Midyear meeting report from WAAIME

by Katherine Pinochet, WAAIME Executive Committee Chair and International Representative

Dear WAAIMEs,

On behalf of the WAAIME Executive Committee, we hope that all of you are staying healthy and safe. Personally, I am very happy to see your photographs meeting face to face with each other again in your respective sections and sharing with our scholarship recipients as well.

On Sept. 21 we had our Midyear Meeting virtually through Microsoft Teams. I appreciate the time of every one who was able to meet with us that day. A total of 29 connected from all the national and international sections of WAAME. It was a successful meeting, since we managed to address all the points scheduled in the allotted time. We started the meeting with a brief introduction from each of the meeting attendees, including the current WAAIME Executive Committee, Lydia Hull (Eastern Representative), Margaret Mansanti (Western Representative) and Katherine Pinochet (International Representative), Michelle Kroeger (CFO for SME and Liaison for WAAIME Division), Thomas Austin and Ryan Smith of UBS, WAAIME ladies from Reno-Nevada (USA), Virginia (USA), Torreon (Mexico), MX City, Lima-Peru, La Serena-Chile sections, among others, and four current scholarship recipients from the Santiago-Chile section.

Midyear Meeting held on Sept. 21, 2022, with the participation of 29 members from national (USA) and international (Mexico, Peru and Chile) sections.

I would like to highlight the following items that were addressed in this meeting:

Finances

Michelle Kroeger presented the WAAIME Detail Expense Line Report for the past nine months ending July 31, 2022, with the SME staff expenses and the operating expenses, including $515,200 for scholarships. As of July 31, total expenses amount to US$562,201, which corresponds to 91 percent of the expenses allocated according to the 2022 budget (US$620,000). Regarding the 2023 expense budget, the allocated amount is US$579,011 and a new category of "facility costs" equivalent to US$2,893 is considered.

WAAIME Membership Directory

WAAIME is attempting to update the Membership Directory with current names, addresses, phone numbers, and a valid email address for each member. For the U.S. sections, please send your updated listings to Michelle Kroeger (email: kroeger@smenet.org). Regarding the international sections, if you have updates to the data of your members (or new members), please send them to my email kpinochet@gmail.com to make a single mailing to Kroeger from the international sections.

WAAMIE investments with UBS

Thomas Austin and Ryan Smith from UBS presented the market and economic outlook. Our portfolio, overseen and invested with UBS, seems to be holding at US$9.103 million (as of Sept. 12, 2022). Our investments are in various stocks, bonds and a new hedge fund recommended by UBS. The Executive Committee is having quarterly meetings with UBS to receive updates on the movements and status of the market at an international level. We thank Jean Davin for her tireless support in this matter and for always being attentive to serve with her observations and recommendations.

Scholarship update

Our scholarship officer, Lydia Hull, began her presentation by thanking all the members who have contributed to the selection of scholarship students, either by recommending them and/or interviewing them. Personally, I would like to thank and honor the work that Lydia has done over the past years as the Scholarship Chair. With silent work, which has taken many hours and has had a tremendous result and impact on our scholarship recipients.

(Continued on page 10)

News update from WAAIME

Chile La Serena

by Pía Álvarez Bustamante, La Serena-Chile section chair

WAAIME La Serena section has returned to nearly normal activities and its most important task has been the selection of new scholarship recipients to replace the scholarship recipients who finished their studies both in the second semester of 2021 and those who graduated in the first semester of 2022. Among the numerous applicants, five mining engineering students from the University of La Serena were selected, four women and one man.

Scholarships with academic authorities and treasurer Patricia Noulibos and president Pía Alvárez.

Scholarship award ceremony in July

The WAAIME Scholarships were delivered at a ceremony at the university attended by academic authorities such as the dean of the Faculty of Engineering and the director of the Mining Engineering Career on July 4, 2022. Academic students and scholarship recipients attended. Scholar Oscar Piñones could not be present.

WAAIME La Serena section chair Pía Alvárez announced the history of international WAAIME and the meaning of WAAIME scholarships, in addition to reviewing the La Serena group, with its activity of nearly 50 years as a Nucleus of Ladies of Mining Engineers and geologists and their 14 years as WAAIME La Serena.

Laurita Smith birthday celebration

On Sept. 25, the birthday of our dear Laura Smith Alcocer was celebrated, who celebrated 93 years of a full and happy life together with her friends and family. Laurita is the oldest member of WAAIME La Serena and her joy and wisdom will accompany us for many more years. ■

Pía Alvárez, WAAIME La Serena section chair, giving her speech, above. Celebrating Laurita Smith's 93rd birthday, right

News update from WAAIME

Torreon-Mexico Section

by Olga Navarro, Torreon-Mexico section chair

The Torreon-Mexico section begins this new school year with 15 scholarship recipients thanks to the generous help we receive from WAAIME USA. Every year, our section promotes the "Annual Mineral Essay Contest" for high school students, in which they are invited to prepare an essay exploring the physical and chemical characteristics of an element or mineral that they choose each year according to technological trends. For 2022, the chosen element was silicon (Si).

High school students from Carlos Pereira School winners of the first, second and third place in the "Annual Essay Contest on a Mineral."

High school students from Cervantes School winners of the first, second and third place in the "Annual Essay Contest on a Mineral."

Due to the excellent quality of the works received, it was decided to award two first- and two second-place awards. This is an interesting way of bringing students closer to mining.

Our June meeting was held on a country day at the Granja Nogalera of Julia Castañeda, a member who kindly received us and where, in addition to our meeting, we enjoyed a nice reunion. On Sept. 14, we resumed our meeting cycle after a vacation time. We discussed issues related to our finances, our scholarship recipients, and the Education for Tomorrow programs as well as the training for scholarship recipients, a program run by Conchis Cortez, which has been very well received by our young people, from whom we have received very positive comments. ■

Members of the Torreon-Mexico section gathered in September.

News update from WAAIME

Peru-Lima and Cajamarca Sections

by Blanche Blattner and Susana Palomino, WAAIME Peru sections

So far the ladies from the sections of Lima and Cajamarca have been quite active this year. We started celebrating in March the International Woman's Day, the picture on the right was published in one of the largest mining magazine distributed in Lima.

In April we held webinars and our midyear sections meeting as virtual meetings.

In August, we held coaching sessions, which 14 of our scholarship recipients attended.

At the end of the coaching classes, they enjoyed a time of relaxation and companionship with a small dinner.

At the end of August we had the scholarship awards; seven went to the Lima section and nine to the Cajamarca section.

The last event we attended was the Perumin Convention held in Arequipa, where WAAIME had a booth which was donated by the Institute of Mining Engineers of Lima.

Gold Fields Mining Company gave WAAIME the opportunity to use their booth to give out three scholarships to students from Arequipa which were given out by Veronica Valderrama (Chair from Lima) and by Susana Palomino (vice chair) from Lima, Peru.

WAAIME Santiago supports a former scholarship recipient's

doctoral field visit to Chile

by Benilda Dahmen, Chile-Santiago section chair

The contribution to Chilean scientific knowledge is one of the main motivations of the geologist and former WAAIME fellow, Tamara Aranguiz, who is starting her third year in the Ph.D. program in Earth and Space Sciences at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Therefore, an important part of her research focuses on understanding the morphotectonic evolution of the Salar Grande area (Atacama Desert), south of Iquique, Tarapaca Region. Due to the limitations of the pandemic and restrictions on international travel, it was not until September 2022 that Aranguiz was able to travel to her field area. During this campaign, WAAIME had the opportunity to support its former WAAIME fellow to cover part of the costs of her visit to Northern Chile.

After nine days in the desert, Aranguiz collected samples of sediment and rocks for laboratory analysis and compiled a series of field observations that due to limitations in the scale of remote analysis, could not be possible to observe without visiting the study area. In the United States, our former fellow is supervised by Dr. Alison Duvall, a renowned scientist in the area of tectonic geomorphology, who thanked WAAIME for its support in this field campaign.

Science funding is limited for international students living in the United States, as most funds require them to have citizenship or permanent residency to be able to apply. For this reason, Aranguiz thanked WAAIME-Santiago for their support in this essential activity for her dissertation, emphasizing WAAIME's commitment to its fellows and to the development of Earth sciences.

Tamara Aranguiz during her field visit to the north of Chile, within the framework of her doctorate that she is doing in Seattle, WA, USA.

Scholarship recipients from WAAIME Santiago stand out in different events

Fabiola Villablanca, mining engineering student at the University of Santiago de Chile and president of her Student Center, participated in a television interview referring to the new demands that society and the market have with the industry in the face of the energy transition, stating that "We must not transform the water problem into an energy problem."

On the other hand, Carolina Ramírez, engineering student at the University of Chile and Director of Diversity and Gender Equity of her Student Center, participated in the organization of the new version of the "Women in Mining" Breakfast held on August 17, which aims to generate a meeting point between women working in different areas of the mining industry and female students of the Mining Civil Engineering career, to share experiences and advice for the professional future of each one, generate discussion on points of view associated with gender barriers in this industry and share a pleasant instance with future colleagues. Katherine Pinochet participated in this instance as chair of WAAIME, sharing about the support that WAAIME has meant for the current scholarship recipients in the USA, Mexico, Peru and Chile. ■

Fabiola Villablanca, mining engineering student and WAAIME scholarship recipient, being interviewed on a television program and information portal about the mining and energy industry in Chile and Latin America.

Carolina Álvarez, mining engineering student and WAAIME scholarship recipient, welcoming the attendees of the "Women in Mining" Breakfast and introducing the panelists. Katherine Pinochet was invited on behalf of WAAIME.

WAAMIE Scholarship winners

In 2022, the WAAIME Division awarded 157 scholarship students in the United States. The amount allocated for scholarships was US$515,200, including 23 universities in the USA and the universities of the six international sections in Mexico, Peru and Chile, which considers about 60 scholarship recipients. This brings the total to more than 200 scholarship students in all our sections. The following pages include photos of scholarship recipients. ■

Amir Abdelmawla, School Iowa State University.

Isabel Peñaloza Araujo, master's degree Metallurgical Engineering, University of Nevada, Reno. Her Professor is Pengbo Chu

Katrina Santos, receives a WAAIME scholarship check from at Arizona State University

Eugene Gyawu is presented his WAAIME scholarship by Professor Awuah-Offei at Missouri University of Science & Technology.

Kayode Fesomade, center, receives a WAAIME Scholarship from Professor Rob Walker, Penn State University.

Olivia Stensvad, University of Minnesota Duluth.

WAAIME News

13 students at the South Dakota School of Mines received scholarships from the WAAIME Division. Back row from left to right: Liam Stack, William Guzman, Casey Mason, Caleb Ploeger. Front row left to right: Brianna Hoff, Jenna Sayler, Jennifer Johnson, Abigail Sharp, Yifei Wang. Pictured below are students not pictured with the group.

Tyler Kleinsasser

Akash Adhikari

Tyler O'Hara

Nana Adoo

Dr. Zacharias Agioutantis, Jesus Romero, Peijia Lin, Estefania Aramayo Chavez, Cassidy Crouch, Amelia Faust, Luis Velasquez, Rosinda Huse. Back row from left to right: Zulqarnain Ali, Peter Kolapo, Damilola Alewi, Stephanus Van Den Burg, Elliott Morgan, Robin Flattery, Elijah Bryce Goad, Dagen Rash.

WAAIME News

New Mexico Tech; WAAIME scholarship winners, from left to right: Mariam Koanda, Stellah Cherotich, Maria Alejandra Lozano, Thomas Weaver, Vanessa Salina Torres, Alexander Medina, Eurico Madureira, Simon Lotero, Jeffery Gordon, Faustin Kuma.

Frankie Sims, University of Utah.

Mining Engineering WAAIME scholarship recipients: Lewis Oduro (MS), Natanna Nunes De Oliveira (MS), Tulio Dealmeida (Ph.D.), Elaheh Talibeh (Ph.D.), David Sawyer (BS).

Eugene Gyawu, Missouri University of Science & Technology with Lydia Hull.

WAAIME Division seeks donations

for auction at MINEXCHANGE SME 2023 SME Annual Conference

As is the case every year, WAAIME will have its own booth at the MINESCHANGE 2023 SME Annual Conference & Expo that will be held in Denver, CO, Feb. 26-March 1, 2023. The items that are ex-hibited in the booth are sold to the attendees of the conferences and the money raised is used for scholarships. In addition, this is an instance to interact with people and make what we do at WAAIME known to attendees, both in the United States and in our international sections.

We encourage you to make your donations especially jewelry, antiques related to mining (lamps, for example), mineral samples, among others. We would appreciate it if you could send your items to our WAAIME liaison, Michelle Kroeger, until Friday, Feb. 24 at the following address:

12999 E Adam Aircraft Cir, Englewood, CO 80112. ■

Midyear: More than 200 scholarships awarded in 2022

(Continued from page 1)

Many thanks, Lydia, for your exemplary service.

This year we have 157 scholarship students in the United States. The amount allocated for scholarships was US$515,200, which includes 23 universities in the USA and the universities of the six international sections in Mexico, Peru and Chile, which considers about 60 scholarship recipients. This brings the total to more than 200 scholarship students in all our sections. In my role as International Representative, I made a summary of the activities that have been carried out in Torreon (Mexico) and in the Chilean sections of La Serena and Santiago. Susana Palomino, Director of Scholarships at WAAIME Lima-Peru, referred to the newly elected board of directors, the webinars held, and the coaching workshops held for scholarship recipients.

Founder awards

Lydia Hull commented that we have received a few nominations for the Founders Award, including Patricia McWhorter and Grace Sharpenberg; both ladies started the West Virginia-Southern Section themselves. Sadly, we lost Grace a couple of years ago and Patricia passed away this year, after we were able to tell her that she was our choice for the Founder's Award. This is the second time in a row that the award has been given to winners who sadly passed away before the February dinner (the previous time was Daphne D. LaPointe). It is an issue that will be discussed by the executive committee whether to include a posthumous section in each Newsletter where we highlight the service of ladies who have contributed tremendously to WAAIME, thanks to whom WAAIME would not be what it is today. Jean commented by saying that when this award was established, it was thought that it would be rotated every year in all the sections, so that one year corresponded to a section of the Western USA, another year to the Eastern USA and the following year to an international member. So this year it's time to honor a member from the Eastern US sections and next year it's time to honor someone from an international section.

About our next annual meeting 2023

Our Annual Meeting will be Feb. 26-March 1, 2023 in Denver, CO, USA. For those of you who can attend in person, we look forward to seeing you; and if you can't attend in person, we are evaluating the option of being able to have the meetings virtually by Microsoft Teams or Zoom so that everyone who is interested can attend our meetings.

WAAIME booth at Annual Meeting 2023 (Denver)

Jean Davin commented that she will be volunteering with Iris Owen to man the WAAIME booth during the Annual Meeting. Iris has been collecting items for the WAAIME booth, which has turned out to be quite eclectic with all the donations we've received. Jean and Winnell encouraged donations, especially jewelry, antiques related to mining (lamps, for example), mineral samples, among others. If anyone wants to participate by attending the WAAIME booth, your help will be welcomed from Sunday, Feb. 26 to Wednesday, March 1, 2023. We will prepare an instruction sheet for those who are not familiar with the WAAIME booth to serve as a guide.

Thank you very much for your time and effort, ladies. Whenever I have the opportunity to emphasize it, I do so… not only are we helping our scholarship recipients, but hundreds of families are being blessed at the same time thanks to the love of so many WAAIME ladies who have served this noble cause for more than 100 years. Thank you for everything you do for our scholars. ■

See you next time,
Katherine Pinochet

Professor recognizes WAAMIE's
support of an outstanding student

by Katherine Pinochet, WAAIME Executive Committee Chair and International Representative

Kimberly Contreras, a scholarship recipient from WAAIME La Serena Chile, has stood out for her excellent and thorough work, her sense of responsibility and proactivity that she has shown during the development of her theses at the prestigious Center for Advanced Research in Arid Zones (CEAZA for its acronym in Spanish). Her thesis topic deals with the study of marine fossils of cetaceans (dolphins and whales) from Coquimbo (northern Chile) in a geological context and is expected to be completed by the end of this year. Marcelo Rivadeneira, her thesis professor, and senior researcher at CEAZA, wrote a letter to WAAIME highlighting Contreras' performance and acknowledging WAAIME's support in her growth.

"I would like to highlight the fact that being awarded a scholarship by

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WAAIME

Founders Award

Patricia Ann McWhorter, of Penny Farms, FL, will receive WAAIME'S Founders Award. She received a biology degree from Wesleyan College in Macon, GA. She did research on lung cancer in uranium miners on the Colorado Plateau. She was married to Purnal "Judge" McWhorter in 1965 who was active in the mining community. Upon their move to Beckley, WV, she worked with other ladies to re-vitalize the WV Southern WAAIME section. They sponsored many activities to raise money for local scholarships. She served in numerous capacities on the local and national level. She single-handedly identified and classified WAAIME's endowments.

Patricia Ann McWhorter

She was notified of her award and was thrilled according to Judge. Unfortunately, she succumbed to COVID two weeks later. ■

News update from WAAIME

Mexico City Section

by Irene Sandra de Figueroa, Mx City section recording secretary

We have kept our monthly meetings, Mónica de Carpio, Araceli Villaseñor, Chata Villaseñor, and Malena de Alvídrez the hostesses for the last ones.

Some payments to our eight scholarship recipients have been extended due to the fact that school calendars have changed as well.

Unfortunately, some so called "students" have invaded Instituto Politécnico Nacional facilities, suspending academic activities, therefore affecting some of our students.

Rosy Garcia

Once more we mourn the death of a WAAIME-DF former chair, Rosy Garcia. During her term she organized a lunch and a raffle at Restaurant del Lago to obtain resources to go toward the scholarship fund. ■

Spotlight on WAAIME

Grace Sharpenberg is the inaugural WAAIME member to be highlighted in thie newsletter. She is credited with starting the West Virginia Southern WAAMIE Section in 1950. She searched out women whose husbands had a link to mining or mining education. She was very active in this group where they met regularly and held fundraisers to raise money for scholarships. They gave scholarships yearly to students attending Bluefield State College as well as providing scholarships for VT and WVU.

She had four children. A daughter,Margaret Ann Bays, is still active in WAAMIE. The WV Southern Section is still active today.

Sharpenberg and her mother nearly died when she was born Nov. 20, 1925 and she was raised withthe help of a woman named Rebecca. Grace's mother's family arrived in Virginia before the revolutionary war and fought in that war as well as the Civil War. The family had a land grant signed by Alexander Hamilton.

She was a devout Christian practicing by example not preaching. In her life she served as a Deacon, Elder (a first woman Elder in church) and she was head of the Southern WV Woman of the church, traveling around with the program.

Grace met her husband, Warren Sharpenberg while in college. She was an officer in her sorority as well as in her college class at West Virginia University.

Grace Sharpenberg

Warren's career as a mining engineer and executive carried them around the United States. As they moved, Grace was always involved in volunteer work for the community, church and her children's activities as well as her husband's business. The couple had many friends around the country. When Warren was transferred to Southern West Virginia, her female friends in WAIMME mostly the Western PA Section asked Grace to begin a section in Southern West Virginia. She did this gathering up women from Blacksburg, VA, Wytheville, VA, Bluefield, and Beckley, WV. This section is still active. Grace awarded scholarships with WAAIME and was actively involved in the organization. ■

WAAIME Executive Committee

March 2022 - February 2023

Chair and International Representative

Katherine Pinochet is a 35-year-old former WAAIME scholarship recipient who holds a B.S., a professional degree in geology from Universidad de Chile and a postgraduate specialization in groundwater hydrology from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia (Barcelona) that concluded in October 2022.

Katherine Pinochet

Once Pinochet graduated in 2013, she immediately joined WAAIME Santiago Chile, serving in various roles. In 2018, she traveled to the United States for the first time to the WAAIME Midyear Meeting in Pittsburgh, PA, where she met Blanche Blattner, Lydia Hull, Winnell Burt, Jean Davin and other WAAIME members, who motivated her to become even more involved in WAAIME. Since 2020, she has been fulfilling the role of International Representative of the WAAIME Executive Committee. Her greatest motivation to serve is to help other students as WAAIME helped her, thanks to the willingness, effort and selfless service of the members of each section.

Pinocher worked for five years in the field of geological hazards applied to land use planning and, at the beginning of 2019, she ventured into the promising and challenging lithium industry and currently works as the project coordinator of the Hydrogeology Department at SQM, a Chilean company and one of the largest producers of lithium in the world.

Katherine's husband, Gregorhy, has been by her side for 20 years supporting and encouraging her through every challenge she faces. This year marks six happy years of marriage.

Eastern Representative and Scholarship Chair

Lydia Hull was raised in a mining environment in West Virginia. Her father, Steve Kish, retired as a foreman from Consol and received The Old Timers Award. Her husband, Larry, graduated from Virginia Tech with a mining degree and received an award from WAAIME, WV-S, as the outstanding top student of his class. That began her involvement with WAAIME.

Working as a registered nurse, and with frequent moves (17 at last count), limited her time to be as active as she would have liked. That changed with their move to Peters Township, PA and her work with the WAAIME PA-W section.

Lydia Hull

Hull has worked exclusively with the scholarship committee and served as local chair and national chair for several years. She enjoys seeing the students journey through college and then in their chosen industry occupations. It is this interaction between the WAAIME members and students that makes the WAAIME process successful and rewarding for her. The interaction emphasizes the important role that WAAIME members play in the success of these students. Helping them is her passion.

Western Representative

Margaret "Margie" Masanti. The granddaughter of Irish immigrants, Margie was born in a mining town. While mining was not her chosen career it was her husband John's. Health, fitness and cooking were her passions and thus a career in dietetics was a perfect combination of all three. Mansanti has been a registered dietitian and member of the American Dietetic Association since 1981. Following her husband to different mining communities, she practiced in hospitals, nursing homes, private clinics and worked as a substitute teacher. She taught dietetics to nursing students and for the past 10 years has been working as a consultant dietitian in private practice. She has been associated with the SME for the last 40 years through her husband John. She has been intermittently affiliated with WAAIME, but has been increasingly active since 2015. Her other volunteer interests are easing food insecurity and increasing literacy.

Margaret Mansanti

Margie and John have returned to their hometown Butte, MT. They have three children and six grandchildren. She is honored to serve on the WAAIME board as the western representative. ■

Incoming Executive Committee member for 2023

by Katherine Pinochet, WAAIME Executive Committee Chair and International Representative

I am pleased to inform you that the WAAIME Executive Committee has unanimously decided that Susana Palomino from the Lima-Peru section will be the new member of the Executive Committee as International Representative beginning in March 2023.

Palomino, an interior designer by profession, has been serving with great enthusiasm in the two sections of WAAIME in Peru (Lima and Cajamarca) since 2005 as Scholarship Director. Among the achievements for WAAIME scholarship students in Peru, the following stand out:

- Participate in the modernization of the WAAIME organization with the support of Strategic Partner EY Peru.
- Reorganization of the Scholarship program resulting in the increase of Scholarship holder from two to three years in the last seven years.
- Improve the administrative documentation regarding to Scholarship programs to facilitate the Scholarship process.
- Launch of a new WAAIME Coaching Program, including custom sessions and workshops with scholarship recipients.
- Agreement with the "Instituto de Ingenieros de Minas del Perú" (Peruvian Mining Institute), to grant facilities to WAAIME in their office building.
- Participate in the last four PERUMIN Convention Events with the Implementation of the booth and awarded scholarships in the south region.
- Achieve affiliations of recognized companies in the mining, energy, and petroleum businesses in Peru. More than US$65,000 during the last seven years has been obtained for WAAIME.
- Organized events with a purpose of acquiring funds/donations for our other organizational expenses (administration, coaching, English classes).

Susana Palomino

For the period of 3/1/23-2/28/24, the WAAIME Committee Executive members will be:

- Lydia Hull
- Margaret Mansanti
- Susana Palomino.■

Professor: Scholarhip student finds success in Chile

(Continued from page 10)

your organization has been a catalyst for Kimberly's abilities. In this sense, I can only highlight that your organization has wonderfully invested its resources; Kimberly is a young woman of intelligence well above average, proactive, dedicated and responsible, with an absolute commitment to her profession, and a great and positive leadership. I envision Kimberly having a bright prospect for further graduate study."

Patricia Narvaez, a prominent Chilean geologist, and member of the La Serena section, was part of Kimberly's selection as a scholarship recipient and has been supporting her ever since. She states:

"This letter fills us with satisfaction and reinforces our commitment to capable and dedicated students."

Contreras is a perfect example of the benefit of WAAIME scholarships. Let's not stop pouring our hearts to continue supporting the personal and professional growth of our scholarship recipients. This is just one example of the impact that WAAIME generates in each of the young people we support. ■

Kimberly Contreras

Thank you, WAAIME Division

Good morning Lydia,

My name is Rylan Nemesh and I received the WAAIME scholarship this year. I just wanted to extend my sincere thanks to you and the rest of the WAAIME team. I am deeply thankful to have received this amazing scholarship two years in a row. I had a blast meeting everyone in Salt Lake City, and I hope to see you in Denver next year.

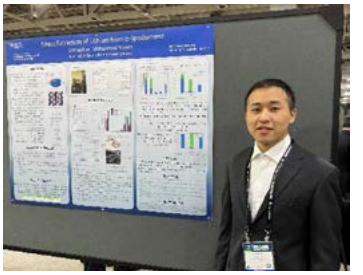
Thanks again and have a great day,

Rylan J. Nemesh
Undergraduate Student | Mining Engineering
Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources
West Virginia University | Morgantown, WV

Dear Ms. Hull,

I am writing to thank you for choosing me as a recipient of the Women's Auxiliary to the American Institute of Mining Engineers (WAAIME) Scholarship. I am most grateful for WAAIME's belief and support.

I am a second-year Ph.D. student studying Mining and Mineral Processing at Penn State University. I just arrived in the United States last August with little money and had economic hardship at the end of August. This scholarship WAAIME provided will be of great help to me in paying my educational and medical expenses, and it will allow me to concentrate more of my time on studying.



Shihua Han

I would like to share the good news with you that I passed the qualifying exam last week. I will continue to work hard and make progress with my degree. I am working on a new project for my thesis on Respirable Coal Mine Dust to address the associated health outcomes. Receiving this WAAIME scholarship will allow me to focus more on the research, and the generosity of WAAIME has inspired me to help others and give back to the community in the future.

Sincerely,
Shihua Han