

Why SOMP matters – Voices of the Community

SOMP is a great professional community that allows interaction across all continents.



Zach Agioutantis

Professor at University of Kentucky, USA
SOMP Director of IT and Membership

What is your most memorable experience with SOMP?

The field trip at the Johannesburg meeting where we visited **the deepest (gold) mine in the world.**

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“Why is international collaboration crucial for the mining industry?”

Mining has always been international – way before other disciplines started international collaborations. It has always been crucial for mining engineers around the world to be able to **compare notes** and **apply best practices** with respect to safety, mine planning, production and all other aspects of mining.

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Which topics or discussions are you most excited about?

One of subjects that is always discussed and always evolving is **how to attract young mining engineers into the discipline**. We understand the value of being a mining engineer, but it is difficult to convey that to today's students as they have a different way of thinking.

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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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