# Society of Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration, Inc.

Coal and Energy Division Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2018

Hilton Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN

### Opening:

The annual meeting of the Coal and Energy Division Executive Board was called to order at 9:00 am on February 25, 2018 at the 2018 SME Annual Conference in Minneapolis, MN by Sukumar Bandopadhyay.

The meeting started with a safety share followed by the introduction of all attendees.

# A. Review and Approval of Minutes

# Mid-year meeting minutes were approved with minor corrections. Sukumar and Ryan Murray corrected items. Motion and second to approve as amended. Motion carried.

# B. Review of the Division Finances

# Division finances were presented and reviewed.

# The C&E Division Chair, Sukumar Bandopadhyay proposed to raise the C&E scholarship endowment to a $1 million from the current amount of ~$700k.

Motion and second to approve as submitted. Motion carried.

# C. Report of the Scholarship Committee

Scholarship Committee Member, Bob Kudlawiec informed that a total of $36000 was given away in scholarships to students from 10 universities this year. There were 33 applicants.

Some issues with scoring system that need resolved for next year. Sukmar provided the rundown of how many applicants vs. awarded scholarship for each school. 10 schools received scholarship.

# D. Report of the Program Chair

Program Chair, Heather Trexler informed that a total of 17 sessions will be offered by the C&E division this year: A total of 99 presentations and 35 preprints. Manoj Mohanty asked if C&E miss the award for maximum number of pre-prints; nobody seemed to have an answer.

# E. C&E Luncheon

Sukumar informed that Michelle Bloodworth, the COO of American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity, would be the luncheon speaker this year. He expressed his gratitude to Ryan Murray for arranging this year’s speaker. Sukumar mentioned that Mike (Trevits) and Bob have kindly agreed to help with the 50/50 ticket sales and auction items. Sukumar announced that both Murray Energy and CONSOL have agreed to match the auction item money.

# F. Division Membership

Concern on membership – tasked incoming Membership Committee chair Brian Shaffer with looking into this. YLC to help gain membership. 1635 is the current division membership number. All division members need to be involved. 2016 division membership count 1599, 2017 division membership count was 1635 increased. Heather G. can look toward the ventilation committee, etc. Mike Myers reported that Strategic committees moving toward becoming full voting member. We can look towards the growing Health and Safety Division, but as Susan points out – plenty of overlap with meetings which makes it difficult to be at two places at once.

We only list primary members of the Division in our annual reports for the division. Tom Gray asked if SME can share the secondary division with us, i.e health and safety that list coal and energy. Heather G. will report on these counts.

Sukumar spent some time talking about the declining membership of the C&E Division. He mentioned the SME delegates’ recent visit to India and would like to see a new Section created there.

**G. Mining Engineering**

Sukumar asked Manoj to be in touch with Georgene Renner at SME regarding the Coal & Energy Division Views page articles in *MINING ENGINEERING* by writing or selecting authors to prepare them. This responsibility begins with the March issue and ends with the February issue.

**H. Nominating Committee**

Sukumar proposed to form an ad-hoc committee of senior members of the division which would nominate deserving members of the division to SME BOD and/or Strategic Committees. Mike Myers suggested instead for self-nomination. There was a good discussion on this topic, finally it was decided unanimously to entrust C&E’s Nomination Committee with the responsibility of nominating deserving members to SME’s higher level committees.

Joe Zelanko – what does each committee actually do (job description), help the nominating committee define who best serves and help the new appointment in this role. Typically takes 1 year to learn everything. Similar to what the Strat committees do.

**I. SME Photo Contest Update**

### Heather G. shared that there was a good response to the photo contest. Winners have been posted on website and shared at the convention near the bookstore. Winning image “winner loading”. Coal and Energy only sponsor of contest. Asked if the division would like to sponsor next year. It is a $500 donation. Motion and second to sponsor the photo contest next year. Motion approved.

### The winning image and next year’s winning image could be available for the C&E Division luncheon auction in Denver. Michael Trevits has offered to pay for framing of both photos next year for the luncheon.

### We need to suggest a theme for photo contest to SME’s Marketing team. Perhaps tie into theme for next year’s meeting? “Smart Mining Resources for a Connected World” - 2019 theme. Settle by August of 2018.

**J. New Business**

Steve Schafrik went over a request letter from Keith Heasley from SME (Pittsburgh Section) & CAS joint meeting asking for sponsorship of $600. Would also ask $600 for Pittsburgh fall meeting sponsorship. There was a motion (made by Kray Luxbacher and seconded by Manoj Mohanty) to support this request. The motion passed without any opposition; Steve Shafrik abstained from voting.

Motion to support Foundation PhD program for $2500. Seconded. Motion carried.

**K. Visit from SME Leadership**

* Outgoing president John Mansanti and 2018 president Barbara Arnold addressed the division. Mansanti spoke on the need to increase membership. UCA, health and safety and environmental on the upswing. New growth, not stealing members from other committees. Traditional committees like coal and energy, mining and exploration are declining. Pilot program with India to add membership. And other models to look at international membership. How to keep students after graduation.
* Barb spoke on 2018 initiatives as well as announced Robert E Murray Innovation scholarship announcement.
* Can we build on the innovation of the journal? Can we move SME forward with innovation?
* Dave Kanagy, expecting about 5700 at this meeting. Outside of SLC, Phoenix, and Denver – expected to be best attendance. (Final attendance count was 5,083.)

### Adjournment.

Minutes submitted by: Manoj Mohanty & Richard Wagner

Approved by: Richard Wagner