



Society of Mining Professors
Societät der Bergbaukunde

20th Annual General Meeting

Sydney, Australia

27th June – 5th July, 2009

Theme: Looking to the Future



UNSW
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES



Foreword

On behalf of my colleagues at the School of Mining Engineering, The University of New South Wales, and also throughout our national joint venture, Mining Education Australia, I look forward to welcoming as many of you as are able to journey to Sydney, Australia in June, 2009, for the 20th Annual General Meeting of the Society of Mining Professors (SOMP), and the associated Technical Tour.

As you will read in this preliminary program for the SOMP meeting, our overall theme this year is “*Looking to the Future*”. We chose this theme to reflect not just the need to understand more about the future of the industry – especially in such turbulent economic times, but also the future of the education sector, and consequently, the future of groups of professional engineers and academics, such as is represented by SOMP. The industry is looking more and more to the need to adopt acceptable sustainable mining practices, together with greater use of technologies such as remote control and automation of operations – both for safety and productivity motives. The education sector must continue to adapt to ongoing change and increasing industry globalisation, in order to maintain and develop quality education programs and to survive in this changing world.

Challenges such as these, as we look to the future, also bring with them opportunities, both individually and collectively. A professional organisation of like-minded mining academics, such as SOMP, can make a very positive contribution in such an environment, if we are prepared to embrace these challenges; adapt to the needs that arise; and develop proactive responses and action plans accordingly. This 2009 SOMP meeting is deliberately targeted to this end. We hope that young and early-career mining academics will be especially motivated to attend and become engaged with the Society through this meeting and beyond, in order to set a new direction for international networking and possible future collaboration in areas of both education and research for the minerals industry.

I hope that you find the proposed SOMP2009 meeting and technical tour program of interest and I look forward to meeting you in June, 2009 in Sydney.



Bruce Hebblewhite

2008/09 SOMP President, &
Professor & Head,
School of Mining Engineering, UNSW, &
Executive Director, Mining Education Australia.



20th Annual General Meeting – Society of Mining Professors

Technical Program

Saturday 27th June, 2009 (at Novotel Hotel, Darling Harbour, Sydney)

- 12.00-16.00 Delegate Registration
- 12.30-13.30 Buffet lunch
- 13.00-14.30 SOMP Committee meetings (Terrace Room)
- 14.30-16.00 SOMP Council meeting (Terrace Room)
- 16.30 Meet at Novotel hotel lobby, to walk to King St Wharf
- 17.00-21.00 Welcome reception for delegates and guests:
Private dinner cruise on Sydney Harbour, on board “Aussie Magic”.
(dep. From King St Wharf, Darling Harbour)

(Dress: Smart casual - bring a warm coat/jacket!)

Sunday 28th June, 2009

- 09.00 Meet in lobby of Novotel Hotel, for coach transport to UNSW
09.30-09.50 Brief stop, en route, at Mrs Macquarie's Chair, overlooking Sydney Opera House and Harbour, for group photo session.
10.15 Arrive at John Niland Scientia Building, UNSW

Tea and coffee on arrival

10.45-12.30 Session 1: Opening Session (UNSW Scientia, Galleries)

(Chair: Prof. Bruce Hebblewhite)

- 10.50-11.00: *Welcome to UNSW*
Professor Richard Henry,
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), UNSW
- 11.00 – 11.25: *Opening address, 20th Annual General Meeting, Society of Mining Professors*: Professor Bruce Hebblewhite, SOMP President. Head, School of Mining Engineering, The University of New South Wales, & Executive Director, Mining Education Australia.
- 11.25 – 12.00: *The status, future prospects and importance of the Australian minerals industry*. Mr Colin Moorhead, Executive General Manager Minerals, Newcrest Mining Ltd.
- 12.00 – 12.30: *Development of industry-educator partnerships within the Australian minerals and education sectors*. Dr Kevin Tuckwell, Executive Director, Minerals Tertiary Education Council (MTEC).

12.30-13.45 Lunch (Tyree Room, Scientia)

13.45-15.30 Session 2: Industry (UNSW Scientia, Galleries)

(Chair: Mr Chris Cross)

- 13.50 – 14.20: *Underground coal mining in NSW – sustainable mining challenges and opportunities*. Mr Colin Bloomfield, President, BHP-Billiton - Illawarra Coal.
- 14.20 – 14.50: *The health and safety performance of the Australian mining industry*. Prof. Jim Galvin, UNSW.
- 14.50 – 15.20: *Future of mine automation in surface mining*. Mr Andrew Stokes, General Manager Surface Mining – Delivery, Technology and Innovation, Rio Tinto.

15.20-15.45 Coffee break

15.45-17.30 Session 3: Membership Development (UNSW Scientia, Galleries)

Theme: Attracting and retaining new, young academic staff

(Chair:)

- 15.50 – 16.20: *Case Study 1: Mentoring and staff development program – Penn State*. A/Prof. Vladislav Kecojevic, Pennsylvania State University, USA.

- 16.20 – 16.50: *Case Study 2: A young academic's perspective*. Dr Patrick Foster, Camborne School of Mines, University of Exeter, UK.
 - 16.50 – 17.30: Open forum discussion on attracting, developing and retaining staff.
- 17.30 Coach transport back to Novotel Hotel, Darling Harbour

Evening at leisure – own arrangements

Monday 29th June, 2009

- 08.20 Meet in lobby of Novotel Hotel, for coach transport to UNSW
- 09.00 -10.30 **Session 4: Education (1) (UNSW Scientia, Galleries)**
(Chair: Bruce Hebblewhite)
- 09.05 – 09.55: *Capacity building in Asian region and other developing nations*
 - Brief presentations by speakers from several countries, followed by a panel discussion on the challenges and opportunities for mining programs. Speakers to include:
 - Prof. Pinyo Meechumna, Thailand
 - Prof. Helmut Mischo, Namibia
 - Prof. Tsuyoshi Adachi, Japan
 - Dr-Ing Aryo Wibowo, Indonesia
 - 09.55 – 10.55: *Status report on mining programs in selection of other regions*
 - South Africa – Prof. Huw Phillips
 - Europe – Prof. Hans de Ruiter
 - Canada – Prof. Malcolm Scoble
 - USA – Prof. Mike Karmis
 - South America – Prof. Mario Cedron
 - Australia – Prof. Bruce Hebblewhite
 - 10.55 – 11.10: *Report on SOMP Education Committee annual student statistics survey* – Prof. Bruce Hebblewhite
- 11.10 -11.30 Coffee break
- 11.30 -1.15 **Session 5: Education (2) (School of Mining Eng, UNSW)**
Themes: *Innovations in teaching and learning*
International collaboration
- 11.35 – 11.50: Demonstration of interactive teaching facilities (Rms 51 & 38)

- 11.50 – 1.10: Demonstration of Virtual Reality modules (VR AVIE Theatre) – 2 or 3 sessions, in parallel with workshops.
- 11.50 – 1.10: Workshop 1: *Innovation in teaching and learning* (Room 51)
(Facilitator:)
- 11.50 – 1.10: Workshop 2: *International collaboration* (Room 158)
(Facilitator: A/Prof. David Laurence)

1.15-2.30 Lunch (Tyree Room, Scientia)

2.30-3.10 **Session 6: Education (3) (UNSW Scientia, Galleries)**

(Chair:)

- Workshop 1 report back, plus discussion
- Workshop 2 report back, plus discussion

3.10-3.30 Coffee Break

3.30-17.20 **Session 7: Research (1) (UNSW Scientia, Galleries)**

(Chair:)

- 3.35 – 4.05: *ACARP industry research program for the coal sector*. Mr Mark Bennetts, Executive Director, Australian Coal Research Ltd.
- 4.05 – 4.35: *CRC Mining and research commercialisation*. Professor Peter Knights, University of Queensland & CRC Mining.
- 4.35 – 5.20: Workshop sessions (in parallel), (Scientia Committee Rooms)
 - Workshop 3 – *Early career researchers – getting started*
(Facilitator:)
 - Workshop 4 – *Research partnerships (with industry, and other universities): why, how and who?*
(Facilitator:)

17.30 Coach transport back to Novotel Hotel, Darling Harbour

19.15 Meet in foyer of Novotel Hotel for transport to SOMP dinner

19.30-22.30 Dinner at Waterfront Restaurant, The Rocks, Sydney

22.30 Transport back to Novotel Hotel

Tuesday 30th June, 2009

Please note: Sessions on this day will be held at the Novotel Hotel, NOT at UNSW

- 09.00-10.10 **Session 8: Research (2)**
(Terrace Room, Novotel Hotel, Darling Harbour)
(Chair:)
- 09.05 – 09.25: Workshop 3 report back, plus discussion
 - 09.25 – 09.45: Workshop 4 report back, plus discussion
 - 09.45 – 10.15: *Clean energy from coal without traditional mining* – Prof. Jan Palarski, Silesian Technical University, Poland.
- 10.15-10.35 Coffee break
- 10.35-11.00 **Session 9: Looking to the Future – The role of SOMP**
Open forum session
(Chair: Prof. Bruce Hebblewhite)
- Action plans arising from previous sessions and workshops
 - Discussion on the role of SOMP, and forward actions to be pursued
- 11.00-12.30 **Session 10: SOMP AGM - General Business and Closing Session**
(Chair: Prof. Michael Karmis)
- Report of Secretary General
 - Financial Report
 - Future Meetings (2010-Estonia; 2011-Peru; 2012-)
 - Introduction of the 2009/2010 SOMP President
 - Closure of 2009 20th Annual SOMP General Meeting
- 12.30-14.00 Working lunch – Committees, action groups, as required
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SOMP Technical Tour

Tuesday 30th June, 2009

14.30 Depart Novotel Hotel, Darling Harbour
Travel to Hunter Valley (north of Sydney) by coach
17.00(approx.) Arrive at Tuscany Wine Estate, Pokolbin, Hunter Valley

Evening vineyard wine tasting, followed plus dinner at The Mill Restaurant, Tuscany Wine Estate.

Overnight: Tuscany Wine Estate, Pokolbin, Hunter Valley

Wednesday 1st July, 2009

Technical visits to underground/surface coal mines in Hunter Valley

- Morning – underground visit to Beltana Mine, Xstrata Coal (underground longwall) (confirmed)
- Afternoon – open cut visit to Mt Arthur Coal Mine, Hunter Valley Energy Coal, BHP-Billiton (confirmed)

Accompanying persons – Vineyard tours plus wine and cheese tastings.

Dinner at Blaxlands Inn, The Tower Estate.

Overnight: Tuscany Wine Estate, Pokolbin, Hunter Valley

Thursday 2nd July, 2009

Travel by coach to Orange (west of Sydney)

13.30 (approx) Visit Cadia Valley Operations open-cut gold mine, Newcrest Mining (confirmed). Presentations on both open cut and Ridgeway underground mine, plus future underground block cave developments; plus tour of open-cut (accompanying persons included).

Travel to Turners Vineyard Lodge, Orange

Dinner and overnight at Turners Vineyard.

Friday 3rd July, 2009

Travel to Parkes (north west of Orange) to visit Northparkes block cave copper mine, RioTinto (underground visit confirmed).

Accompanying persons – Local tour; cooking class with Australian produce; lunch.

Dinner at “Basils at 297” Restaurant, Orange

Overnight at Turners Vineyard Lodge, Orange.

Saturday 4th July, 2009

Travel to Blue Mountains (World Heritage Area), for lunch, afternoon sightseeing, walking, including Scenic Railway descent, valley floor walk, cable-car ascent and cross-valley Skyway.

Dinner and overnight, Leura, Blue Mountains.

Sunday 5th July, 2009

Travel to Sydney, via Featherdale Wildlife Park, returning to Novotel Hotel, Darling Harbour, by 12.30pm.

Transport to Sydney International Airport also available, immediately after arriving at Novotel for drop-off and/or stored luggage collection.

Sydney Weather Conditions

SOMP delegates and guests are reminded that June/July in Australia is the winter season.

Current temperatures in Sydney (mid-June) are in the range 5⁰C to 16⁰C typically.

For those taking part in the Technical Tour, some regions we will be visiting will experience minimum temperatures down to 0⁰C.

Please come prepared for these temperature conditions.