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1. Tom Danjczek and Keith Busse participated in the Leadership Perspectives panel on 15 November.

2. Rear Admiral (ret.) Michael Giorgione discussed how to “Know Yourself — Live Your Mission — Lead Your People” on 14–15 November.

AIST 2013 Leadership Conference Recap

The AIST Leadership Conference is an invitation-only event, hosted annually by AIST for Technology Committee and Member Chapter officers, board of directors representatives and the executive committee. This year’s event was held on 14–15 November 2013 at the Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld in Orlando, Fla., USA. AIST’s executive committee and board of directors also held meetings at the Leadership Conference.





3. Lloyd Corder, CorCom, addresses the attendees.



4. The AIST executive committee (left to right): George Koenig, Berry Metal Co.; Wendell Carter, ArcelorMittal; Glenn Pushis, Steel Dynamics Inc.; Terry Fedor, Cliffs Natural Resources; Anton Lukac, United States Steel Corporation; Bill King, United States Steel Corporation; Ron Ashburn, AIST.



5. Kelly Dallas, Midwest Member Chapter chair, ArcelorMittal USA, explains findings from her group during the “air-it-out” discussion.

As an introduction to the conference, an interactive welcome reception was held on Wednesday, 13 November, where attendees from the Leadership Conference participated in a cooking demonstration in the R Kitchen. Several volunteers from the Leadership Conference group participated in the food preparation at various reception stations.

The Leadership Conference program kicked off on Thursday morning, 14 November with a welcome and introduction by AIST’s executive director, Ron Ashburn. The program was then handed over to Rear Admiral Mike Giorgione (Ret.), founder of LeadingLeaders LLC. Giorgione’s presentation was titled “Know Yourself — Live Your Mission — Lead

Your People.” He discussed effective leadership, citing his 33 years of experience in the U.S. Navy.

Later that morning, AIST’s Brian Bliss, Stacy Varnecky and Mark Didiano provided program updates for current AIST initiatives, including AIST’s newly revamped website, the AIST Process Benchmarker® (APB), AIST Foundation’s Steel to Students program, young professional membership and corporate partnership.

Following the program updates, an “air-it-out” discussion allowed for an open forum to discuss current initiatives and future focuses for AIST. After lunch, attendees participated in strategic initiative planning by breaking into small groups and discussing the topics selected as a focus at the air-it-out discussion. Topics



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6. A small group breakout discussion occurred, where AIST leaders brainstorm about AIST programs, objectives and future plans.

7. Kip Findley, Colorado School of Mines, presents his group's discussion points and ideas.

8. Attendees prepared food during the interactive welcome reception on 13 November.

included identifying meaningful Web content, developing corporate partnerships, promoting the APB to producer members, enhancing the AIST Technology Committees, the Steel to Students program, college/university faculty engagement and a high school engineering seminar based on the Midwest Member Chapter's current program. On Thursday evening, attendees enjoyed an outdoor networking reception.

The program on Friday, 15 November began with a Leadership Perspectives panel featuring Keith Busse, chairman and CEO of Steel Dynamics Inc., and Tom Danjczek, then-president of the Steel Manufacturers Association. Moderated by Ron Ashburn, the recently retired Busse and Danjczek discussed how their steel industry careers started, the paths they took to reach

their positions, and the mentors and colleagues who informed their own leadership styles.

Following the panel, Giorgione returned for part II of "Know Yourself — Live Your Mission — Lead Your People." He discussed leadership legacy and how to build and lead a winning team, using his experience in working at Camp David during the presidencies of Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. Giorgione posed situations to conference attendees, and relayed his thought process and strategies during difficult situations in his career.

During the afternoon session, participants enjoyed a game of AIST Jeopardy, which challenged attendees' knowledge of AIST and its programs. Mr. Ashburn closed the event with a summary of the conference and action items for consideration by AIST. ♦