

USI MINING TECHNOLOGY PROFESSOR  
SELECTED FOR NATIONAL SME AWARD



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George R. Eadie, professor of mining engineering technology at the University of Southern Indiana, was one of 13 engineers in the nation selected to receive the 1988 Distinguished Member Award of the Society of Mining Engineers. The awards were presented at the recent SME annual meeting in Phoenix, Arizona.

Eadie lives in Eldorado, Illinois, where his family has operated rental property, landscaping, and consulting mining engineering businesses. He has been with USI since 1976.

Eadie was nominated for the award on the basis of his contribution to the development of mining engineering technology in the Illinois Basin coal industry and to SME. The nomination states: ". . . (Eadie) recognized the need of the coal industry in the '70s to develop technically educated people to manage the expected expansion and when these needs did not materialize, he successfully redirected the focus of the mining engineering technology program which he heads, to emphasize engineering principles and provide graduates needed in the independent coal operations in the Tri-State. Through his field trip activities, professional society participation, and consulting practice, he has earned the respect and confidence of area coal operators and educators."

Eadie has had continuous active service with  
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the American Institute of Mining Engineering (AIME) and SME, including serving as SME ad hoc visitor for accreditation visits to mining and other educational programs since 1977; SME representative on the Technology Accreditation Commission of ABET and SME representative alternate to the ABET Board of Directors (1982-85); member of the SME Board (1981-83); and selection by the Department of Interior as one of five experts on the international panel in 1976 that investigated the causes of the Scotia Mine disasters.

Eadie received his B.S., M.S., and E.M. degrees from the University of Illinois, where he taught from 1954 to 1963 and again from 1968 until joining the USI faculty. During the latter period, he also was administrator of the Illinois Geological Survey. He has held mining management positions in Pennsylvania, Oklahoma, and Illinois, the last being with Freeman Coal Company in West Frankfort from 1963 to 1965. He was associate editor of Coal Mining and Processing magazine in Chicago from 1965 to 1968, visiting and writing about underground and surface mines and coal preparation plants at operations throughout the United States.

A World War II veteran, he was commissioned and served in Italy during the war, receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with two Oak Leaf clusters, and Purple Heart. He remained in the military reserve until 1983, retiring as a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force. Other honors have included recognition of "valuable service" to Illinois Basin student chapters of SME and a certificate of appreciation as the "Founding Father" and charter chairman of the Evansville Section of SME in 1980. He and his wife have two daughters and four grandsons.