Report of the  
2011-2012 President  

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The Year in Review

In 2011, with the continued challenging economy and reliance on market performance, AIME scaled back operations, relying on its Member Societies to execute on its former multidisciplinary efforts. In support of its new mission to support its Member Societies, those organizations received a portion of AIME’s 2010 surplus to assist them in the fulfillment of the new foci.

AIME efforts in 2011 aligned with cross-cutting themes of the environment, energy, education, and international growth and alliances as follows:

- The Minerals, Metals, and Materials Society (TMS) published a book from AIME-led 2009 multi-disciplinary workshop entitled *Engineering Solutions for Sustainability: Materials and Resources (ESS:M&R)*. This effort designed at bringing technical expertise together with governmental and NGO partners to determine how best to address 21st century societal challenges in the areas of energy, recycling, transportation, housing, food and water, and health. Program committee participants also provided input to the Secretary General’s report at the CSD-19 in May 2011 designed to help shape policy in the mining, transportation, and waste management arenas. An abstract was also presented at the World Engineers’ Convention in Geneva September 2011. The workshop, supported by a grant from the United Engineering Foundation, was co-sponsored by ASCE and AIChE (see [http://www.aimehq.org/news.cfm](http://www.aimehq.org/news.cfm) for proceedings). Stemming from this effort is also a joint sustainability website hosted by AIChE where a workshop overview ([http://efs.aiche.org/content/webcasts](http://efs.aiche.org/content/webcasts)) and other sustainability efforts are housed.

- The Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) hosted a cross-disciplinary Carbon Management Technology Conference February 7-9, 2012 in Orlando, FL. The program was developed by a committee with representation from all the AIME Member Societies and led by sister engineering Founder Society, AIChE. The groups received grant support from the United Engineering Foundation in 2011. 300 participants from the profession, as well as government representatives attended. Details are at [http://www.carbonmgmt.org/](http://www.carbonmgmt.org/) and the Carbon Management Working Groups’ website, [http://www.aiche.org/FSCarbonMgmt/](http://www.aiche.org/FSCarbonMgmt/). A follow-on joint event will likely be held in two years.
The Association for Iron and Steel Technology (AIST) took over lead and hosting for the Emerging Leaders Alliance training and on-line community of practice to support young leaders within its Member Societies, SME, TMS, AIST, and SPE, as well as its sister engineering Founder Societies, ASCE, ASME, AIChe, and IEEE. 70 new young leaders were enshrined into the ELA alumni ranks in November in Tyson’s Corner, VA. AIME President, Brajendra Mishra, and Trustee from SPE, Behrooz Fattahi, participated in a Learn from Leaders panel there as well. Surpluses garnered when AIME managed the effort in 2010 were turned over to AIST to help ensure the effort’s sustainability, including beefing up marketing and broadening reach via On Demand training. For more information, see http://www.emergingleadersalliance.org/.

The Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration (SME) led formation of a task force on Mining and Sustainability under the WFEO Committee on Engineering and the Environment led by Engineers Canada. The task force includes representation from 13 countries and has developed a strategic plan of activities through 2015.

AIME also began to transition administration for nearly all its awards and scholarships to the 4 Member Societies with multiple awards being conferred each year in many instances and improving recognition among peers for recipients and overall for AIME at each Society’s annual meeting. In 2011, 27 AIME awards were conferred, over $87K in scholarships were awarded, and just under $1.6M was distributed to the Member Societies.

We are excited to have the Member Society expertise assisting AIME in executing in mission and look forward to partnering on other important collaborative opportunities going forward.

PERSONAL NOTE

It has been an immense pleasure and distinct privilege to follow Past President, DeAnn Craig of SPE, who kept the Institute focused on its path towards redefined primary strategic task of providing increased value to the Member Societies! DeAnn was also forward-looking enough to recognize that our young members needed leadership training, and therefore, made sure that AIME maintained its support of the ELA Program. She advocated AIME leading the joint Society Emerging Leaders Alliance and actively supported it. The engineering community as a whole will benefit from its talented, young members having access to this program early in their careers. In addition, DeAnn’s vision of creating a multi-society event on Carbon Management took shape in early February this year when the five UEF founding societies combined their efforts with the four AIME Member Societies to host the inaugural CMTC I.

It was also a special honor to be able to present AIME Honorary Membership to our incoming President and a personal trusted advisor, George Luxbacher of SME. I am also indebted to our Treasurer and Trustee, Randy Skagen of AIST, whose experience will benefit us for another year. I convey my special thanks to Trustee Behrooz Fattahi for setting up a robust staff evaluation system for AIME.

A special thank you goes out to all of the Board members and the Executive Directors of our member societies for their support and efforts during the year but especially to incoming President, George Luxbacher of SME, who attended several functions for AIME and was always there for me with his invaluable support. It is with extreme excitement for the future of AIME that I turn over the helm to his very capable hands. George’s concern and care for
the fiscal stability of AIME as well as his contributions to ensure proper execution of our legacy-related functions have allowed us to manage our other strategic initiatives well. George has been intimately involved with the strategic direction of AAES, which, I am sure will bring value to us. Given his important business leadership role in the mining and metals industry as well, I’m certain that sustainable energy, environment, and education will continue to be key emphases of AIME with his expertise and passion to lead them.

Finally, in the spirit of honoring the AIME legacy even as we streamline operations, staff uncovered a gem of a recognition program that we decided to resurrect in honor of AIME’s 140th anniversary in 2011. At AIME annual meetings in the 1930s and prior, AIME Past Presidents were inducted into the Dead Mackerel Club, receiving a blue fish pin to don at future functions in recognition of their special role within the organization. AIME Executive Director, Michele Lawrie-Munro, presented the last original pin on file to Ian Sadler at the 2010 annual meeting in Colorado Springs, CO. We decided to recreate this tradition and have sent to each living AIME Past President a new pin and copy of the associated humorous induction script. Many thanks to this elite group that have given so willingly of their time and talent to further the AIME mission! I most eagerly look forward to be a part of the 150 years of gala celebrations of AIME in 2021.