

Why SOMP matters – Voices of the Community

SOMP is a big family that brings together experts with diverse cultures and experience to try and improve the mining academia worldwide.



George Barakos

Senior Lecturer at Curtin University, Australia
Co-Coordinator Members Development Committee

What is your most memorable experience with SOMP?

Receiving the **Tim Shaw Award** during SOMP2022 in Namibia. The recognition and appreciation I received from the society was overwhelming. It justified and motivated even more my **passion for teaching.**

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“What trends do you see shaping the future of mining?”

We are experiencing a unique era for the mining industry. The **net zero emission goals** pose challenges in terms of ramping up production to levels beyond imagination, while trying to **decarbonise, digitise and automate the industry** itself. The **political, social, technical, economic, and environmental challenges** that will govern the mining sector in the following years will change the industry significantly.

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Why should mining professionals not miss SOMP 2025 in Aachen?

SOMP is a unique annual event for mining academics but can be of high value also for mining professionals. The **close connection and collaboration of academia and mining industry** is the key to the improvement of the sector toward the **challenging era that we have entered** that will lead to applying **greener technologies.**

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Join us at SOMP 2025 in Aachen

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

