



# AIST YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

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**NUCOR®**



### What first interested you about learning more about the steel industry?

I was exposed to the steel industry as a young kid, as my dad worked in the industry. It has just always been a part of my life.

### What intrigued you about your dad's job when you were younger?

I had the opportunity to go to Take Your Kid to Work Day at SMS. They always had interesting presentations on how to make steel. My dad always was showing me videos of arc furnaces from a very young age. I got the opportunity to see the Severstal mill in Columbus, Miss., USA, when I was a junior in high school and then got to job shadow a mechanical engineer at SMS group Inc.

### Did you participate in any of AIST's programs or attend AIST events as a student? If so, please describe your experience.

I attended AIST chapter meetings in Pittsburgh regularly during college. I also attended multiple AISTech conferences. I enjoyed the networking with the members at the chapter meetings. It gave me a sense of personal connectivity to the industry I was looking to join. AISTech was like taking a whole year of chapter meetings in one. There is a mass amount of networking, the technical presentations involved a plethora of information, and the opportunities for student participation was great, ranging from research papers, to socials, to roundtable talks.

### What solidified your interest in pursuing a job in the steel industry?

The conferences and chapter meetings solidified my industry interest. This came through the personal connections I was able to make. When I did an internship with Nucor Steel Nebraska, I fell in love with being in the mill. The only way

I was able to figure that out was by first spending a summer doing an office job. I figured out I did not want to be at a desk 100% of the time, I wanted to be in the action — the internship at Nucor Steel—Nebraska, validated this. After this experience, I had the goal to work for a producer, which is why I pursued another internship with Nucor-Yamato Steel Co.

### What are your plans for continued involvement with AIST?

I look forward to helping evolve AIST's Young Professional programs. I would also really like to attend chapter meetings, but the Midwest is so large that it makes it logistically infeasible to get away. Going to a single-night chapter meeting turns into a two-day trip very fast. I plan to go to additional training in the future as Nucor will allow me.

### Are there any specific challenges that you face working in the steel industry? If so, what?

There are many people in the industry approaching retirement and there does not seem to be a large pool to draw from for replacements. There are numerous positions even at our own plant that are difficult to find qualified candidates for.

### What do you enjoy most about working in the steel industry?

The steel industry is a hidden gem for those in engineering or who seek a challenging career. The things I enjoy most about it are the lifelong opportunities for experience and growth. If I want, I can pursue engineering, design, metallurgy, project management, construction, management, business, market analysis and much more. Steelmaking is an art and a business that allows those who practice it to lead very fulfilling careers. You see so many young individuals jumping from job to job. I just do not see the need here with what I am doing. ♦

AIST offers a ONE-YEAR COMPLIMENTARY MEMBERSHIP TO NEW AIST MEMBERS age 30 and younger.

All Young Professionals also receive a 50% discount on full conference and one-day registration for AISTech.

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