

OVERVIEW AND ELIGIBILITY

The Robert Earll McConnell Award (McConnell Award) recognizes significant contributions that tend to advance a nation's standard of living or replenish its natural resource base. Such significant contributions may be represented by discovery of a major source of mineral supply, by development of an engineering process to extend present minerals supplies, or outstanding engineering contributions that, in other ways, enhance the standard of living.

There are no limitations regarding nationality or membership in the AIME Member Societies, but preference is given to members. If a committee member is nominated, they will follow any recusal (or other) procedures that their Member Society employs. The recipient must have been living when they were selected. Current AIME trustees are ineligible to receive AIME awards, except the Presidential Citation or if nominated and selected for another award prior to starting their AIME Board service.

The award was established by AIME in 1968 as the Engineering Achievement Award and renamed in memory of Robert Earll McConnell, a prominent mining engineer and financier, following his death in 1971. Mr. McConnell was a member of AIME for 55 years. In 2011, AIME transitioned administration of this award to SME.

TIMELINE

The Robert Earll McConnell Award typically adheres to the following timeline:

Date	Task
April 1	Call for nominations
June 1	Nomination deadline
June 30	Committee chair provides qualified applications to members of committee
July 15	First round of voting complete; committee chair schedules conference call to discuss results (if needed)
July 25	Second round of voting complete (if needed)
August 1	Recipient name and citation provided to awards coordinator
September 15	Recipient is notified
SME Annual Conference & Expo	Award is presented

NOMINATIONS	<p>Nominations for the Robert Earll McConnell Award require the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed nomination form including demographic and contact information for both the nominee and the principal nominator. 2. Required: One letter of support detailing the nominee's qualification for the award. Should address qualities that are mentioned in the guidelines. Should focus on quality over quantity introducing the candidate to the committee (1 page). 3. Not required: Up to four additional letters emphasizing the candidates qualifications for the award. (quality over quantity) (1 page each). 4. Nominee's biography (2 page maximum). 5. Nominee's CV/resume (abbreviated version – 3 page maximum). 6. List of papers/publications (abbreviated version – 3 page maximum). 7. Appropriate award citation. <p>All nominations submitted will be considered active nominations for a period of three years. Nominations must be submitted in accordance with the guidelines provided on the award nomination form, which may be downloaded here: smenet.org/awards-recognition</p>
CRITERIA	<p>The award will be administered by a committee made up of the past chair of each SME mining-related division. The chair of the committee is selected from amongst the members alphabetically by division, beginning with C&E in 2011.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of three nominations need to be received and evaluated for each award in order to select a winner. • Current members of the SME Board of Directors, SME Division Executive Committees, Award Committees, or Foundation Board of Trustees are NOT eligible for any awards that they are responsible for approving during their term, with the exception of "past chair" recognitions. • No person is eligible to receive more than one SME or SME/AIME award in a single year.
SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS	<p>Recipients of the award shall be selected by a majority vote by the Award Committee, subject to the approval of the SME Board of Directors. The award need not be presented in any given year if a suitable candidate is not agreed upon.</p>
AWARD	<p>The Robert Earll McConnell Award consists of a cast bronze three dimensional, 10" vertical design of the AIME symbol, mounted on a walnut base to which is affixed a bronze plate on which the recipient's name, year of award, and citation honoring the service or achievement are inscribed.</p>
PRESENTATION OF AWARD	<p>The award will be presented at the SME Annual Awards Celebration, held in conjunction with the SME Annual Conference & Expo. Additionally, the recipient will be recognized at the annual luncheon of the SME division that he/she is affiliated with.</p>
FUNDING	<p>All expenses incurred with respect to the award shall be the financial responsibility of AIME. SME will invoice AIME to reimburse costs once all expenses are in each cycle.</p>

ROBERT EARLL MCCONNELL AWARD

Guidelines and Procedures

AMENDMENTS	These regulations may be amended by the Award Committee, subject to approval by the SME Board of Directors.
QUESTIONS	Questions may be directed to: Awards Coordinator Email: awards@smenet.org or SME Member Services Department Phone: 303-948-4200