that you will enjoy reading about them. Currently, our Society membership is at 294, with 255 male and 39 female members, representing 131 mining schools in 44 countries. There are 237 full, 18 emeritus, 23 junior, and 16 retired members.

You are all aware that our Society has been supported solely by membership fees, and SOMP pays for many activities and services used by SOMP members. Unfortunately, it was discovered that dozens members had not paid their membership fees for several years. This impacted the financial bottom line of the Society and services that it provides to members. The 2018-2019 SOMP President, the IT Director, and I have engaged to collect past dues, and we are happy to report that a significant number of members responded positively and paid their past dues. As a result, our balance in June 2019 has increased by almost 160% as compared to January 2019. We are at a record level, which provides us with an opportunity to support a variety of activities for the benefit of SOMP members. Based on the SOMP Constitution, Article 10, and SOMP Statutes, Article 5, Paragraph 3a, the SOMP Council has decided to terminate the memberships of 75 members who decided not to pay their past dues. At the SOMP Council meeting in Bochum, it was proposed to amend the SOMP Constitution, specifically Article 10 – Termination of Membership. The membership at the meeting approved the addition to this article as follows: “A former Society member whose membership has been terminated because of non-payment of annual fee(s) may be reinstated upon written request to Society Membership Committee and payment of outstanding back dues to the Society up to maximum of 3 years.”

I am particularly excited about our achievements in being more diverse and inclusive as the Society. I am thrilled by the election of Elisabeth Clausen of Aachen University as the new SOMP Deputy Secretary-General Treasurer. Elisabeth started her SOMP journey as a junior member at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Arequipa, Peru in 2011. She has been significantly involved in our activities through the SOMP Committees, particularly in the Membership Development Committee, and she was the first recipient of our SOMP Tim Shaw Award in 2016. Elisabeth is always looking ahead, and I am confident that her innovative thinking will be of great benefit to SOMP as we move forward into the future. I also certainly appreciate Ludger Rattmann (TH Georg Agricola), who served as the Deputy-Secretary General Treasurer for almost a decade.

Pinyo Meechumna (Chulalongkorn University), Ronny Webber-Youngman (University of Pretoria), and Helmut Mischo (TU Bergakademie Freiberg) have tirelessly served our Society as the SOMP Council Members from Asia, Africa, and Europe, respectively. We all appreciate their dedication and service to our Society. As their terms came to the end, the SOMP Council nominated and the membership at the meeting in Bochum approved Nguyen Nga (Hanoi University of Mining and Geology), Harmony Musiyarira (Namibia University of Science and Technology), and Marilena Cardu (Politecnico di Torino) as the new Council Members from Asia, Africa, and Europe, respectively. I welcome all of them to the SOMP Council and look forward to their further contributions to our Society.

We have also renewed the membership in many of our SOMP Committees. The complete list of Committee members can be found in this Newsletter (pages 21-24) and at the SOMP website:

https://miningprofs.org/the-committees
I invite you to become actively involved with one or more of our committees, our meetings, and by contributing to our SOMP vision and mission. Networking opportunities and development of long-term professional relationships at our meetings are unparalleled. “Through SOMP, I feel like I have found a rare and unique place where I can collaborate, learn new ideas and grow my skills. It’s my favorite group of people and I truly look forward to the annual meeting each year.” noted our member Andrea Brickey (South Dakota School of Mines and Technology).

Michael Nelson (University of Utah), Jürgen Brune (Colorado School of Mines), and I were members of the US-based Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (SME) Ad-hoc education committee in 2019. I am pleased to report that the SME Board of Directors approved the recommendation of this committee to have a significant representation of SOMP members in official roles in four major SME education-related committees: the Accreditation and Curriculum Issues Committee, the Student Affairs Committee, the Research Committee, and the Education Sustainability Committee. The SME is the largest professional mining society, with almost 15,000 members, and I am happy that we have a growing opportunity to participate more actively in these SME Committees.

The Mining Technology Journal has been our official SOMP journal for almost a decade. All members of the Society were able to receive electronic online access to Mining Technology, included with their membership fee. At the same time, the SOMP has been paying a subscription fee, i.e., approximately 10 Euros + VAT per SOMP member. The last payment to the journal publisher was €3,666 for 2018. This has been a significant burden on our already limited budget. Therefore, the SOMP Council and membership at the meeting in Bochum in July 2019 decided to cancel subscription to this journal, effective December 30, 2019. At the same meeting, the council and membership decided to endorse a new journal, the International Journal of Mining Science and Technology, published by Elsevier. The SOMP will not pay any subscription fee to this journal, there will be a significant representation of SOMP members on the journal editorial board, and all members will have access to this journal free of charge.

In late November, I met with the SOMP President Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena in Medellín, Colombia. Together, we visited all facilities and hotels for our upcoming 2020 Annual General Meeting in Medellín. We have also met with the Vice-Chancellor of the Universidad Nacional de Colombia and the Dean of Facultad de Minas, as well as Colombian mining sector professionals. There is strong support and commitment from all for our AGM in Medellín. What impressed me the most was our meeting with more than 20 mining engineering students from the host university; they already have created an entire plan and program for our technical visits and tours during our visit to Medellín. The energy and passion of these students for our AGM is something that I have never seen before, and they are extremely excited about being a part of our SOMP meeting. All hotels are located in a central district of El Poblado, within walking distance to our conference hotel, the Marriott. All hotels are exceptional, and our SOMP President has secured very favorable hotel rates that range from $70 to $160 per night, including breakfast. The city of Medellín is beautiful, unique, and diverse, with so much to see and learn about Colombian culture, and the hospitality of the Colombian people I met with is unmatched. I am very excited to come back to this gem of Latin America in June 2020. It appears that the registration fee for this AGM will be the lowest of all we’ve had in the past, and we all should commend our SOMP President for his leadership. I encourage you to register for the conference and reserve your hotel on time, since there will be the America Soccer Cup in Colombia and Argentina from June 12 through July 12, 2020.

Please do not hesitate to let the President and/or myself know how SOMP can support your continued professional development. I look forward to serving you all and continuing to build our Society. Please remember that your feedback, observations, and experience with the Society is always welcome and appreciated, whether in person, by e-mail, or by phone. You are welcome to share information about any aspect of our Society with me and/or the SOMP President. We will be listening to your suggestions to continuously improve.

I wish you all a safe, healthy, and happy New Year.
Welcome to New SOMP Members

We are very pleased to report that in the last 12 months, up to the beginning of December 2019, we have welcomed a further 41 new SOMP members. Congratulations and welcome to all of our new members! We look forward to meeting with you in the future and to your active participation in the Society. Thanks also to those members who encouraged and supported you through nomination. All members are once again reminded that membership is not restricted just to those of us who are full professors. Under the constitution of the Society, any person who is directly involved or affiliated with mining engineering education is eligible to join SOMP. We strongly encourage younger mining academics or faculty members who are just setting out on a mining academic career to consider joining SOMP to benefit from its ever-increasing international network of fellow mining academics. So please encourage your younger colleagues to consider membership. This includes current PhD students or post-docs who may be considering an academic career in the future – they can apply to join SOMP as a Junior member, and gain access to all that the Society is doing and immediately share in the international network of mining academics. Prospective new members should contact Zach Agioutantis (University of Kentucky) with any queries regarding the online membership application process (or any other website inquiries). His email address is: zach.agioutantis@uky.edu

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Members’ Perspective on SOMP

Nga Nguyen
I am an Associate Professor from Hanoi University of Mining and Geology, Viet Nam. My first SOMP meeting was Annual General Meeting in Poland in 2012, when I was a PhD student at RWTH Aachen, Germany. From that meeting, I thought I could see my future if I could join the Society with so much of passion about mining and mining education, a friendly and an effective network, and opportunities for junior researchers and lecturers.

In the beginning, I hesitated to join SOMP as I heard a statement from the former Secretary-General Prof. Mike Karmis: “The Society needs members who really want to be engaged, not just being members”. At that time, I wondered how I could contribute to the Society after coming back to Viet Nam with so many barriers to join international events/activities. I am thankful to two members of SOMP, my supervisors, Prof. Per Martens and Prof. Kretschmann who strongly recommended me to the Membership Committee in 2013. With their support and trust, I have gradually integrated in SOMP activities, became a member of Capacity Building Committee in 2014, and a member of SOMP Council in 2019. Not only that I have benefited from the strong network of SOMP members, conferences and projects, and the Mentoring Program, but also from having great friends from many countries, and bringing new research and educational opportunities to my colleagues and students in Viet Nam and in Southeast Asia.

I remember a statement of Prof. Harmony Musiyarira, the former Coordinator of Capacity Building Committee: “You could not have passion to fly like eagles, if you hang around ducks”. I found many eagles in SOMP and am very proud to be a member of the Society.

Natalija Pavlovic
I am a PhD student from the University of Belgrade, Serbia. I’m conducting research on identifying risks in opencast mining, and optimizing the best and most-economic investment options for reducing the probability of those risks.

It’s my privilege to be a new Junior member of SOMP. I’ve heard many wonderful things about SOMP from my professors at the Faculty of Mining and Geology. It gave me an impression of a tight-knit friendly society with a tradition, so I decided to see for myself. To my surprise and pleasure, all the superlatives I’ve heard about SOMP are true.

One of the biggest benefits I have already experienced is the networking. As SOMP consists of a significant number of amazing mining academicians, the altogether knowledge is astounding. Never has a SOMP member refused to help me, which is a crucial element for a Junior member like me, being able to ask for professional advice and getting feedback from all around the world. Needless to say, forming priceless friendships and mentorships for life along the way. For this reason, I wish to support SOMP in all the ways I can. As of 2019, I’m part of Members Development Committee, and I look forward to contributing to our Society.
Wei (Victor) Liu

I am an Assistant Professor in the School of Mining and Petroleum Engineering at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. Before joining academia, I worked as a geotechnical engineer in Canada’s Arctic Region, focusing on Arctic mining projects composed of rock/soil mechanics, ground freezing, and geothermal modeling. My current research interests include the development of cement-based materials and thermal-mechanical modeling in the mining industry.

I have been an active SOMP member since March 2018. SOMP is the best professional community to professors in mining engineering - colleagues here share the same objectives to deliver high-quality education, research, and service to mining. I decided to join SOMP because it provides a platform where we can communicate and collaborate to take on unique challenges (also exciting opportunities) that other disciplines usually don’t have.

After joining SOMP, I attended the annual meetings in Beijing (2018) and Bochum (2019), and I became a mentee under the SOMP Mentoring Program. In the last two years, I have gained enormous support from many colleagues who are active members and leaders in SOMP. Led by them, I now serve SOMP as a member of Research, Development and Industry Committee. Starting from here, I look forward to furthering my engagements and voluntary work in SOMP.

George Barakos

The very first time I heard about the Society of Mining Professors was back in 2013. I had just relocated from Greece, where I come from, to Germany to begin my doctoral studies at the TU Bergakademie Freiberg. Coincidentally, Helmut Mischo, who was my supervisor, had just come back from Milos where the annual meeting was held that year, bearing news that two years later, the meeting would be held in Freiberg. I immediately asked to be in the local organizing committee, having had experience in organizing international conferences already from the time I studied at the Technical University of Crete, where I obtained my Mineral Resources Engineering diploma and my Master of Science in Geo-environmental Engineering. The answer of my professor came along with a challenge; “You may be part of the local organizing committee but I also want you to present part of your research about rare earth elements during the meeting”. This was my first experience with SOMP.

A few months later, I traveled to Namibia to attend the following regional SOMP meeting at Windhoek, giving another presentation and sharing more details about my work. The feedback I received after both of my presentations in Freiberg and Windhoek was enormous and the support I got from many professors was more than overwhelming. It was after this meeting that I decided to join the Society as a junior member. This boosted my motivation to finish my doctoral studies and another two years later I attended the 2017 SOMP annual meeting in Turin, right after having officially submitted my Thesis, yet before defending it. During this meeting I was happily surprised to be treated as equal among others, like I had already got my PhD. It was then when I realized that SOMP is more than an annual meeting where mining professors from around the world gather and talk about educational issues.

Currently, I am a fully active member of the Society, taking part in committees and being member of a great international network. I gain experience and knowledge from talking with professors; I share research ideas and discuss potential collaborations. SOMP has already given me a great amount of scientific opportunities. Most importantly, however, I am among people who I respect and whose company I enjoy, as if I am part of a big research family. I am no longer Dr. Barakos. I am George.
The 30th Annual General Meeting, Bochum, Germany, June 29th – July 5th, 2019

The 30th SOMP Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held in Bochum, Germany, between June 29th and July 5th, 2019. The meeting was hosted by the TH Georg Agricola University under the leadership of Jürgen Kretschmann. It included a three-day program (July 1-3, 2019) with a plenary session on the morning of the first day of technical meeting. It also included technical tours in the Ruhr Area on July 4th and 5th, 2019. The meeting was attended by 110 participants, where Germany was represented by 29 participants, the USA was represented by 11, and Australia was represented by 9. There was a total of 30 countries represented in the meeting.

Opening, welcome, and keynote talks were delivered by Jürgen Kretschmann (SOMP President, TH Georg Agricola University), Bärbel Bergerhoff-Wodopia (Member of the Board of Executives, RAG-Stiftung), and Jürgen Brune (on behalf of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration). Following these talks, the SOMP Business Session was conducted by Vlad Kecojevic (SOMP Secretary-General).

Michael Karmis (Virginia Tech), Ismet Canbulat (UNSW Sydney), Jan Palarski (Silesian University of Technology), and Ronny Webber-Youngman (University of Pretoria) were panelists for the open session on Research Funding. The purpose of this panel was to dig into the topic of interest to many SOMP members, not only those who are seeking promotion and/or tenure at their universities, but also to those academics who aspire to stay research active. The panel included a number of Q&A and interactive discussions amongst SOMP members. The first day of the AGM also included several presentations on a variety of research topics and post-mining.

The second day of the SOMP meeting included a series of presentations on education, elements of career development, graduate student numbers and trends, an inspirational talk, workshop, and an interactive panel discussion on the SOMP Young Talent initiative. The last day of the SOMP conference covered topics related to capacity building, the future of SOMP, and presentations on upcoming AGM and Regional meetings.
During the Awards Dinner at the AGM, several SOMP members were recognized for their accomplishments. Jürgen Kretschmann (TH Georg Agricola University) was the recipient of the Gunter Fettweis Award for his dedication to the mission and goals of the SOMP, his exceptional enthusiasm in developing international programs and partnerships, his unique contributions to capacity building efforts, and his leadership and accomplishments as the 2018-19 President of the Society. Michael Karmis (Virginia Tech) was named the recipient of the Ludwig Wilke Award for his distinguished contributions to the body of knowledge in mining engineering, his innovative research, and his significant service and commitment to the Society. The fourth annual presentation of the Tim Shaw Award for Innovation in Teaching and Learning was made to Andrea Brickey (South Dakota School of Mines and Technology) for devoted significant effort to develop teaching and learning innovations, promote educational excellence and motivate and inspire students to learn. In recognition for contributions to strengthen the international academic network in education and research, special Medals of Honor were awarded by the host institution to four SOMP members during the opening ceremony: Nguyen Nga, Jürgen Brune, Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena, and Vlad Kecojevic.
This meeting was what SOMP is all about – not just another international conference of multiple technical paper presentations, but rather a selected number of presentations, integrated with informative and practical discussion forums and panels that cover our major interest areas of future education needs, collaborative research opportunities, member development, and capacity building for new mining programs in developing parts of the world. All presentations from the meeting have been posted on the SOMP website: https://miningprofs.org/Documents/DocumentsList?tp=AGM2019

The AGM in Bochum was enriched by attendance to the Night of Industrial Culture and German Mining Museum. The technical tours included visits to RAG Mine Water Control Center at former mine “Pluto”, former mine site “Ewald”, active opencast lignite mine Garzweiler, and ESCO - European salt company GmbH & Co.

The meeting was a great success in every way – from the planning and organization, to the venue, to the level of attendance, to all activities, and to the program itself. A big thank you must go to Jürgen Kretschmann and all of his team members, particularly Benedikt Graefingholt and Diana Elizabeth Lezcano Zapata, for their efforts and their great achievement in delivering a highly successful meeting.

For those who have not yet seen them, there is a comprehensive collection of high-quality photographs on the SOMP website, recording every aspect of the Bochum meeting. To access them, please go to the following website and click on News & Activities; Annual Meetings; 2019 Meeting – Pictures:
https://miningprofs.org/annual-meetings

SOMP at SME Annual Meeting and Expo

Many SOMP members were very active during the 2019 Annual Meeting and Expo of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (SME), held in Denver, Colorado in February 2019. Andrea Brickey and Vlad Kecojevic chaired the SOMP session on “Moving Mining Curriculum to Embrace the Future.” This session included presentations on the 2019 SOMP AGM in Bochum, Germany by Jürgen Kretschmann, followed by presentations on “Mining Engineering Curriculum of the Future” by Rudra Mitra; “Keeping Mining Engineering Curriculum Relevant” by Scott Rosenthal; “Coupling Innovative Technology in the Academic Environment with Theory-Based Curriculum” by Maureen Moore; and “The MINETRAIN Project; Developing an Advanced Level Training Program for Mining Industry Professionals in an Actual Deep Mine Site” by George Barakos. SOMP members also took part in the traditional Komatsu academic gathering for professors and students.

The SOMP members had a very productive meeting with SME leadership team, including David Kanagy (SME Executive Director), Barbara Arnold (SME President), Hugh Miller (SME President-Elect), and Robert Schafer (SME President Designate). This meeting provided an opportunity to establish a strong professional relationship between SOMP and SME in our educational efforts.
During mid-May this year, the inaugural SOMP PhD Candidate Research event was held at TalTech’s Särhaua field school in central Estonia. The event was an opportunity for PhD candidates from SOMP Membership universities to present their research and fields of interest. The organisers, Michel Hitch (TalTech), George Barakos (TU Bergakademie Freiberg) and Veiko Karu (TalTech), saw this as an opportunity for young researchers to network with other scholars from other universities in the region develop presentation skills and perhaps establish life-long relationships that typifies the spirit of SOMP participation. A total of ten PhD scholars participated in the event that presented topics ranging from 3D printing of cutting tools, phytoremediation of post-mining landscapes to numeric modelling. Of the presentations given, three stood out and were awarded a small cash prize; Bruno Grafe from TU Bergakademie Freiberg; Diana Lezcano from THGA Bochum and Antonios Kalogeropoulos from NTUA Athens. As part of the prize package, these three scholars were invited to the SOMP Annual Meeting in Bochum (two attended) (kindly sponsored by Jürgen Kretschmann and THGA Bochum) and were presented to the membership in a special session dedicated to capacity building and membership development at the earliest stages of one’s academic career.

Given the success of the event, and the reception these bright, young people received at the annual meeting, more events like this are planned at the regional level to further the SOMP message, and to continue to develop our future talent.
Future SOMP Meetings

The 2020 SOMP Annual General Meeting

The 2020 SOMP Annual General Meeting will be held in Medellín, Colombia, co-hosted by Facultad de Minas (School of Mines) at Universidad Nacional de Colombia and AIMC (Asociación de Profesionales del Sector Minero Colombiano – Colombian Mining Sector Professionals), under the leadership of 2019-2020 SOMP President Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena. The meeting will take place between June 30th and July 3rd, 2020. An optional mine tour will include Continental Gold Project Buriticá and Mineros S.A El Bagre. Program details, registration information, and accommodation booking advice will be sent to SOMP members in December 2019. We would like to challenge all SOMP members planning to attend to consider bringing along one of their up-and-coming PhD students or post-docs who might be aspiring to a future academic career. It would be great to have a larger representation of these younger professionals participating in our meeting, so please give this serious thought.

Harmony Musiyarira  Oliver Langefeld  Serkan Saydam

At the SOMP Council meetings in Beijing, China and Bochum, Germany (in 2018 and 2019, respectively), the decision was made for the future leadership of the Society through to 2023, and hence the annual meeting venues for 2021, 2022, and 2023. Harmony Musiyarira (Namibia University of Science and Technology) was elected as the 2020-2021 SOMP President, and for the second time the SOMP Annual General Meeting will be held in Africa, this time in Namibia. The SOMP Council and membership confirmed the 2021-2022 Presidency of Oliver Langefeld (TU Clausthal), and the 2022 SOMP Annual General Meeting will be held in Clausthal, Germany under his leadership. Serkan Saydam (University of New South Wales) was elected as the 2022-2023 SOMP President, and for the second time the SOMP Annual General Meeting will be held in Australia. Proposals to host either annual or regional meetings should be made to the Council of the Society and submitted through the Secretary-General. The next Council meeting is scheduled for June 2020 in Medellín, Colombia, so any proposals to be considered in 2020 should be received by the Secretary-General no later than May 31st, 2020.

Mines of the Future Report

SOMP has published the “Mines of the Future” Report which is co-edited by Serkan Saydam, Bruce Hebblewhite, Michael Karmis and Michael Hitch. This report has aimed to produce a high quality, internationally focused reference report. It provides a vision of the mines of the future, for 2030 and beyond, and the impacts on required skills and future educational curricula and research needs. There are five main chapters, with the topics in each chapter focusing on the Current Status, the Future, and Transitioning to the Future: Operational Efficiency; Novel Mining Systems; Sustainable Mining Practices; Education and Research.

The Mines of the Future Version 1.0 (Major Findings) Report is expected to be a leading international reference for the future – primarily for mining educators and researchers, but also for other mining industry stakeholders such as mining companies, equipment suppliers, governments and other interested parties.

A copy of the report can be downloaded from the SOMP web site:

New SOMP Awards

At the 2019 SOMP Annual General Meeting in Bochum, Germany, the Council has proposed and the membership at the meeting has unanimously approved two new SOMP Awards. These two awards have been established in order to (i) recognize two distinguished and inspired SOMP leaders who have transformed and positively impacted the Society, and (ii) use the SOMP financial resources to support its members through the competitive process and encourage their active engagement in SOMP activities.

**Michael Karmis SOMP PhD Fellowship Award**

**Award Description**
The Michael Karmis SOMP PhD Fellowship Award, established in 2019, recognizes a SOMP junior member who desires to pursue an academic career by acquiring a PhD in the field of Mining Engineering and/or Mineral Processing. The award shall consist of a cash gift (1,000 euros) and a certificate. There shall be one designated award available (subject to suitable candidates) at the SOMP Annual General Meeting (AGM).

**Rules**

**Section 1. Qualifications and Eligibility**
The Michael Karmis SOMP PhD Fellowship Award is strictly limited to SOMP junior members who are currently enrolled or have been formally admitted in a PhD degree granting program with emphasis on Mining Engineering and/or Mineral Processing.

**Section 2. Application Requirements**
Applicants are required to submit the following information: (i) Curriculum Vitae; (ii) Proof of PhD enrollment; (iii) Statement on short and long term career objectives, and motivating factors for seeking a career in academia (max one page); and (iv) Three (3) letters of recommendation from active SOMP members (there shall be one letter from applicant’s PhD advisor).

**Section 3. Recipient Selection**
The Fellowship Award Selection Committee will conduct: (1) a review of the applications, and (2) a formal interview of the top three candidates through video conferencing. Once the final candidate has been selected, their name will be submitted to the SOMP Council for final approval. Results of the review and rankings are strictly confidential and will not be released. The award recipient must be willing to present themselves in person to receive the award at the SOMP AGM, and give a presentation on their PhD research.

**Section 4. Allowable Fellowship Award Expenses**
The Award funds are intended to cover research related expenses, or to be used for traveling expenses to the SOMP AGM.

**Bruce Hebblewhite SOMP Best Paper Award**

**Award Description**
The Bruce Hebblewhite SOMP Best Paper Award, established in 2019, recognizes author(s) presenting papers at the SOMP Annual General Meeting (AGM) for their contributions to our body of knowledge. The award shall consider: 1) the technical quality of the paper; and 2) the quality of presentation. The award shall consist of a cash gift (500 euros) and certificate(s) for the author(s). In case of multiple authors, the cash gift shall be divided equally among the authors. There shall be only one award designated (subject to suitable candidates) at the SOMP AGM.

**Rules**

**Section 1. Requirements**
The papers for consideration for the award 1) must be submitted as full papers to the SOMP AGM and 2) must be presented at the annual meeting by the author(s). At least one of the award recipient(s) must be a SOMP member for a minimum of three consecutive years.

**Section 2. Evaluation**
The quality of presentation should be evaluated by the session chairs during the AGM.

**Section 3. Selection**
Each session chair at SOMP AGM shall select only one presented paper from the session on the basis of the highest combined score of the technical and presentation evaluation scores above. The session chairs shall send their evaluations to the SOMP Deputy Secretary General who shall evaluate scores and papers and make a recommendation to the SOMP Secretary-General, who will then announce the recipient of the award. The SOMP Secretary-General’s right to decide on the basis of the available information on any problems arising during the evaluation process, including not to recommend an award, shall be absolute.

**Section 4. Award Presentation**
The Award shall be presented at the ensuing SOMP AGM. The award recipient must be willing to present themselves in person to receive the award at the SOMP AGM.
Updates from SOMP Committees

Education Committee

On June 30th, 2019, the SOMP Education Committee met in person at the 30th SOMP Annual General Meeting in Bochum, Germany. We welcomed two new members to the Committee: Liu Li (Chongqing University) and Gabriela Paszkowska (Wroclaw University of Technology). Gabriela will be replacing Piotr Czaja (AGH Krakow). We thanked Piotr for his valuable contribution to the Committee.

Andrea Brickey (South Dakota School of Mines and Technology) was awarded the 2019 Tim Shaw Award recognizing her distinguished achievement in teaching and implementing innovations to improve the quality of Mining Engineering education. For 2020, a new Tim Shaw Award sub-committee has been formed and will be chaired by Jürgen Brune (Colorado School of Mines). Various changes were approved for this award, and currently this sub-committee is already in the process of reviewing the nominations for 2020. With the formation of this new sub-committee, members of the Education committee (excluding those on the sub-committee) are now eligible to apply for this award.

At the 2019 SME Annual Conference and Expo in Denver, I gave a presentation on “Undergraduate Mining Engineering Curriculum 4.0”. This was part of the update from the sub-committee on “Mining Education of the Future”. The sub-committee on “Strategies for Teaching Sustainability to Mining Engineers” published a paper on “Integration of Sustainability in Mining Engineering Education” in the August 2019 issue of Glückauf.

A new SOMP survey of education institutions is currently being developed and will be distributed to members once finalized. Presentations for the education session at the 31st SOMP Annual General Meeting will be based on themes such as Curriculum & Program Development and Course/Program Design. Currently, this topic is being discussed with the Committee members and will be shared in due course. Another focus for the Education Committee over next year is to develop a SOMP curriculum template on future education, including comments from the industry from the various countries represented at the Committee.

Research, Development and Industry Committee

The Research, Development and Industry Committee (RDI) hosted a special panel on research funding during the 2019 SOMP Meeting in Bochum, Germany. Michael Karmis (Virginia Tech), Ismet Canbulat (UNSW Sydney), Jan Palarski (Silesian University of Technology), and Ronny Webber-Youngman (University of Pretoria) were panelists. The purpose of this panel was to dig into the topic of interest to many SOMP members, not only those who are seeking promotion and/or tenure at their universities, but also to those academics who aspire to stay research active. The panel included a number of Q&A and interactive discussions amongst SOMP members. The first day of the AGM also included several presentations on a variety of research topics and post-mining.

The 2019 SOMP Annual General Meeting also marked a change in the RDI’s leadership, with Serkan Saydam, who has chaired this Committee for the past four years, handing over the chair role to Kwame Awuah-Offei (Missouri University of Science and Technology). Since the 2019 SOMP meeting, the RDI has focused on initiatives to encourage research collaboration among members. The first initiative that the Committee is working on is to create a SOMP Mendeley group (https://www.mendeley.com/community/society-of-mining-professors/) that will allow members to see each other’s Mendeley profiles and publications to facilitate collaboration. SOMP member profiles will be linked to this group by creating a field in the SOMP member database for Mendeley profiles.
The Committee is currently testing the framework and intends to roll this out to entire membership early in 2020. The RDI counts on full member participation to make this initiative successful. Upon the completion of this initiative, the RDI will tackle other initiatives to encourage further collaborative research among members.

Members Development Committee

The Members Development Committee (MDC) had another successful year in 2019. The Mentoring Program continues to connect early career and aspiring academics with experienced members around the world. In 2019, we made 14 new mentor-mentee pairs, for a total of 71 pairs since the Program began in 2016. Enrollment for the 2020 Program will open in December, so please be on the lookout for an invitation. Based on your feedback, the 2020 Program will also include periodic reminders for participants to get in touch with their mentor/mentee.

This year, the MDC also worked to highlight the new Young Talent Initiative, which has been spearheaded by SOMP members Michael Hitch (TalTech), Veiko Karu (TalTech), and George Barakos (TU Bergakademie Freiberg). This initiative was created to provide an opportunity for networking and relationship building for future mining education and research professors. At the SOMP AGM in Bochum, the MDC hosted a related talk and discussion panel. After hearing about the program in detail, an interactive session identified and outlined the benefits, challenges, and ideas for the Young Talent Initiative, which will be incorporated into future programming.
In February 2020, the MDC is planning a special session for the SME Annual Meeting to be held in Phoenix, Arizona, US. The topic will be *Careers in Academia: Choosing the best path for you*. We have a great lineup of speakers that will be sharing their unique career path stories. More information will be forthcoming, and we hope to see you there!

We are also excited for the SOMP Annual General Meeting in Medellín, Colombia in June 2020. Our current plan is to have another interactive MDC session to help new (and newer) members network and become more involved in the organization. See you in June!

**Capacity Building Committee**

The Capacity Building Committee met in person during the 2019 SOMP AGM in Bochum, Germany. Domingo Javier Carvajal Gomez (University of Huelva) was appointed as a new chair of the Committee, replacing Harmony Musiyarira (Namibia University of Science and Technology) who now serves as the SOMP President Elect and the representative for Africa in the SOMP Council. There will be two regional meetings held in Vietnam and Peru in October 2020 and April 2021, respectively. The regional conference in Vietnam will also coincide with several other events, as well as with the 55 year celebration for the Open Cast Mining Engineering Department at the Hanoi University of Mining and Geology. Selected papers for the regional conference will be published in one of the Scopus/ISI journals. There will be an excursion to a copper mine and processing plant.

During the Capacity Building session at AGM in Bochum, George Barakos delivered a presentation on possible financial opportunities available across the globe, which would assist in further collaborations amongst SOMP members. Many ideas were formed during the group discussions and are being consolidated in order to improve activities within SOMP. The four groups’ topics were framed as follows: (i) What is the optimized process to attract potential members?; (ii) How do we engage new members into activities of SOMP?; (iii) What has been current members’ motivations to join SOMP?; (iv) What are the reasons that some academics are not joining the SOMP?; and (v) How can we improve in order to attract potential members to join SOMP? It was also proposed during the group discussions that every SOMP committee should have a representative at every Regional Meeting.
Reflection on Enhancing Capacity Building Initiatives: How to engage new members in SOMP?

Session IX of the 2019 SOMP focused on Capacity Building. The final activity of the session was a Group Discussion titled “Enhancing Capacity Building Initiatives.” Conference participants sorted themselves into 4 groups with each assigned a topic to discuss. The question for break-out group 2 was “How to engage new members in SOMP.” Fortunately, the group comprised both new and long term members, and had broad international representation, which resulted in diverse perspectives being shared. Several overarching themes emerged from the discussion. New members want to know about the past and current activities of SOMP’s committees; to that end it would be useful to have presentations (in person or remotely) from committee Chairs at Regional Meetings and perhaps also video introductions available in the members area of the SOMP website. Currently, there are only formal descriptions of committee responsibilities on the website. New members would also like to participate more actively in the annual meeting; perhaps through a panel discussion or in some other manner. Also, regarding the annual meeting, it was suggested that new members be clearly recognizable at the meeting, e.g., through different colored name tags, so that other members can introduce themselves and engage them on conversation about their interests. There was broad agreement that an effort should be made to increase engagement through the SOMP website, a topic that deserves more in depth discussion as doing so implies the commitment of Society resources and members’ time. Finally, the group agreed that SOMP needs a welcome packet for new members, a topic of continuing discussion within group 2. This represents only an overview of the ideas discussed. More information, and group membership, will be posted on the SOMP website, and feedback is welcomed.
Jürgen F. Brune (Colorado School of Mines) received the 2019 SME Health and Safety Research Excellence Award presented by the SME Health and Safety Division. This award is presented to an individual or a research or educational institution exemplifying exceptional innovation and dedication toward advancement in technology or education for the protection and well-being of miners.

Zach Agioutantis (University of Kentucky) was a recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Award at his university. This is his third recognition in the last four years.

Antoine F. Mulaba-Bafubiandi (University of Johannesburg) received an award for his Mineral Processing and Technology Research Centre as the most performing Research Centre of the Faculty.

Serkan Saydam (School of Minerals and Energy Resources Engineering, University of New South Wales) received the UNSW 2019 Vice-Chancellor Teaching Excellence Award on Postgraduate Research Supervision. This award is only given to one academic each year.

Pierre Mousset-Jones (Mackay School of Earth Science and Engineering, University of Nevada-Reno) received the Long Service Award at the Mine Ventilation Society of South Africa 2019 Presidential Banquet.

Eduardo R. Balladares (Universidad De Concepcion) and a group of co-authors are recipients of the TMS Extraction & Processing Division Technology Award by The Minerals, Metals & Materials Society. This award recognizes a paper or series of closely related papers with at least one common author that represents a notable contribution to the advancement of the technology of extraction and processing metallurgy, with an emphasis on nonferrous metals. Their award-winning paper was "Evolution of Size and Chemical Composition of Copper Concentrate Particles Oxidized Under Simulated Flash Smelting Conditions", published in Metall Mater Trans B, April 2018.
PhD Completions
In order to improve communication across the membership, the SOMP Newsletter is being used to regularly report on PhD students who successfully graduate under the supervision of a SOMP member. These idea have been adopted by the Society, and will continue in the future, subject to membership participation. One can find a table at the bottom of this page. The information included is based entirely on what has been provided.

SOMP Website and SOMB Facebook Page
Members are encouraged to regularly visit the Society website for up to date information about our activities and to seek out information concerning other members.
SOMP Web Site:  
https://miningprofs.org/  
SOMP Facebook Page:  
https://www.facebook.com/mineprofs/

Members Details
Please check that your personal details on the website are correct. Where possible, you should make corrections yourself, but if not, then please advise our IT & Communications Director, Zach Agioutantis, and request corrections or updates to be made. His email address is:  
zach.agioutantis@uky.edu

All members are also strongly urged and encouraged to take 10 minutes to insert their teaching and research interests into the member database. It is simple to do – we are only seeking keywords to describe your three priority teaching areas and three priority research interest areas.

SOMP Secretary-General Contact Data

![Vladislav Kecojevic](http://vladislavkecojevic.faculty.wvu.edu)

Vladislav Kecojevic

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Table of PhD completions by students under SOMP member supervision  
(Period: January 1, 2019 – December 15, 2019)  
(Please note: The information contained in the following Table has been provided by SOMP members. SOMP is not responsible for any errors or omissions in this Table)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Family Name</th>
<th>Student First Name</th>
<th>Principal Supervisors</th>
<th>Department/School</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>PhD Thesis Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suzuki-Morales</td>
<td>Kimie</td>
<td>Bruce Hebblewhite</td>
<td>School of Minerals &amp; Energy Resources Engineering</td>
<td>UNSW Sydney</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Development of a rock mass classification framework caveability prediction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agwa-Ejon</td>
<td>John Francis</td>
<td>Prof. Antoine F. Mulaba-Bafubiandi</td>
<td>School of Mining, Metallurgy and Chemical Engineering</td>
<td>University of Johannesburg</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Multiple Perspectives and Hierarchical Decision modelling applied to emerging technology used in the artisanal mining and small scale processing of sandstones in Qwaqwa (South Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaverra</td>
<td>Dairo</td>
<td>Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena</td>
<td>Materials and Minerals</td>
<td>Universidad Nacional de Colombia</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Selective extraction of Co and Ni from leaching solutions, using the solvent extraction technique based on ionic liquids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aristizabal</td>
<td>Gustavo</td>
<td>Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena</td>
<td>Materials and Minerals</td>
<td>Universidad Nacional de Colombia</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Integral Sustainability Management Model for the Mining Industry in Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delgado</td>
<td>Alejandro</td>
<td>Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena</td>
<td>Materials and Minerals</td>
<td>Universidad Nacional de Colombia</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Analysis of the development and consolidation of sustainability in a territory intervened by mining projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betancur</td>
<td>Natalia</td>
<td>Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena</td>
<td>Materials and Minerals</td>
<td>Universidad Nacional de Colombia</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Synthesis of calcium silicates by flame spray pyrolysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shi</td>
<td>Xuyang</td>
<td>Qingxiang Cai</td>
<td>School of Mines</td>
<td>China University of Mining and Technology</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Research on Reconstruction Mechanism and Application of Aquiclude in Open-pit Mine Based on Mudstone-Geopolymer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chang</td>
<td>Zhiguo</td>
<td>Qingxiang Cai</td>
<td>School of Mines</td>
<td>China University of Mining and Technology</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>Damage Mechanism of Fractured Rock under Force-Temperature Field and Analysis of Time-dependent Slope Stability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yaroshenko</td>
<td>Valeriy</td>
<td>Oleg Kazanin</td>
<td>Mining Engineering</td>
<td>Saint-Petersburg Mining University</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>The research basis of the mining system parameters for the sloping gas-bearing coal seams mining into the undermined areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**SOMP Council (2019-2020)**

**Council Officers:**

**Secretary General:** Vladislav Kecojevic, West Virginia University, USA

**Deputy Secretary General:** Serkan Saydam, University New South Wales, Australia

**Deputy Secretary General and Treasurer:** Elisabeth Clausen, RWTH Aachen, Germany

**President:** Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Colombia

**President-Elect:** Harmony Musiyarira, Namibia University of Science & Technology, Namibia

**President-Elect Designate:** Oliver Langefeld, Technische University Clausthal, Germany

**Immediate Past President:** Jürgen Kretschmann, TH Georg Agricola University, Germany

**Council Members:**

Member for **Oceania:** Peter Dowd, University of Adelaide, Australia

Member for **South America:** Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Colombia

Member for **Africa:** Harmony Musiyarira, Namibia University of Science & Technology, Namibia

Members for **Asia:** Zhongxue Li, University of Science & Technology Beijing, China; Nga Nguyen, Hanoi University of Mining and Geology, Vietnam

Member for **North America:** Zach Agioutantis, University of Kentucky, USA

Members for **Europe:** Jürgen Kretschmann, TH Georg Agricola University, Germany; Marilena Cardu, Politecnico di Torino, Italy

**IT Committee (2019-2020)**

**Director of IT and Membership:** Zach Agioutantis, University of Kentucky, USA, **Coordinator**

Domingo Javier Carvajal Gomez, University of Huelva, Spain

Steve Schafrik, University of Kentucky, USA
**Education Committee (2019-2020)**

Rudrajit Mitra, Wits, South Africa, *Coordinator*
Oliver Langefeld, Technische Universitaet Clausthal, Germany
Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Colombia
Biljana Kovacevic-Zelic, University of Zagreb, Croatia
Michael Hitch, Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia
Jürgen Brune, Colorado School of Mines, USA
Ronny Webber-Youngman, University of Pretoria, South Africa
Nicole Smith, Colorado School of Mines, USA
Michael Nelson, University of Utah, USA
Ismet Canbulat, UNSW, Australia
Angela Binder, Technische Universitaet Clausthal, Germany
Gabriela Paszkowska, Wroclaw University of Technology, Poland

**Research and Development and Industry Committee (2019-2020)**

Kwame Awuah-Offei, Missouri University of Science and Technology, USA, *Coordinator*
Marion Wilde, Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, Germany
Jhon Silva-Castro, University of Kentucky, USA
Veiko Karu, Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia
Nikolaus August Sifferlinger, Montan University of Leoben, Austria
Radoslaw Zimroz, Wroclaw University of Technology, Poland
Lijie Guo, Beijing General Research Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, China.
Joung Oh, University of New South Wales, Australia
Berk Tulu, West Virginia University, USA
Victor Wei Liu, University of Alberta, Canada.
Hossein Masoumi, Monash University, Australia
Members Development Committee (2019-2020)

Emily Sarver, Virginia Tech, USA, Co-Coordinator
Andrea Brickey, South Dakota School of Mines, USA, Co-Coordinator
George Barakos, TU Bergakademie Freiberg, Germany
Deborah Shields, Politecnico di Torino, Italy
Simit Raval, University of New South Wales, Australia
Natalija Pavlovic, University of Belgrade, Serbia

Capacity Building Committee (2019-2020)

Domingo Javier Carvajal Gomez, University of Huelva, Spain, Coordinator
Harmony Musiyarira, Technical University of Namibia, Namibia,
Jürgen Kretschmann, TH Georg Agricola University, Germany
Pinyo Meechumna, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
David Laurence, University of New South Wales, Australia,
Helmut Mischo, TU Bergakademie Freiberg, Germany
Zhongxue Li, University of Science and Technology, Beijing, China
Nga Nguyen, Hanoi University of Mining and Geology, Vietnam
Jorge Soto, National University of San Marcos, Peru

Emeritus Member Award Committee (2019-2020)

David Laurence, University of New South Wales, Australia, Coordinator
Christoph Dauber, TH Georg Agricola University, Germany
Vladimir Pavlovic, University of Belgrade, Serbia
Guenter Fettweis Award Committee (2019-2020)

Past Secretary General: Michael Karmis, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, USA, Coordinator
President Elect: Harmony Musiyarira, Technical University of Namibia, Namibia
Member at Large: Zach Agioutantis, University of Kentucky, USA
Member at Large: Helmuth Mischo, TU Bergakademie Freiberg, Germany

Ludwig Wilke Award Committee (2019-2020)

Past Secretary General: Bruce Hebblewhite, University of New South Wales, Australia, Coordinator
President: Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Colombia
Immediate Past President: Jürgen Kretschmann, TH Georg Agricola University, Germany
Member at Large: Oliver Langefeld, Technische Universitaet Clausthal, Germany

Membership Committee (2019-2020)

Secretary General: Vladislav Kecojevic, West Virginia University, USA
Deputy Secretary General: Serkan Saydam, UNSW, Australia
Deputy Secretary General and Treasurer: Elisabeth Clausen, RWTH Aachen, Germany
President: Oscar Jaime Restrepo Baena, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Colombia
President-Elect: Harmony Musiyarira, Namibia Univ of Science & Technology, Namibia
Immediate Past President: Jürgen Kretschmann, TH Georg Agricola University, Germany
Director of IT and Membership: Prof. Zach Agioutantis, University of Kentucky, USA
NTT Teaching Faculty Position in Mining Engineering
Missouri University of Science and Technology
Rolla, Missouri
https://mining.mst.edu/

The Mining and Nuclear Engineering Department at the Missouri University of Science and Technology (Missouri S&T) in Rolla, Missouri, is seeking outstanding applicants for a non-tenure-track teaching faculty position in Mining Engineering to begin August 2020. Preference will be given to applicants with significant knowledge and experience in the areas of mining methods, mine power, mine drainage, mine management, and mine design. This position will be filled at the Assistant Teaching Professor level but is eligible for future promotion. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Successful candidates are expected to have a strong commitment to high-quality teaching both at the undergraduate and graduate levels including distance and extension courses as appropriate. The candidate will be expected to teach three courses per semester and will also be expected to provide service to the department, professional community, and institution. Applicants should have evidence of, or show potential for, excellence in high-quality teaching and service. Applicants must hold a Ph.D. in Mining Engineering or a closely related field. Industrial experience and professional engineering registration will be viewed favorably but is not required.

This position will reside in Missouri S&T’s Mining and Nuclear Engineering Department, home of one of the nation’s largest Mining Engineering programs. The Mining Engineering program has eight full-time faculty and is recognized as a leader in education and research with over 175 undergraduate and graduate students in its Mining and Explosives Engineering programs. The department operates a 19-acre experimental mine located 1.5 miles from campus which is used for teaching and research activities. Other facilities associated with the department include the Rock Mechanics and Explosives Research Center and the Energetics Research Facility. Further details on the Mining Engineering program at Missouri S&T may be found at https://mining.mst.edu/.

Missouri S&T’s Department of Mining and Nuclear Engineering, the campus, and the greater University of Missouri System are deeply committed to inclusion and valuing diversity. S&T has undertaken a number of initiatives to improve campus life and the work life balance of its faculty and staff (see http://hr.mst.edu). Missouri S&T particularly encourages applications from dual-career couples and will strive to accommodate their specific needs.

Interested candidates should electronically submit their application consisting of: 1) a cover letter, 2) a current curriculum vitae or résumé, 3) a statement of teaching philosophy, and 4) complete contact information for at least four references to Missouri S&T’s Human Resources Office at: http://hr.mst.edu/careers/academic/ using Reference Number 00075907. Acceptable electronic formats are PDF and MS Word. Applications will be reviewed as they are received and the review of applications will continue until the position is filled. For full consideration, applicants must apply by January 15, 2020. For more information prior to submitting an application, please contact the Search Committee Chair, Dr. Kyle Perry, at kperry@mst.edu.

Missouri S&T is one of the nation’s leading research universities with 98 degree programs in 39 disciplines. The university was founded in 1870 as one of the first technological institutions west of the Mississippi. Missouri S&T is located an hour and a half drive from St. Louis along historic Route 66 in the multicultural community of Rolla. Missouri S&T is an accessible, safe and friendly campus with easy access to Mark Twain National Forest, the Missouri Ozarks as well as several urban centers. Missouri S&T offers ABET-accredited undergraduate and graduate degree programs in a range of STEM fields as well as the liberal arts, humanities and business. With nearly 9,000 students enrolled on campus and online, Missouri S&T is big enough to accommodate a diverse population and broad interdisciplinary collaboration, yet small enough for individuals to build high visibility, impactful careers!

Missouri S&T is an AA/EE/O employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability or status as a protected veteran. Females, minorities, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Missouri S&T seeks to meet the needs of dual-career couples. The university participates in E-Verify. For more information on E-Verify, please contact DHS at: 1-888-464-4218.
WITS UNIVERSITY, JOHANNESBURG

Centennial Chair in Rock Engineering

The School of Mining Engineering at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, is an internationally recognised mining engineering school, with about 600 and 200 registered undergraduate and postgraduate students, respectively.

The University is seeking a suitably qualified person to fill a vacant position of Professor/Associate Professor for the Centennial Chair in Rock Engineering.

The School of Mining Engineering provides quality education towards the bachelor's degree in Mining Engineering. It also has a strong postgraduate coursework programme including courses in rock engineering.

The School has an active rock engineering research programme. The research programme has both full-time and part-time research students. The part-time students are generally working full-time in the mining industry and often carry out research relevant to their employer organisations.

Qualifications and Experience: An earned doctoral degree in mining engineering with a focus on rock engineering; professional registration or eligibility for professional registration with a relevant statutory body; suitable lecturing experience; a good publications track record; high national and/or international standing in the area of rock engineering.

Duties: Contribute to the development of the professional discipline; lecturing at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels; conduct research and supervise postgraduate students; fund-raise to sustain the Chair’s research activities; contribute to the administrative functioning of the School and perform other duties as assigned by the Head of School.

Remuneration: A competitive university package with excellent benefits is offered, commensurate with the level of appointment.

Enquiries: Professor Cuthbert Musingwini, Head of the School of Mining Engineering, Tel no. +27 11 717 7412; E-mail: Cuthbert.Musingwini@wits.ac.za.

To apply: Applications can be made on the Wits i-Recruitment platform located at https://irec.wits.ac.za. Internal employees can also apply by the following link ‘Apply for Job’ on: https://iwits.wits.ac.za. Alternatively, a letter of application and CV with the names and contact details (including e-mail addresses) of three referees, as well as certified copies of qualifications and SA ID (passport if not South African) can also be sent to: The Human Resources Manager; Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment, University of the Witwatersrand, Private Bag 3, Wits 2050, South Africa (E-mail: Queen.Tshoagong@wits.ac.za).

Closing date for applications: Friday 31st January 2020.

The University is committed to employment equity. Preference may be given to appointable applicants from under-represented designated groups in terms of the relevant employment equity plans and policies of the University. The University reserves the right to verify all information provided by candidates. Please note that correspondence will only be entered into with short-listed candidates. The University reserves the right not to make an appointment nor to re-advertise.