



# American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers

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## LIST OF MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS AND RULES

The American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers recognizes outstanding achievement in technology, research, production, development and administration through the conferring of nine **major achievement awards**, listed below, in order of their dates of establishment.

### **James Douglas Gold Medal**

**Established in 1922**

Recognizes distinguished achievement in nonferrous metallurgy.

### **William Lawrence Saunders Gold Medal**

**Established in 1927**

Recognizes distinguished achievement in mining other than coal.

### **Charles F. Rand Memorial Gold Medal**

**Established in 1932**

Recognizes distinguished achievement in mining administration (the term *mining* regarded in its broad sense to include metallurgy and petroleum).

### **Anthony F. Lucas Gold Medal**

**Established in 1936**

Recognizes distinguished achievement in improving the technique and practice of finding or producing petroleum.

### **Erskine Ramsay Medal**

**Established in 1948**

Recognizes distinguished achievement in coal mining, including both bituminous coal and anthracite.

### **Robert H. Richards Award**

**Established in 1948**

Recognizes achievement in any form which unmistakably furthers the art of mineral beneficiation in any of its branches.

### **Benjamin F. Fairless Award**

**Established in 1954**

Recognizes distinguished achievement in iron and steel production and ferrous metallurgy.

### **Hal Williams Hardinge Award**

**Established in 1958**

Recognizes outstanding achievement which has benefited the field of industrial minerals. The achievement so recognized may have been accomplished through writing, teaching, research or administration, resulting in new discoveries, in better products, in new techniques, in new uses, wider markets, improved management, or through wider dissemination of knowledge.

### **Robert Earll McConnell Award**

**Established in 1968**

Recognizes beneficial service to mankind by engineers through significant contributions which tend to advance the nation's standard of living or replenish its natural resource base. Such significant contribution may be represented by discovery of a major source of minerals supply, by development of an engineering process to extend present minerals supplies, or outstanding engineering contributions which in other ways enhance the standard of living.

On April 18, 1940 the AIME Board of Directors adopted a resolution providing that “no person who has been awarded any one of the four medals—Douglas, Saunders, Lucas and Rand—is eligible for consideration for any other of the three medals.” Upon establishment of the Ramsay, Richards, Fairless, Hardinge and McConnell awards in subsequent years, the stipulation that a person might be selected as the recipient of only one of the AIME Major Achievement Awards was adopted by the AIME Board of Directors at the request of the proposers of the awards, as well as identical rules governing eligibility requirements and nominating procedures.

The conditions of **Eligibility** are as follows:

There are no limitations regarding nationality, membership in the AIME Member Societies, or otherwise. All other factors being equal, it is suggested that preference be given to members of the AIME Member Societies.

A candidate must be a living person able and willing to present himself in person to receive the award at the time and place designated by the Board of Trustees. However, the death of a candidate subsequent to May 1 does not render him ineligible during that year; and if he is duly selected for the award, the presentation shall be made posthumously in accordance with special procedure to be prescribed by the Board of Trustees.

To avoid the possibility of one person being considered by more than one committee of award at the same time, the chairman of each of the nine committees, between the 15th and 25th day of June of each year, shall communicate in writing to the chairmen of the other eight committees the names of the persons on the *active list* for consideration by his committee for the current year; and should it appear that any individual be a candidate for more than one award, the nine chairmen, as a special committee, shall determine on which eligibility list the candidate should be retained for that year. In the event of failure to agree, advice may be asked of the Board of Trustees.

## **Nominations**

If, after the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees, the award committee receives affirmative advice from the Board of Trustees that an award may be made, and the committee is directed to undertake the selection of a candidate, the following is the procedure:

Prior to May 1, the chairman of the committee shall send to each member the names of those living candidates then on the *active list*, mentioned above, and shall invite further nominations from the members of the committee. Such nominations should be in the hands of the chairman before June 15, and shall be accompanied by a memorandum giving a full and complete statement of the reasons for proposing the candidate, with a record of his professional and industrial achievements in sufficient detail to enable the committee to pass judgment on the candidate’s worthiness to receive the award.

On or before July 15, the chairman of the committee shall send to each member a list of all eligible candidates, together with names of the proposers, and the detailed professional and industrial records of the candidates. Each member will be asked for a letter ballot to be in the hands of the

chairman no later than August 15 indicating his preference of the names submitted. If any candidate receives five of the total eight committee votes he shall be considered formally selected.

In the event no candidate receives five of the total eight committee votes, the chairman shall send to each member of the committee a list of the candidates who received one or more votes in the first letter ballot. In the event no candidate receives five of the total eight committee votes in the second ballot, the chairman shall send to each member of the committee a list of the candidates who received two or more votes on the second ballot. In the event no candidate receives five of the total eight committee votes in the third ballot, the chairman shall send to each member of the committee a list of the candidates who received three or more votes in the third ballot. If no candidate receives five of the total eight committee votes in the fourth and final ballot, no award shall be made for the current year.

The unsuccessful candidates shall constitute an *active list*, but after being considered by three committees of award, a candidate will be dropped from the list. This, however, does not make him ineligible for re-nomination.

If a candidate is selected, the chairman of the committee shall prepare a citation, not exceeding twenty-five (25) words, and shall submit the name of the candidate **with the citation** to the Board of Trustees of the Institute for its consideration at a regular meeting, or by mail ballot, not later than November.

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On October 4, 1971 the AIME Board of Directors adopted the following:

**GUIDELINES FOR COMMITTEES OF AWARD RELATING TO NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES AND CAMPAIGNS ON BEHALF OF AWARD CANDIDATES**

Any member of the Institute can suggest a candidate to a member of an award committee. When such suggestions are received, the committee member should request the AIME member proposing the candidate to develop an appropriate dossier for circulation to other members of the committee. This dossier should contain complete information on the candidate's background, professional achievements, publications, etc. The committee member, must send such a dossier to other members of the committee, but may do so without committing his own endorsement of the candidate. The committee member proposing a nominee may, however, solicit letters from appropriate individuals when such letters will substantiate or clarify contributions to the profession by the nominee. In many cases, such significant contributions are not a part of the public record and can only be delineated by this means. Such supporting letters may be incorporated as a part of the dossier package.

Each committee member should consider possible candidates for the award and develop the necessary dossier and submit it to the entire committee as he deems appropriate.

The AIME Board of Directors/Trustees has never established a firm policy on campaigns conducted on behalf of award candidates because of the difficulty of enforcing such a policy. As a result such campaigns do develop from time to time, usually in the form of letters to the committee by friends of the candidate. The Board discourages such campaigns and has expressed the view that such campaigns should not be allowed to influence the selection of candidates. The consistent

practice by award committees has been that a candidate's professional accomplishments should be the only basis for his selection by the committee to receive the award. Accordingly, award committees are advised not to allow popularity campaigns to influence the selection of award candidates when they do develop.

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On May 19, 1966 the AIME Executive Committee adopted the following policy on

#### **NOMINATION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AS AWARD CANDIDATES**

When a person nominated to receive a specific AIME major award holds office on the committee which administers that award, he shall either resign from the committee or remove his name from further consideration for the award until his term on the committee has expired. It shall be the responsibility of the award committee chairman to implement this policy and, in case of resignation of a committee member, to make a recommendation to the AIME President for appointment of a replacement.

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On October 20, 1982, the AIME Board of Directors adopted the policy that the administrative responsibility for the AIME awards which exclusively apply to one Constituent Society be assigned directly to that Society as shown below:

Benjamin F. Fairless Award	AIST
Hal Williams Hardinge Award	SME
Anthony F. Lucas Gold Medal Award	SPE
Erskine Ramsay Medal Award	SME
Richard H. Richards Award	SME
William Lawrence Saunders Gold Medal Award	SME
Howard N. Eavenson Award	SME

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On September 11, 1987, the AIME Board of Trustees voted to present all major AIME awards at the AIME Annual Banquet. An exception to this was approved by Mail Ballot dated October 8, 1987, whereby the Hal Williams Hardinge Award is to be presented at the Industrial Minerals Division Luncheon held during the Annual Meeting.

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After the committees of award have made their selections, the records of the candidates are deposited with the Executive Director and Secretary of the Institute or appropriate Member Society who acts as custodian of the records until the appointment and confirmation of the new chairmen. In the interim the records are accessible to the members of the committee, and to the Board of Trustees of the Institute. The records are preserved for three years, after which they are destroyed.