



## Report of the 1990 President

Donald G. Russell

It is a distinct pleasure for me to report to the AIME Member Societies and their members on the activities of the Institute during 1990.

In his report last year, then AIME President Howard Hubbard stated that 1989 was a year notable for the renewed commitment demonstrated by the AIME Board of Trustees and the Member Societies to support a meaningful future role for AIME, and to preserve its long standing traditions. I am pleased to report that the commitment referred to by Mr. Hubbard was clearly evident during 1990 when AIME launched an exciting new initiative and met with great success in carrying out its traditional activities.

The highly successful AIME Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City in February, held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, serves as a testament to the continuing interest in and dedication to the Institute. The AIME Keynote Session, chaired by 1990 AIME President-Elect Milton Wadsworth and featuring three distinguished speakers, was very well received by over 1200 people, the largest Keynote Session audience in recent history, if not ever. The Annual Banquet drew more than 500 people, and served as an excellent setting in which to recognize the recipients of Honorary Membership and the other prestigious AIME awards.

During its meeting in Salt Lake City, the AIME Board of Trustees addressed the matter of the location of the AIME Annual Meeting in 1992. Prior to the meeting, those Member Societies interested in doing so were invited to submit proposals to host the 1992 meeting. After careful consideration of the proposals received from SME and TMS, the Board voted to hold the 1992 meeting in conjunction with the TMS Annual Meeting in San Diego, and to give SME the opportunity to host the 1993 meeting in Reno, Nevada. I am pleased to report that the SME Board has agreed to host the AIME meeting in 1993.

Initially established in 1989, the ad hoc AIME Public Affairs Committee, under the leadership of TMS Past President and former AIME Trustee Frank Nolfi, recommended to the AIME Board in Salt Lake City that AIME undertake a major educational project aimed at improving the technological literacy of junior high school students. The Board approved the Committee's request for \$50,000 to retain a qualified professional to fully develop the plan for the educational video series, which among other things, will expose the students to the technologies represented within the AIME Member Societies. The Board also requested that the completed plan be submitted to the Board for its consideration at the Board meeting last August. In addition, the Board acted to redesignate the Committee as a standing committee to consider and possibly undertake other educational and/or career guidance projects.

At its meeting in August, the Board enthusiastically approved the concept for the technology media project as outlined in the project plan, and agreed to commit \$650,000 to the research, development and production phases of the project. Expenditures will be limited to a lesser amount until the acceptability and extent of use of the project by junior high schools is validated through the research phase and reported back to the Board in early 1991. The Board also directed the Committee to formulate and implement strategies to obtain additional financial support for the project from government and private sources. This exciting project provides AIME the opportunity to respond in a significant way to the current crisis in precollege science and mathematics education, a national problem which must be dealt with on an urgent basis.

Turning to other activities, the Board acted during the year to form an ad hoc Committee on Energy and the Environment, composed of one representative from each of the Member Societies and chaired by 1991 SPE President and AIME Trustee Arlie Skov. Originally formed to respond to a position paper published by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers covering these issues, the charge to the committee has since been changed to that of developing an AIME position paper on energy and the environment. Recent events in the Persian Gulf have, of course, served to heighten the national concern for these issues and increase the importance of the Committee/s work.

As has been the case for many years, AIME continued to be actively involved in the governance and other affairs of the United Engineering Trustees (UET), the Engineering Societies Library (ESL), and the Engineering Foundation (EF), with members of the Member Societies serving as AIME representatives on the Boards of these organizations. In this regard, I should like to acknowledge and congratulate Frank Aplan (SME), a former chairman and long-time active member of the Engineering Foundation Board, for being the first recipient of a new EF award named in his honor. The award/s purpose is to recognize engineering or scientific contributions that further the understanding of the technology of coal and/or mineral processing.

During the year, AIME terminated its membership in the American Association of Engineering Societies on behalf of TMS, ISS, and SPE when each of these societies decided they no longer wanted to be affiliated with AAES. SME disassociated itself with AAES a few years ago. AIME retained its relationship with the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) as an Affiliate Body, and is represented by the AIME Executive Director who serves as an official observer at ABET Board meetings. As another external interface, the AIME officers participated in periodic meetings with the leadership of the other Founder Societies to discuss matters of mutual interest, with emphasis on problems or other issues pertaining to UET and other organizations over which the Founder Societies exercise full or substantial control.

AIME continued to participate in the Distinguished Lecturer Exchange Program carried on with the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM). We were indeed fortunate to have 1990 AIME President-Elect Milton Wadsworth serve as the AIME lecturer for 1990. Dean Wadsworth travelled to Australia in March and gave a number of lectures there and in New Zealand.

With regard to AIME finances, you are invited to review the audited financial statement for the separate AIME corporation for Fiscal Year 1990 (ending November 30), contained elsewhere in this Annual Report. Despite a less than favorable economic climate in the latter part of the fiscal year, particularly with regard to equity investments, total AIME assets increased from \$9,564,421 at the end of the previous fiscal year to \$10,330,354 at the end of FY90. This favorable result, coupled with continued cost-effective operations on the part of AIME Headquarters, are important to building the financial resources required to undertake programs in support of the Member Societies and their members, and to protect against the effects of inflation.

It has been an honor for me to serve as the AIME President, and to have had the opportunity to associate with and be assisted by the many fine people who comprise the AIME family. My sincere appreciation is extended 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 the past year. I would also like to congratulate and pledge my full support to 1991 President Milton Wadsworth.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald G. Russell". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Donald G. Russell  
1990 AIME President