



Twin Cities Subsection Student Chapter Report SME 2015 Annual Meeting

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The University of Minnesota SME Student Chapter was established in January 2012 and each year students attending the SME Annual Meeting are supported by funds provided from sponsor contributions to the Twin Cities Subsection and additional funding from the SME Minnesota Section. This year four students attended the SME Annual Meeting in Denver. One provision in the terms for supporting the Student Chapter is that students attending the SME Annual Meeting report on their experiences and benefits gained from the trip. Individual reports are available at “2015 Student Reports” on the SME TC Subsection website www.smetwincities.org

In summary, all students had their understanding of the mining industry greatly expanded including seeing the potential for career opportunities. They appreciated the overview provided during the keynote session and enjoyed attending individual sessions related to their own technical interests. In particular they were able to gain a greater understanding of the importance of the upper Midwest frac sands industry. They were also impressed by the size and scope of the exhibits and enjoyed promoting the SME Public Awareness Campaign by describing it to exhibitors and leaving cards at the booths. They reported enthusiastic support by the exhibitors and left cards at 60 booths. At the Student Board Subcommittee meeting on Sunday the students benefitted by learning about operating procedures and activities in other Student Chapters.



They enjoyed the Friends of Minnesota Reception where they were able to meet and talk to sponsors and many distinguished Minnesota alumni. They were impressed by the open discussion of environmental issues and SME's efforts to highlight increased environmental responsibility in the mineral industry. The students made good use of networking opportunities, talking with students from other Student Chapters and with SME officers, members and exhibitors.

Overall, the University of Minnesota SME Student Chapter continues to be successful and the ability to do this through the support of our sponsors is greatly appreciated.

In the photo, from left to right: Jared Mullenbach, Garrett Deick, Weston Fenner and Kendra Fallon