

February 2010

Dear members,

The AusIMM New Zealand Branch Committee is pleased to present an update on the recent activities and of the Branch in New Zealand and also highlight some of the events that are planned for 2010. In May, the branch will provide primary support for Dr Bob Bodnar (Virginia Tech) to present a series of seminars across the country. This will be followed in November by the annual AusIMM NZ Branch Conference in Auckland. More details on both of these events are in this newsletter and further updates will be distributed during the year.

In this newsletter we also profile two very active sectors of the New Zealand Branch Committee, the Advocacy and S&NP Working Groups. There are many opportunities to contribute to these groups, so please contact the group leaders directly if you have an opinion, a suggestion or wish to help.

All the best,

The NZ Branch Committee of the AusIMM

2010 AusIMM NZ Branch Conference

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

24th to 26th November 2010

Owen G. Glenn Centre, University of Auckland,
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.

The AusIMM conference will follow the Geological Society of New Zealand Conference, including the NZ Geothermal Workshop, at the same venue ([Click here](#) for details; separate registration and payment).

The combined occasion presents a unique and exciting opportunity, bringing together approximately 750 delegate professionals interested in earth sciences and the study and development of minerals, mining and energy related natural resources.

[Click here](#) for the call for papers (abstracts due by 31 May 2010). Author and abstract guidelines are also available on the AusIMM NZ Branch [website](#).

New Membership

The AusIMM New Zealand Branch directly benefits from new members that join through our Branch Committee.

If you are referring co-workers, clients, new employees or friends to the AusIMM, please put them in contact with [Graeme Fulton](#) (AusIMM New Zealand Branch Treasurer), who can assist with all new memberships.

EET Donation from 2009 Conference

The Education Endowment Trust received a \$22,500 contribution as a result of the highly successful 2009 AusIMM NZ Branch Conference in Queenstown. This has enabled continued support to be provided in the form of scholarships to students undertaking research related to the minerals industry.

For more information on the trust, please contact [John St George](#) (EET Chairman).

AusIMM School Science Fair Prize

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
Southland	

The AusIMM prize is \$50 cash and a copy of the colourful book "A continent on the move" presented for the best earth science related topic, with a preference for mining and minerals-related topics. AusIMM's participation in these science and technology fairs is a good way of raising the profile of minerals, mining and the AusIMM in the community.

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. The feedback from people that have acted as judges in the past for the AusIMM prize is that it is a very worthwhile experience.

2010 AusIMM Visiting Lecturer Series

7 – 22 May 2010

The New Zealand Branch will again be hosting an internationally renowned expert for a national speaking tour of the country. We encourage all members to make the most of this opportunity.

The 2010 AusIMM visiting lecturer is Bob Bodnar who will be visiting New Zealand between May 7 and 22, and will present a 2-day short course in Auckland (University of Auckland), Wellington (Victoria University of Wellington) and Dunedin (University of Otago) as well as his lectures in some centres.

Bob is University Distinguished Professor and C.C. Garvin Professor of Geochemistry at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, USA. His expertise is in crustal fluids through the study of fluid inclusions in experimental systems, ore deposits and petroleum systems, and in melt inclusions in igneous rocks. Bob has received both the Lindgren Award and the Silver Medal from the Society of Economic Geologists, and has produced over 130 peer-reviewed publications. His publications include landmark studies in experimental work on fluid inclusions and his research on phase equilibria in fluid systems has defined relationships that are used by fluid inclusion workers worldwide.

Funding is being provided by the AusIMM NZ Branch with contributions from University of Auckland, Victoria University of Wellington, University of Otago and GNS Science.

To request further information as it becomes available, please contact [Tony Christie](#) or check the [website](#).

AusIMM Publication for New Zealand

Geology and Exploration of New Zealand Mineral Deposits - Monograph 25

This important contribution to the exploration of New Zealand's mineral deposits contains a comprehensive collection of 47 papers from 70 authors that review selected mineral deposit types or describe individual mineral deposits, plus an introduction that sets the exploration scene in New Zealand

[Click here](#) to order the hardcopy volume for \$80.

The AusIMM NZ Branch Advocacy Working Group

The Advocacy Working Group is the part of the Branch tasked with responding, through representation, to issues affecting New Zealand's minerals industry and our members involved in this industry. The group is led by [Peter Nicolson](#), with committee members Richard Barker, Bob Brathwaite, Tony Christie, Vivienne Bull, Roger Gregg and Cam Wylie.

Recent Activities

During the period October 2009 through end January 2010, the Working Group was involved with two main industry concerns:

New Zealand Research Priorities

A submission on the Feedback Document: "New Zealand's research, science and technology priorities", released by the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology in November 2009, was made on behalf of Branch members in November.

The NZ Branch argued for, and stated strong support for, increased government-funded R&D in the Energy and Minerals sector to help boost the productivity and wealth of New Zealand.

Temple Peak Tenure Review

A submission on Temple Peak tenure review under the Crown Pastoral Land Act 1998 was made in January 2010.

The submission raised Branch concerns regarding the changing of land status under this process, which may result in the restriction or prevention of access to the land for mineral exploration and mining. In the case of Temple Peak, the scheelite potential of the historic Glenorchy field, as well as the antimony, gold, tungsten, nickel and copper potential in the broader Temple Peak area may be affected. The submission argued against such potential access restrictions.

Upcoming Issues

The Branch will be submitting to the Government's review of Schedule 4 of the Crown Minerals Act 1991. This review, driven by The Hon Gerry Brownlee (Minister of Energy and Resources) in conjunction with the Minister of Conservation, will be posted for public comment during February 2010. The review seeks to clarify if further areas of strong conservation values should be added to Schedule 4 (areas of the DOC estate generally closed to mining access), and if areas of strong mineral potential currently listed under the Schedule should be removed and become available for access under DOC's case-by-case review process.

Members are encouraged to comment on the discussion document, via the Branch or individually, when it is released (exact date not yet known). In the meantime, [this is a useful link](#):

Branch Input to Working Group

The Group welcomes input from Branch members. If you would like to comment on any industry-related issue, or would like to instigate or contribute to any Branch submissions, please contact [Peter Nicolson](#).

Students and New Professionals Working Group

The Students and New Professionals working group represents Student and Graduate members of the AusIMM New Zealand Branch and is dedicated to providing support and opportunities in the minerals industry for such members. The group is led by [Campbell Ryland](#), with committee members Hugh Davies, Vivienne Bull and Graeme Fulton.

Recent Activities

This year the AusIMM New Zealand Branch will be fully sponsoring a group of five New Zealand Student and Graduate members to attend The 2010 AusIMM New Leaders conference and Mining Games in Kalgoorlie. Campbell Ryland (group leader, University of Otago) will be accompanied by Richard Bayley (Solid Energy NZ Ltd), Sam Hemmings-Sykes (University of Victoria), Hayden Mackenzie and Sophie Bainbridge (both from the University of Canterbury).

The annual conference is directed towards students and recent graduates in the minerals industry and features up-to-date presentations from all disciplines across the industry, while providing valuable opportunities to network and socialise with like-minded people who are at a similar stage of their careers. The conference is held in conjunction with the AusIMM Mining Games: A fiercely competitive mining themed, team sporting event. Due to the very generous extra funding supplied by AusIMM Central Services to the New Zealand Branch specifically for sending student and graduate members to both events, this year's recipients will also be able to attend the Mining Games.

The Students and New Professionals Working Group would like to extend gratitude to all of the student and graduate members who took the time to submit an application for sponsorship to the 2010 New Leaders Conference and Mining Games. As usual the number of applications was far in excess of the places available, so we encourage those that were unsuccessful to try again next year.

Ongoing activities

The Students and New Professionals working group will be promoting the Education Endowment Trust tertiary level research scholarships and encouraging our student and graduate members to participate in the annual New Zealand Branch conference later this year.

Branch Input to Working Group

The Group welcomes input from Branch members. If you would like to be involved in any student and new professional events or receive more information on scholarships that are available to student members, please contact [Campbell Ryland](#).