

Why SOMP matters – Voices of the Community

**SOMP is more than a network – it's
a community for ideas, inspiration,
and lifelong connections that shape
the future of mining.**



Elisabeth Clausen

Professor at RWTH Aachen University, Germany

SOMP Deputy Secretary General and SOMP President 2024–2025

What is your most memorable experience with SOMP?

One of my most memorable experiences was my first SOMP conference in 2011 in Arequipa, Peru, where I experienced firsthand the **energy, diversity, and openness of the community**. The mix of passionate young professionals and experienced experts created an inspiring environment. It was also the conference where I get to know Tim Shaw. Therefore, it made it even more meaningful when, several years later, I was awarded with the **Tim Shaw Award for Innovation in Teaching and Learning** in 2016 as the **first recipient**.

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“What can young professionals learn from being part of SOMP?”

They gain access to a **vibrant network, cutting-edge knowledge,** and a sense of **belonging in a global community.** SOMP encourages active participation, interdisciplinary thinking, and provides a stage for the next generation to be heard and **make a difference.**

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Why should mining professionals not miss SOMP 2025 in Aachen?

SOMP 2025 in Aachen promises to be a **hub of innovation, dialogue, and global exchange**. It's a great opportunity to connect with experts from around the world, explore emerging trends, and help **shape the future of mining education and research**.

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Join us at SOMP 2025 in Aachen

<https://www.amt.rwth-aachen.de/en/somp-2025.html>



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