Dear M&M Academy Members,

I hope your holidays were fun and full of cheer! We are already in the month of February for 2016 and this year will be full of opportunities.

I want to invite you to attend our regular meetings where you will find we are moving forward in our support of the seven programs affiliated with the Academy and the University. We are also incorporating more interaction with the students and student groups while we are on campus. Please put our next meeting, April 21, 2016, on your calendar now and plan to attend!

The Strategic Planning Committee, now Chaired by Tim Bradley due to Phil McPherson’s recent international reassignment, has met to begin to place the “how” and “metrics” into the Academy’s 5-year Strategic Plan that was presented at the meeting during Homecoming Weekend.

We will be working to help define how you can use your time, talent and treasurers to support the students and University through the Academy and our evolving 5-year Strategic Plan. I have heard your comments on how we can put more purpose in your involvement with the Academy and we will present those beginning opportunities for discussion. Your input into the Academy’s future direction and efforts is needed. Also check out our new website!

Gregory D. Skannal  
Chair, Mines and Metallurgy Academy

Chair’s Corner

I look forward to fulfilling our mission, around “Recognition”, “Consultancy”, “Ambassadorship” and “Support”.

Gregory D. Skannal  
Chair, Mines and Metallurgy Academy
SPRING 2014: GSE Growth Continues

♣ 698 Total GSE Students
♣ 437 Undergrad Students (includes FEP)
104 G&G / 97 GE / 236 Petroleum
♣ 169 Graduate Students (on campus)
61 G&G / 38 GE / 70 Petroleum
♣ 92 Ft Wood/Distance GE Grad Students
♣ $2.2 Million GSE Dept FY 2013 Research Expenditures

GSE Benefits from Campus Strategic Plan

Outstanding GSE Research
♣ $2.3 Million GSE Dept FY 2013 New Research Awards

The S&T campus conducted a campus-wide strategic planning effort during the 2012-13 academic year. GSE was awarded funds from two competitive initiatives from this plan. Two New Colleges with Deans: Where does Geology and Geophysics belong?

In fall 2013 Chancellor Schrader decided that S&T would go back to two colleges, each with a dean. One college was to be Engineering and Computing, and the other college was to be Arts, Sciences and Business. This raised the question: Where does the Geology and Geophysics (G&G) program belong? Technically G&G is a science program, but it is a key pillar of the GSE department. The Chancellor gave the GSE faculty the opportunity to choose. After an excellent and fruitful discussion regarding the strategic future of the department and the relative contributions of the three programs, it was nearly a unanimous vote to keep the Geology and Geophysics program within GSE.

Malaysia Exchange Program

Petroleum Engineering students Caitlin Darnall and Colin Woolums are in Malaysia at UTP in Spring 2014. At right Caitlin takes a bite of Durian, a very strange local fruit.

GSE has the Most Female Students at S&T
♣ Geol Sci and Engrg (147 females)
♣ Biological Sciences (139)
♣ Civil, Arch E and Envir E (131)
♣ Mechanical and Aero (11)
♣ Chemical Engrg (104)
♣ Mechanical and Aero Engrg (984 students)
♣ Electrical and Computer Engrg (673)
♣ Geol Sci and Engrg (501)
♣ Computer Science (491)
♣ Civil, Arch E and Envir E (432)

GSE: Now the 3rd Largest Dept at S&T

As of Spring 2014 fourth week numbers, (no freshmen FEP or distance students):

SPE Energy Symposium: April 7, 2014
Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Third Annual Energy Symposium, organized and sponsored by the SPE student chapter. This one-day event features presentations by industry speakers, plus the annual Petroleum Engineering Banquet that evening (Monday, April 7).

GSE Advisory Board Meets: April 25, 2014
GSE chair Ralph Flori is organizing a combined advisory board meeting for the GSE department on Friday, April 25. Some invitations have gone out. If you are interested in participating, please contact Dr. Flori at reflori@mst.edu.

New Name: Department of Geosciences and Geological and Petroleum Engineering

As the GSE department was discussing the place of the G&G program, the campus also asked us if we should consider adding Petroleum to the department name since that is now the largest GSE program. After discussing a number of new names, we settled on the Department of Geosciences and Geological and Petroleum Engineering (GGPE).

As of Spring 2014 fourth week enrollment, the top departments in female student numbers are:

GSE received approval to search for a new faculty member in Petroleum Engineering in Reservoir Characterization.

GSE received funds for a new G&G Microscope Lab (with new microscopes, digital cameras, and projection facilities ideal for student collaboration).