



Report of the 1988 President

Thomas V. Falkie

I welcome this opportunity to report to the Member Societies and their members on the activities of AIME during 1988. The year can be characterized as one in which successful efforts were made to preserve and enhance AIME's traditions, to play a leadership role and maintain AIME's position within the Founder Society group and other elements of the engineering community, to further improve the financial posture of AIME, and to continue implementation of the long range plan adopted in 1987.

It was indeed gratifying to witness the interest in and support of AIME activities at the 1988 Annual Meeting, held in conjunction with the joint annual meeting of SME and TMS in Phoenix, Arizona. As arranged by a committee chaired by 1989 AIME President Howard Hubbard, the AIME Keynote Session featured excellent presentations by three distinguished speakers, and was very well received by an audience estimated at 600 people. Similarly, in terms of attendance, the AIME Banquet and Awards Ceremony was the most successful it has been in several years as approximately 650 people were present for the event. Contributing to the success of the banquet was initiation of a new program authorized by the AIME Board of Trustees which extends recognition to prior recipients of major AIME awards on a rotating basis. Prior recipients of the Douglas, Lucas and Richards Awards were honored in 1988, and plans call for extending recognition to the prior recipients of the other awards in subsequent years.

With further regard to awards, 1988 marks the first year for selection of a recipient of the AIME Distinguished Service Award. As recently established by action of the AIME Board, this award is presented in recognition of extraordinary and dedicated service in furtherance of the goals, purposes, and traditions of AIME. A highly deserving individual will be honored as the first recipient at the 1989 Annual Banquet in Las Vegas.

In view of the fact that SME and TMS decided not to hold a joint annual meeting in 1990 and 1991, an ad hoc committee was formed under the chairmanship of AIME Past President Ben Severinghaus to study and make recommendations on where the AIME Annual Meeting should be held in those years. As recommended by the committee, the AIME Board voted to hold both the 1990 and 1991 AIME Annual Meetings in conjunction

with the SME Annual Meetings and Exhibits for those years, to be held in Salt Lake City and Denver, respectively. Since this decision was made, it has been learned that SME and TMS will continue to hold separate annual meetings in years beyond 1991, so a determination will have to be made on the conduct of the AIME Annual Meeting in 1992 and beyond.

During 1988, AIME officers and other representatives played leadership roles and were otherwise active in the affairs of external organizations. 1989 AIME President Hubbard was involved in the top level management of AAES as a member of the Executive Committee, while a number of other individuals represented AIME on the various AAES councils and committees, including Don Brown (SPE) who will serve as the Chairman of the Engineering Manpower Commission in 1989. I am also pleased to report that AIME Past President Ed Runyan was nominated and approved by the AAES Board to serve as the Chairman-Elect in 1989, from which he will automatically succeed to the AAES Chairman position in 1990.

I had the opportunity in April to host one of the periodic meetings of the I Founder Society Presidents and Executive Directors, a meeting to which all UET Trustees were invited to facilitate in-depth discussions on the pending United Engineering Center expansion project (North Tower Project), other UET matters, and other matters important to the engineering community. Through this and other forums, it has been possible to protect the interests of AIME and to assure that the AIME position on the various matters is understood and given due consideration. In this regard, a concession involving the provision of free office space for the Headquarters Office was obtained by our insistence on obtaining some tangible benefit if the North Tower Project is undertaken.

Turning to international activities, it was my honor to serve as the AIME lecturer for 1988 as part of the Distinguished Lecturer Exchange Program carried on with the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM). Since AIME and its Member Societies were invited to participate in the AusIMM 1988 Annual Conference being held in conjunction with Australia's Bicentennial celebration, my trip was timed to coincide with the conference where I gave my lecture. I also visited and lectured at several AusIMM branches in Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji.

During my years as President-Elect Designate, President-Elect, and President, I represented AIME at the Arizona Conference and section meetings in St. Louis, Utah, Washington, D.C., Florida, Colorado, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Central Appalachia, Wisconsin and several student chapters. It was a pleasure to meet and associate with members of the Member Societies, and I was gratified by the many expressions of continuing interest in the Institute.

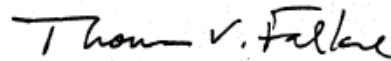
Elsewhere in this Annual Report you will find the audited financial statement for the separate AIME Corporation for Fiscal Year 1988 (ending November 30). AIME assets at year end totalled \$9,175,840, which represents an increase of nearly \$500,000 since

the end of FY87. It is significant to note that over the past five years, average yearly revenue, primarily from the return on investment of the Endowment Funds, has exceeded average yearly expenses by about \$487,000 per year. This growth in assets, coupled with the AIME Headquarters again operating on a cost-effective basis and well within budget, reflects the conscientious efforts of AIME Board of Trustees, the Executive Director and his staff, and everyone else involved to conduct current operations in a fiscally responsible manner, and to not only maintain but also enhance the real value of the assets over the long term.

During the past 10 years AIME has undergone tremendous change and is now a completely decentralized Institute. AIME will be what its Member Societies want it to be. The Societies can and are benefitting from AIME's long history of tradition and accomplishments and its prestigious standing in the engineering community. There is still significant interest in AIME among many individuals in all four Societies, stronger perhaps in some Societies than others. It is fair to say that significant numbers of newer members in some of the Societies are not being exposed to AIME traditions, history, and accomplishments. Sometime in the future, AIME will have to face this fact and will require further change. For the near future, AIME has found a niche and the scheme is working well.

I should like to express my sincere appreciation to the AIME Board of Trustees, the Society Boards of Directors, the AIME and Society staffs, committee members, and others for their dedicated support during my term as President. I should also like to congratulate and pledge my full support to 1989 President Howard Hubbard.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas V. Falkie". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Thomas V. Falkie
1988 AIME President