



TMS volunteer face time



Saying Thanks to the Volunteers of TMS2014

Long before the doors opened on the TMS 2014 Annual Meeting & Exhibition (TMS2014) in San Diego during February, a small army of volunteers was deep into planning TMS2015 in Orlando and even meetings beyond.



The groundwork was laid for next year's annual meeting, as well as other TMS initiatives, during committee and working meetings conducted over the course of TMS2014.

Nearly every aspect of a TMS annual meeting is touched by volunteer hands, ranging from symposium organizers, to proceedings editors, to awards committee members, to poster contest judges, to the more than 3,000 individuals who gave presentations. This volunteer-

centered approach is the engine driving the success of any TMS meeting, noted 2013 TMS President Elizabeth Holm. "Development of the meeting trickles up from the community of TMS member



volunteers, rather than down from a small group of individuals," she said. "As a result, the TMS annual meeting offers a vast and diverse technical program, as well as meaningful networking opportunities in both structured and informal formats."

While giving back to the profession in such significant ways is seen as reward in itself, TMS has redoubled its efforts to provide more tangible thanks to its annual meeting volunteers. Starting with TMS2014, all volunteers were recognized with a small gift of appreciation or certificate. The Volunteer Leadership Lounge at the annual meeting also continued to grow in popularity, giving those involved with programming and coordination aspects of the meeting a chance to grab a snack, charge phones, check e-mails, and network with other

volunteers. Once TMS2014 concluded, TMS extended an offer to its volunteers to send their employers letters of appreciation for



The Volunteer Leadership Lounge provided at TMS annual meetings is a welcome benefit of volunteer service.

supporting their volunteer service. "The letter will let your employer know that your work with TMS not only better the profession and hones your skills and profile as a professional, but that your effort reflects well on your employer's organization," stated Hani Henein, 2014 TMS president, in a March e-mail to volunteers commemorating U.S. National Volunteers Week.



TMS recognized its volunteers at TMS2014 in a variety of ways. Pictured are Adrian Deneys (left) being thanked for his service as outgoing Extraction & Processing Division (EPD) chair by current EPD Chair Mark Schlesinger.



TMS 2013 President Elizabeth Holm congratulates John Grandfield, *Light Metals 2014* editor. The volunteer role of proceedings editor is critical to the prestige of a TMS annual meeting.

To arrange for a letter to your employer, contact Joni Minehart, TMS Volunteer Specialist, at volunteer@tms.org. For information on the many ways that you can contribute to your profession as a TMS volunteer, visit TMS Volunteer Central at www.tms.org/volunteer.

