



## Message from the Chairman

This addition of your Autumn/Winter newsletter showcases the Visiting Lecture series, student support, Congress and the upcoming AusIMM conference in Auckland. Our aim as a committee has been to increase our communication and engagement with you so we are pleased to report on a high level of activity over the last few months.

The AusIMM Congress is an annual event to discuss the strategic agenda for the overall institute, and NZ was well represented (see article). This was one of the most rewarding events I have been to, and am very pleased to report that the AusIMM is very strong with excellent leadership and direction. The AusIMM is worth your engagement, and you will be enriched through active contribution.

We are looking for active branch members to join (a) the New Zealand Branch Committee itself, and (b) working groups around the committee as a number of long serving members are stepping down. At this important time in New Zealand mining, you have a chance to help mould the future of our industry. We want you to take the challenge, step-up and help lead your profession. The election will be held at the AGM which has been held over (from August) to coincide with the conference in November.

Lastly, just to thank Hugh, who is soon leaving to the US. He has done a mighty job getting this newsletter resurrected and we wish him well in his travels.

Cam Wylie

## MinEx Health and Safety Council News

Les McCracken, the AusIMM NZ Branch Environment, Health and Safety working group leader recently attended the MinEX AGM in Christchurch. MinEx is a national Health & Safety Council for the New Zealand minerals industry. Its main purpose is to assist the minerals industry to improve its health and safety performance, and provide centralised industry representation in matters relating to health and safety.

MinEx held its 2010 AGM on 30 June in Christchurch and members are urged to visit the [MinEx website](#) to read the Chairman's report.

MinEx has also recently released a revised framework for the Certificate of Competency for Surface Mine Managers. This is an important modification to the current legislation as it proposes one (1) certificate of competency rather than two (2) being A grade and B grade. Submissions close on this revision 2 August 2010 and interested members are urged to review the submission located [here](#) on the MinEx website.

The AusIMM NZ Branch would appreciate any feedback on the proposed revisions because this proposal is expected to influence the Dept of Labour's review of the legislation.

Comments relating to certificates in competency in general are welcome, and can be sent to either [Les Mc Cracken](#) or [Dave Stewart](#).

Les McCracken and Dave Stewart

## Special points of interest:

### Australian Mining History Association Conference

4-11 July 2010, Greymouth

For more information on the conference see the conference [web-site](#), or contact [Dr Brian Hill](#).

### AusIMM NZ Branch Conference

24-26 November 2010, Auckland

For more information see the AusIMM website or read the description later in this newsletter.

### Discount NZresources.com Subscription

AusIMM NZ Branch members are eligible for a 10% discount on subscriptions to the New Zealand mining industry news website [NZresources.com](#)

For further information on the discount, please contact [Anna](#). For editorial enquiries, contact [Ross Louthean](#).

### Free AusIMM Membership for Students

Student membership is funded by the Branch so any students wishing to join should contact [Graeme Fulton](#) for more information/payment. A refund is also available upon proof of payment for students that are already members.

### School Trips to Mine Sites

The Branch has \$1,500 available for funding school trips or visits to mining and mineral related sites (to cover both travel and relief teacher costs). The aim is to encourage schools to visit mining sites as part of the curriculum studies on non-renewable resources, but any school interested in exposing their children to mining or minerals related sites will be considered. For more information or to apply, please contact [Graeme Fulton](#).

### New Members

If you have any colleagues or friends who are not members then encourage them to sign-up as for each new member the branch receives \$50. For application forms, contact [Graeme Fulton](#).

## AusIMM 2010 Visiting Lecturer - Professor Bob Bodnar

The 2010 AusIMM NZ Branch visiting lecturer, Professor Bob Bodnar from Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, USA, presented a short course and lectures at various locations throughout New Zealand during May. He presented a two-day short course on fluid inclusion systematics and applications at University of Auckland (attended by 32), Victoria University of Wellington (21) and University of Otago (15). Several hours of phase diagrams on the first day of the course were pretty heavy going, but helped to explain the make-up of fluid inclusions in different environments. The pay-off was the second day of deposit examples.

Professor Bodnar visited the Martha (Waihi), Globe Progress (Reefton) and Macraes mines and presented a lecture on the application of fluid inclusions in mineral exploration to mine and exploration geologists at the mines. Of particular relevance was that most of the techniques are based on simple petrographic observations of fluid inclusions in thin section and require no special equipment or training.

Professor Bodnar also presented a lecture on the earth's water cycle to an audience of about 70 at the University of Auckland. A major focus of the lecture was the transfer of water between the near-surface environment and the interior of the earth, and vice versa, at subduction zones and at mid-ocean ridges and arc volcanoes. To the surprise of many of us, Bob suggested that the interior of the earth contains a larger amount of water than all the water in the earth's oceans. Plenty of potential for hydrothermal fluids!

Follow-up discussions with university and GNS Science researchers are likely to strengthen ongoing collaborative research projects, and may lead to new research projects with Professor Bodnar, providing flow-on benefits from the Visiting Lecturer Programme. In addition to an increased understanding of hydrothermal fluid processes, many of the short course attendees have been encouraged to experiment with techniques learned.

The AusIMM NZ Branch visiting lecturer committee (Tony Christie, Dave Crow and Jeff Mauk) welcomes suggestions for a visiting lecturer for 2011.

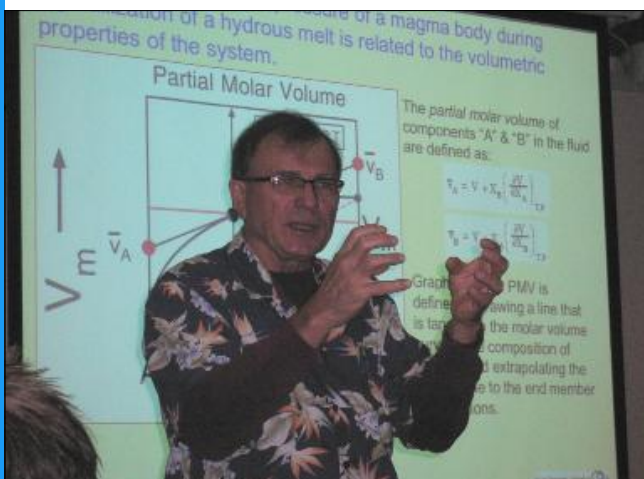
Tony Christie



Professor Bob Bodnar explaining the basics of fluid inclusions



Short course participants at Victoria University of Wellington



AusIMM NZ Branch 2010 Visiting Lecturer Professor Bob Bodnar in action, describing phase relations in fluid inclusions.



Short course participants at The University of Auckland

## AusIMM Congress, 14-16 May 2010, Wollongong

There was a strong representation from NZ at Congress, which was held in Wollongong from 14-16 May. The Branch sent Dave, Cam and Campbell while Roger and John were present representing the AusIMM Board. The NZ branded presence was most obvious!! This was in part because delegates from our small Branch (262 of 10,400 total members) comprised 10% of the delegates at Congress. Important points covered at Congress were:

- the election of the first woman President, Alice Clark, after 117 years,
- presentations by the branches present and the geoscience, metallurgical, and mining societies and from the various branches of the AusIMM,
- workshops primarily addressing planning for the next 3 year and 10 year period, professional standards, sharing various problems throughout branches and the currently high profile Rudd Resource Tax (now revised), and as the AusIMM now comprises 1 in 5 members outside Australasia a presentation was made on this aspect (refer to article in the current issue of The Bulletin).

Importantly, reports were to the financial strength of The AusIMM, its membership growth (over 10,000 for the first time), the ongoing strength of conferences and the proposed growth of professional development.

One aspect in particular to emerge was that, because members are so busy these days, nearly all branches have a problem in attracting attendance at meetings. One successful approach is the visiting lecturer series, which NZ can develop in 2011 in co-ordination with Australian branches.

Delegates were most buoyant and left Congress with a positive approach for future development within our branches and for The AusIMM as a whole.

Roger Gregg



AusIMM New Zealand Branch Committee Members at the 2010 Congress, Wollongong, Australia . From left: Roger Gregg, John Dow, Campbell Ryland, Cam Wylie and Dave Stewart

## AusIMM NZ Branch Conference

*“Driving the Economy – Investment, Productivity and Research in the Minerals Industry”*

24th to 26th November 2010

Auckland, New Zealand

The conference is to celebrate NZ Mining and the contribution this important industry makes to the community through science, engineering and economic development. For further information on attending the conference contact [Helen Cocker](mailto:Helen.Cocker@ausimm.co.nz) or see the AusIMM Website [www.ausimm.co.nz](http://www.ausimm.co.nz).

Joint Principal Sponsors:



## MSc Scholarships **CLOSING SOON**

The AusIMM NZ Branch Education Endowment Trust (EET) provides scholarships to students in New Zealand studying in courses related to the minerals industry.

Applications are now open for:  
\$5,000 MSc. Scholarship

*(APPLY BY 31 JULY for study in 2011)*

In 2009 a total of 6 MSc. and 1 BSc. scholarships were awarded (total value of \$32,000).

To apply for either of these scholarships, please see the [EET website](http://www.ausimm.co.nz) or for more information contact [Graeme Fulton](mailto:Graeme.Fulton@ausimm.co.nz) or [Vivienne Bull](mailto:Vivienne.Bull@ausimm.co.nz).

## Science Fair Judges Wanted

As part of AusIMM's commitment to education, the AusIMM New Zealand Branch contributes a prize to each of the school regional science and technology fairs in the following centres: Far North, Central Northland, North Shore, Auckland, Manukau, Waikato, East Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Eastern Bay of Plenty, Taranaki, Gisborne, Hawkes Bay, Manawatu, Wairarapa, Wellington, Marlborough, Nelson, Canterbury, Central South Island, Otago and Southland

The AusIMM prize is \$50 cash and a copy of the book "A Continent On The Move" presented for the best earth science related topic, with a preference for mining and minerals-related topics.

The AusIMM has the opportunity of providing a judge for the AusIMM prize at each of the fairs. If any NZ Branch member would like to act as a judge at one of the fairs please let [Tony Christie](#) know (ph: 04 5704682) and he will send you more information and contact details. The fairs are generally held in August and September.

## Minerals Industry Scholarship

In addition to the EET Scholarships, a Mineral Industry Scholarship is available through the Branch. This scholarship is aimed at students who wish to study minerals related courses not available in NZ (Mining Engineering, Metallurgy or Mineral Processing).

While the scholarship has been primarily aimed at courses in Australia, any other recognised program of study will be assessed on a case-by-case basis as applications are received.

For more information or to apply, please contact [Graeme Fulton](#).

**ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS NOW**

## AusIMM NZ Branch Sponsors Students

The AusIMM NZ Branch is pleased to announce that the Education Endowment trust has awarded two BSc (Hons) scholarships for 2010. The recipients are Zoe Reid-Lindroos and Callum Bruce, both from the University of Otago. They have both received \$2,000.



Callum is studying shallow marine seismic characterisation of coast-parallel faulting south of Dunedin



Zoe is studying variation in vein chemistries and textures in mylonites along strike of the Alpine Fault

## Conference Fieldtrips and Courses

This year the NZ Branch Conference will offer three field trips and four short courses.

### Field trips:

Mines and Wines  
Waiheke Island Wineries and Art Park  
North Island Gold  
*([View full description of field trips](#))*

### Short courses:

Mine geology and quality (grade) control  
Minerals and Coal Permitting  
How big is my mine?  
Epithermal gold deposits  
*([View full description of short courses](#))*

## AusIMM NZ Branch Working Groups

The AusIMM New Zealand Branch working groups are made up of at least four members that communicate regularly on issues that affect the group of the New Zealand membership. All of the working groups would welcome the addition of new members from the Branch that wish to contribute to the group in any way. To express your interest, please contact the leader of the working group directly by email using the links below.

| Working Group                    | Leader                          | Contact email address        |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Finance and Member Services      | <a href="#">Graeme Fulton</a>   | graeme.fulton@xtra.co.nz     |
| Conference                       | <a href="#">Murray Stevens</a>  | stevensassoc@xtra.co.nz      |
| Environment, Health and Safety   | <a href="#">Les McCracken</a>   | mccrackenl@xtra.co.nz        |
| Advocacy                         | <a href="#">Peter Nicholson</a> | peter.nicolson@xtra.co.nz    |
| Marketing and Communications     | <a href="#">Hugh Davies</a>     | hdavies@golder.co.nz         |
| Branch Secretary                 | <a href="#">Dave Stewart</a>    | minserv@xtra.co.nz           |
| Professional Development         | <a href="#">Cam Wylie</a>       | cwylie@rdcl.co.nz            |
| Students and Young Professionals | <a href="#">Campbell Ryland</a> | rylca186@student.otago.ac.nz |