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 Subject Newsletter 2009-2



To **Members and associates of FEMP
 Alumni EMC, EMEC, EGEC programs**

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From Hans de Ruiter, Director FEMP

Please find following the developments of FEMP during the second quarter of 2009. If you have any questions or remarks, please contact me at j.j.deruiter@tudelft.nl.

2008-2009 course

This was the first year that the program included 18 non EU students with an Erasmus Mundus scholarship. As a result the total enrolment for 2008 was 55 students from 21 different countries. The addition of non EU students had a positive effect on all three options and gave the EMMEP program a true multinational appearance. The group of non EU students settled rather well in Europe.

The three options of the have concluded their academic year in May. The European Geotechnical and Environmental Course (EGEC) finished in Miskolc while the students of the European Mining Course (EMC) completed their final part of the program in Delft. The European Mineral Engineering Course (EMEC) finished in Helsinki. In total 53 students received the certificate of successful completion. Many of the students started immediately with an internship for the summer with one of the member companies of FEMP. The student impressions have been attached to this newsletter.

Due to the economic crisis it took more effort for the students to receive job offers than the previous year. Some will participate in the internship programs organised by Anglo American, Rio Tinto and other FEMP members. Most continental European students still have to complete a thesis project before they graduate.



Program 2009-2010

Registration for the 2009-2010 program has been completed. The total number of students for 2009-2010 will be 44. There will be 8 EGEC, 20 EMC and 16 EMEC participants from 17 countries:

| | | | |
|------------|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| Armenia | China | Hungary | Poland |
| Australia | Estonia | India | Sierra Leone |
| Bangladesh | Finland | the Netherlands | Thailand |
| Cameroon | Germany | Pakistan | Turkey |
| Chile | | | |

18 students are non-EU Erasmus Mundus students who will follow an entire 2 year MSc. Program. The others are mostly students from the participating 6 universities and partner institutions. The decline in enrolment, compared to last year (55) is for a great part caused by the fact that some students, who originally wanted to join the program, still got job offers and decided to take the job, not knowing how the employment situation would be next year.

Participants

The following list shows the number of participants, since the start of the program in 1996, to/incl. 2009-2010 academic year:

| Total enrollment European Mineral Programs 1996-2009 | | | | |
|---|------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Continent | EMC | EMEC | EGEC | Total |
| Europe | 212 | 135 | 64 | 411 |
| N. America | 29 | 1 | | 30 |
| S. America | 4 | 27 | 1 | 32 |
| Australia | 3 | | | 3 |
| Africa | 2 | 3 | 4 | 9 |
| Asia | 9 | 6 | 12 | 27 |
| Total | 259 | 172 | 81 | 512 |

Erasmus Mundus EMMEP program

The EU made 19 scholarships available for non EU students for the cohort 2009-2011, one student withdrew. Each scholarship is worth 2 X 21,000 Euros (2 years). TU Delft is the coordinator of the program. The registration and first screening was carried out by the international office of TU Delft. A brochure can be downloaded from:

<http://www.emmep.org/documents/EMMEP%20brochure.pdf> .

The students who started in September 2008 will start the second year in September 2009. The distribution over the universities for the second year was a difficult exercise. Each student will stay at two universities for one semester and follow a number of courses and carry out a thesis project. A number of students have been offered an internship during the 2009 summer, either in Europe, or in their home country.

The registration for the 2010-2012 EMMEP program will start in September 2009. The deadline for registration is 1 November 2009. There are at least 100 applications expected. Also two scholars were selected.

The next generation of the Erasmus Mundus program (EM2) will be implemented this year. The EMMEP program will have to adapt the new conditions for students arriving in September 2010. FEMP will evaluate the effect of the changed conditions (less funding and less students on the long term) before TU Delft has to approve an amendment of the contract with Brusels.

Annual meeting and reunion

The location of the 2009 reunion is near Heerlen in the South-East of the Netherlands. Barrick Gold Corporation is hosting the event, which will be held from 26 until 28 November. The location is between the cities of Aachen, Liege and Maastricht, which are located on major railroad lines and are also in the vicinity of international airports.



The annual meeting and reunion is an important event and is essential to maintain the FEMP / EMMEP network. It is also the best opportunity to strengthen the links with the industrial members of FEMP. A list of participants, a copy of the industrial presentations and a link to the pictures of the 2008 meeting can be found at (http://gallery2.tudelft.nl/main.php?g2_itemId=1207280) and www.femp.org/info/reunion08

The preliminary 2009 program is shown on the next page.

FEMP / Barrick Gold reunion and annual meeting 2009

| Day | Time | Activity |
|------------------------|-------------|--|
| Thursday 26/11: | 16.00-18.00 | Meeting Academics re. Erasmus Mundus |
| | 18.00-19.00 | Pause |
| | 19.00-21.00 | Annual meeting FEMP (Academics) |
| | 18.00-21.00 | Round table meeting Industry |
| | 20.00-24.00 | Students and guests arrive bar is open Sleeping |
| Friday 27/11: | 07.30-10.00 | Buffet Breakfast |
| | 09.00-11.30 | Industrial Advisory Board meeting |
| | 11.00-12.00 | Alumni arrive |
| | 12.00-13.00 | Buffet lunch |
| | 13.00-14.00 | Introduction Industry |
| | 14.00-15.00 | Introduction Barrick |
| | 15.00-18.00 | Workshop Mining in the Future |
| | 18.00-19.00 | Drinks |
| | 19.00-21.00 | Buffet dinner |
| | 21.00-02.00 | Netwerk borrel Sleeping |
| Saturday 28/11 | 07.30-10.00 | Buffet Breakfast |
| | 12.00-13.00 | Lunch (bread) |
| | 13.00-16.00 | Outdoor activities |
| | 16.00-18.00 | BBQ |

Agenda 2009-2010, activities in which FEMP is involved

June 27 - July 5 FEMP was represented at the annual meeting of the Society of Mining Professors in Sydney.

23-26 August 2009 FEMP will present a paper at the COM 2009, Conference for Metallurgists in 2009 in Sudbury, Canada.

12-14 October 2009 FEMP will present a paper on international education on the conference on Sustainable mineral resources within EU in, Luleå

3-6 November 2009 FEMP will participate and give scientific assistance as member of the Scientific Board of the IV Symposium on Recycling technologies and sustainable development in Kladovo (Serbia).

28 February – 3 March 2010 FEMP will participate in a joint paper about 100 years 2010 Annual Meeting of SME in Phoenix.

Websites and information

The website of FEMP can be found at www.femp.org. Educational details about the program (EMMEP) and the three options (EMC, EMEC and EGEC) can be found at www.emmep.org

Information, articles, etc. about education and research are accessible through the website of the Society of Mining Professors (www.mineprofs.org). It contains various presentations and articles about education and research in the directory: www.mineprofs.org/info .

Detailed course information can also be found at the Blackboard site (<http://blackboard.tudelft.nl>) You should use the following for login:

Userid: **femp**
Password: **Federation1** (case sensitive)

Course Summary and Annual Report 2008-2009

The most recent course summary and annual report (2008-2009) can be downloaded from: http://www.femp.org/info/documents/course_summary.pdf. Hardcopies can be ordered by e-mail from Marja Roep (m.g.roep@citg.tudelft.nl)

PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS

EMC 2008-2009

Johannes Schumacher – TU Clausthal

I think the year last year gave me a good overview how different universities work and what kind of style of teaching they have. Also you learned a lot about people:

- what different work styles they have
- how they react and respond to difficult situation
- you learned how you self react with these people facing the same problem
- Even I had no idea about mining before I joined the course → I think I have a very good impression after it what mining is about and what are the most important factors influencing the mining operation you could learn how different cultures interact with each other

All overall I think the program brought me a lot of personal development and new impression from many different countries all over Europe.

Henning Ranft – RWTH Aachen

The EMC is one of these rare things that you will always remember in your life: studying abroad for months with people that you did not know before, staying in various European countries, visiting mines and mining-companies all over Europe.

I really enjoyed living together with this international group. I made new friends from all over the world and learned a lot about everybody's culture. Academically it was challenging in the beginning to study abroad with insufficient English skills. But soon I managed to catch up with the rest of the group. The experiences made during this course will help me for sure in my future study and work. It was a great experience!"

Mark Fry – University of Exeter

In my opinion, the EMC has been a very valuable experience with opportunity to travel Europe and meet some very interesting people. The point of this course is not what you learn in the classrooms, it is what you experience outside them in the various companies, mine sites and experiences we have all shared. The standard of the lectures have been, on occasion, a bit lapse and lacking in technical detail and depth, but the experience of the site visits and witnessing first the mining methods we had previously only heard about in the class room was beneficial. The organisation was also poor in certain areas, but on the whole it was good considering the logistical nightmare of getting a group of 19 students to do what is required at specific times and locations.

Maxi Keil – TU Bergakademie Freiberg

The EMC was an experience which I will never forget. I learned a lot about mining and the mining industry, which I would never have learned in my home university. But the more important part is the good network of really good friends on which I think I can count on for the rest of my life. Living together for 8 months, with people from all over the world in four different European countries is an opportunity which enabled me to learn more about myself and helped to understand different lifestyles and cultures. I would not like to miss one single moment on this course, the happy and the less

happy ones and I hope that everyone who joined and will join the EMC can enjoy it as much as I did.

Theresa Stark – RWTH Aachen University

Ever since I heard of the EMC in the first weeks of my studies, I wanted to take part in this programme. Now, that the eight month are almost over, I can say it was the right decision. The programme was not always fun and at times even really hard, especially regarding living in a big group. But, all in all, the time was spent worth while, because I met many nice people and saw many different places. The excursions in particular were very interesting. When going home, I will take many valuable experiences with me.

Chris Penna – University of Exeter

If you're looking to further your education and in the field of mining and want to break away from the monotony of attending class at your home university for yet another year, then the EMC is for you. I'm not going to lie and pretend its all plain sailing because it quite simply isn't. At this very moment in the final week of the course, the whole group is consistently putting in 12 hour days in an effort to complete our case study on time, and if it wasn't the final week I'm sure quitting would seem the most attractive option. However; the good times far outweigh the bad and apart from the rare occasions intolerable suffering, I can truthfully say the whole experience has been one of my most enjoyable and one I will never wish to forget. I will add if you're looking for a course of a high technical level going into ever greater detail of engineering principles, then perhaps you should look elsewhere. On the other hand; if you're interested in broadening your knowledge of the various specialised mining techniques around Europe (coal mining in Germany, alluvial and marine mining in Belgium and Holland, the technologically advance mines of Scandinavia, etc), whilst gaining consistent exposure and networking opportunities to major industry players then the EMC certainly deserves your consideration. It's just a pity I decided to do it in the midst of a global mining recession.

Michal Bednarek - Wroclaw Univ. of Technology

EMC has been a great experience During last year I had seen different countries, meeting new people. Also I had got good theoretical, practical experience of engineering and improve language skills. Before this course I thought that probably it is very hard to study in foreign language. But now I know that it is possible and not so hard. The European Mining Course offers the possibility to make experiences for your live.

Juhani Tiikkaja – Helsinki University of Technology

I personally think that EMC is the best way to study mining comprehensively. I have learned a great deal during the year, because of the wide range of courses, which are divided between the different universities in the way that the main strengths of the universities have also been considered. Many courses I have had during the year are not available at my home university in Helsinki. The EMC also includes a wide range of mining related excursions in all of the hosting countries. It is very important to actually see different mining activities, equipment

manufacturers and to meet people who work in the industry. A smashing thing in the course has been the possibility to meet these great guys from different countries. We have had great times travelling together this year in Europe.

Joe Carr - University of Exeter

My overall view of the EMC is that it is a positive experience. The excursions and company visits give window to the mining industry and I have learnt more about some specific mining methods of which I had no prior knowledge e.g. Lignite mining in Germany and Alluvial mining in Delft. The time spent travelling and working in different places and interacting with different cultures is one which will prove invaluable later in life. I feel I now work better in groups, however the amount of individual work was quite low and this meant that grades were grouped and some people worked harder than others. One large negative is that companies which sponsor the EMC and give presentations to students are not actively interested in employing students.

Shaun Brown – University of Exeter

The EMC has allowed me to experience working alongside people of both different nationalities and ethnic backgrounds. In doing so I learned to appreciate cultural differences and overcome language barriers, whilst simultaneously furthering my studies within mining engineering. Through high levels of team work and challenges raised from experiencing living in different cultures, the course has prepared me for the challenges that I will face in the coming years in the industry.

Immanuel Shikongo – EMMEP (Namibia)

EMC has been quite an experience for me, it has given me an opportunity to be exposed to be people from other countries. This has allowed me to further appreciate other people's cultures and abilities. Further to the above I have also had the opportunity to be exposed to people within the mining industry, this has assisted a lot as it paved the way for future network possibilities.

Alice Bartz - TU Bergakademie Freiberg

Before I started the EMC I had some expectations of it. Now, after almost nine months on this course I can say all of them are delivered. I could improve my English skills, meet people from other cultures all over the world, made new friends and acquired more knowledge about mining. I enjoyed the stay in every of the four countries, but especially in Falmouth. The time in Falmouth offered us, in my case, the best mixture of time off, lectures and self studies. The EMC also gave me the possibility to learn about the different mining related companies during excursions and company presentations. But the most important thing was the improvement of my social skills, because an exceptional circumstances to live, work and spend you free time with the same people for more than 8 month. Overall I enjoyed it very much.

Tomasz Kordowski- Wroclaw Univ. of Technology

These eight months spend at EMC was probably the best months in my academic lifetime. Interesting lectures given by experienced professors, extraordinary social events and

great excursions- that is shortest summary of the EMC. Of course there were some problems, which I had to work through. You should also expect hard work and effort, but it is really worth to do your best. This course is also great chance for these, who like travelling and different cultures; you are studding in four different countries, in an international and multi-cultural group of students. That may of course caused unexpected troubles, but we managed to solve them easily. EMC, as being supported by the mining industry, can be the best start of your carrier. Not only working opportunities, but also internships and post- graduates programs can be reached by you after this course. All facts listed above leads to one conclusion, EMC is a great experience, which will influence my future life.

Abdul Rashid Sesay– EMMEP (Sierra Leone)

In the first case I would like to say a big thank you to God for seeing me and the entire group through this year's EMC successfully. For me the EMC programme did not only give me the knowledge and training to become a Mining Engineer but also gave me the opportunity to experience different cultures by travelling to seven countries in Europe. It was also a wonderful experience to live, sleep, eat and share things in common with almost 10 different nationalities taking cognizance the fact that I came from Africa with a completely different culture. So the biggest achievement was the fact that each member of the group was able to accommodate one another.

However, my greatest challenge on coming to Europe and living with Europeans was the food. I being a Muslim and a lot of things are forbidden, there was always a hustle in identifying the halal (permitted) and the haram (forbidden). For example I always tried to identify what food was prepared out of pork and what was not. Knowing my situation, the group members were always there to see that I did not eat what I should not. Talking about the standard of the course and the university, I think the universities are up to the task. The course is taught by experience professor which to me made the whole EMC programme equipped. In conclusion, the EMC programme is a success.

Anton Chan – EMMEP (Canada)

EMC was a wonderful experience for me. Academically, I received great lectures from good Universities, but more importantly are the company visits. They were very helpful in relating what was taught to what is actually happening. The diversity of companies also give an insight on the potential paths we can take in the future. The social experience is also invaluable. To be able to live and work with people from 9 different nations was very interesting and rewarding. I would like to thank FEMP and its partners as well as the Erasmus Mundus for making this journey possible.

Xiaoshan Sun – EMMEP (China)

EMC course is an invaluable experience for me. I learned a lot about mining, visited international companies of Energy Industry, travelled around Europe, made friends with people come from different countries, difference culture, learned how to cooperate in a international team. I enjoyed myself very much and believe that this experience will benefit me a lot in my future study and work. I want to thank all the people

quickly. In summary for me EMEC has been a good year and I would recommend it to anyone with an interest in the area who can condense their life down into about 20kg plus hand luggage.

Ekaterina Valyushkina - RWTH Aachen

EMEC was one of the greatest experiences of my life. Since I started it I haven't regretted once that I joined the course. If I start talking about the great people I met here, I wouldn't be able to describe my relationship to them; to call it friendship is not enough. You will only understand if you experience something similar. I came to the course as one person and leave different, full of motivation, emotions and thoughts about my future and carrier. These eight months changed my life. They gave me more understanding of who I am. I will always be grateful to the people who had the idea to start this kind of program and to keep them. This has been a chance to learn a lot for life and I took that chance. Thank you.

Elina Koivisto - Helsinki University of Technology

I enjoyed travelling around Europe with our magnificent group. Seeing three countries for a longer time period of time than I had ever spent in any of them and learning of their cultures has really thought me a lot. I gained new skills through our studies and observed student cultures in different countries. And of course my English improved.

Fabiano Guimaraes E Cunha - EMMEP (Brazil)

I consider myself as a very lucky person and I am quite grateful for the opportunity that was given to me to take part in the EMEC programme, it was for sure a great time and also a very enriching experience which I will never forget especially because of the friends I made during the programme. To study abroad in four different countries, and to travel to several ones, with a group coming from all around the world, not to mention the excursions to several mines throughout Europe, are in my opinion the

who are taking part in organizing EMC. Thank you very much.

Willem Blaisse – TU Delft

The EMC was a unique experience. The programme offers a diverse package of subjects and is clearly designed to make better, all – round mining engineers out of us all. Although one is continually pressed for time (dealing with this pressure is one of the main challenges in the course), the program remains enjoyable due to good lectures, several excursions, company visits, some organized social events, and fire rescue training. The programme requires a significant amount of adaptability to continually changing circumstances which are often less than ideal. It is quite a thing to spend 8 months in four different countries with 17 other students (whom you have never met before) from all over the world – 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All told I experienced the EMC as socially and intellectually challenging, but also rewarding. I've made friends whom I like to stay in contact with and think that the EMC has been beneficial in shaping me into a better mining engineer. For these reasons I would like to thank FEMP and the Industry for making this possible. Glück auf!

EMEC 2008-2009

Alan Lai - Delft University of Technology

The EMEC program taught me about many different things. It expanded my knowledge of the minerals industry with the lectures, hands-

best things EMEC has to provide. The knowledge in mineral processing and other fields and the international experience I gained with EMEC will be for sure decisive factors for success in my professional carrier

Ferdinand Ruff – EMMEP (Indonesia)

Thanks God that I could Join EMEC program which is also a part of my Erasmus Mundus Master program (EMMEP). Living in five different countries and studying at four different universities within Europe have been great experiences that I'll never forget. A lot of work was involved, but more than that, I had a lot more fun with my EMEC family, as we've always stayed together in a group during the last eight months. I had many opportunities to see much of Europe, meet new friends, learn new cultures, visit companies and be involved with some local events. I would like to thank all the coordinators who have tried to do their best for this program at their respective Universities. The EMEC course through the four Universities is generally well organised. I feel this EMEC program has greatly increased my opportunities career wise especially if I want to travel in the future as well. I strongly recommend this program for those who have an interest in Mining, Minerals & Environmental programs.

Joanna Kaniuka - Wroclaw Univ. of Technology

There are many things I could tell about EMEC. But I can count this year for sure one of the best and unforgettable in my life. I met amazing people, with whom I've spent 9 months (and hopefully will have contact much longer). During this time we became one very international family and like in any family had better and worse times. Thanks to this course I could develop some of my life plans, change old and make new, of course. EMEC gave us possibility to get closer to an international career. We had opportunity to meet people from industry, see new technologies, and get more detailed knowledge about mining processes. Studying in a foreign language has taught me that everything is possible. I've overcome language difficulties and fear to communicate in a foreign language. Now I am more self-confident with well defined plans for my future. If I had an opportunity to go to EMEC again or stay longer, I would definitely use it!!

Mariusz Grabinski - Wroclaw Univ. of Technology

When I went to England in September for the first period of EMEC, I was very afraid, particularly about my level of English which I thought was not high enough. I remember the first meeting in Helford Passage with my group, the first conversations... I can't believe that this was already eight months ago!! These past months have for sure been the biggest adventure in my life! Thirteen interesting subjects in four countries, many laboratory and practical exercises, and all in a friendly atmosphere. I had the opportunity to see several wonderful, and some of the biggest cities in Europe. I also met wonderful people, with whom I am sure to keep in contact with after finishing this course. Thank you for the possibility of enjoying EMEC - it is a great idea and for sure will help me and my friends in our careers.

Michael Hutton-Ashkenny - University of Exeter

The EMEC is a wonderful experience in terms of academic education, personal development and making life long friends and contacts. After completing my Chemistry degree I had no idea what I wanted to do, I just did not want to become a Chemist! The EMEC was a great opportunity to learn a new discipline whilst meeting people from all over the world. The time spent living in four very different countries with people from very different backgrounds makes you really appreciate that things don't always work the way you are used to. The best part of the EMEC is the chance to visit a number of industry sites in the minerals, mining and recycling industries. This really gives an insight to how everything you learn during the lectures is applied in the real world. Thanks to EMEC I now know what I want to do with my life and how to go about doing it. What's more, I've met some amazing friends who I will never forget.

Michael Oteng - Peprah – EMMEP (Ghana)

Personally EMEC has been a period of learning both academically and culturally. I have enjoyed my first year experiencing the intercultural differences between participants that have afforded me the opportunity to become more adaptable. Interacting with people from diverse background has also improved my interpersonal skills. It has also helped me to live on very limited load of baggage thus 20kg. The course coordinators have tried their best to make the programme interesting for us. The excursions are okay. There is little or no subjects on Environment which I suggest should be included since the name of the programme suggest a great deal of environmental subjects. The hydrometallurgical and hydrometallurgical parts should be reviewed. It has been very difficult to secure some sort of Internship. Even though the current economic crisis has made the future gloomy for the minerals engineer. But we are hoping for the better. On the whole, I have enjoyed my stay in Europe with my friends and its going to be a very painful departure. EMEC is an interesting programme and has been an eye opener in diverse areas for me. I am looking forward to the second year.

Mikko Loponen - Helsinki University of Technology

I joined the EMEC program after nearly completing my master's studies in chemical engineering and plant design. This extension of knowledge to minerals engineering proved worthwhile, as I learned the fundamentals of a completely new territory and eventually found a thesis position in the industry. The most important personal memories about the EMEC year, however, are related to completely different matters: bonding with a group of friends, travelling to interesting places and observing cultural differences first-hand. This year taught me not only minerals engineering, but also interacting with people from different backgrounds. Joining the program was a great decision and I feel truly privileged to have been a part of it.

Pekka Peljo - Helsinki University of Technology

Looking back to this year I'm happy that I took this course. The best part of it is the people. You have to live and study with an international group, and this really is a great experience that

taught me a lot. It was also good to see how the studying works in three other universities, and to get to see different places. The studies were actually very easy compared to the courses I've done in my home university, but I learned quite a lot of new things and had a good time and made some good friends.

Rhys Jones - University of Exeter

The EMEC course provides an excellent opportunity to experience the culture and day-to-day life in a number of European locations as well as giving an overview of an interesting field of study. In addition, the course's numerous field trips ensure that the relevance of the studied material to industry (and thus society as a whole) can be seen by the students throughout their study period. I thoroughly enjoyed my time on the course and travelling with my fellow EMEC students.

Marta Baszczyńska - Wrocław Univ. of Technology

There are a lot of reasons why EMEC has been an unforgettable experience for me. In the beginning I felt a bit worried and hesitated if to take part in this course. But now I know that these couple of months spent in a nice atmosphere with a group of great people were extremely valuable for me. I will never forget the time spent with my EMEC-group. We lived like family: studied, cooked and travelled together and had a lot of fun. I am sure that we will keep in contact! On the other hand this course gave me an opportunity to gain useful skills and develop my knowledge, and helped improve my technical language skills. Furthermore, during these 8 months I met new cultures, different customs and visited new and exiting places. There were also a lot of interesting lectures, laboratory sessions and excursions in different countries of Europe. I think that the gained ability to cooperate with international group of people can help me to be more confident as in life as in the future work. I am really delighted that I took the opportunity to participate in EMEC course. This was the best choice of my life!

Sha Liu – EMMEP (China)

EMEC is very happy experience for me. It is a great opportunity to travel in Europe, try different food and feel the different cultures from Asia. Also my English is much better than the beginning. The courses in EMEC are quite interesting, I have learned a lot from these for my future occupation. And the excursions in different countries are very useful. Before I came to Europe, I was afraid I would feel lonely because I am very far from home and friends. But after the first day, I understood I really do not need to be afraid, the classmates here are very nice persons. Now we are very good friends. I have more confidence and hobbies which make my life better. I enjoy the EMEC very much!

Valentina Liski - Helsinki University of Technology

The best word for me to describe the EMEC year is "Wow!" I could never expect this much from the program: marvellous group, supporting professors, wonderful locations and a lot of hard work. Nowadays it is common to think that studying abroad is only about having parties and travelling to foreign countries. EMEC is

definitely an exception from that rule. Before joining the program I've had my doubts. How well I as a food chemist would suit to the mining world? Would I find any common grounds with the people in the group? Would the studying abroad be a hell or a smooth road? And I must say I was constantly surprised! By the excitement I feel nowadays about mineral engineering, by support and friendliness of people around this program and of course by all the things I could learn and see during EMEC year.

I have developed as a person, as a team member. I could see a lot of good and bad sides of my character and work on them within the group. And I believe that it's the group's support, what made life both so challenging and exciting in the EMEC experience. It's actually the constant changes in the group member content what felt the most uncomfortable after all. The travel which seemed so tempting and exciting at first presented more and more challenging, a hard work as the countries would go by. I feel that it was a good practice to feel what the global mobility truly means. Certain details in the course organization and switching of locations could be still tuned, but overall I find EMEC a well established success. For me another big reason to join was to have a better picture of the different European education systems. I did learn a lot about that. And among other things, this experience helped me to see my own university in a different light. I find it a big shame our group couldn't take courses in Delft. I wouldn't be much wrong saying that everybody looked into that very much. More to that, the company visits were an invaluable experience and I could readily pronounce them the highlights of the EMEC year. All in all I can say with no doubt: EMEC made Europe a smaller and a cosier place for me. Thank you for that!

Vishnu Vardhan Akkineni – EMMEP (India)

I had a good momentum for the past 8 months in EMEC course. I shared lot of experiences in travelling to four different countries with different cultures and moreover it is amazing to study with 14 different nationalities. I gained more knowledge from this course about mineral processing and recycling techniques which will be helpful for my career. The excursions in this course give more information and real picture how I have to work in the minerals industry. I improved my personal skills during this course through my friends who are more helpful. I met friends in this course who are fantastic and I will never forget them in my life. I believe EMEC is the best option for anybody to get into the minerals industry.

Xavier Mear - University of Exeter

Writing this as I come to the end of EMEC, I have the real opportunity to reflect back on 8 months of my life, but I cannot do my EMEC experience justice with a small paragraph. Put simply, it has been an amazing rollercoaster ride! The opportunity to study at four different universities was a great attraction to me, and now that I am on the other side, I can say that my expectations have been surpassed. As previous students have already mentioned, it is not solely what was taught in the classrooms and laboratories, but the opportunity to learn from peers, and to encounter experiences together outside the classroom, has made this degree program a real adventure. Of course

one should not underestimate the work that needs to be completed, but these hurdles can be overcome. What have been invaluable to this course are the excursions to various companies that have operations spread across Europe or the world. This contact with industry emphasises that EMEC is part of a bigger picture, makes the world seem that little bit smaller, and that consequently seemingly elusive jobs and career paths are actually obtainable. The financial contributions of the organisers and companies involved are certainly appreciated, and the network that forms around you is priceless. It is thanks to these investors which invest in the students, that give this course a fantastic industrial insight. I am leaving this course with a firm background in Minerals Engineering, but what I will remember the most are the people that I have been fortunate enough to meet: different nationalities, different ages, different scientific backgrounds, but working (and living!) well together, so much so for me to wish that EMEC was a little bit longer.

Zhen Song – EMMEP (China)

EMEC course favours what I expected. Since it realized the top-ranking teaching quality and acquired advanced learning methods. Its daily workload and challenging tasks will let you be aware why it should be your first option among many MSc courses of minerals engineering. It also provides us with state-of-the-art research facilities and a number of opportunities of excursion. You would be well impressed while you really put in position, no matter open-pit or underground. Additionally here is a complete multinational environment. The team consists of the colleagues from different countries and you will study in 4 different countries. Therefore it's definitely a good chance for you to experience various national cultures, to enjoy exotic sceneries, to have typical foods of different countries, and if you like, to learn more foreign languages. Moreover, the teaching staff and my colleagues here are very nice. These warm hearted friends supported me no matter on study and daily living with their most kindness. So you can frame your own overseas network there out! One more thing you may concern, it's unnecessary to care about your financial condition, because I believe the scholarship is quite sufficient for you to enjoy your life here. So, don't wait, EMEC is the best for you.

EGEC 2008-2009

Mesay Mamo– EMMEP (Ethiopia)

EGEC is one of the best things that ever happened to me in my educational life. It is more interesting, fun, and a proper way to be educated. During the first 9 months of stay on the course I have seen different parts of Europe and met a lot of friends from different countries. EGEC could be one of the best example for an international course as It will allow you to meet with different people with different cultures and educated in a more interesting and proper way. It also brings out the best of your own self in educational and social aspects. As to my geological and geotechnical background, EGEC will allow you to learn and solve different engineering and environmental problems. The excursions that I have taken during the course are the perfect example to learn the different theoretical aspects from practical point of application.

Amir M. Shaikh – EMMEP (Pakistan)

The EGEC 2008-2010 programme started in Wroclaw, the best about this place was the city and people. We did a lot of excursions and went underground in different mines. In Delft, we were just studying. In Exeter there was a very good campus surrounded by a lovely countryside, never had imagined we would get an accommodation near the sea. After being in Freiberg for two weeks, the course finished in Miskolc, and every thing here, was "unsurpassed", like people, excursions, sight seeing, most of the courses, and of course Hungarian wine. EGEC Course has certainly developed better subject knowledge and how to apply strategic principles. I think I have acquired improved technical and methodological skills through these studies.

This Program provided me with an extraordinary opportunity to acquire exposure to more than Five European Countries. EGEC gave me a chance to explore diverse culture of each participating country and at the same time obtain an excellent masters degree which will add value to my profession. I feel I have learned a lot from the EGEC about dealing with people and stress that I may encounter in the real world. The people I will never forget. People are what make EGEC unique, the group you belong to and become part of. This has surely enabled me to share my experiences with wide variety of people working towards the same degree and most importantly forge bonds of friendship that extend far beyond boundaries. This was the most priceless offering one can get. The program is a beyond belief opportunity and summarizing, EGEC course was fun packed and unforgettable!!!

Samuel Yilma – EMMEP (Ethiopia)

Participating in EGEC program, I had opportunities to learn my interest about geotechnical issues at best universities in Europe, with lots of excursions especially in underground mines, surface mine sites and different companies; which broadened my understanding more practical. Moreover, being an international student (EGEC) helped me to meet new friends, from almost the whole continents in the World, except Australia! I had good cultural exchange, touring different cities in Europe, had lots of funs like partying, making barbeques; which makes my stay more enjoyable in course of the hard core studies. In addition had lots of experience like adapting different characters of the people, how to handle problems and how to do as a group as well. So being an EGEC student gave me an invaluable experience in wide spectrum of aspects, besides is the best choice for future careers. I am Very thankful for FEMP, for the coordinators in all universities which make this program possible, and last but not least; best friends, 'EGEC', intercontinental dream team!!!

David Hakes – University of Exeter

I'd like to think that there have been more ups than downs over the previous year, it has at times been trying although I have made some excellent friends, been to some extraordinary places and experienced cultures which I would otherwise not had chance to. I will never forget this program and what I have learnt this year and would like to thank all the fantastic people I have met along the way. The EGEC course gives you a wonderful insight to the different

levels and styles of education at other universities and it has been an eye opening experience. This course isn't however for everyone, the success of the course really depends on the group dynamics and it has at times been interesting, living almost entirely within the same group of people for a whole year.

Karolina Adach – Wrocław Univ. of Technology

The EGEC has been very good experience in my life, I will never forget it. It gave me an opportunity to live and study in five different countries with a group of people from almost all over the world. It was a big challenge and I have learned a lot. University classes, excursions, company visits helped me to improve my mining knowledge and experience with the industry. It has also helped me to improve my English skills. But EGEC is not only studying but also enjoying the time with friends, meeting new people. Traveling around Europe working in groups encouraged me to explore new cultures, behaviors, ideas. In general the EGEC is an interesting program and an marvelous opportunity to develop oneself.

Marjan Moghaddasi – EMMEP (Iran)

I had never an idea of living in an international group before I start studying in EMMEP-EGEC course. Living, studying and travelling with 16 mates from different parts of the world was a great opportunity for me, firstly, to extent my social life and taught me how to cope with different situations and different people and be more supportive, tolerant and patient in my own life. Over this 8 month, we had amazing times even in difficulties, when we tried to solve our problems together and support each other. On the other hand studying in 5 different universities in Europe gave me a chance to enhance my knowledge in this field which is my most favourite field and to assess my background knowledge. We had a lot of excursions and mining visits in these five countries, which I can say, were one of the best parts and pure experiences of my first year of study in EGEC course. Now I have a nice group of friends and a lot of valuable experiences from different people, different cultures of different countries which are as a treasure for my future life and of course academic knowledge which will be useful for my future career. Finally, I would like to dedicate my regards to the programme sponsors and coordinators and all lecturers for their supports and efforts who always tried to make the best for us.

Anna Peksa – AGH University Krakow

The EGEC course gave me possibility to experience studying in different countries and at the same time exploring the beautiful regions of Europe. During these nine months there were good and bad moments, but definitely I will remember this year to the end of my life. There is no doubt that the course challenged me mentally. I had to learn how to live with other nationalities and cultures – being perfectly candid sometimes it was not easy, but it was very valuable experience for the future. As well it was huge language challenge for me. At the beginning it was difficult but with time everything has become easier.

Peter Court – University of Exeter

The EGEC has been an experience I will never forget. The program offered the chance to study in four different countries, and along with people from the rest of the world. The time spent with this group of people has been at times frustrating and puzzling but on the whole has been rewarding and invaluable for an insight into different cultures, and classes. The EGEC members formed not a work group but a highly dysfunctional family, this year we did not only work together but more importantly we lived together. We argued, we accused, we fell for, we integrated, segregated and everything nine months contains we did together and to each other. Quite a social experiment, and fully worthwhile.

Krzysztof Mor - Wrocław Univ. of Technology

As a member of EGEC 2008-2009 I would like to say something about those past 9 months. First of all I met people from all over the world. It gave me the opportunity to get to know how people live in different parts of the world, what is their cultural background, their religion, way of behaviour. It was a nice chance to exchange the information about each other's countries and to try to co-operate in that multinational group of people. Thanks to EGEC we created lifetime relationships and for sure after the course we will keep in touch. Secondly EGEC gave me an unique opportunity to try myself with studying abroad and not only on one university but on four well respected universities in Europe. For the first time I was studying not in my mother language and thanks to that I had the chance to improve my English. Nowadays it is very important to have an ability to communicate in this language. In addition two months spent in each country have been a nice experience and occasion to travel, discover new places, meet new people and try each country's cuisine. For the rest of my life I will remember picturesque landscapes from Holland, England and Hungary. Assuming European Geotechnical and Environmental Course is a very nice experience where one has an opportunity to combine studying and travelling at the same time. Sometimes it might be hard for one to travel from place to place so often but on the other hand there is no better way to see so many places in such a short period of time.

Sulav Adhikary – EMMEP (Nepal)

For me being a part of EGEC was indeed an immemorial experience. In this short nine months I got the opportunity to travel various European countries and see more of the world, which without this course would not be that easy and possible. Getting chance to study in various renowned universities in the Europe was indeed a great help to broaden my knowledge. For me this course was not all about studies, I had a chance to meet fellow students from various parts of the world, which provided me a nice opportunity to know different people and cultures around the world. I found all the concerned people and staffs associated to this course very humble and cooperative. At last I must say idea behind such course is very nice and humble and I would love to see this course running nice and smooth in many years to come.

Emilia Ndemuweda – EMMEP (Namibia)

Being part of EMMEP – EGEC program was one of my lifetime great experiences. My academic

knowledge and career path really broadens and enlightens respectively. The fact that I have to learn in five different European Universities also creates an opportunity for me to meet new people of different cultures from all over the world, visit other European countries and enhanced my abilities to cope with different educational and social systems. Even though, we had to work hard during this period; our social life was also very amazing. We really had a lot of fun one can never imagine. Field trips and travelling around made our fun days. This was such a lifetime treasure and being part of the EGEC 2008-2010 "The Dream Team" makes very good memories that will always last. I will really miss my EGEC mates and friends. For every episode are always lessons to be learnt. I have learnt to be more caring, supportive, tolerant and patient taking into account our different cultural backgrounds and the way we are brought up, but above all acceptance was essential. Finally, I extend my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the sponsors and coordinators for support and efforts given to ensure our wellbeing during studies.

Tóbiás Pál– University of Miskolc

The EGEC program was a great opportunity for me to meet such nice people like my group. Meet other countries, their culture, learn some words from their language from everywhere around the world. I think there would not be better possibility to improve my normal and technical English knowledge than this program and of course to see what kind of working prospects do we have in our future industrial life. Finally I am happy that I could be a participant of this program and had the chance to study and travel around Europe with this group.

Milka Casanegra – EMMEP (Chile)

This EGEC has been an adventure for me. First of all, coming to a new continent full of culture and history, then meeting a lot of people from different countries and believing which became my friends, and last but not least, attending prestigious universities of Europe and giving the best of me to improve my geotechnical and environmental knowledge related to the mining business. The study loads were a challenge, even though they were accomplished successfully, but not without any fear. I have good memories about my first year of the master, which includes a lot of activities (academic and fun) with the group, such as birthdays, parties, FEMP reunion, excursions, etc. which make it the best European master program.

Katarzyna Luszczek- Wrocław Univ. of Technology

In my opinion this course was a good chance to visit a lot of mining companies especially in Poland and Hungary. It helped me in better understanding the knowledge which I acquired at the lectures. After excursions I could combine the theory with the reality what gave me an accurate picture how to solve typical geotechnical and environmental problems. Another big advantage was to be able to meet the people from different countries. I could find out more about their culture, but also noticed that people from European countries have more in common. I am also really satisfied that I could travel a lot through Europe, visit a lot of countries and compare the life in east and west Europe. During studying in different countries I

could compare the way of lecturing and the education system with my home university. It helped me to see some of the advantages of my university which I had not observed before. I have had the great opportunity to improve my English not only in daily life but also to learn the typical technical language which will be useful in my future career. I would like to thank FEMP and its industry partners for supporting me 10 months of experience.

Raghavan Chandrasekaran– EMMEP (India)

The EGEC was probably one of the best years of my study. The excursion and company visits give good insight to the field. In my view the degree from EMMEP is worth while and recognized all over the world. In addition to the courses, I learned a lot about life and different cultures and it gives me an opportunity to move with the international group, hope this friendship lasts long. The allocation of work in EGEC is quite good and the way FEMP works on the problems of the students is really amazing. It's a well organized course by responsible heads.

Nicholas Cox – University of Exeter

I have found the course to be enjoyable on the whole. I have been very satisfied with the majority of the course and very disappointed with some aspects. I have found that some of the module options at certain institutions have not been particularly well thought through. I thought that on the whole, the course was a good introduction into earth sciences for students who have a weaker background in the subject; however, I found some of the modules to be somewhat vague and almost irrelevant. Having a background in Engineering Geology and Geotechnics from CSM, I was expecting the course to involve more geotechnical subjects, although I have been satisfied with the geotechnical content. All in all I have felt that this course has been useful, worthwhile and a good use of my time. I have felt that this fourth year of study has been valuable to my education and would recommend this course to others. Although I have found some aspects of this course to be unsatisfactory, I am very satisfied with the majority of it. I am very grateful to everyone who has put in a lot of effort to organize this course, and hope that my comments will be taken in a constructive way.

Claire Barr – University of Exeter

For me, this year on the EGEC has been very disappointing. Educationally I feel I have gained very little from it. Poland was far too easy, and Delft was far too difficult for me to gain anything useful from either place. Having never really failed a test in my life, and feeling reasonably confident in my intelligence, having to spend 2 months in a place where I understood barely any of the lectures or the assignments made me feel pretty useless and stupid. The only places I feel I have learned anything was CSM and Miskolc, and, although I have seen some interesting places while on this course, I don't think anything I have experienced, learnt or gained from this year justifies the amount of money my parents had to spend on it, the stress and upset that I have gone through and the fact that I gave up the chance to do a masters at Leeds University that would have given me a proper recognised qualification and not an 'MSci'.