



## **The American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers, Inc. Report of the 2001 President Grant P. Schneider**

The year 2001 marked AIME's 130th anniversary; it was also a year marked by significant accomplishments. Most significant was the implementation of the new Long Range Plan, which was approved in 1999. We also took positive steps, using the new governance structures provided in the Long Range Plan, to search for and engage new investment advisors in the form of a Chief Investment Officer. With the new AIME Executive Director in place at the start of 2000, the Institute was able to fill the two open positions with permanent employees and I know I echo the sentiment of the entire Board of Trustees when I tell you that we are pleased, not only with the people themselves, but with their immediate contributions to AIME.

I am pleased to report to the AIME Community on the significant progress made in these areas and on other pertinent developments.

### **2001 Annual Meeting**

AIME celebrated its 130th year with the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (SME) at their Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado, on February 26, 2001. The AIME banquet and awards ceremony was an impressive event.

An account of the 130th annual meeting, keynote session, and the awards ceremony may be found on page 8 [of the AIME Annual Report], followed by the names of the various award winners. I wish to thank both the SME and AIME staffs for organizing this event and to express my appreciation to SME leadership for creating such an inviting host environment.

The 2002 Annual Meeting will be at Opryland in Nashville, Tennessee. On Sunday March 10, 2002 following the banquet and awards ceremony, I will hand over the gavel to George H. Sawyer of SPE.

### **Government Affairs Through AAES**

AIME government affairs activities continued during 2001 through the American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES) located in Washington, DC. These efforts involved several volunteers, each representing a member society, and AIME and TMS staff serving on various AAES councils, commissions and task forces. The AAES Board of Governors continues its focus and limited AAES resources on the engineers' public policy activity and a program of public awareness of engineers and engineering that fits with AIME's initiative to Enhance the Image of Engineers. AIME, the Member Societies and AIME through its United Engineering Foundations activities have actively supported these efforts.

The AIME President, President-Elect and Executive Director had the opportunity to spend a day in Washington, DC each visiting his senator and representatives to talk about three items of interest to the engineering community as a whole.

During 2001 the AAES Executive Committee, of which the AIME Executive Director is a member, worked diligently on a reorganization plan for AAES to bring its activities into sharper focus and at the same time reduce the dues to the AAES Member Societies. AIME's dues for 2002 are two-thirds of the dues of the last several years.

### **Overarching and Member-Direct Programs**

Overarching and Member Direct programs were added to the AIME lexicon in 1994. Overarching programs are defined as those that carry out the purposes of the Institute and may include participation by one or more of the member societies; member-direct programs are those carried out by the Member Societies. Approval of specific programs is limited to those that clearly carry out the purpose of AIME, as described in its bylaws (Article I, Section 2). The selection of specific projects and the balancing of programs is the responsibility of the Board of Trustees.

Since the inception of these programs, AIME has committed in excess of five million dollars to the Member Societies for these programs. Unfortunately the investment climate in 2000 and 2001 resulted in a hiatus. This program will be reexamined every year with AIME's fiscal well being in mind.

In addition to the Overarching and Member Direct funding, AIME distributed over eight million dollars to the Member Societies from the proceeds from the sale of the United Engineering Center.

### **Finance**

You are invited to review the audited financial statement for the AIME Corporation for fiscal year 2001 (ending November 30, 2001) starting on page 15 of this report [the AIME Annual Report]. This is the third year the audit firm selected in 1999 audited the AIME Corporation and the combined savings plan for AIME and the member societies. We think you will find this financial report even easier to read this year than it was last year.

AIME assets decreased \$1.3 million from the end of fiscal year 2000 to \$10.5 million at the end of fiscal year 2001.

During 2001 AIME continued to look at the most cost effective and efficient ways to handle its financial functions and to achieve cost reductions in all areas of the operation.

The Strategic Direction Committee, as defined in the 1999 Long Range Plan was charged with looking at various long term options in the way in which AIME might conduct its business Inter-Society Affairs.

### **United Engineering Foundation (UEF)**

>I am pleased to report that AIME continues its effective involvement in the

governing of the UEF. As the terms of present trustees expire, effective with the 2000 UEF Board, AIME and the other Founder Societies were represented by their executive directors; by 2002 both their presidents and executive directors will represent them. John Hammes, former AIME Vice President-Finance was the 2000 UEF President and was reelected for 2001.

### **Founder Societies**

I am pleased to report our continued effective interactions with the Founder Society officers and executive directors in matters of common interest. This interaction has provided the president-elect, the executive director and me with an important opportunity to become cognizant of the broad spectrum of issues affecting the engineering profession. One of the ways we worked together in 2001 was to approve a United Engineering Foundation grant to AAES for Voices of Innovation, daily two-minute radio spots directed toward enhancing the public's awareness of engineers. We also had the opportunity to approve a UEF grant to the Iron & Steel Society.

### **ABET**

The Institute also retained its relationship with the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), as an affiliate body, and is represented by its Executive Director who serves as an official observer at ABET board meetings. ABET is revising its own governance and it is anticipated the affiliate bodies, which already "sit at the table," will soon have an official vote. The AIME Executive Director, as a sitting board member was involved in the ongoing ABET Strategic Planning Initiative being conducted by an outside firm.

### **In Appreciation**

It has been an honor for me to serve as your AIME president, to have had the opportunity to associate with and be assisted by the many fine people who comprise the AIME family, and to have the privilege of representing AIME on many auspicious occasions. I reflect with great gratitude and affection on my visits to the local sections and on the opportunity to strengthen AIME's ties with its Member Societies and with the other Founder Societies.

I appreciate the cooperation of the Board of Trustees of AIME. I also extend my sincere appreciation to the Member Societies' boards of directors and executive directors, the staffs of AIME and the member societies, committee members, others and especially the AIME Past Presidents for their dedicated support during the past year. During the past year I had two opportunities to visit the new AIME headquarters in New York City and I encourage all of you to stop by and "look us over." I also congratulate and pledge my full support to 2002 President George H Sawyer and the new Board of Trustees, all of whom are depicted in the AIME Annual Report.

*Grant P. Schneider*