

2005 SME
Pittsburgh Section
Grant Awards

Bryan Schwalm
West Virginia University



Bryan Schwalm is from the small town of Oakland, MD and after choosing West Virginia University, he enrolled in the Mining Engineering Department after his freshmen year. Bryan is currently a Senior and is now the Secretary for the Mining Engineering Department. Being the Secretary involves emailing students about upcoming events, recruiting freshmen and high school students for the Mining Department, and helping organize all events and trips that the Mining Department elects to participate in. For the past two summers, Bryan has worked in Consol Energy's co-op program at Loveridge Mine in West Virginia. During his internships, he was to see all aspects of the coal mine including continuous mining and longwall mining methods, prep plant operations, and mine development and planning. Having gained valuable knowledge of underground coal mining, he is now better able to apply his experiences to the classroom. Upon graduation, Bryan plans to earn an Masters Degree in Business Administration to better grasp the business side of the mining industry.

Cheryl Spellman
The Pennsylvania State
University



Cheryl Spellman graduated from a small high school in upstate New York where her first introduction to mining was helping her father measure stockpiles at the sand plant. Cheryl comes from a family of miners including her father, uncles, and grandfather all of whom are looking to have an engineer in the family. Summer work programs have helped Cheryl understand the different aspects of mining. She has worked as a stone technician for a testing lab in upstate New York, worked in a quarry in Devault, PA, and most recently worked for Peabody energy/Eastern Associated Coal in Charleston, WV. Her recent internship with Eastern Associated exposed her to a variety of challenges including dust control on haul roads, underground surveying, prep plant flow analyses, and mine planning/mapping. Her time at school has been distributed between studying, working on research projects with graduate students and professors, arranging trips for the mining students. This year she accepted the position of Secretary/Treasurer of the Penn State Mine Society. Cheryl plans to be an active member of the mining industry and start a career after graduation.