

BLACK DIAMONDS

DEPARTMENT OF MINING ENGINEERING

Statler College of
Engineering and
Mineral Resources

table of contents

Department News/Awards...	2-6
Student News.....	6-8
Alumni News.....	8-9
Donors/Alumni Update.....	10-11
Chair's Message.....	12



Raymond M. Bradbury "My Last (and Best) 23 Years in Coal"

Bradbury Presents Poundstone Lecture

On September 22, Raymond A. Bradbury, former president of Martin County Coal Corporation, presented the annual William Poundstone Lecture entitled, "My Last (and Best) 23 Years in Coal."

Bradbury's 42-year coal mining career included a number of senior-level positions in engineering and management. He was president of Martin County Coal during his last 18 years in the industry.

Bradbury grew up in southern Illinois and eastern Kentucky, and graduated from Berea College Academy in 1946. In 1950, he received his bachelor's degree in mining engineering from West Virginia University. Throughout his career, Bradbury was involved in introducing new machinery to make coal mining safer. He has been recognized for his emphasis on safety, embodied in his favorite phrase, "A safe mine is a productive mine."

Bradbury has been an active member of his community, serving on the Big Sandy Regional Airport board, the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, the board of trustees of Highlands Regional Medical Center, and the board of the Cincinnati branch of the Federal Reserve. He also served as director of the Kentucky Coal Association, chairman of the Kentucky Mining Institute, and was a charter member of the University of Kentucky Mining Engineering Foundation board. He also participates in the Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club, and is a member of the United Methodist Church. He and his wife, Clara, recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

The full text of his Poundstone Lecture can be found at: http://www.mine.cemr.wvu.edu/welcome/academy/Bradbury_speech_2011.pdf.



Summer 2012 / Vol.12, No.1

Editors: Faculty and Staff
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West Virginia University
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Everything starts with mining!

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
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Joy in China

by Christopher J. Bise



The hotel on the CUMT campus.

On Thursday, May 12, 2011, six West Virginia University students gathered at the Coliseum at 7 a.m. to initiate a trip of a lifetime: the first study abroad opportunity specifically for mining engineering students. Nicknamed “Joy in China,” the trip was the result of several years of planning between WVU alumnus Dr. G.T. Lineberry, professor of mining engineering at the University of Kentucky, and myself and was partially subsidized by Joy Mining Machinery.

The WVU contingent consisted of Jon Bobbera, Michael Corley, Andrew Ellis, Mitch McBrayer, Alexandra Stockdale, and Zachary Thompson. The team of students departed from Pittsburgh International Airport for a quick flight to Detroit, where they met up with eight students from the University of Kentucky and three from Virginia Tech. The group settled in for the 13-hour flight to Shanghai, and after a brief stay took a five-hour bullet train ride to Xuzhou, home of the China University of Mining and Technology, or CUMT.

In many ways, this was a unique experience from the very beginning for our students. For example, this was Zach Thompson’s first experience traveling by plane. Andrew Ellis said, “While I’m sure everyone had different experiences and therefore a different view about the culture of Xuzhou, I’m sure I can speak for the entire group when I say that I found the city to be one of the most interesting and exciting places I have ever been.”

While in the city, the students stayed at an on-campus hotel at CUMT. “Depending on the

time of day, the pace of Xuzhou varied,” said Ellis. “Sometimes we would venture out during the day to grab some lunch and it seemed sort of



The new library at CUMT.

slow; on the other hand, when we ventured out at night, the city always seemed to be alive with street vendors. We definitely had fun learning the ins and outs of bartering on the street.”

Another interesting thing the students noticed was how excited the locals were to see Americans. “Everywhere we would go we would see people trying to be sneaky and take our pictures or giggle, wave, and shout ‘hi,’” said Ellis. “Some were even brave enough to ask for pictures with us. Of course, we all ate this up. Not only were these people so excited to see us, but they also treated us very kindly and with the utmost respect.”

The group toured a tomb from the Han Dynasty and a local museum that contained a miniature terra cotta soldier army. On one occasion, two CUMT students took several of our students to the center of the city to tour the Hubu Hill district museum. The students were able to tour

the museum at their own pace and interact with most of the landscape and artifacts.

China University of Mining and Technology was established in 1909. It is the oldest institution of higher education with a focus on mining engineering in the country. There are 19 schools at CUMT with 60 undergraduate programs, 100 master’s degree programs, and 50 doctoral programs. The total student population on the main campus in Xuzhou exceeds 40,000 people. The campus has many modern, state-of-the-art buildings, such as the library.

While at CUMT, the group participated in a variety of educational, social, and cultural events. “We attended lectures on various topics, including mineral processing, mine safety, ground control, and mining methods in China,” said Jon Bobbera. “To go along with some of the lectures, the instructors established labs for the group to perform, such as a froth flotation experiment and a ground-control simulation.”

Numerous opportunities were scheduled for the group to meet with CUMT student groups. This was a good opportunity for our students to meet people of their own age and get a glimpse into Chinese culture and life at CUMT. Our students kept in contact with their Chinese counterparts



The Xuzhou arrival of the train to Beijing.



Dr. Christopher Bise (left) led the students to the Joy Global (Tianjin) facilities, where they were met by Mark Schaeffer (third from the right).

and did various activities with them, including sporting activities, shopping, and touring the town.

The staff at CUMT set up several extracurricular activities for group participation. “We played in two basketball games, one with the chemical engineering department and another with the safety engineering department,” said Bobbera. “Several hundred students came out to watch. Other activities included playing tennis with CUMT’s president and attending a music concert with various types of Chinese music.”

Two weeks into the trip, Dr. Lineberry and I arrived at CUMT and accompanied the students throughout the remainder of the trip, which included a tour of Qufu, the hometown of Confucius.

Our last days in China were spent in Beijing. We boarded the bullet train from Xuzhou to Beijing for the five-hour trip. Although the train is not the fastest in the country (approximately 300 mph), the train hit 150 miles per hour for stretches at a time, similar to an Amtrak Acela in the states. The interior of the train was crowded, but still comfortable.



The interior of the train to Beijing.

Our first day in Beijing was spent touring Joy’s facilities in the port city of Tianjin. We were met by Mark Schaeffer, the service and engineering director for the facilities, who provided

till you climb The Great Wall of China,” said Michael Corley. “Just seeing the Great Wall in person makes you wonder how it was possible to create something so massive that you can see



The group from WVU visits the Great Wall of China. Picture, from left, Michael Corley, Jon Bobbera, Zachary Thompson, Alexandra Stockdale, Andrew Ellis, Mitch McBrayer, and Dr. Christopher Bise.

information on Joy’s business unit in China, as well as a plant tour. This plant produces and refinishes panline sections for longwall mining systems, and houses a gear refinishing and manufacturing facility for P&H electric shovels.

Our last two days in China were spent touring Beijing. We had a guided tour through the Forbidden City and then took a bus to the Great Wall of China “Legend says, ‘You’re not a man

from space, with what little resources they had in that era of that time.” On their last day in Beijing, the students went to see the Olympic Stadium and Tiananmen Square.

The group flew out of Beijing on June 6 for their return to the United States. The combination of cultural, social, and educational experiences will greatly impact their understanding of China and will last a lifetime.

30th Anniversary International Conference for Ground Control Mining



ICGCM Committee members (front row, from left): Tom Barczak, Keith Heasley, Wahab Khair, John Hoelle, Vince Scovazzo, Gerry Finfinger, Chris Mark, David Bartsch. Second row: Yi Luo, Richard Gray, Syd Peng.

The 30th anniversary meeting of the International Conference of Ground Control in Mining (ICGCM) was held this past July in Morgantown, W.Va. With a record-setting attendance of 309 from 14 different countries, the conference promotes the problem-solving of mining, and improves the ground control technologies for the safety of mining operations.

Previously, the conference proceedings required manual submission of abstracts, which included typing, editing transcripts, layout, and printing. This year, Thomas Barczak with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and Stephen Tadolini (Minova International) led a change to semi-automating procedures of abstract submissions through the use of web networking systems. The conference proceedings from the past 30 years contain an encyclopedia of ground control technology for the mining community. Information on the conference proceedings is available on the conference website: www.icgcm.conferenceacademy.com

Retiring organizing committee members from this year included Naj Aziz, Tom Blevins, Doug Hardman, and John Hoelle. Many of them have been involved since the inception of ICGCM. There were also many sponsoring organizations, such as Mine Safety and Health Administration, NIOSH, West Virginia Coal Mining Association, Agapito Associates, BASF, CONSOL Energy, DSI, J. H. Fletcher, Heintzman, Hilti, Jennmar, MICON, MINOVA, RAG-Foundation Coal-Alpha Resources, Rosebud Mining, and Strata Products that have continued their support for the conference over the years.

Individual participation has been very important, particularly from the foreign contributors who travel long distances to arrive in Morgantown present their papers. There is still much work to be done as the ICGCM goes forward. The 31st ICGCM will be held at Lakeview Resort in Morgantown, July 31-August 2, 2012; details are available on the conference website.

Student, Alumni, Faculty Honored at Awards Banquet

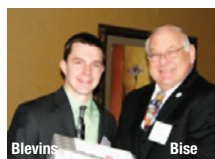
The Mineral Resources Student and Faculty Awards Banquet was held on April 15, 2012, at the Lakeview Resort and Conference Center, Morgantown, W.Va. Awards were presented to alumni, students, and faculty of the departments of Mining Engineering and Petroleum and Natural Gas Engineering at West Virginia University.



Amy Burt received the "Old Timers' Award" from Calvin Kidd.



The recipients of the WVU SME Student Chapter Awards were Dr. Mark Sindelar (top) for "his dedication to student growth and advancement," Dr. Christopher J. Bise (center) as "the outstanding faculty member in Mining Engineering," and Jon Bobbera (bottom) for "his sincere interest in the mining discipline and exceptional services to his fellow students."



Nicholas Blevins received the "Careers in Coal Award" from Dr. Christopher Bise.



Charles Ndhlovu received the Charles T. Holland Award from Dr. Warren Myers.



The 2012 Mining Engineering Faculty Awards were presented to (L-R) Brian Howard, Patricio Terrazas, Alison Sears, and Jon Bobbera.

Bise Awarded Erskine Ramsey Medal



Christopher J. Bise (right) receives the Erskine Ramsey Award and Medal from Brajendra Mishra, president of the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers.

Christopher J. Bise, professor and Robert E. Murray Chair of Mining Engineering at West Virginia University, was awarded the 2012 Erskine Ramsey Medal from the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration. The award was established in 1948 to recognize distinguished achievements in the coal-mining industry.

Bise earned the award "for his distinguished leadership and achievement as an engineer, consultant, researcher, educator, author, and administrator," said David L. Kanagy, executive director of SME. He was also recognized for his "ability to integrate various advances in science, engineering, and management for the betterment of the U.S. coal-mining industry."



Kecojevic to Study Surface Mining Through ARIES Grant

Dr. Vlad Kecojevic, associate professor in the Department of Mining Engineering, received a \$380,000 grant from the Appalachian Research Initiative for Environmental Sciences or ARIES to conduct research related to the development and deployment of an information-driven system that will help mine operators select the most productive, cost-effective, and eco-friendly surface mining systems.

Kecojevic and his team will incorporate a new hierarchical structure where attribute categories, such as production, cost, and the environment and their importance in the selection process will be determined. This will be a step-change in how the mining industry addresses decision situations that feature multiple criteria for selecting the best alternative. It is expected that more than 50 overburden and 120 surface coal mining systems will be analyzed during the duration of the research.

Special emphasis will be given to the ability of the proposed system to work selectively with high separation accuracy. The overall goal of the project is to improve coal recovery while reducing waste generation, waste reactivity, and water impacts; ground vibration, air-blasts, and flyrock; the emission of carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxide of mobile equipment; and noise and dust generation.

Department Well Represented at SME Annual Meeting

The Department of Mining Engineering was well represented at the 2012 Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration's (SME) annual meeting, held in Seattle, Wash., from February 19-22, 2012. The Department sponsored an exhibit booth, which rapidly became a gathering place for West Virginia University students, faculty, alumni, and industrial friends.

A number of West Virginia University students received scholarships at the meeting. During the Coal and Energy Division Luncheon, Amy Burt received the John Sidney Marshall Memorial Scholarship, William McBrayer received the Coal and Energy Division Scholarship, Rachel Sellaro received the 2011 Women's Auxiliary to AIME scholarship, and Jeffrey Stevens received the Coal and Energy Division Research Scholarship.

Morgan Sears, a Ph.D candidate in the Department, received the 2011 SME Syd S. Peng Ground Control Scholarship, which is presented annually to promote the science of ground control.

Several technical papers were presented by Department faculty and graduate students during the weeklong meeting. Dr. Brijes Mishra presented a paper co-authored by one of his graduate students entitled, "Investigation of the Post-Failure Behavior of Coal and Coal Measures."

Dr. Yi Luo presented three technical papers, co-authored with several of his graduate students: "A Fracture-Mechanics-Based Longwall Pre-Driven Recovery Room Support Design Program," "Locating and Determining the Status of Thermal Events in Longwall Gobs Using Mine Atmosphere Monitoring Data," and "A Comparison Study of Three Methods to Determine Self-Heating Potentials of U.S. Coals."

Timothy Nolan, a graduate student, presented a paper he co-authored with his advisor, Dr. Vladislav Kecojevic, and Robert Bauer of Wirtgen America, Inc., entitled, "Production and Cost Assessment of a Potential Application of Surface Miners in Coal Mining in West Virginia."

STUDENT NEWS

Chase Awarded Scholarship

Charlie Chase III accepted a \$5,000 scholarship from the Remember the Miners organization. West Virginia University men's basketball coach Bob Huggins and Chris Hamilton, president of the West Virginia Coal Association, presented the award at Huggins' Annual Fish Fry Dinner.



Chase

The scholarship program was created in 2011 to provide financial aid to miners, dependents of miners, and students pursuing higher education in the mining industry.

A junior, Chase is majoring in mining engineering and did a summer internship with Consol Energy. He currently serves as the president of WVU's SME student chapter.

For more information on the scholarship, visit http://remembertheminers.org/scholars_program/

Thompson Receives 2011 SME Pittsburgh Section Student Grant Award

Zachary Thompson, a junior in West Virginia University's mining and civil engineering dual degree program, received the 2011 SME Pittsburgh Section Student Grant Award. The award was presented at the organization's Pittsburgh Coal Mining Institute of America/SME annual joint meeting held last October.



Thompson

Thompson has been on the dean's list for three consecutive years. He worked as an intern in the coal industry, gaining practical mining experience. Thompson also served as the program chair of WVU's SME Student Chapter.

Sears Recognized at SME Annual Meeting

Morgan Sears, Ph.D. candidate, was recognized at the SME Annual Meeting in Seattle with the 2011 SME Syd S. Peng Ground Control Scholarship, which is presented annually to promote the science of ground control.



Burt Receives Order of Augusta Honor

Amy Burt has been recognized by West Virginia University as a 2012 Order of Augusta recipient and Outstanding Senior. A number of graduating seniors are recognized each year by the WVU Foundation with the Outstanding Senior Award, and seven of those students were further honored at the WVU Honors Convocation with the University's most prestigious honor: The Order of Augusta.



Burt graduated with a 4.0 G.P.A. in mining engineering, and agribusiness management and rural development on May 12. She served as vice-president of the SME Student Chapter and on numerous committees within the Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources and the Davis College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Established in 1995 to signify the 40th anniversary of the WVU Foundation, the Outstanding Senior Award recognizes students for their contributions and achievements in scholarship, leadership and service. The Order of Augusta further recognizes the students' superior scholarship, demonstrated leadership, and record of community and public service. The award is named for its historical significance in the state. Augusta was among the original names considered by the Legislature when the state seceded from Virginia in 1863.

Fall 2011

President's List

- Amy L. **Burt**
- Jason M. **Grimm**
- Stephen J. **Mayo**
- Sean **Schoonover**
- Jeffery R. **Stevens**

Dean's List

- Jeremy P. **Ash**
- Andrew J. **Ellis**
- Mara N. **Hissom**
- Kyle J. **Hughes**
- Jason A. **Mash**
- William M. **McBrayer**
- Charles T. **Ndhlovu**
- Zachary E. **Purdy**
- Skyler D. **Roberts**
- Rachel M. **Sellaro**
- Cody A. **Smith**
- Christopher A. **Sowers**
- Jared R. **Stein**
- Zachary N. **Thompson**
- William **Weitzel**
- Haven R. **Williams**

Graduates Find Rewarding Careers with MEPCO, LLC

Marshall Engineered Products Company (MEPCO), a 50-year-old coal mining company in Morgantown, W.Va., is the largest independent coal producer in northern West Virginia and southwestern Pennsylvania, producing more than four million tons per year. MEPCO president and CEO, Jim Laurita, Jr., is a 1982 West Virginia University mining engineering graduate and a third generation leader of the company and its affiliate companies.

Since 2000, MEPCO has quadrupled its coal production and employment, currently employing more than 600 individuals, including 10 WVU mining graduates and two WVU mining engineering students.

MEPCO operates underground room and pillar mines in the Sewickley coal seam, including Prime Mine and Crowdad Mine, both in Monongalia County, W.Va.; Arco Mine, Marion County, W.Va.; and 4 West Mine, Greene County, Pa. MEPCO also operates a surface mine in Green County, Pa.; coal processing and refuse facilities in West Virginia; and river dock and barge loading facilities in both West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

The company supplies coal to local plants operated by First Energy and the new Longview Power Plant. Longview is a 695 megawatt coal-fired electrical power generating facility and is the largest privately-funded project in state history. Coal is supplied to Longview via a four and a half mile overland belt that runs from MEPCO's 4 West Mine to the power facility.

MEPCO continues to grow and provide career opportunities for mining engineering students and graduates. Charles Ndhlovu, BS MinE '12, will begin full-time employment with MEPCO. Ryan Rohrsen is a dual-major in mining and civil engineering student who currently works part-time for MEPCO. He will begin full-time employment with MEPCO upon graduation.

Other WVU mining engineering graduates currently working for MEPCO include: Brian Osborn, BS EM '85, vice president of engineering; Kevin Rakes, BS MinE '05, engineer, 4 West Mine; Samantha Stahle, BS MinE '06, engineer, Prime Mine and Arco Mine; Hilaria Swisher, BS MinE '01, engineer, permitting; Mitchel Funk, BS MinE '10, engineer, 4 West Mine; Bryan Troast, BS MinE '11, engineer, Prime Mine; Kevin Hatfield, BS MinE '11, engineer, Crowdad Mine; Carrie Lilly, BS MinE '02, general counsel; and Kris Lilly, BS MinE '04, engineer, Crowdad Mine, employed by Red Bone Mining Company, a contract operator for MEPCO.

Barry Fink, BS EM, '82, is president of Laurel Aggregates, Inc., a Laurita family company that operates the Lake Lynn Quarry in Pennsylvania.

ALUMNI NEWS



Danrick W. Alexander, Ph.D '06, was the recipient of the 2012 Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration's Ivan B. Rahn Education Award for his "long-term and distinguished contributions to the educational activities within SME, especially in the areas relating to student affairs and scholarships, the National GEM Executive Council, and ABET." Alexander is a lead mining engineer with NIOSH.



Dr. Francis O. Otuonye, BSEM '76, MSEM '78, is the associate vice president for Research and Graduate Studies at Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, Tenn. He is responsible for administering the policies applicable to the graduate school, including the establishment and enforcement of minimum standards of graduate work. He also coordinates graduate programs within the university's various colleges and maintains all graduate records.

George J. Schuller, Jr., BSEM '86, has been named group executive, Powder River Basin, at Peabody Energy. He is responsible for the safe and productive operation of the company's surface mines across the western United States. Schuller joined Peabody in 1986 as production supervisor and brings more than 25 years of operations and engineering experience to his new regional leadership role. Most recently, he served as senior vice president of Engineering Services with responsibility for core engineering capabilities and activities.

Schuller has held various mine management positions of increasing responsibility, serving as general manager of Underground Operations in the U.S. and general manager of Mining Support for Peabody's Australian operations in Queensland. He also served as vice president of Continuous Improvement and vice president of New Mine Development.

Statlers Make Historic Gift to College

On Thursday, January 12, 2012, West Virginia University's engineering and mineral resources school officially became known as the Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources in honor of businessman, philanthropist, and alumnus Ben Statler.

Statler and his wife, Jo, both natives of Monongalia County, pledged \$34 million to the College, the largest single gift commitment ever to the University and to a college at a special ceremony at Erickson Alumni Center; \$11 million of the donation will qualify for a match from the state's Research Trust Fund, making the total value of the naming gift \$45 million. A portion of the pledge comes from a previously announced commitment. With this historic gift, the College became only the third college at WVU to be named for a benefactor.

A portion of the donation will be used to build the new Advanced Engineering Research Building on the Evansdale Campus and will create the Statler Research Scholars, which will provide scholarships and research support for undergraduate engineering majors. The gift will also endow three faculty chairs in energy research and fund graduate research fellow.

Statler became a third generation coal miner in 1969, working the night shift at a CONSOL Energy mine while attending classes at WVU. He earned his degree in mining engineering in 1973. At CONSOL, Statler worked his way up to senior vice president of mining operations. After 30



Benjamin and Jo Statler

years, he left CONSOL to start PinnOak Resources LLC, and served as its president and CEO until its sale in 2007. Statler, who currently is co-founder of Gulf Coast Capital Partners, has served on the advisory committee for the Department of Mining Engineering and was named to the WVU Foundation Board of Directors in 2008.

Jo Statler, who worked for the WVU School of Dentistry, helped launch Bonnie's Bus, which provides digital mammography services to women in remote areas of West Virginia. The bus is named after Jo's mother, Bonnie Wells Wilson, who died of breast cancer.

The Statlers have previously given \$25 million for cancer research, academic achievements, and athletic improvements.



Jo and Benjamin Statler at the College's official dedication in March.

Events



- | | | | |
|----------|--|---------|---|
| Sept. 1 | Football vs. Marshall | Oct. 6 | Football at Texas |
| Sept. 13 | 2012 Poundstone Lecture: James William (Jimbill) Harvey, 6 p.m., Erickson Alumni Center | Oct. 13 | Football at Texas Tech |
| Sept. 15 | Football vs. James Madison (Landover, Md.) | Oct. 20 | Football vs. Kansas State |
| Sept. 22 | Football vs. Maryland | Nov. 3 | Football vs. TCU (Mountaineer Week)
<i>Statler College Football Tent</i> |
| Sept. 27 | Groundbreaking, Advanced Engineering Research Building

125th Anniversary of Engineering Education Celebration | Nov. 10 | Football at Oklahoma State |
| Sept. 29 | Football vs. Baylor (Homecoming)
<i>Statler College Football Tent</i> | Nov. 17 | Football vs. Oklahoma |
| | | Nov. 24 | Football at Iowa State |
| | | Dec. 1 | Football vs. Kansas |



LEAVE A LEGACY®

Make A Difference in the Lives That Follow

By Deborah Miller, director of Planned Giving, West Virginia University Foundation

Mining engineering in the future—what will the educational programs and career opportunities be like in coming years? Will they change a great deal?

No one knows for sure, but helping to provide excellent educational resources at WVU for future mining engineers can assure that various career doors will remain open for them. One way of doing that is to create a gift that pays income to you (and your spouse, if appropriate) first, and later provides benefits for the Department.

Gifts that provide current or future income can be created with the WVU Foundation for \$25,000 or more. A current federal tax deduction will be available. The income recipients may choose fixed or variable income, which can be paid for life or for a number of years (up to 20). Using cash

works well, but appreciated stocks, bonds, mutual funds, or real estate can also be beneficial choices with advantageous capital gain treatment.

When the income payout ends, the donor's choice of support for the Department will go into effect. Adding more scholarships and professorships are high priorities. Each fund can be non-endowed or endowed (so that it lasts forever and provides annual income for the purpose chosen) and can be named for whomever the donor wishes to honor.

To learn about how this option might work for you through an income projection and other information, contact **Bob Bragg** at **304-293-4036** or **robert.bragg@mail.wvu.edu**.

Mining Engineering Graduates

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

May 2012

Jianwei Cheng

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MINING ENGINEERING

December 2011

Dachao Nie

May 2012

Adeniyi Adekunle David Adebisi
Timothy Armand Nolan
Patricio Gabriel Terrazas Prado

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MINING ENGINEERING

August 2011

David L. Blake
Sean E. Combs
Kevin Michael Hatfield
December 2011
Thomas R. Appel
Nicholas Keith Blevins
William Daniel Craddock
Jacob Andrew Haney
Zachary Tyler Leggett
Nicholas Colby Long
Liem Thanh Pham

Skyler Dale Roberts
Christopher James Rose
*** Rachel Mary Sellaro

May 2012

Daniel Casey Anderson
Kevin Scott Backus
Corey Sullivan Bodnar
*** Amy Louise Burt
Derek Wayne Butler
Oliver John Conner
Kellen Andrew Davis
Travis McKinley Hartsog
Sarah Marie Hurr
Jason Alexander Kirk

Jonathan Barrett Kirk
Jared Paul Kreps
Jason Anthony Mash
** Charles Tarisai Ndhlovu
* Robert Brian Seitz, II
Brandon Lee Swartz
William John Wallace
Cheston Donald Ray Weese
Nathan Dale Woodrum

* Cum Laude
** Magna Cum Laude
*** Summa Cum Laude

Alumni Update Summer 2012

PLEASE WRITE TO US!! We want to know where life has taken you since you left West Virginia University. Complete and return this form with your news and comments. Also, pass this newsletter on, or let us know any alumni who are not receiving *Black Diamonds WV*.

Send to: Department of Mining Engineering • West Virginia University • 365 MRB, PO Box 6070 • Morgantown, WV 26506-6070

Or, email updates to karla.vaughn@mail.wvu.edu.

Name: _____

Degree(s): _____ Year _____

Home Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Business Phone _____

E-mail: _____

Employer: _____

Position Title: _____

Employer Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Preferred Mailing Address: Home _____ Work _____

Brief News of Professional and Family Activities for Future Newsletters: _____

Suggestions/Comments: _____

For more information, visit our Department web site at www.mine.cemr.wvu.edu

BLACK DIAMONDS WV

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Chair's Message

Dear Alumni and Friends:

This has been a very significant year for the College as well as the Department of Mining Engineering. I am sure you are aware that one of our alumni, Benjamin M. Statler, and his wife, Jo, donated \$34 million to the College to enhance its reputation as a leading institution in the field of energy. This figure was matched with \$11 million by the state's Research Trust Fund, bringing the total gift to \$45 million. Plans are underway to add an additional building to the engineering complex, so this gift will partially support that cost, as well as establish several energy-related scholarships, fellowships, and professorships in the College. This wonderful gift will transform our newly named Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources—we now call ourselves the Statler College—in so many ways. Thank you, Ben and Jo!

Our College will be on display for the next year as we celebrate the 125th anniversary of engineering education at WVU. If you haven't visited the College lately, this may be the year to do so because numerous activities and events will be scheduled for the celebration.

Our Department continues to grow. In 2011, WVU graduated the largest number of mining engineers since the mid-1980s, and that trend continued for 2012. We added a new faculty member, Dr. Mark Sindelar, research assistant professor, who has already made his mark on our educational efforts and has been recognized by the students with the "Faculty Dedication Award." We are also in the process of adding a new faculty member who specializes in mine environmental pollution control and mineral processing, as a result of an additional tenure track position

granted to the Department from the University administration. When I was awarded the Robert E. Murray Chair in Mining Engineering, we began the process of finding a replacement for the Charles T. Holland Professorship and to appoint the first person to the Massey Foundation Professorship. I am pleased to announce that Dr. Keith Heasley is the new Holland Professor, and Dr. Vladislav Kecojevic is the new Massey Foundation Professor. Finally, I was just informed that Dr. Yi Luo just received his tenure; congratulations to Dr. Luo!

Finally, I would like you to circle Thursday, September 13, 2012, at 6 p.m. on your calendar, when we will have the annual William Poundstone Lecture at WVU's Erickson Alumni Center. This year's Poundstone lecturer is James William (Jimbill) Harvey, who is one of our alumni and is currently the managing director/senior vice president, Energy and Mining Group, Wells Fargo Insurance Services of West Virginia. Please consider joining us for the lecture.

Take care, and I hope you enjoy the rest of the summer.
Christopher J. Bise



Dr. Christopher Bise