

August 2016

Headlines

- AusIMM Congress 2016
- Central West Met Fest
- Technical Talk – Julian Verncombe
- Students meet industry
- Women in Industry
- 2016 upcoming events

Lachlan Branch News

Thank you to all for supporting our events so far. We have hosted a few technical talks (with more to come) plus a very successful drill core workshop. WIMnet have been active in our region, with good attendance at these events.

AusIMM Congress has come and gone for another year. The 2016 Congress was very different to previous years, and the changes were welcomed by the attendees

The AusIMM Lachlan Branch and President's Dinner are planned for Friday 14th of October 2016. This has been a very successful event in the past, with this year's event set to be held in Parkes, NSW. Please contact the branch if you are interested in presenting or sponsoring the event.

AusIMM Lachlan Branch Contact: lachlan@ausimm.com.au

AusIMM Congress 2016

AusIMM Congress was held from the 20th – 22nd of May 2016. It was hosted by the Far North Queensland Branch in Cairns Queensland with the topic "Our AusIMM Beyond 2020". The format of the 2016 Congress had changed from previous years, with the focus being on Congress attendees having input into AusIMM governance issues and way forward for the AusIMM. The strategic plan was also discussed at great length. All suggestions from Congress attendees were recorded by the AusIMM to ensure they were captured. The new format was well received by everyone in attendance and worked very well from a delegate's perspective.

There was a lot of discussion about the current AusIMM charter and by-laws, with the AusIMM planning to update these documents this year. These documents are no longer fit for purpose as most have not been updated since they were written in 1956. There was focus on determining what is important to the current AusIMM members and how this can be incorporated into these documents.

AusIMM Congress was discussed at length, and the importance of this event. It was acknowledged by all that there is a lot of value in this face to face meeting that occurs once a year and that it should stay on the annual calendar. There was a focus on looking at how Congress engages attendees and making sure everyone gets value from this event.

There was also a lot of discussion about the role of the AusIMM President, as in theory they are only meant to be a chairperson for the board. However, the current President is seen more as a figurehead of the AusIMM and is the main person from the board who engages with each branch. This clearly adds a huge work load to the role of the President. Most agreed the current role of the President works, and that the President should be a figurehead for the AusIMM, and not just chairperson of the AusIMM board.

A number of delegates from the Chinese branch were in attendance and for the first time at Congress an interpreter was used, to translate one of the Chinese delegate's presentations into English. The Asian sector of the AusIMM is growing, with more professionals choosing to become AusIMM members from China and Hong Kong.

As always, the networking opportunities and talking to other delegates was invaluable. It is great to share new information and see what other branches are involved in. It was also a good opportunity to meet members of the AusIMM board and discuss the mining sector and industry with them.

The current focus of the AusIMM continues to be with MAP members (unemployed or under-employed AusIMM members), and there is consideration for supporting these members as long as possible. This support runs at a loss for the AusIMM, however it is in the industries interest to keep these people's skills current, and this also helps their chances of employment.

The 2016 AusIMM Congress was one of the most engaging for delegates to date. A large thank you is extended to the AusIMM staff and board, who organise Congress and ensure it runs almost seamlessly. Well done to the Far North Branch of Queensland for putting on a great Congress.



Technical Talk – Julian Verncombe

Julian Verncombe visited Orange NSW as part of the Geoscience Distinguished Lecture Series. He presented a drill core workshop on Drillcore, Strategies and Digital Technologies Workshop on Monday 14th of March 2016. Fifteen people were in attendance, with the core kindly supplied by Clancy Exploration. There were even a number of students who travelled down from Newcastle to attend this workshop. It was great to see a short course presented in the central west and it was well supported by the locals.

Julian Verncombe presented a technical talk on the Monday 14th of March. It was well attended by 30 people mainly with a geology background. The talk focussed on the expectation of new geologists to the industry to find a world class resource from Greenfield exploration sites. As Julian illustrated, most of the world class operations or operations with long term mining prospects had started as smaller operations with small defined resources. Once mining commenced further exploration was completed and additional resources were defined and the mining continued. These mine sites initially only had a very short life, but through development of the resources lead to further exploration and these sites continued to develop into world class operations.

Julian's underlying question throughout the presentation was why are we expecting our junior engineers to do what the previous generation couldn't? Previous exploration generally found smaller resources that were developed into large resources. Today most junior exploration geologists are asked to find a world class operation from Greenfields exploration. As Julian illustrated the most of the larger operations started on a small scale that grew over time.

Technical Talk – Dale Sims

The Lachlan Branch had the pleasure of hosting a technical talk on the 5th of July 2016 with Dale Sims presenting Gold Mining in Indonesia. The evening was attended by a great cross section of professions including geologists, mining engineers, geotechnical engineers and famers. The talk was also attended by AusIMM EEF recipients who were touring mines in the Lachlan belt.

Dale shared his vast knowledge and experience of gold mining in Indonesia such as the mining of high sulphidation and epithermal deposits and the difficult challenges faced such as community relations, geography, earthquakes and the blending of ore with highly variable grade. Dale also shared humorous anecdotes about K shaped islands with floppy tops, bus drivers and hairy rocks.

The night was informative and thoroughly enjoyed by all and the Lachlan Branch looks forward to hosting Dale and his cohort of students again.



Women in Mining

CMOC-Northparkes Mines brought together a panel of three leading Managers in industry to discuss their careers, decisions they have made, and challenges navigated along the way. Attendees were able to hear from Nedra Burns from Cadia Valley Operations, Anna Wylie from Parkes Shire Council and Roslyn Dalton from Northparkes. As hoped, the event has sparked interest in the women in mining Central West group and additional women in industry networking events to be planned in Parkes and Orange.

Out of this WIMNet NSW - Central West is holding their inaugural meet and greet on Thursday, 4 August 2016 in Parkes. We will have representation from several of the mines in the region as well as other businesses who provide support to the industry.

Another meet and greet event will be planned for Orange within the next 3 months to provide an additional opportunity for those who were not able to come to the Parkes event. It may also provide an opportunity some personnel from Lithgow and Mudgee areas to become involved with WIMNet NSW.

These meet and greet events are aimed at providing people with the opportunity to network with other mining and mining services related personnel our region. It is also being held to determine options for future events for interested members. For further information on WIMNet NSW please contact janelchung@hotmail.com



Upcoming events

Central West Geology Technical Session

2016 Lachlan Branch Mining Forum

Planning is underway for this year's Lachlan Branch mining forum planned for Friday 14th October in Parkes. This event has proven to be a great value mini conference and networking event. Speakers include current AusIMM president Rex Berthelsen. If you are interested in sponsoring or presenting at the event please be in contact with Maya on lachlan@ausimm.com.au

Central West Met Fest + Delprat Distinguished Lecture

Professor Tim Napier-Munn will be delivering this year's Delprat Distinguished Lecture to the Lachlan Branch in Orange. To coincide with this event and to bring together the metallurgical community within our region the branch will be hosting a metallurgy themed evening. All sites from within the region are encouraged to participate and give a short presentation to the group on projects or operational improvements being made at their concentrators.

When: Friday 18 November (evening)

Where: Orange

Details on the event will be provided over the coming months.

If you would like to participate and have a topic you would like to give a presentation on please contact biancanewcombe@hotmail.com

We have started populating our calendar. If you have an event you wish to include, please get in touch with Sarah Webster sarah.webster@northparkes.com.

September	<u>The AusIMM New Leaders' Conference</u>	19-20 th September	Brisbane	<u>http://www.newleaders.ausimm.com.au/</u>
October	Lachlan Branch Mining Forum	14 th October	Parkes	
	"India in the west"	28-30 th October	West Wyalong festival	
November	Central West Met Fest	18 th November	Orange	
January	<u>Parkes Elvis Festival</u>	11-15 th January	Parkes	<u>http://www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au/</u>

