

2008 SME Pittsburgh Section Student Grant Award

Drew Mason

Pennsylvania State University



Drew Mason is a sophomore mining engineering student at Penn State University with a 3.94 grade-point average (4-point scale). He is the current Vice President for the SME Student Chapter and was a member of the first International Intercollegiate Mining (Mucking) Competition team for Penn State. His first summer internship was with CONSOL Energy, Inc., during May-August 2008, where he worked primarily in the Safety Department at Mine 84. In this role he traveled with mine inspectors and completed various safety tasks, but he also performed some maintenance on safety equipment in the mine. Prior to coming to Penn State, he worked the summers of 2006 and 2007 as an Assistant Computer Technician at Lee Mason in Pittsburgh, where he installed and tested computers in classrooms. He is an Eagle Scout and a track-and-field athlete, a member of the National Honor Society, and has done volunteer work at the Plum Food Pantry. He received a Presidential Freshman Award to attend Penn State.

Adam Patterson

West Virginia University



Adam Patterson is a senior in Mining Engineering at West Virginia University. He has completed 106 credit hours with an overall grade point average of 3.8 and a 4.0 in Mining Engineering. Adam worked for Consol Energy in the Summer 2006 and 2007 at the Loveridge Mine (Fairview, West Virginia), and for Peabody Energy in the Summer of 2008 at the Twentymile Coal Company (Steamboat Springs, Colorado). He holds a West Virginia Underground Coal Miner's Certification. He has been on the Dean's List (Fall 2005 and Fall 2007), is a recipient of the Department of Mining Engineering Faculty Award, the President's List (Spring 2006, Fall 2006, and Spring 2008). Adam is the recipient of a West Virginia PROMISE Scholarship, and SME Coal & Energy Division Scholarship. His activities include College of Engineering and Mineral Resources (CEMR) Student Advisory Council, member (2008-2009), National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and member of the Society of Mining Metallurgy and Exploration. Adam was the Vice President of the SME Student Chapter in 2007-2008 and has been recently elected as the President of the SME Student Chapter in 2008-2009. Adam participated in all of the SME Chapter activities such as field trips, technical meetings, as well as regional and national SME meetings.