**Minutes**

SME Health and Safety Division Executive Annual Meeting

Sunday, Feb. 27, 2020

Salt Lake City, UT

9-11:30 am

The SME Health and Safety Division conducted its executive committee meeting on Sunday, Feb. 27 in Salt Lake City, UT in conjunction with the MINEXCHANGE SME Annual Conference & Expo. The meeting was led by 2021 chair Ali Lashgari and 24 people attended in person and two others joined by phone.

**State of the Division:** Lashgari began the meeting with introductions and a safety share. He then delivered an update on the state of the Division. Lashgari reported that membership in the Division fell slightly in 2021, to 407 members, as did SME’s overall membership. Despite the decline in membership the Division remained active through the year producing six technical sessions for the annual meeting in Salt Lake City. Other activities of the Division included producing a number of webinars for SME and Safety Share pages for Mining Engineering magazine. The Division hosted two virtual coffee breaks that that were well-attended and provided discussion about COVID-19 protocols.

The Division worked with the SME ESG Toolkit committee to establish a review team for how submissions will be reviewed.

The Division also engaged SME staff to initiate a fundraising campaign for potential scholarships presented by the Health and Safety Division.

The Division also started an initiative to recruit more industry professionals to join the Division executive committee as well as discussions around several plans to improve Division’s outreach, including expansions to the South America.

**Nominations:** Nominations for open positions were discussed as the Nominating Committee meeting, open positions were discussed and the remaining positions were filled in the meeting.

**6th Annual Health and Safety Division Fun Run/Walk:** The annual 5K is the Division’s primary fundraiser. This year $12,000 was raised in sponsorship thanks to the support of Rio Tinto and Predictive Safety. More than 70 people registered for the event at Liberty Park in Salt Lake City, UT on Monday, Feb. 29.

**Health and Safety handbook:** Emily Haas, 2022 chair of the Health and Safety Division announced that the SME Board of Directors approved a proposal for a handbook from the Division, “Mine Safety and Health: Approaches from the Field.” Haas will serve as the editor of the book that aims to integrate the interdisciplinary nature of health and safety into mining applications. Haas said what sets this book apart is its focus and attention to the education and practice of the Certified Mine Safety Professional (CMSP). Within each primary section and respective chapters, case examples will be provided through the lens of CMSPs and CSPs to demonstrate health and safety problem-solving at mine operations. This book seeks to advance the science of safety and advocates for a holistic approach to research design, implementation, and adoption of results by frontline professionals. There was a lengthy discussion on topics for the book that included diversity and inclusion, mining health and safety and indigenous people and small-scale mining. For additional information about the handbook, please contact any member of the H&S division’s executive committee.

Haas requested tentative titles and short abstracts be submitted by May 30, 2022 to [wcq3@cdc.gov](mailto:wcq3@cdc.gov) or [msavit@predictivecompliance.com](mailto:msavit@predictivecompliance.com).

**The Certified Mine Safety Program (CSMP**). The CMSP program was discussed, however, International Academy of Mine Safety and Health (IAMSH) Bill York-Fiern was unable to attend the meeting as he was engaged with the CMSP activities. The Division will continue to work with the IAMSH board to explore way to expand the CMSP program and make the review course and testing available to more people. Of particular interest is expanding the program internationally. A subcommittee will be formed to examine various opportunities.

**Future plans:** The Division will host monthly calls beginning in 2022 to discuss the many initiatives it is working on this year.

Calls to Action:

* If interested in presenting an SME webinar, contact H&S Communications Chair Amy Richins at [amyrichins@hotmail.com](mailto:amyrichins@hotmail.com)
* If interested in contributing a Safety Share for publication in Mining Engineering, contact H&S Communications Chair Amy Richins at [amyrichins@hotmail.com](mailto:amyrichins@hotmail.com)
* For questions about the SME 2023 program, reach out to the H&S Program Chair, Pedram Roghanchi at Pedram.roghanchi.nmt.edu
* For questions about the H&S Handbook or to submit a topic of interest, contact Emily Haas at [wcq3@cdc.gov](mailto:wcq3@cdc.gov)
* To join the division’s email list, contact Bill Gleason at gleason@smenet.org