



Midyear report on WAAIME activities

by Lydia Hull, Chair, Executive Committee

Dear WAAIME members, I hope this finds our members well and healthy. I understand several members and their family members across our membership have contracted the Covid-19 virus. I'm happy to say the ones who have notified me are well on their way to a complete recovery.

This past July, WAAIME chair Jean Davin, found it necessary to tender her resignation from the Executive Committee. This was due to the illness of her husband and the need for many tests and procedures. He is now doing well. Because of Jean's resignation, the Executive Committee nominated and selected Lydia Hull (me) as chair to serve Jean's remaining term.

2020 Scholarships

WAAIME scholarships were sent out in August after verification with the universities due to the Covid/CDC restrictions. Scholarships totaling \$215,000 were received by 213 students at 22 schools. Additionally, scholarship funds were wired to the WAAIME International Sections for their students in the amount of \$50,000. WAAIME also approved \$60,000 for its Lou Henry Hoover Fellowship recipient, Alexander Douglas, who is in the third year of his Ph.D. program at the Missouri University of Science & Technology (pursuant to the SME Foundation guidelines.) Our total outreach in 2020-2021 to students was \$325,000 — well spent for the future.

Membership Directory

WAAIME is attempting to update the Membership

Directory with current names, addresses, phone numbers, and a *valid email address for each member*. If you do not have an email address, perhaps a friend or family member could provide their address to relay information to you. It appears we all must move forward in this internet savvy world. This is the fastest and easiest method to keep in touch with our membership. If there have been any changes in any area of your information, please send an update to Tanya Kriss, our SME/WAAIME liaison, at kriss@smenet.org. We would like to have a completely updated directory for 2021. International section updates are being completed by their members. We will attempt to touch base with every U.S. member without recently confirmed information for updates.

Finances

Our portfolio, overseen and invested with UBS, seems to be holding at \$9.45 million. Our investments are in various stocks, bonds, and a new hedge fund recommended by UBS. Our financial "guru," Jean Davin, and the Executive Committee receive monthly updates in regard to our investments and any recommendations. Jean stated, "The volatility of this year's market has been daunting, but the Executive Committee stayed conservative and within budget for its expenditures." Thank you Jean for your diligence in this matter.

Midyear meeting

We had our first, and unprecedented, virtual meeting
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Eugenia Lomelin will receive the WAAIME Founders award

Eugenia Lomelin was born in Mexico City, graduated as paralegal secretary in 1952 and worked for the U.S. Embassy in Mexico (1956-1965). Her husband joined Peñoles in 1971 and, in the same year, she joined the Peñoles Ladies Committee that works for the families of mining communities where the company operates.

In 1971, Eugenia joined WAAIME and served as president of the Mexico City Section in 1982-1983 and 1986-1987. She was the founder of the Torreon Section. She also served as president of the Women's Committee of the Mexican Institute of Chemical Engineers (IMIQ) in 1972, and she is a member of the Mexican Association of Mining Engineers, Metallurgists and Geologists of Mexico (AIMMGM).

Eugenia has participated in several WAAIME meetings in the United States and Peru, and she took Communities Development training courses in Spain. She is an active fundraiser in support earth-science students and promotes English courses to students interested in pursuing graduate studies in the United States. During the last 40 years, she has served as the International Representative of the Mexico City and Torreon Sections to WAAIME and she participates with the SME Committee.

Eugenia says, "Education is the most important element to develop Mexico, so I will continue helping students until the end of my days." ❖



