

## 2018 PCMIA Annual Joint Meeting Day 1



Ed Zeglen



Dave Zatezalo



Heather Dougherty



Carl Carlson



Scott Hamilton

The meeting began and Opening Session remarks were given by Edward F. Zeglen, Jr., GMS Mine Repair & Maintenance, Inc. and Chairperson, SME - Pittsburgh Section. The Keynote Speaker was David G. Zatezalo, Assistant Secretary for Mine Safety and Health who spoke on **MSHA in Review and Forecast of Priorities**.

Data was presented showing recent trends in mine safety and enforcement. Mine safety has improved tremendously in recent decades, but there is still work to be done. His presentation also focused on several key initiatives being pursued by the federal agency. Among them is a campaign to reduce accidents involving powered haulage, which has accounted for about half of all mining fatalities in recent years. In particular, the agency is promoting safe practices in regards to belt conveyors and large mobile equipment and is soliciting ideas for technological solutions to safety challenges in these areas. The Agency has also been active in pursuing the small share of operators who fail to pay mining penalties through an enhanced scofflaw program.

Technical Session 1: **Coal/Gas Partnership Panel** followed with Session Chair: Dr. Heather Dougherty, NIOSH Panelists were:

Carl Carlson, Director of Government Affairs, Range Resources-Appalachia, LLC  
Scott Hamilton, Mining Engineer, PA DEP Bureau of Mine Safety  
M. Seth Pelepko, Program Manager-Well Plugging and Subsurface Activities, PA DEP  
Gregory M. Rumbaugh, Chief,  
Roof Support Systems Branch, MSHA Casey V. Saunders, Manager, Coal/Gas Coordination, CONSOL Energy  
Adam Scarr, Senior Drilling Team Leader, EQT Production  
Daniel Su, Senior Service Fellow, NIOSH

After the break, Technical Session 2, Mine Rescue took place with Session Chairs:  
Dr. Jeffery H. Kravitz, retired MSHA and Edward F. Zeglen, Jr., GMS Mine Repair & Maintenance.

The first speaker was Maxwell Clark, Electrical Engineer, MSHA who spoke on **Trapped Miner Seismic Location System**.

The next speaker was Dan Alexander, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor, West Virginia University who spoke on **Columbia National Mine Rescue Contest**. This was followed by Benching Demonstration by Collegiate Mine Rescue Students

The PCMI Student Luncheon and Awards Presentation featured an address **The Future of Coal** by Jimmy Brock, President and CEO, CONSOL Energy.

Coal has contributed significantly to the prosperity of the United States for well over a century. Recently, coal has faced challenges resulting from increasing costs to produce and generate electricity from coal, environmental challenges, and public perception that coal is not needed for generation, ultimately eroding coal's competitive advantage and decreasing its market share.

However, coal remains a vital part of electricity generation in the US and the world, providing affordable, reliable, and resilient energy not afforded by other energy sources. To be competitive, the coal industry needs to embrace new technologies and innovations, increase coal utilization, and attract and train the next generation workforce, through the combined effort of the industry, academia, and state and federal governments.

The PCMIA Awards were presented by Michael A. Trevits, Xtraction Science and Technology, Inc., and PCMIA President as follows:

Stephen McCann Educational Excellence Award **Erik Westman, Ph.D., P.E.**

Donald S. Kingery Memorial Award **Kelvin Wu, Ph.D. P.E.**

Donald S. Kingery Student Grant Award **Daniel S. Ausherman**

PCMIA/SME Student Design Awards 1st Place **Steve Gabrielsen, Jedidiah Hardcastle, David Solyman, Jeff Wetton**, guided by **Dr. Rajive Ganguli**, University of Alaska Fairbanks

PCMIA Appreciation Awards

PCMIA President's Service Award **R. Henry Moore**

After lunch, Technival Session 3, Engineering Projects 1, was held with Session Chair: Robert A. Kimutis, MICON. Beginning the session was Inoka Eranda Perera, Ph.D., Lead Chemical Scientist, NIOSH who spoke on **Mitigating Coal Dust Explosions by Using Treated Rock Dust**.

This was followed by Sarah Dagit, Phoenix First Response speaking on **Using Microsoft Excel to Optimize Safety and Productivity for Mining Operations with Prens Software**. The third speaker was Dave Yantek, Lead Research Engineer, NIOSH whose topic was **NIOSH Research on Underground Coal Mine Built-in-Place Refuge Alternatives: Contamination Ingress, Purging, and Cooling Systems**.

The evening Reception was Sponsored by SME Pittsburgh Section, Central Appalachian Section and the Pittsburgh Coal Mining Institute of America.



M. Seth Pelepko



Gregory M. Rumbaugh



Casey V. Saunders



Adam Scarr



Daniel Su



Jeff Kravitz



Maxwell Clark



Dan Alexander



Ricky Shipe



Jimmy Brock



Michael A. Trevits



Robert A. Kimutis



Eranda Perera



Sarah Dagit



Dave Yantek