

Centre News

CWiMI has reached a milestone by celebrating its 5th birthday as a Centre recently. The Sustainable Minerals Institute established the Centre for Water in the Minerals Industry (CWIMI) in 2004 to engage in research, contracting services and education related to water use in the minerals industry.

Tristan Cooke (a PhD student in MISHC) recently went to Peru to collect data for his PhD, and to teach a mining company how to use the MISHC-developed Operability and Maintainability Analysis Technique

SMI would like to welcome Nancy Eluigwe back after maternity leave. Thanks Louise Gallagher for being a great help while Nancy was away.

New Staff Profiles:



Laurie Beechey joined SMI in early April as Chris Moran's Executive Assistant. Laurie moved to Brisbane in January 2009, prior to which she worked as an administrator in the Tasmanian government. Laurie holds a BA from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, USA with a focus in Social Psychology Theory of Leadership and Management.

Courtney Fidler is an occupational trainee from Canada who will be working at the CSRSM for the next four months. As a social scientist, she completed her MASc research at the University of British Columbia in mining engineering and studied how Aboriginal people in Canada participate and influence mine development through environmental impact assessment and impact benefit agreements. She has experience in both the private and public mineral sector and aims to transfer the knowledge gained at the CSRSM toward her forthcoming PhD (University of Saskatchewan).



Upcoming Events:

All staff members are invited to attend the **Staff Engagement Survey Session**, this Friday 1st May from 12pm - 4pm in the SMI Seminar Room. Lunch will be served at 12pm for a 12:30 start. Drinks to follow in SMI Foyer.

SGEG 2009 Student Bursaries

The Specialist Group in Economic Geology (SGEG) offers 6 bursaries to postgraduates students to support their attendance at the 10th Biennial Meeting of the SGA, held in Townsville from 17 to 20 August, 2009. Each bursary is valued at up to \$800

To be eligible students must be members of the Geological Society of Australia (GSA) (student membership fees start from \$10 per year).

Preference will be given to students that are going to give oral or posters presentations at the SGA. Please send an application that includes a copy of your abstract and presentation / poster to Dr. Klaus Gessner: kgessner@cyllene.uwa.edu.au.

The deadline is Friday, 15 May 2009, for more information please visit: www.sga2009.jcu.edu.au/

6 - 7 May 2009 - Cyanide Management in the Gold Industry, Perth WA

For more information, please follow link:

<http://www.acmer.uq.edu.au/training/attachments/CyanideRegistrationBrochure2009.indd.pdf>

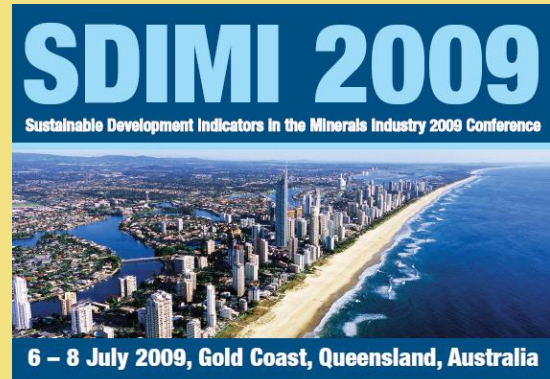
Call for Papers: WorldGold Conference 2009, 26-30 October 2009, Johannesburg, South Africa

For more information please visit: www.csr.com.au/index.html?page=98475&pid=22863

Sustainable Development Indicators in the Minerals Industry, 6-8 July, Gold Coast, Australia

SDIMI 2009 is the fourth in a series of international conferences aimed at enhancing the contribution of the global minerals industry to the goal of sustainable development.

The purpose of these conferences is best captured in the "Milos Declaration", adopted at the first conference held on the island of Milos, Greece in 2003 and endorsed by leading global professional and scientific organizations active in the sector.



The declaration emphasises that minerals are essential for meeting current and future societal needs and that the minerals professional community has a critical contribution to make to a sustainable future, through the application of scientific, technical, educational, and research skills.

Registrations now open, please visit: <http://www.ausimm.com.au/sdimi2009/>

Workshop Feedback



Innovations in Social Impact Assessment and Monitoring for the Resources Sector
1-2 April Brisbane



This workshop was in the words of one workshop delegate 'an amazing meeting of minds', a workshop that highlighted innovations in SIA thinking and practice, that involved leading academic, industry and government speakers and a broad spectrum of attendees from industry, government, academia and community groups.



From the SMI Research Committee

One of the functions of the SMI Research Committee is to oversee funding application, one of which is the SMI Academic Excellence scheme. This scheme has two funding rounds per year and is aimed at promoting and extending the SMI's academic profile through support for publications, conference attendance, and innovative project development.

In April we had the first round of SMI Academic Excellence awards for 2009, along with the annual UQ RIF grants. UQ RIF is a UQ central funding scheme targeted at minor infrastructure and international consortia funding. Congratulations to the following awardees:

UQ RIF

Awards have been made for the purchase of equipment for the following Centres: **CMLR**, **CWiMI**, **JKMRC**, **MISHC** and **BRC**. This equipment includes the following: high-speed cameras, ultrasonic flow meters etc.

Should you be interested to find out more about these equipment please contact your centre Research Committee member.

SMI Excellence Funding Scheme Round 1

Seven awards were granted by SMI Excellence Funding for round 1 in 2009. These grants are to cover a range of categories including: Seed funding for project development, Writing-up grants for publications, Conference attendance, and Meeting with International Consortia.

Congratulations to the following recipients:

CSRM	Ben McLellan, Catherine Pattenden, Joni Parmenter, Mary Anne Barclay
JKMRC	George Leigh
CMLR	Longbin Huang, Mansour Edraki, Andrew Fletcher, Thomas Baumgartl (jointly funded by UQRIF) Robert Maczkowiack

The next round for SMI discretionary funding will be awarded in September 2009. For more information, please contact SMI Research Committee.

Feedback from Daniel Franks - recipient of SMI Excellence Funding Round 1- 2008



Project title: Surrounded by Change - Collective strategies for managing the cumulative impacts of multiple mines

Daniel Franks (CSRM) attended the IAIA Special Topic meeting on Cumulative Effects in Calgary, Canada from 6-9 November 2008.

At the conference Daniel had an opportunity to showcase SMI research and network with researchers and practitioners in the field of cumulative impacts in the resources sector. Daniel was able to learn from the innovative approaches being adopted in Canada and apply these to an ACARP funded project currently under way to develop a good practice guide for cumulative impact assessment and management.

Following the conference Daniel travelled to Fort McMurray in northern Alberta to investigate the approaches the oil sands industry has taken to address cumulative impacts.

As a result of the funding and trip Daniel was invited to present a Seminar to the Commonwealth Department of Environment Water heritage and the Arts. His conference paper has also been published in the online proceedings and is available on CD. Follow this link

<http://iaia.org/iaia08calgary>



Fort McMurray, Canada

Project Delivery:

JKMRC

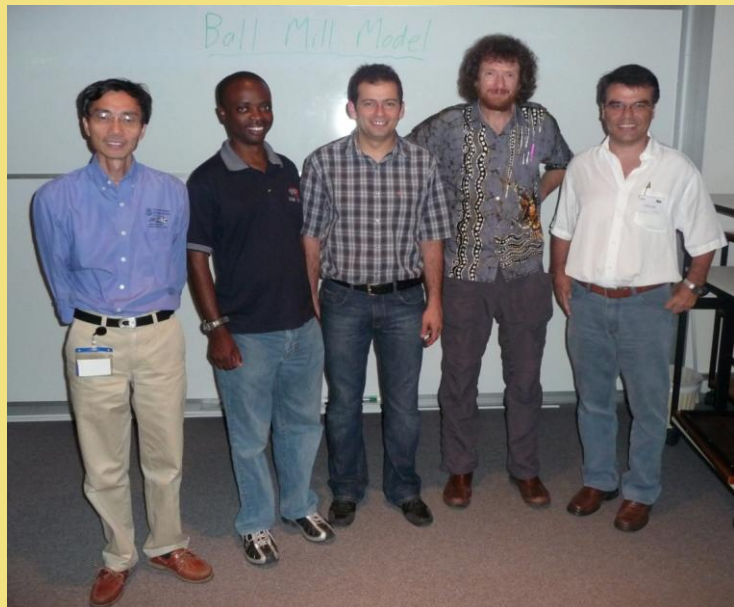
New Milestone for P9: Prof Marcelo Tavares from Brazil joins the Research Team and attends the Researchers meeting at the JKMRC in March

'P9' is AMIRA's longest running research project and is now in its 48th year - which makes it a good deal older than the average team members! It is a Mineral Processing project and the overall goal continues to be *'to improve comminution, classification and flotation performance through modelling, simulation and characterisation of particles and their process environments and through training and transfer of skills and technology to the industry'*. Traditionally researchers have been in two groups, viz. comminution and flotation, but the primary project outcome for P90 is the structure for an integrated multicomponent simulator.

The new milestone is having six research providers from five continents. This is achieved with Professor Marcelo Tavares of the Department of Metallurgical Engineering at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil joining the research team. The P9 project started with the JKMRC being the only research provider until 1996 when the University of Cape Town from South Africa joined, then McGill University from Canada and in the latest iteration, P90, Hacettepe University from Turkey and University of Newcastle (Australia) made it five different Universities.

Marcelo came to his first P9 meeting in March this year where focus of the comminution discussions were on the 'ball mill model' and for the first time a single model was being developed with researchers from four different Universities. Needless to say despite the formal looking photograph, much fun was had by all!

The next time the group will be together will be at LKAB in Sweden during May.



The researchers after a day of developing a new Ball Mill model . Dr Frank Shi (JKMRC) Dr Aubrey Mainza (UCT) Prof Hakan Benzer (Hacettepe U), Prof Malcolm Powell and Prof Marcelo Tavares (federal U of Rio De Janerio).



MISHC

ACARP project completion

The final report for the ACARP project C17033 (Development of the Operability and Maintainability Analysis Technique for Use with Large Surface Haul Trucks) has been accepted by the industry monitor. The report was by Tim Horberry, Sabrina Sarno, Tristan Cooke and Jim Joy from MISHC and deals with the development of a new technique to assess risks associated with haul truck operations and maintenance. The technique is beginning to be used by several mining companies around the world.

CWiMI

CWiMI has delivered an ACARP project quantifying the relationship between salt concentration of water and fine coal product quality. The aim of was to develop a method that sites could apply to check that water reuse (which increases site salt concentration) did not threaten product quality.

Recent Travel:

- 14 April - 4 May: Claire Cote from CWiMI travelled to Iquique and Santiago
- 17 April - 27 April: Gideon Chitombo from BRC travelled to Chile
- 27 April - 5 May: Prof Emmy Manlapig from JKMRC will be visiting South Africa.
- 3 April - 14 April: Tristan Cooke from MISHC travelled to Peru



PhD CONFIRMATION SEMINAR NOTICE

Name: Mr Daniel Tuazon, PhD candidate- CSR
Date: 1 May 2009
Time: 10:00-11:00am
Venue: SMI Seminar Room - Level 4

Thesis Topic: *A structured approach for integrating sustainable development principles into the decision-making processes at minerals processing operations*

Abstract:

High-level commitments to adopt sustainability are useful to the corporate levels of mining companies and were necessary to maintain their social license to operate. There are problems, however, when attempts are made to adopt these high-level sustainability aspirations and translate them into appropriate targets at the more-specific operational level, which is compounded by the continuing use of exclusively techno-economic evaluation techniques. Whilst legislative compliance places some restrictions from the environmental and social aspects, operational decisions are made almost always without a balanced sustainability paradigm. The ultimate aim of this research is to develop a practicable methodology that allows the integration of sustainable development principles into the operational level decision-making processes at minerals processing operations.

UQ Policy

As part of SMI's compliance with its response on Self Assessment Questionnaires, this segment of the Newsletter will regularly draw staff and students attention to various UQ Policies.

This month, your attention is drawn to the matter of Purchasing and Other Financial or Contractual Obligations. Please refer to FMPM 5.1.1 (State Purchasing Policy) and HUPP 1.50.2 (Outside Work and Business Interests for University Staff) for more information.