

## A warm welcome to new volunteers WAAIME looks to the future

by Barbara Filas, Executive Committee Member

Welcome new WAAIME volunteers! The WAAIME Executive Committee extends its warmest welcome to the newest members of our WAAIME volunteer family. We received 53 new volunteers so far this year and are thrilled to have their commitment to help support the philanthropic work and growth of our organization.

### Background

The goal of WAAIME is to serve our countries and communities in everything related to the extractive industry professions. Incorporated in 1917, WAAIME has a 106-year history of supporting the professions, education and charitable programs. In 2008, it merged into SME as the WAAIME Division of SME, but with time some of the terms of the merger agreement became antiquated, requiring modification by a joint resolution. The SME Board of Directors and WAAIME Executive Committee approved the joint resolution during the MINEXCHANGE 2023 SME Annual Conference & Expo in Denver, CO in February, putting WAAIME in a far better position to grow going forward. WAAIME's primary function is to be good stewards of the WAAIME endowment, a more than 100-year-old fund that helps promising students obtain college educations that prepare them for careers in the extractive industries.

### WAAIME today

WAAIME is a special-status division of SME, where SME members need not give up their affiliations with their technical division homes, and non-SME members need not join SME to be a part of WAAIME. WAAIME historically has provided funds and services to those in or for the professions of exploration, mining, metallurgy and petroleum engineering and related fields. Started with the passing of a hat to raise money in 1917 at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City, WAAIME has grown its financial portfolio over the years to around \$9 million today, the proceeds of which predominantly fund scholarships to deserving students in the Earth science-related disciplines. By far SME's largest scholarship portfolio, WAAIME is distributing nearly \$435,000 to deserving students for the coming year.

### WAAIME tomorrow

Now is the time to get involved in reimagining the WAAIME Division. It has been more than 10 years since WAAIME held its last strategic planning session. Barb Filas has agreed to chair an ad hoc committee to take a strategic look at what has been done in the past and where WAAIME should be going in the future. Except for the continuation of its primary legacy of scholarships, we have a

blank slate on how we take WAAIME to the next level. We are looking to expand the WAAIME presence in ways that complement other SME division and committee initiatives as well as work collaboratively to strengthen ties with the other AIME technical societies, which include The Minerals, Metals, and Materials Society (TMS), Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) and the Association for Iron and Steel Technology (AIST). We have also had some preliminary discussions regarding our synergies with Women in Mining (WIM), a vibrant and fast-growing organization that is well aligned with WAAIME objectives. All reasonable options can and will be explored in reimagining WAAIME for the future.

### What's next?

You get the most out of membership by getting actively involved and growing your network. Please help us reimagine the new WAAIME from the ground up: the programs we will embrace, the alliances we will strike and the inclusion we will promote. To allow us to assign your volunteer efforts according to your personal interests, we encourage you to let us know your preference and priority in which areas you would be willing to collaborate. Please indicate a "1" for your first choice, "2" for your second choice, and so on, and leave blank any committee in which you have no interest. We will do our best to assign you to a committee according to your higher interests. Please email your choices to [WAAIME@smenet.org](mailto:WAAIME@smenet.org):

**Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee** – for reimagining where WAAIME should go in the future, its structure, activities and initiatives, and setting measurable goals for implementation and achievement.

**Ad Hoc Committee on Local Sections** – for assessing the existing local section structure and organization, evaluating the efficacy and viability of those local sections, and recommending an appropriate path forward for the future.

**Student Activities and Mentorship Committee** – for maintaining contact with past scholarship recipients and encouraging their volunteerism, coordinating with universities and AIME member societies to encourage student participation in WAAIME scholarships and other initiatives, and identifying other activities as may be needed and appropriate.

**Scholarship Selection Committee** – for reviewing scholarship applications and interviewing applicants (which usually happens in January and February each year), assessing the merit of their application, and participating in the allocation of the budgeted funds

*(Continued on page 2)*



## Omnibus resolution approved; opens new chapter in WAAIME's story

by Margaret Mansanti, Chair Elect

It was almost the 11th hour when the WAAIME Executive Committee came to a consensus and approved an omnibus resolution ahead of the SME Board of Directors meeting in Denver, CO on Feb. 25, 2023. As background, WAAIME (Women's Auxiliary of the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers) was dissolved as a separate legal entity and became a division of the SME through a 2008 merger agreement, an agreement that could not be amended. The merger was limited and poorly defined several key things WAAIME required to survive and function as a healthy, vibrant organization fit for the 21st century. During the February 2023 SME Board meeting, WAAIME and SME unanimously took a joint step into a revised future for WAAIME.

Recognizing a need for change, WAAIME Executive Committee members Margaret Mansanti and Lydia Hull began working with SME Executive Director David Kanagy to restructure the WAAIME Division's arrangement with the SME in December 2022. They set an aggressive target of jointly approving the new arrangement at the 2023 SME Board meeting.

Since 2008, several attempts had been made to improve the arrangement between the WAAIME Division and SME, including the introduction of bylaws. However, the unique arrangement of WAAIME as a division of the SME and no longer a standalone organization made attempts at possible revisions difficult. After a renewed focus, WAAIME realized that as opposed to expending limited resources on developing and adopting bylaws, it would likely be simpler and more expedient to find a way to tweak the merger agreement. After presenting this to Kanagy for consideration, he and SME's legal counsel developed a creative option — the omnibus resolution. The joint resolution would allow the WAAIME Division and the SME Board to make modifications important to both WAAIME and SME.

Mansanti and Hull worked closely with Kanagy on the resolution language. Through the omnibus resolution,

WAAIME is able to preserve the merger agreement language that worked for WAAIME while selectively modifying items required to ensure sustainability and future growth. The SME was able to resolve some key concerns with dispute resolution. Under the omnibus resolution, WAAIME and SME were able to achieve the following:

1. Clarify the ambiguous language on how to become a member of WAAIME and simplify the process for membership. Also, include options to join at a national or local section level.
2. Improve the leadership model by expanding the WAAIME Executive Committee from three to five WAAIME members and better defining officers and officer progression.
3. Restore WAAIME's purpose beyond scholarships. It again includes funding for philanthropic, educational and charitable programs, provided they are consistent with WAAIME's more than 100-year legacy and 501(c)(3) regulations.
4. Shield reimbursements from inflationary pressures through reimbursement for expenses as opposed to reimbursement of a fixed fee for certain costs.
5. Improve dispute resolution between the WAAIME Division and SME in the event of a breach in the covenants of the merger agreement, by providing SME with a notification step and by introducing an arbitration process.

It was a dash to the finish. The WAAIME Executive Committee wishes to thank Kanagy and the SME Board of Directors for their openness and willingness to work with WAAIME on these key issues. The WAAIME Executive Committee views this as a new chapter in WAAIME's storied book. They are excited about the future of the Division as it is now easier to recruit and engage new WAAIME members, to increase the inclusion and diversity of the Division, and collaborate with other organizations on programs that created WAAIME's rich history. ■

## Volunteers: Get involved

*(Continued from page 1)*

to deserving students in a face-to-face, closed-session meeting at the MINEXCHANGE SME Annual Conference & Expo in February.

**Outreach and Newsletter Committee** – for identifying synergies and initiatives within SME and other like-minded organizations and devising programs/strategies to promote K-12 student awareness of and interest in the

extractive industries; and for covering the efforts of all WAAIME committees and activities and writing updates on those activities for publication in this Newsletter.

WAAIME promotes the values of solidarity, companionship, teamwork and professional development. Our motto "100 years supporting education and communities worldwide" reflects our commitment and dedication to our work. Once again, our warmest welcome to you, our new WAAIME volunteers, and our highest appreciation for all our long-standing members and supporters. ■



# Call for nominations now open

by Lydia Hull, Executive Committee Chair

Nominations are invited for the WAAIME Founders Award and Executive Committee.

## Founders Award

The Founders Award was established by WAAIME in 2014. It is presented to a person in recognition of her or his exemplary service to WAAIME and its goals. This award is designed to replace the WAAIME National Honorary Member program and to recognize those members who have contributed significantly to a local section, the national board or committee, or to further the goals and purposes as set forth in WAAIME's incorporation. This award is funded by our founding section, Tri-State (NY-NJ-CT), and is given in honor of their many years of service and hard work to build the WAAIME fund that promotes the many industries that make up the original American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers and its member societies, SME, SPE, TMS and AIST.

Please send in your nomination for a WAAIME you feel is worthy of this nomination. Please include a biography and a photo.

**Timeline.** The award typically adheres to the following timeline:

- Call for nominations in the May newsletter.
- Nomination deadline — July 1.
- Qualified nominations are forwarded to the executive committee — July 15.
- Voting completed at executive session at the September midyear meeting.
- Recipient notified in October.
- Award presented at the MINEXCHANGE SME Annual Conference & Expo.

All nominations submitted will be considered active nominations for a period of three years. Nominations must be submitted in accordance with the guidelines provided here and on the nomination form.

**Administration.** This award is administered by the WAAIME Executive Committee. The award committee consists of the members of the WAAIME Executive Committee and can include up to two additional WAAIME members at the discretion of the executive chair. All voting will be completed during an executive session at the midyear meeting.

Recipients shall be selected by majority vote of the committee with notification to the SME Board of Directors. The award need not be presented in any given year if a suitable candidate cannot be selected by the majority.

**Award and its presentation.** The award consists of a 14-carat gold charm/pendant designed by the Mexico-DF

Section of WAAIME and engraved with the recipient's name and date of presentation. The recipient will also be able to designate where a \$500 donation may be given: for example, to a section, to a university program or student section, or to any other Earth science-based entity or program. The charm and \$500 bequest are fully funded by the Tri-State Founder's Fund and WAAIME. The award will be presented at the next MINEXCHANGE SME Annual Conference & Expo.

## WAAIME Executive Committee

The WAAIME Executive Committee seeks nominations for its next incoming member. Email an electronic copy of a photograph and a brief biography to Michelle Kroeger at [kroeger@smenet.org](mailto:kroeger@smenet.org).

The 2023 due dates for nominations are:

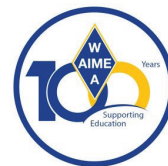
- Nov. 30 — All nominations with photos and biographies should be at SME Headquarters.
- Dec. 1 — SME Headquarters will forward the nominees to the WAAIME Executive Committee.
- Dec. 15 — WAAIME Chair will notify SME Headquarters of the incoming committee member.
- Dec. 19 — WAAIME Chair will notify incoming committee member and invite the individual to the MINEXCHANGE 2024 SME Annual Conference & Expo in Phoenix, AZ. ■

## WAAIME reception



WAAIME Executive Committee Member Barb Filas, r, speaks with students at the WAAIME reception during MINEXCHANGE 2023 SME Annual Conference.





## Selfie-tag contest and door prizes featured at WAAIME student reception

by Margaret Mansanti, Chair Elect

WAAIME's student reception held during the MINEXCHANGE 2023 SME Annual Conference & Expo in Denver, CO was a fun and exciting evening.

In addition to a selfie-tag contest, the reception featured door prizes for WAAIME's scholarship awardees, with an additional \$900 in Amazon gift cards in increments

of \$25 and \$50 given to lucky winners.

Overall, the reception was a success in promoting the WAAIME scholarship program and in fostering a sense of community among the students and professionals in the industry.

SME Executive Director David Kanagy and several SME Presidents attended the event, including Barbara Filas (2005), John Mansanti (2017), Barbara Arnold (2018), Ron Parratt (2022), Marc LeVier (2023) and Marc Herpfer (2024). By combining fun and creative activities with recognition and support for the scholarship awardees, WAAIME was able to create a memorable and impactful event. ■



SME Executive Director Dave Kanagy (center) with past and present SME Presidents (left to right) Ron Parratt, Marc LeVier, John Mansanti and Marc Herpfer.



Lydia Hull and Ron Parratt.



John Mansanti and Madison Sandoval.

## Selfie-tag contestants score cash

by Margaret Mansanti, Chair Elect

Selfie tag was a popular event again this year at the MINEXCHANGE 2023 SME Annual Conference & Expo in Denver, CO. Twenty companies expressed their interest to participate, and 15 companies who had not previously participated were selected. Justin Courtney, SME exhibits specialist, coordinated with the participating companies who submitted clues about their organizations.

Selfie tag started in 2019 as the brainchild of WAAIME chair Lydia Hull to engage students in a fun activity. The event is a win-win for the businesses and students who participate as they have an opportunity to interact. The students learn about the various businesses related to mining and have the chance to win some cash.

Winners were announced, and prizes awarded, at the WAAIME student reception held Feb. 26 at the Hyatt Regency hotel. First place, with a \$500 cash prize, went to team Hokies from Virginia Tech. Second place, with a \$300 cash prize, went to the Mackey Muckers from the University of Nevada, Reno. Third place, with a \$100

cash prize and \$100 Amazon gift card, went to team Techies from the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (New Mexico Tech). Fourth place, with a \$100 cash prize, went to team Miners, also from New Mexico Tech. ■



Selfie-tag contestants (more photos next page).



# PA-West preps for Young scholarships

by Jean Davin, PA-West Section Chair

The PA-West Section of WAAIME is once again getting ready to award its Young scholarships. A former member of the section, Elizabeth W. Young, generously set up a scholarship fund within AIME to be used to provide scholarships for primarily local university students.

The PA-West Section of WAAIME gets to choose which students are awarded these funds. We notify the various universities to refer students for our review and possible funding. These Young scholarships are in addition to WAAIME's own scholarship program.

Last year's scholarships were awarded to students from Virginia Tech, West Virginia University, University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania State University and University of Kentucky. Jacob Gehrt, William Cook, Owen Potts, Brian Arnold, Adam Tesch, August Greth and Michael Briggs from Virginia Tech sent appreciated thank-you notes. ■



Some of last year's scholarship recipients from Virginia Tech.

## Selfie-tag contest: Win-win for businesses and students







## News update from WAAIME

# La Serena-Chile section

by Katherine Pinochet, Past Chair, Executive Committee

For the WAAIME La Serena-Chile section, March and autumn mark the beginning of the year for our scholarship recipients' university activities. This is also the time of our members' first meeting of the year, making it an exciting and meaningful period for us as an organization.

Our activity began in February this year, however, when our scholarship recipient Javier Henríquez began his master's degree in Australia. It has made us happy and proud to be able to provide support across geographical boundaries to help our scholarship recipients.

### April lunch meeting

To learn about the experiences, expectations and needs of our scholarship recipients, we held a lunch meeting with them on April 22, at which we were able to catch up on their experiences during their summer internships. This corresponds to the compulsory professional practice included in the curricula of mining engineers and geologists. At the meeting we talked about the tools and capabilities they had to demonstrate during this intense period of work in mining companies in the Coquimbo region. We also discussed the skills and knowledge they acquired working in the different areas of production, both in the mines and in the mineral-processing plants, and the techniques and programs used in planning. It was an enriching experience that allowed some of them to find topics for their degree theses.

Our plans for this year are to continue sharing with our members, commemorating special days and creating

recreational instances. We will also maintain contact with our scholarship recipients to continue delivering the support they deserve and need. (See images of three scholarship recipients in their professional practices.) ■



Katherine Carilao in professional practice inside and outside the mine.



Francisca Acosta in professional practice at the Talcuna Mine.



Front row: Pía Álvarez (president), Patricia Narváez (secretary) and Ximena Molina. Back row: scholarship recipients Oscar Piñones, Francisca Acosta, Camila Quijada, Valentina Castillo and Katherine Carilao.



Valentina Castillo in professional practice in the agglomerates area (left) and in front of the mineral stockpile (right) at the San Lorenzo Plant.



April lunch meeting: Scholarship recipients Francisca Acosta, Katherine Carilao, Valentina Castillo, Camila Quijada and Oscar Piñones with Pía Álvarez, Patricia Narváez and Ximena Molina (not present: Kimberly Contreras, who was out in the field, and Cesar Varas, who is studying in the city of Antofagasta).

### News update from WAAIME

## Torreon-Mexico section

by Maria Teresa Arias de Alanis, Section President

In March, the WAAIME Torreon-Mexico section inaugurated the new Executive Committee for 2023-2024. Laurita Salas, one of our founding members, performed the inauguration ceremony.

The members of the new Executive Committee are: María Teresa Arias de Alanís, president; Rosio Hermosillo de Velasco, vice president; Olga Navarro de Echavez, secretary; Maye González Weber, treasurer; Beatriz Berumen and Teresa Terán, scholarships; Patricia Cárdenas, Education for Tomorrow, and Concepción Cortés de Vázquez, training program.

Currently, our committee is made up of 18 ladies, all highly committed to maintaining and following up on this scholarship program. We are proud to belong to this noble association and to do our bit by supporting outstanding students in the area of Earth sciences (mines, extractive metallurgy and geology).

### Scholarships

On March 27, the leaders for scholarships, Berumen and Terán had a meeting with the scholarship students to get to know them and learn of their academic concerns. They are enthusiastic young people, extremely committed to the purpose of completing their studies and thus meeting one of their goals in life: to make their dreams come true while achieving their parents' dreams of seeing their children become professionals. A further meeting is planned in June to get together and talk about their academic experiences, as the semester will be about to end by that time.

The section currently supports 10 scholarship recipients from the Technological Institute of La Laguna and La Salle University. Two students from the Technological Institute of La Laguna will graduate in June, of which they are happy and proud: Ever Gamaliel Gonzalez García and Raymundo Valenciana García, both chemical engineers with specialty in extractive metallurgy.

### Education for Tomorrow

Cárdenas is in charge of Education for Tomorrow, a program through which high school students are encouraged to conduct research on an element in the periodic table. Cobalt has been chosen this year. Students must investigate this element, "let their imagination fly" and be creative in presenting on cobalt, be it in a song,

a poem, narrative, or other form, in English. Cárdenas has been proactive: visiting the schools, launching the call for competition, collecting the works, and reading, evaluating and selecting them.

In coordination with the institutions, dates are selected during May or June for the award ceremony. In our next report, details of the event as well as some of the work developed by the participating students will be shared.

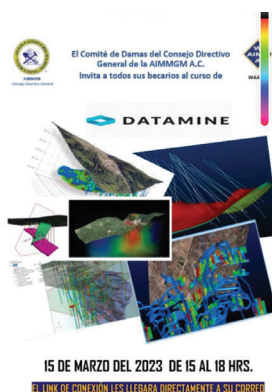
### Training program

Cortés de Vázquez, who besides being our partner and friend in WAAIME is the national president of the Association of Mining Engineers, Metallurgy and Geologists of Mexico (AIMMGM AC), is always interested in giving an academic boost to the scholarship students of both WAAIME and

AIMMGM.

She puts together the training program. This program is supported by Peñoles Mining Division, which invites engineers with vast experience to offer conferences on topics related to mining, beneficiation plants, safety and other areas. The chosen topic this year was Datamine software, which is used in mining to obtain 2D and 3D graphic representations in order to use the topographic base for the planning of mining works in different areas such as development, preparation and mining methods. The information contained in this software can also be used to calculate total mine reserves and devise short-, medium- and long-term planning.

The students awarded scholarships by WAAIME Torreon-Mexico have had highly satisfactory comments on the conferences because the conferences helped them to enrich their academic knowledge. ■



Blanca, Imelda, Yio, Conchis, Maye, Paty, Tere Terán, Rocio, Tere Arias, Laurita, Lucy, Olguita, Betty and Rosy.





## News update from WAAIME

## Santiago-Chile section

by Katherine Pinochet, Past Chair, Executive Committee

The WAAIME Santiago-Chile section awarded scholarships in 2022 to young Chilean students who excel in the field of mining. We would like to showcase their performance both academically and personally.

Some of our scholarship recipients are part of the organizing committee of the renowned Mining Engineering Symposium, which has been organized by the University of Santiago for more than 40 years. Among them are Carla Cabrera, Catalina Ramírez and Luis Facuse. This event will take place in October this year, bringing together the most important companies in the mining industry.

We also highlight two scholarship recipients: Fabiola Villablanca from the University of Santiago and Carolina Álvarez from the University of Chile, both civil mining engineering students, who currently serve as presidents of their respective universities' student centers. This role has been a significant challenge for them and a valuable opportunity to develop their leadership skills. Last summer, they both did their professional internships at major mining companies. Villablanca worked at the Ministro Hales division of the national copper company CODELCO, while Álvarez worked at Minera Los Pelambres of Antofagasta Minerals. This experience allowed them to apply their theoretical knowledge in a real work environment and acquire practical skills relevant to their careers.

The support provided by WAAIME to its scholarship recipients has significantly contributed to their success in completing their undergraduate studies. Currently, Stephanie Bravo, Luis Facuse, Fabiola Villablanca and Lucas González are carrying out their thesis projects in key areas such as mining resources, geomechanics, mining



**Back row (left to right): Catalina Ramírez, Luis Facuse, Carla Cabrera and Catalina Ramírez. Front row (left to right): Fabiola Villablanca, Sergio Demetrio (president of the Chilean Institute of Mining Engineers), Marcela Hernando (Chile's Minister of Mining), Katherine Pinochet (WAAIME Executive Committee), Carolina Álvarez and Stephanie Bravo.**

design and planning. We are pleased to see that our team is composed of professionals from diverse disciplines who have persevered with effort and dedication to become future leaders in the mining industry.

We are also pleased to highlight the achievements of our former scholarship recipient Nicolás Rojas, who is currently in the second year of his master's program in mining at the University of Chile and has been awarded

*(Continued on page 9)*



**November 2022 meeting (left to right): María Isabel Saavedra, Myriam Mardones, Rosita Klohn, Verónica Prado, Priscilla Ramírez, Benilda Dahmen and Ana María Samur.**



**January 2023 meeting (left to right): María Isabel Saavedra, Benilda Dahmen, Fabiola Villablanca, Verónica Prado and Katherine Pinochet.**



**Pinochet with her mentee, an industrial civil engineering student with a minor in mining.**

## News update from WAAIME DF-Mexico section

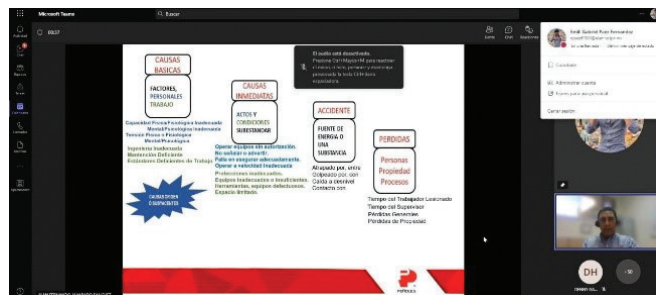
by Eugenia Lomelin, Past Section President

The WAAIME DF-Mexico section held monthly meetings, with some of the scholarship recipients joining one of the meetings (photo).

In coordination with the Peñoles company, the students were invited to attend conferences given to the company's employees. The students also assisted in a conference held by the Mining Chamber of Mexico. They received bags and backpacks in recognition of their help. ■



The students joined one of the section's meetings.  
Back row: Ligia Berlanga, Lucia Morales, Eugenia Lomelin, Chata Villaseñor, Bárbara Martínez, Norma Sánchez del Toro, Nina Buchelli, Celia García.  
Front row: Fernando Galicia, Marian Yexalén Ortiz, Neri Trejo, Emil Gabriel Paez, Magdalena Alvidrez.



The students attended the Peñoles company's conferences.



The students received bags and backpacks for assisting the Mining Chamber of Mexico with a conference.

## Santiago: Copper 2022

(Continued from page 8)

the ANID National Master's Scholarship 2023, which covers the program costs and personal expenses. Under the guidance of Dr. Pia Lois-Morales and Prof. Sergio Moraga Garay, Rojas Sáez has been working on his thesis project titled "Comparative study of microtextural and mechanical properties between rocks and high-performance concretes." His research aims to establish the basis for the use of heterogeneous materials as an approach to the complexity of intact rocks. Rojas Sáez has expressed his gratitude to WAAIME for its support in his development as an engineer, as well as to his family, friends and partner for their support in his studies.

### Participation in Copper 2022

Thanks to the efforts of the WAAIME Santiago board of directors (particularly María Isabel Saavedra and Myriam Mardones), free tickets were obtained for our WAAIME scholarship recipients to attend Copper 2022,

the global conference on copper held in Santiago Nov. 13-17, 2022. This international meeting was a great opportunity for our scholarship recipients to participate in various issues related to the mining industry and to meet prominent people related to the industry, such as Marcela Hernando, Chile's Minister of Mining, and Sergio Demetrio, president of the Chilean Institute of Mining Engineers. Katherine Pinochet of the WAAIME Executive Committee also attended the opening night with our scholarship recipients.

### Social meetings

Since November 2022, the section has been meeting at members' homes to organize upcoming activities.

### Mentoring program

Pinochet recently completed her role as a mentor in the Mentoring Program for Job Placement, an initiative that promotes the exchange of experiences with high-performing women at the mining company SQM to help build job skills in future professionals and encourage female participation with a focus on careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). ■





## News update from WAAIME Lima-Peru section

by Susanna Palomino, International Representative, Executive Committee

The Lima- Peru section was very active and developed several activities in the last six months together with the scholarship recipients.

### November 2022

Several activities were carried out, including a coaching workshop, a clown workshop, BISA training and a visit

to the Mineral Museum. Some students came to Lima from other cities such as Cajamarca, Arequipa and the center of the country to attend the coaching workshop and other activities. The program consisted of an itinerary full of educational and recreational activities, including the coaching workshop and clown workshop that took place in the offices of our strategic ally EY. The students completed the program highly motivated and hoping to have a next workshop. They also shared pleasant moments with members of the board of directors during lunch or dinner, as the activities took

*(Continued on  
page 14)*



Visit to the Mineral Museum.



Dining with (top) Rossana Madrid, legal & compliance director and (bottom) Cecilia Via, accounting & finance director.



Training in BISA – Buenaventura engineers.





# WAAIME executive leadership

## Lydia Hull

Lydia Hull, WAAIME Executive Committee chair and scholarship chair, received her R.N. degree in 1973 and remains active in that capacity. Her family's roots in mining began with both grandfathers, father and husband.



Lydia Hull

Hull became active in WAAIME when family responsibilities allowed and has worked in many capacities locally and on the national board as well. She has worked continuously with the scholarship committee for the last 30 years. Her passion is dedicated to helping students obtain funding to further their careers in the extractive industries as well as obtaining degrees in these areas to teach future

generations. She looks forward to the new positive changes that are happening with WAAIME.

## Katherine Pinochet

Katherine Pinochet is a 35-year-old former WAAIME scholarship recipient who holds a B.S. degree and a professional degree in geology from Universidad de Chile. After graduating in 2013, Pinochet worked for five years in the field of geological hazards applied to land-use planning. Since then, she has been a member of the Santiago de Chile section of WAAIME, 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 Winnell Burt, Hull, Blanche Blattner, Jean Davin and other WAAIME members, who motivated her to become even more involved in WAAIME.



Katherine Pinochet

Since 2020, Pinochet has been fulfilling the role of international representative in 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.

At the beginning of 2019, Pinochet ventured into the promising and challenging lithium industry and currently works as project coordinator of the Hydrogeology Department at SQM, a Chilean company that is a major producer of lithium. In March 2023 she completed her role as a mentor in the Mentoring Program for Job Placement.

## Barbara Filas

Barbara Filas is a licensed professional mining engineer and a veteran member of SME. She was the first female SME President in 2005 and was instrumental in forming its Environmental Division and Student Mentor Program. She is also a past chair of the WAAIME Division of SME. She has served on the Boards of Trustees of the SME Foundation and the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers (AIME) and was vice president of finance for AIME.



Barbara Filas

Filas has hands-on experience with operating gold and coal mining and processing facilities; executive experience in consulting public companies and nonprofits; and technical expertise in base and precious metals, coal, uranium and industrial minerals in various engineering and environmental capacities.

She currently sits on the board of directors of two publicly traded companies, volunteers as the nominations chair and chair of the board of governors for the National Mining Hall of Fame and was inducted into the National Academy of Engineering in 2022.

## Margaret Mansanti

The granddaughter of Irish immigrants, Margaret Mary Melvin Mansanti (Margie) Mansanti was born in the mining town of Butte, MT. Health, fitness and cooking were her passions and thus a career in dietetics was a perfect combination of all three. She is a graduate of Idaho State University and completed her dietary internship at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, OH. She has been a registered dietitian and member of the American Dietetic Association since 1981.

Relocating with her husband John to different mining communities, she practiced in hospitals, nursing homes and private clinics. She taught nutrition at community colleges and was a substitute teacher for local schools. An advocate for education and literacy she was active in local library programs and is a more than 35-year member of P.E.O., a women's philanthropic and educational



Margaret Mansanti

(Continued on page 12)



## Leadership: Palomino

(Continued from page 11)

organization. Mansanti served on the Humboldt County Hospital board and chaired the board through a bond passage and construction of a medical office building, hospital expansion and nursing home addition. She has a long history of volunteer work teaching religious education, supporting soup kitchens, volunteering for the Assistance League and the Veterans' Administration.

After learning of the more than 100-year legacy of WAAIME and their scholarships to support the minerals industry, she became involved with WAAIME, reviewing scholarship applications. She became a member of the WAAIME Executive Committee in 2021, helping WAAIME to restructure the division through the SME Board of Directors-approved omnibus resolution, which among other things simplifies the process for membership, expands the executive committee and broadens WAAIME's engagement into other educational areas and philanthropic programs. She and John have returned to Montana, where they have three children and six grandchildren.

### Susana Palomino Parodi

Susana Palomino Parodi is an interior designer who has been involved with WAAIME since 2005, when she became the scholarship director for the Cajamarca Section. She served as the president of that section from 2008 to 2014, served on the WAAIME Board of the Lima Section as its scholarship director in 2015, was president of that

section from 2016 to 2017 and served as WAAIME vice president, scholarship director of the Lima Section in 2018.

Among her achievements in WAAIME, Palomino Parodi participated in the modernization of the WAAIME organization with the support of strategic partner EY Peru. She helped with the reorganization of the scholarship program, resulting in the increase of scholarship holders from two to three years in the last seven years, and improved the administrative documentation regarding scholarship programs in order to facilitate the scholarship process. She helped with the launch of a new WAAIME coaching program, including custom sessions and workshops with up to 64 scholarship recipients and with an agreement with the Instituto de Ingenieros de Minas del Perú (Peruvian Mining Institute) to grant facilities to WAAIME in their office building.



Susana Palomino Parodi

Palomino participated in the last four PERUMIN convention events with booth implementation and awarded scholarships in the South region and achieved affiliations of recognized companies in the mining, energy and petroleum businesses in Peru. More than \$65,000 during the last seven years has been obtained for WAAIME. ■

## Donate to Iris Whinnen Owen Chest Fund

by Jean Davin, PA-West Section Chair

The Iris Whinnen Owen Section Fund was created about 12 years ago with the idea of raising funding for the various WAAIME sections. This fund receives money generated from booth sales at the MINEXCHANGE SME Annual Conference & Expo. There have been various disbursements from this fund over the years.

A more pressing need has arisen, however, and the initiators of this fundraising program have given permission to change its purpose to be more in line with WAAIME's old Chest Fund. The Iris Whinnen Owen Chest Fund will be used for students with small grants for hardships, as determined by the WAAIME Executive Committee. The annual budget for this fund has been set at \$3,000.

WAAIME was given a booth at the MINEXCHANGE 2023 SME Annual Conference & Expo in Denver, CO, compliments of SME. WAAIME sends its thanks for the generous donation. The sales generated were highly successful, both monetarily and professionally. We enjoyed our interactions with all the vendors, students and various industry personnel.

WAAIME received donations of items to our booth from various individuals as well as from our WAAIME Sections in Mexico, Peru and Chile. We are so grateful for their generosity. WAAIME sends special thanks to Zenia Kunasz, who generously creates and donates several necklaces each year with various gemstones. Her necklaces always generate such excitement and competition for them. (I love the one I have with amethysts.)

The WAAIME booth is eclectic and has items including linens, jewelry, mining items, rock specimens, purses, silver, liquor, candy, theme gift bags, collectibles and numerous other items, some new and some antique. WAAIME is soliciting donations from its members for its booth in MINEXCHANGE 2024 in Phoenix, AZ and is willing to reimburse mailing costs to the donors of items. All items should be sent to SME Headquarters in Englewood, CO, with a mailing receipt forwarded to Michelle Kroeger at [kroeger@smenet.org](mailto:kroeger@smenet.org) for reimbursement. Please remember WAAIME when you are downsizing your collections, retiring or moving, as we could use your support. ■



# Excerpts of annual meeting minutes

by Katherine Pinochet, WAAIME chair, and Michelle Kroeger, SME chief financial officer

The annual meeting of the WAAIME Division was held Feb. 26, 2023, from 8:30 to 11:30 am in Denver, CO. Division members present were Katherine Pinochet, chair; Lydia Hull, scholarship chair; Margaret Mansanti, Western rep; Barb Filas, Susana Palomino, Blanche Blattner, Ashley Chancellor, Linda Ross, Karen Jass, Jean Davin, Favila Blanca and Beth Price. Also present was Michelle Kroeger, SME chief financial officer. Tom Austin and Ryan Smith from UBS were guests.

## UBS presentation

Austin and Smith presented the market and economic outlook, with the following highlights:

- 2022 was one of the most challenging years for diversified portfolios in recent memory: stocks experienced a bear market decline, and bonds suffered their biggest drawdown in modern history.
- However, this does not mean that diversification stopped working; diversification within both fixed income and equity portfolios helped to improve returns, while alternative investments and commodities also helped to provide diversification benefits.
- 2022 saw losses for most asset classes, bonds' worst year ever, the seventh worst year for U.S. large-cap stocks, and third worst year for 60/40 portfolios.
- It is very rare for stocks and bonds to both experience losses.
- High inflation tends to increase stock/bond correlations.
- Bonds have consistently rallied after previous stock-bond losses.
- Asset class diversification is still important.
- Bonds help to improve portfolios' risk-adjusted return potential.
- Alternatives and intra-asset class diversification helped in 2022.
- Global diversification can boost risk-adjusted return potential.
- Lessons from 2022: beware "home bias," commodities can provide value, bonds are not risk-free.
- 2023 will be a year of slower economic growth. Given the uncertainty, we have low market conviction and a recession would drive a larger decline in EPS.
- Extreme pessimism often precedes strong returns, fewer losses; fundamentals continue to favor value; a weaker U.S. dollar could bolster international stock returns.

The following is a breakdown of WAAIME portfolio as of Feb. 8, 2023:

- Cash, 8.03 percent
- Fixed income, 31.24 percent
- Equity, 56.17 percent
- Nontraditional, 4.56 percent.

The total amount of expected cash flow over the next year is \$231,299. The 10-year rate of return after fees is 6.69 percent.

Recommendations from UBS:

- Reduce equities by 5 percent: 3.5 percent from mid-cap, 1.5 percent from international.
- Move to T-Bills.

## Approval of minutes

The minutes from Sept. 21, 2022, Feb. 13, 2023 and Feb. 23, 2023 were approved unanimously.

## Financial presentation

Kroeger presented an overview of the financials for the WAAIME division:

- **Revenue**  
FY2022: down \$1,509,185 due to loss on investments.  
Three months as of 12/31/22: \$530,134.  
FY2023 budget: \$571,258.
- **Expenses**  
FY2022: \$563,439.  
Three months as of Dec. 31, 2022: \$5,967.  
FY2023 budget: \$578,503.
- **Net income**  
FY2022: down \$2,072,624.  
Three months as of Dec. 31, 2022: \$524,167.  
FY2023 budget: down \$7,245.
- The rate of return for the investment portfolio was minus 14.3 percent for FY2022 and 6.4 percent for the three months ended Dec. 31, 2021. Withdrawals totaled \$568,327, which were used to fund scholarships and to pay administrative costs.

## Recommendations for website improvements

This item was not discussed.

## Other matters

- Hull requested the breakdown on the contribution expense line item. It was provided via email on Apr. 11, 2023.
- Hull requested the list of accredited mining schools. It was provided via email on Apr. 11, 2023.
- The difficulties encountered during registration for the annual meeting were discussed. The concerns were passed on to the relevant SME individuals. ■





# Scholarship meeting minutes

by Katherine Pinochet, WAAIME chair, and Michelle Kroeger, SME chief financial officer

The annual scholarship meeting of the WAAIME Division was held Feb. 28, 2023, from 9 am to noon in Denver, CO. Division members present were Katherine Pinochet, chair; Lydia Hull, scholarship chair; Margaret Mansanti, Western rep; Susana Palomino, incoming international rep; Beth Price, incoming WAAIME executive committee member; Favila Blanca; Blanche Blattner; Jean Davin and Karen Jass. Also present was Michelle Kroeger, SME chief financial officer. Kitty Agioutantis, from the University of Kentucky, and Charlie Zimmerman, from Boy Scouts of America (BSA), were guests.

## Request from Boy Scouts

Zimmerman presented his request for a \$10,000 donation for the 2023 Boy Scouts Jamboree. There was a lot of discussion about the mining merit badge books and the desire for BSA to print the most recent version of the book. There were also questions about translating the book into Spanish. BSA has made the decision that they will not pay for the translation. The group decided to table the decision on funding until a later date.

## Update on US scholarships

Hull reported 188 applications received, of which 157 will be funded at an estimated \$333,000. The amount may change, so a vote of approval was not taken at this meeting. The breakdown was 46 undergraduate, 47 graduate and 64 Ph.D. There were 20 students from SPE, two from AIST, six from TMS, and the remainder from SME. Hull recognized the hard work of volunteers Donna Morey, Beth Price, Kelly McCormick, Margie Mansanti, Kitty Agioutantis, Jean Davin, Karen Jass and Carol Trutt, who reviewed the 188 applications and met with students.

In addition, \$8,000 will be put aside for possible funding of two students coming from outside the United States and two who are undecided on which university they will be attending.

A motion made by Mansanti and seconded by Jass to send \$3,000 to Theophilus Mensah immediately was passed.

## Website

The link on the SME site to the WAAIME site is not working. Kroeger will ensure this is fixed.

## Update on international scholarships

WAAIME will fund five international sections at \$12,000 each for a total of \$60,000. Peru will not be funded this year. Palomino provided an update on the 2022-2023 international scholarships.

Palomino provided the following update:

	# of scholarship recipients	Academic Year	Payment per mth	Payment per semester	USD/year
Section	2022-2023				
Mexico City	8	10 months	\$ 160.00		\$13,000.00
Mexico Torreon	10	11 months	\$ 110.00		\$12,100.00
Chile Santiago	10	10 months	\$ 125.00		\$12,500.00
Chile La Serena	7 1 PhD	10 months -	\$ 125.00 -		\$ 8,750.00 \$ 5,500.00
Peru Lima & Cajamarca	20 Coaching sessions	2 semesters		600-1200	\$22,200.00 \$ 7,315.00

## Other items

No other agenda items were discussed due to running out of time. ■

## Lima-Peru: Webinar

(Continued from page 10)

place over two days.

## December 2022

In December, scholarships were awarded virtually to all of our 20 scholarship holders from various universities in the country. They were also given certificates with the number of coaching sessions they will receive over the next 12 months (one per month) and three coaching workshops.

## March 2023

**Webinar.** On March 7, we held our first webinar of the year with the support of ProActivo magazine. Our webinar

(Continued on page 16)

## IMPACTO DEL TALENTO FEMENINO EN EL SECTOR MINERO ENERGÉTICO

**Moderador:**

Martes 7 de Marzo 7PM

Valter Sousa  
CEO Americas  
STRACON Technologies

**Ponelistas:**

Patricia Kosa  
Gerente del área legal y de cumplimiento en Gold Fields

Silvia Dioses  
Directora de Sistemas de Gestión empresarial en ISA

Melissa Amado  
Directora de marketing en WAAIME

Pamela Antonelli  
Gerente en Red de innovación minera del Perú

Organizan:

**ProActivo**  
Revista de Innovación y Tecnología Social

Webinar on "Impact of female talent in the mining and energy sector" in March.



# Accepted scholarship applicants 2023

Benjamin Abankwa, New Mexico Tech  
Amir Abdelmawla, Iowa  
Maria Camila Acevedo Garcia, New Mexico Tech  
Cyrus Addy, Missouri University of Science and Technology  
Nana A. Adoo, South Dakota School of Mines  
Alejandro Agudelo Mira, West Virginia University  
Abduljeleel Ajibona, Virginia Tech  
Rosemary Akamagwuna, Penn State  
Lukman Alabede, New Mexico Tech  
Zulqarnain Ahmad Ali, University of Kentucky  
Joelson Alves  
Albert Einstein Amponsem, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla  
Festus Animah, Virginia Tech  
Cecilia Estefania Aramayo Chavez, University of Kentucky  
Fatih Aranoglu, Colorado School of Mines  
Bright Arko, New Mexico Tech  
Brian Arnold, Virginia Tech  
Erkan Ugur Aslan, Colorado School of Mines  
Kidochukwu Atube, University of South Carolina  
Kemalcan Aydogdu, Colorado School of Mines  
Sikandar Azam, Penn State  
Kawthar Babatunde, Penn State  
Roya Bakzadeh, New Mexico Tech  
Patrick Barnett, Saint Francis University  
Kartik Battulwar, University of Nevada, Reno  
Maxwell Bawa, Oklahoma State University  
Maria Beltran, New Mexico Tech  
Karlee Bolle, University of Nevada, Reno  
Zachary Brown, Penn State  
Michael Burns, University of Nevada, Reno  
Marlee Butz, Virginia Tech  
Henry Campsie, Virginia Tech  
Xutian Cao, Penn State  
Esteban Cárdenas, West Virginia University  
Syabilla Cardosh, West Virginia University  
Isabel Casasbuenas, Colorado School of Mines  
Akash Chaurasia, Colorado School of Mines  
Hannah Chop, Penn State  
Mashrur Ahmed Chowdhury, Montana State University, Bozeman  
Tulio Dias de Almeida, Utah  
Benjamin Diddle, University of Kentucky  
Zechen Ding, Stevens Institute  
Jack Dockrill, Virginia Tech  
Spencer Doran, Oregon State  
Sultan Elcin Eroglu, Colorado School of Mines  
Oluwaseun Famobuwa, West Virginia University  
Kayode Fesomade, Montana State University-Bozeman  
Tristin Findlay, Penn State  
Elmer Flores, University of Nevada, Reno  
Maria Alejandra Franco Montoya, University of Arizona  
Triveni Gangadari, Penn State  
Zolboo Garinchuluun, Columbia  
Gorkem Gecimli, West Virginia University  
Milad Ghahramanieisalou, University of Nevada, Reno

Jesse Gill, Penn State  
Jordan Gillis, Virginia Tech  
Jose Gomez, University of Nevada, Reno  
Jeffrey Gordon, New Mexico Tech  
August Greth, Virginia Tech  
Kristin Guerin-Davey, South Dakota School of Mines  
Shiqi Guo, Columbia University  
Mohit Gupta, Virginia Tech  
Luke Guzman, South Dakota School of Mines  
Eugene Gyawu, Missouri University Of Science and Technology, Rolla  
Shihua Han, Penn State  
Madison Haydn-Myer, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities  
Changdi He, Utah  
Xinxin He, Penn State  
Kendall Helbig, Colorado School of Mines  
Chandima Hevathirana, Penn State  
Brianna Hoff, South Dakota School of Mines  
Dustin Howell, Virginia Tech  
Rosinda Huse, University of Kentucky  
Arshia Ilaty, University of Nevada, Reno  
Zohreh Iranamesn, University of Nevada, Reno  
Hari Jammulamada, Penn State  
Barrett Jessen, University of Oklahoma  
Roshel Jimenez, West Virginia University  
Yolver Jimenez Ibanez, West Virginia University  
Miao Jin, Penn State  
Ruby Jost, University of Kentucky  
Saeede Kadivar, University of Nevada, Reno  
Muhammed Kahraman, Colorado School of Mines  
Alireza Kamran Pishhesari, University of Nevada, Reno  
Kutay Karadeniz, Missouri  
Md Mostafizul Karim, Penn State  
Cengiz Kaydim, West Virginia University  
Hatice Esin Kaydim, West Virginia University  
Mariam Koanda, New Mexico Tech  
Peter Kolapo, University of Kentucky  
Natalya Kublik, Arizona State  
Luis Larota Machacca, South Dakota School of Mines  
Tebogo Letshwiti, University of Nevada, Reno  
Shiyu Li, Virginia Tech  
Simon Lotero, New Mexico Tech  
Matthias Lundberg, University of Nevada, Reno  
Andrew Lupachino, University of Kentucky  
Ming Ma, Penn State  
Eurico Madureira, New Mexico Tech  
Ernesto Maldonado, University of Kentucky  
Waylon Martin, University of Kentucky  
Baylor Mattingly, University of Kentucky  
Zachery McCoy, University of Nevada, Reno  
Austin McCracken, South Dakota School of Mines  
Hannah McFarlane, University of Oklahoma  
Emmanuel Mends, University of Nevada, Reno  
Theophilus Mensah  
Luis Felipe, Mesquita Penn State  
Tori Miller, Penn State  
Andrew Minckley, University of Kentucky  
Jairo Montano, New Mexico Tech

Reeves Morgan, University of Oklahoma  
Seyedkamal Mousavinezhad, University of Nevada, Reno  
Anna Mozisek, Texas A&M  
Sanchay Mukherjee, Pennsylvania State University  
Spencer Mullikin, Colorado School of Mines  
Santiago Navia Vasquez, New Mexico Tech  
Sima Nikfar, University of Nevada, Reno  
Sheida Nili, University of Nevada, Reno  
Line-Audrey Nkule Sonkeng, Colorado School of Mines  
Peter Nso, Missouri University of Science and Technology  
Natanna Nunes de Oliveira, University of Utah  
Ifeanyi Nwankwo, Penn State  
Oznur Onel, Virginia Tech  
Daniel Kyei Oppong, University of Kentucky  
Bankole Osho, University of Nevada, Reno  
Emmanuel Yaw Owusu-Fordjour, University of Utah  
Yucel Ozsoy, University of Kentucky  
Klaus Pacheco Hague, Colorado School of Mines  
Madhav Patel, Penn State  
Mohsen Rabbani, University of Nevada, Reno  
Rylan Rasmussen, South Dakota School of Mines  
Caleb Ratliff, University of Kentucky  
Joseph Rhoades, Utah  
Joshua Riffle, West Virginia University  
Jesus David Romero Benitez, University of Kentucky  
Oluwafemi Salami, Missouri  
Madison Sandoval, University of Nevada, Reno  
Lauren Sankovich, University of Nevada, Reno  
Lilly Schroer, Georgia Institute of Technology  
Kelley Anne Severinsen, Utah  
Mahdi Shahsavari, University of Nevada, Reno  
Gaurav Sharma, Penn State  
Tsunami Sharmba, Penn State  
Jordan Smith, Utah  
Justin Soflikanich, University of Oklahoma  
Zane Swainston, Colorado School of Mines  
Mohsen Takhtavan, University of Nevada, Reno  
Akash Talapatra, Virginia Tech  
Adam Tesch, Virginia Tech  
Saboor Ahmad Torabi, Penn State  
Kathleen Troy, Virginia Tech  
Mahmud Ulu, Virginia Tech  
Juan David Valencia Quiceno, West Virginia University  
Angela Nataly Vanegas, New Mexico Tech  
Justin Waybright, West Virginia University  
Zachary Wedding, University of Kentucky  
Yidi Wu, Penn State  
Zhongqing Xiao, Virginia Tech  
Burc Yaman, Colorado School of Mines  
Ya Yao, Missouri  
Baran Can Yucel, Penn State  
Lee Zamalloa, Colorado School of Mines  
Gaobo Zhao, West Virginia University  
Qingqi Zhao, Stevens Institute





## Lima-Peru: Workshops

(Continued from page 14)

had the participation of Patricia Kosa, Silvia Dioses, Pamela Antonioli, Melissa Amado and Valter Sousa. In this webinar, the participants began by telling their experiences and some of the challenges they had in the sector as women. They also mentioned the improvements that are being made in relation to the gender gaps that exist in the energy mining sector.

**Coaching workshop at IIMP.** On March 19, our students attended a coaching workshop led by MGU Coaching. This five-hour workshop aimed to reinforce the leadership and soft-skills development of our scholarship

recipients. The workshop was held at the facilities of the Institute of Mining Engineers of Peru (IIMP), our strategic partner.

**Training at Tumi Raiseboring.** On March 20, a group of our students received training at the Lurín plant of Tumi Raise Boring Oficial, a WAAIME partner. In this training, company leaders shared with our scholarship recipients their experiences and knowledge in the mining sector, and the students also received a certificate.

Among the activities, our students shared lunch and dinner with Susana Palomino, our vice president and director of scholarships, and her husband Guillermo Herrera. ■



Training at Tumi Raise boring.



Coaching workshop at Institute of Mining Engineers of Peru.



Dining with with Susana Palomino, vice president and director of scholarships, and her husband Guillermo Herrera.