

HARVEY PRESENTS 2012 POUNDSTONE LECTURE



On September 13, James William (Jim Bill) Harvey, retired vice president for Wells Fargo Insurance Services for Energy and Mining, presented the annual William Poundstone Lecture entitled, "My Career in the Energy-Focused Financial Services Industry: An Alternative Use of a Mining Engineering Education."

Harvey is a native of Oak Hill, W.Va., and attended West Virginia Institute of Technology and WVU from 1973-1979, earning bachelor's degrees in mining engineering and industrial management. He then worked for eight years in the state's coal mining industry before returning to WVU to earn his MBA in 1988.

He led the Wells Fargo Insurance Services energy and mining team, which provides property and casualty, employee benefits, surety and financial services to the energy and mining industry worldwide. His team had been named the most profitable operation in the

mid-Atlantic region five times since 1997, and had twice been recognized as the most profitable operation within Wells Fargo Insurance Services countrywide. Harvey, who recently retired, started the Wells Fargo Energy Group Scholarship within the Department of Mining Engineering.

A Life and Old Gold member of the WVU Alumni Association, Harvey serves as treasurer of the Association. He serves on the board of Coal Education Development and Resources, which works with teachers in grades 1-12 to help educate students in West Virginia, Virginia and Kentucky about the facts as they pertain to coal, the coal mining industry and its importance to the region.

The full text of his Poundstone Lecture can be found at http://www.mine.cemr.wvu.edu/poundstonelec/Fall_2012/Harvey_Lecture.pdf

BLACK DIAMONDS WV

WINTER 2012/2013

BENJAMIN M. STATLER COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND MINERAL RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT OF MINING ENGINEERING

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MINE RESCUE TEAM PREPARES FOR COMPETITION



The West Virginia University Mine Rescue Team is actively training for competitions this spring. This is an aggressive objective for the new team and also includes equipment procurement and organizational management, all undertaken by students carrying full course loads, with some also working part-time in area mines.

The WVU Mine Rescue Team was founded in January 2012 by Travis Hartsog, who graduated in May and continues to be involved with the team as it grows and develops. Under Hartsog's vision, the team was established as a student organization that, in addition to fronting a six-person competition team, also offers members exposure to additional aspects of mine rescue. These include shadowing industry teams, inviting guest speakers, visiting training facilities, and assisting at competitions.

While collegiate teams may enter mine rescue competitions, they are not involved in actual mine rescues. As members of the team prepare to enter industry, there is an acute sense of what competition is and what would be expected in an actual incident response. The psychological impacts of being involved with an actual emergency response are emphasized and accepted by the team members. To the extent that the team can, it stands alongside the industry teams ready to offer its assistance.

The team's primary training is under the guidance of Mike Reese at the Mining Technology and Training Center in nearby Ruff Creek, Pa. "Remember what Mike said . . ." is a frequent comment at team practices, which are usually held twice per month on Sunday afternoons in a local park. These practices acclimate the team to working as a group, following procedure, and performing exploration of a simulated mine situation.

In addition to the training and field practices, team members assemble in smaller groups to bench (disassemble, clean, reassemble, and test) the breathing apparatuses that will be used in the competition. All members are learning benching, ventilation, procedure, and "statements of fact," the latter being the written exam portion of competitions.

The WVU Mine Rescue Team currently has two, six-person teams that practice together, with cross-training by position. Thus, regardless which team is sent to the competition, there will be alternate members available and prepared to compete.

As training and practice continue, procurement is an uphill battle. Equipping a mine rescue team is not an easy undertaking. While the student members have personally provided many supplies and financial support beyond their membership dues, this alone is

insufficient to prepare the team for competition. The team would like to recognize several organizations that have provided assistance. Dräger generously donated six, BG-4 breathing apparatuses for the team, and MEPCO, Caterpillar, Jennmar, and Diamond Mining Associates have provided financial donations. In addition, the WVU Department of Mining and Industrial Extension has assisted with obtaining some equipment.

The WVU Mine Rescue Team would like to thank the many individuals of the mining community that have provided training, equipment, supplies, advice, and encouragement and looks forward to representing the University in competition this spring.

1. May 4, 2012. Team with Dräger BG-4s.
2. March 17, 2012. Mike Reese (right) instructing WVU Mine Rescue Team at first training at MTTC in Ruff Creek, Pa.
3. October 21, 2012. Sunday afternoon practice at Krepp's Park. Fresh Air Base in foreground, simulated mine field in background.

FALL RECRUITING INITIATIVES



Fall semester in the Statler College represents a time where numerous Departmental recruiting efforts are planned. Typically, recruiting of first-year students is conducted during such events as Engineerfest; departmental visitations; and



the course, ENGR 199. High school students are introduced to the departments within the College at the annual Engineering Open House. During this past semester, two additional activities were added by the Department of Mining Engineering.

On Sunday, September 30, mining engineering faculty and students joined with first-year students interested in pursuing the major for a mini-golf outing. Coal Country Miniature Golf is a mining-themed facility and family fun center located just off I-79 near Fairmont, W.Va. Educational as well as challenging, each hole has a piece of actual mining equipment serving as a hazard; the teeing area of each hole has a written description of the piece of equipment, its use, and an in-mine photo. In addition to the mini-golf course, the facility also has batting cages, a museum, and a picnic pavilion.

On Saturday, October 27, the Department of Mining Engineering joined with Robin Hensel, assistant dean for freshman experience in the Statler College, to take a similar group on a bus trip to the Beckley Exhibition Mine. This facility has expanded over the years to also include original buildings (a miner's house, a superintendent's home, a school house, etc.) moved from area coal camps. This trip gave faculty and students an appreciation for life in early 20th century coal mines and mining communities.

We intend to include outings like these in the future to assist in recruiting new mining engineering students, as well as provide more opportunities for existing faculty, staff, and students to come together outside of the classroom.

WVU PARTICIPATES IN MINEXPO 2012

MinExpo 2012 was held from September 24-26, in Las Vegas, Nev. This year's exposition was significantly larger than the one held in 2008, with a record number of attendees and the largest exhibition of mining equipment and services in the history of the industry. The exhibition halls were filled with exciting displays of innovative technologies and equipment being used in the industry worldwide.

Additionally, there were 20 education and information sessions where mining professionals discussed developments and changes affecting the industry.

WVU's Syd S. Peng made a presentation on the Dashan Coal Mine Closed-Loop Industrial Park in China. John Stankus, PhDME '95, president of Keystone Mining Services, made the presentation, "Ground Control at Signal Peak Energy, Bull Mountain Mine"; and Bradley Lewis, BSMInE '77, director of sales and marketing at ADDCAR, made the presentation, "Highwall Mining: Design Tradeoffs—Economic Impacts."



31ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GROUND CONTROL HELD

The 31st International Conference on Ground Control in Mining (ICGM) was held at Lakeview Resort and Conference Center, in Morgantown, W.Va., July 31-August 2012. More than 40 papers were presented over a three-day period, showing the latest developments in the industry. More than 300 top researchers, scientists, and engineers attended, representing 20 states and 12 countries.

A new Ground Control in Mining Scholarship, provided by Kazem Oraee of Stirling University in the United Kingdom, was established through ICGCM. The Oraee Scholarship was established to promote the sustained growth

of the mining profession in ground control by helping the next generation of ground control leaders pursue a quality education. The inaugural scholarship, worth \$5,000, was awarded to Behrooz Abbasi, a graduate student in doctoral program of Southern Illinois University.

Information on how to apply or nominate a student for consideration for this award can be found through the ICGCM website under "Scholarship Opportunities" or contact Thom Barzak at TBarzak@cdc.gov. For more information, visit <http://icgcm.conferenceacademy.com>.

FACULTY, STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS

Faculty and students from the Department of Mining Engineering participated in several regional meetings since last spring.

In May, at the joint meeting of the West Virginia Coal Mining Institute (WVCMII), the West Virginia Coal Association (WVCA), and the Central Appalachia Section (CAS) of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration (SME), held at Stonewall Resort, Vladislav Kecojovic, Massey Foundation Professor of Mining Engineering, made a presentation entitled, "An Integrated Production Management System in Surface Mining."

On August 14, at the Bluefield Coal Symposium, Christopher J. Bise and James Dean, director of WVU's Department of Mining and Industrial Extension, were invited to deliver a presentation on, "Educating and Training the Next Generation."

On October 12, at the joint fall meeting of the WVCMII and WVCA, held at the Greenbrier, Keith Heasley made a presentation entitled, "An Update on the Alpha Foundation for the Improvement of Mine Health and Safety." SME student chapter officers from WVU attended the meeting as well.

Later in October, Yu Xiong and Peter Zhang, doctoral students in the Department, made presentations at the Graduate Poster Session of the joint meeting of the Kentucky Coal Association (KCA) and the CAS-SME. Also at that Meeting, a team consisting of three WVU recent graduates won top honors in the 2012 Carlson Software Senior Design Competition. The team, consisting of Sarah Hurr, Jason Mash, and Robert Seitz, was awarded \$2,000.

A joint meeting of the Pittsburgh Coal Mining Institute of America (PCMIA) and the Pittsburgh Section of SME was also held in Canonsburg, Pa., in late October and another team of recent graduates, Corey Bodnar, Amy Burt, and Jared Kreps, was awarded second place for the 2012 SME Senior Design Project competition. A contingent of about 40 students attended the PCMIA meeting.

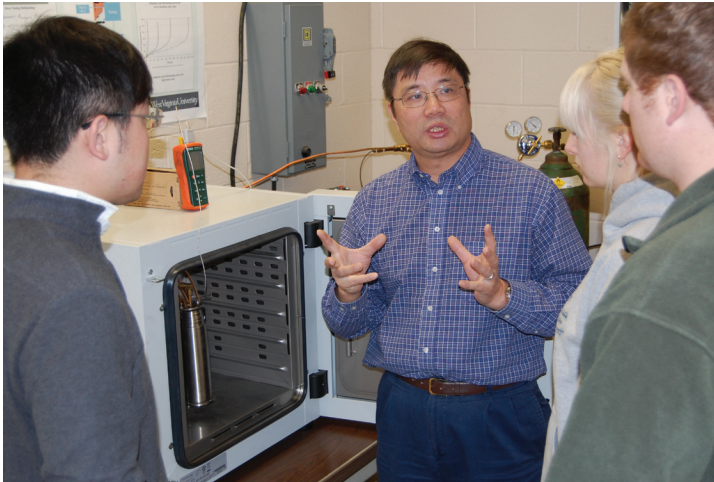


Bill Reid, Chris Bise, Jim Dean



Keith Heasley, right, accepts the plaque on behalf of Sarah Hurr, Jason Mash, and Robert Seitz, for their first place performance in the Carlson Software competition from Steve Richards, director of Carlson's Mining Sales and Support Division.

LUO DELIVERS 2012 SME HENRY KRUMB LECTURE



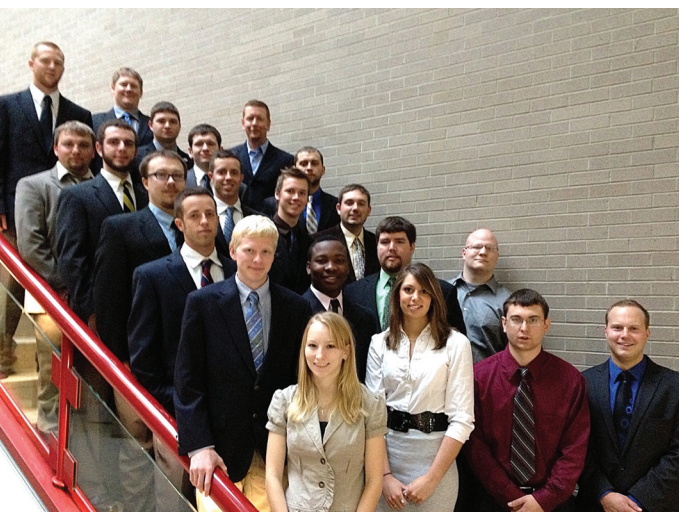
Associate Professor of Mining Engineering Yi Luo, Ph.D. '89, was one of the speakers featured as part of the 2012 Krumb Lecture Series. His lecture, "Locating and Determining the Status of a Thermal Event in Longwall Panel Using Mine Atmosphere Monitoring Data," focused on concealed thermal events in longwall gobs, which can be a safety hazard for underground coal miners and could interrupt mining production. According to Luo, locating these hot spots is a key step for planning and implementing mitigation measures to bring such thermal events under control.

The Krumb Lecture Series was established to bring outstanding speakers to the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration (SME) local sections. The program is offered to all local SME sections to enhance their appreciation and understanding of important new methods and technologies. Lecturers are selected from the professionals who present technical papers at the SME annual meeting. The Series is funded, in part, by a grant from the Seeley W. Mudd Memorial Fund.

MARA HISSOM RECEIVES 2012 STUDENT GRANT AWARD FROM SME/PCMIA



Mara Hissom, a junior majored in mining engineering, is the recipient of 2012 Student Grant Award, presented at the joint meeting of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration (SME)/Pittsburgh Coal Mining Institute of America (PCMIA), held October 25-26, in Cannonsburg, Pa. Hissom, who has made the dean's and president's lists during her tenure at WVU, is president and co-founder of Alpha Omega Epsilon sorority, the GEM coordinator for the student chapter of SME, and a member of the Society of Women Engineers. In addition to being a Promise Scholarship awardee, she is the recipient of a departmental scholarship and WMIME. Hissom has worked as an environmental intern for Hobet Mining and Patriot Coal in Madison, W.Va., where she has digitized multiple pond acid drainage maps to create databases to organize water quality permits.



CLASS OF 2012

The Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources held its Commencement ceremony on May 12. The photo, left, shows graduates of the Department earning degrees in mining engineering and the civil and mining engineering dual major. The class was the largest since the mid-1980s. Students graduating with honors included

Sarah Hurr, summa cum laude; Charles T. Ndhlovu, magna cum laude; and Amy L. Burt, summa cum laude. Burt was also honored with the Order of Augusta, the University's most prestigious student honor.



STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN ANNUAL GEM SHOW

The 21st Annual Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show was held September 15-16 at the West Virginia Geological Research Center, in Morgantown, W.Va. The show is a display of minerals and geode cutting, and offers visitor's shopping opportunities as well. WVU's student chapter of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration (SME), led by coordinator Mara Hissom, provided visitors with a variety of mineral samples in glass bowls. They explained the uses and importance of each mineral and rock resource to the participant's daily lives. Children who visited the booth received a sample box of rocks and mineral. This sample kits were sponsored by the SME Central Appalachians Section and SMEWGEM.

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ALUMNI NEWS

Heather N. Dougherty, BSME '02, is the 2012 recipient of the John T. Boyd Memorial Young Engineer Award. After completing her bachelor's degree, Dougherty earned her master's of business administration degree from WVU in 2005, and is currently pursuing her master's in mining engineering, also from WVU. She is a registered professional engineer in West Virginia.

David D. Eyer, MSME '67, received the Exceptional Services Award from the Pennsylvania Coal Mining Institute of America (PCMIA). Eyer has been a member of the PCMIA Board of directors for more than 10 years, and has exhibited sustained outstanding service to the organization.

Murali M. Gadde, PhDMinE '09, was the recipient of 2012 Dr. N.G.W. Cook's PhD Dissertation Award for his dissertation, "Weak Floor Stability in the Illinois Basins Underground Mines." The award was given to Gadde at the 46th U.S.

Rock Mechanics/Geomechanics Symposium, Sponsored by the American Rock Mechanics Association, on June 26, 2012. Gadde was advised by Dr. Syd S. Peng.

Sosthenes Pius Mokgokong, MSEM '89, the co-founder and director of Sebenza Mining Company, located in Sebenza, Zulu, South Africa. He is responsible for contract mining operations.

Roy G. Mossor, BSEM '50, graduated from Harrisville High School in 1944. According to Mossor, he joined the Army Air Corps immediately after graduating. When the war ended, he was discharged and enrolled in the Department of Mining Engineering in 1946, graduating in 1950. Mossor started working for Columbia Gas in Bethel Park almost immediately, as manager of Gas Supply and Gas Control. He worked for Columbia until he retired in 1988. "We moved to Harrisville, stayed about four years, then moved down to

North Fort Myers, Fla.," Mossor said. "Thank you, WVU, for the perfect engineering degree to fit my job with Columbia."

Paul J. Wielgus, BSEM '77, MSEM '79, is managing director at GDS Associates Inc. (GDS), of Marietta, Ga. GDS is a multi-service consulting and engineering firm. It offers services, such as power supply planning; financial and rate analysis; regulatory and restructuring; information on renewable energy sources; agricultural energy efficiency; electric planning and design; environmental management, statistics, and market research; and information technology. Wielgus recently completed the development of a 50 MW solid fuel power plant for East Texas Electric Cooperative to construct its Woodville Renewable Energy Project, located south of Woodville, Tyler County, Tex. The facility is scheduled to be completed in 2014.



Make a Difference in the Lives That Follow

Our mineral resources keep America's lights on. That's an accomplishment that mining engineers can celebrate.


Gift support for the Department of Mining Engineering can accomplish many things to further our energy and other mineral-related needs. Adding more scholarships and professorships are high priorities. For *A State of Minds: The Campaign for West Virginia's University*, various gifts count, including those which are a part of a person's estate plan.

Gift provisions in wills or revocable trusts count as long as the donor will be age 70 by the campaign's end on December 31, 2015. Also, future gifts made by listing the WVU Foundation as the beneficiary on an account (retirement account, stock account, life insurance, or annuity policy) will count when the age-related requirement is met.

For supporters of any age, a life-income gift with the WVU Foundation for retirement security or a gift of a home with a retained life estate will count.


Bob Bragg, director of development, will be happy to discuss these gift options with you. Contact him at **304-293-4036** or **robert.bragg@mail.wvu.edu**.

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Dear Alumni and Friends:

The 2012-13 academic year has been a very busy one for the Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources, and the Department of Mining Engineering, in particular. Our College has been on display in many ways, as we celebrate the 125 anniversary of engineering education at WVU. This celebration, combined with the University moving into the Big 12 Conference in sports, has resulted in quite a bit of excitement in our College and at the University. The excitement will continue into the spring semester with a number of activities and events scheduled.

Our undergraduate enrollment continues to hold steady. We graduated five students in December and for the third academic year in a row, we will have more than 20 in our spring graduation class. Even though there is some concern about the economy and its effect on the mining industry, companies are still actively recruiting our students. We very much appreciate the loyalty the industry has for our program.

In this issue, we have highlighted the various awards that our students have received for their academic performance. In addition, I would like to call your attention to the article about a new, extracurricular initiative going on within our Department: the WVU Mine Rescue Team. With Mark Sindelar serving as the group's faculty advisor, the team has spent the better part of 2012 learning

mine-rescue procedures with the goal of entering competitions in 2013. This group provides our students with the opportunity to recognize the increased importance of this activity in modern mining operations.

In the last newsletter, I mentioned that we were in the middle of a faculty search for someone who specializes in mine environmental pollution control and mineral processing. I am pleased to announce that an offer has been made and accepted. Aaron Noble, who is currently completing his Ph.D. at Virginia Tech, will begin his career at WVU in August 2013.

At this time of year, I tend to reflect on how fortunate we are to have such a loyal group of alumni and friends. The Department of Mining Engineering's existing and projected initiatives could not be possible without this support. I extend my warmest regards and best wishes to you and your family for a 2013 full of health and happiness.

Chris Bise, *Chair*

Department of Mining Engineering

