



Report of the 1991 President

Milton E. Wadsworth

I am pleased to report to the AIME Member Societies and their members on the activities of the Institute during 1991.

In his report last year, 1990 AIME President Donald G. Russell noted two major activities authorized by the AIME Board of Trustees. The first was the establishment and progress of the Transformations Project of the Public Issues Committee under the leadership of Past TMS President Frank V. Nolfi, Jr. The second was the establishment of the ad hoc Committee on Energy and Environment, chaired by 1991 SPE President and AIME Trustee Arlie M. Skov. The charge to this committee was to develop an AIME position paper on energy and the environment. I am pleased to report on the success of these two programs because they confirm our resolve to develop meaningful roles for AIME and to preserve its long standing traditions.

A highly successful AIME Annual Meeting was held in Denver in February, in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration. The AIME Keynote Session, chaired by 1991 AIME President-Elect Roshan Bhappu and featuring four distinguished speakers, was very well received by more than 1250 people. The Annual Banquet served as an excellent setting in which to recognize the recipients of Honorary Membership and the other prestigious AIME awards. It was attended by nearly 500 people.

During its meeting in Denver, the AIME Board of Trustees continued to address the matter of the location of future AIME Annual Meetings. As had been previously agreed, the 1992 Annual Meeting is scheduled to be held with TMS in San Diego, and the 1993 AIME Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the SME Annual Meeting in Reno, Nevada. At the August AIME Board of Trustees meeting in Charleston, it was decided that TMS would give an on-site assessment of the 1992 AIME Annual Meeting in San Diego. Following this assessment, selection of the 1994 sponsor will be made by the AIME Board of Trustees.

Initially established in 1989, the ad hoc AIME Public Issues Committee, composed of representatives of each Member Society and chaired by Frank Nolfi, recommended to the AIME Board that AIME undertake a major educational project aimed at improving the technological literacy of junior high school students. The Board approved the Committee's initial request for \$650,000 to carry the project forward. Dr. Nolfi and a project team of media professionals, including Lee Richmond of Galileo Studios, Judy Downes, Mark Irwin and Joanne Van Voorhis, presented a detailed written and oral progress report of the program, now titled "Transformations: Science, Technology and Society" at the AIME Board of Trustees meeting in Denver in February, 1991. The report was received with enthusiasm and an additional request for funding in the amount of \$339,000 was approved to complete the project through the manufacturing, marketing and distribution of the first edition (2,300 copies). This brought the total funding for the project to \$989,000. The scheduled date for 1991. I am pleased to report that this deadline was met. A special showing was presented for the AIME Board of Trustees in Boston on October 12, 1991, and separate presentations have been made to the TMS Board, Founder Society Presidents and the Washington Section. Additional presentations will be made at the SME Annual Meeting in Phoenix in February and at the AIME/TMS Annual Meeting in San Diego. The response to-date has been very positive. I congratulate Dr. Nolfi and the members of the Public Issues Committee, the Galileo Studios and the consultants who have made this program so successful. We look forward now to the marketing and implementation of these important teaching materials.

I would like to turn now to the activities of the ad hoc Committee on Energy and Environment, composed of one representative from each of the Member Societies and chaired by Arlie Skov. I am pleased to report that this committee, as charged, has developed a position paper for AIME on energy and the environment. The committee has prepared covering documents and a list of individuals, government agencies and institutions to whom the statement will be presented. We congratulate the committee for their response to this important assignment.

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. 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. We continued to interact with the Founder Society officers and Executive Directors on matters of common interest, with emphasis on problems or other issues pertaining to UET and other organizations over which the Founder Societies exercise full or substantial control. This interaction has provided a pleasant and important opportunity, permitting us to become aware of the broad spectrum of issues as they affect the engineering profession.

Two years ago, AIME terminated its membership in the American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES) 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. Others who disassociated themselves from AAES were NSPE and AIChE. During this past year a series of meetings was organized by NSPE to address the possibility of restructuring AAES to make it more responsive to the individual needs of each member organization. Presidents or Presidents-elect of the Founder Societies, ANS, IIE and officers of NSPE and AAES were invited to attend. From these meetings came a new initiative under the title, "Revised Structure to Achieve Engineering Unity." Under this new initiative, NSPE and AIChE have rejoined AAES. At the August AIME Board of Trustees meeting in Charleston, the "Unity" proposal was reviewed. The Board decided not to rejoin AAES at that time because specific goals had not been identified. Thus we have chosen not to commit resources and time for now, but wish to observe future developments. We applaud the "Unity" effort and hope for its success.

With regard to AIME finances, you are invited to review the audited financial statement for the separate AIME corporation for Fiscal Year 1991 (ending November 30), contained elsewhere in this Annual Report. Despite the less than favorable economic climate this past fiscal year, total AIME assets increased modestly from \$10,330,354 at the end of the previous fiscal year to \$10,456,891 at the end of FY91. Therefore we continue to build 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. But I must now turn to a sad event; namely the loss of Robert H. Marcrum as our AIME Executive Director. For health reasons, Bob has had to take long term disability. We extend to him our heartfelt best wishes for the future. At a special Executive Committee meeting in Dallas last autumn, Alexander R. Scott (TMS) was appointed interim AIME Executive Director and a search committee, made up of the Executive Directors, was formed to find our new Executive Director. Lawrence G. Kuhn (ISS) has chaired that committee. I am pleased to report that the committee has almost completed its assignment. It now appears we will be able to introduce our new Executive Director at the AIME Annual Meeting in San Diego.

I wish to thank Bob Marcrum for his support while he was able, Alex Scott for his dedication and assistance in the interim position and the staff of the New York office, for its excellent support. Also I thank Ronald E. Miller, President of TMS, for supporting me through the services of Alex Scott. Finally, I extend my sincere appreciation to the AIME Board of Trustees, the Society Boards of Directors, the AIME 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 1992 President Roshan B. Bhappu.

