



## Student Responses 2009 CIC

### 1. The things that impressed you the most.

The dedication of the companies and the willingness in these hard times for companies to sponsor meals and sessions. I really liked that "add" to the conference.

The most impressive thing was the organization and the willingness to help the students.

The number of significant players in metal casting that are able to come together for the advancement of metal casting is absolutely spectacular. The fact that many are able to overlook their differences as competitors and work together is something to be proud of. That aspect has a very good effect on the delegates and how they view the industry.

The speakers on Friday morning were all extremely motivational, and the information they talked about was very relevant to metal casting, so great job with that. I also think that the entire weekend was scheduled very appropriately. It seemed like students had the right amount of time scheduled in conference events and free time to rest and go out. I also really enjoyed the mixer Friday evening, it really gave me the chance to talk with people at the conference I was becoming familiar with.

I was very impressed by the accommodations. Additionally the meals were very impressive, including the impressive generosity of the corporate representatives who donated them.

I was most impressed by the industry representatives and how they interacted and welcomed students. Many of the companies I spoke with currently had no job openings available yet they were very happy to take a considerable amount of time to talk about their organization.

Of course the Drake was as magnificent as one is lead to believe, wow! What a way to woo the students. Although initially a surprise, I really enjoyed sharing a room with delegates from other schools. I was most impressed by the camaraderie within the industry and the excitement for the future of the industry and their future employees. This event really made working in the foundry industry appealing; what a great group of people, students, professors and industry representatives alike.

What FEF does for it students. The number of students from various parts of the country was suprising.

The speakers were fantastic.

First off, the Drake Hotel was truly spectacular, and every detail of the conference seemed to be orchestrated beautifully. The meals and presentations were fantastic. Overall I was very impressed with CIC and really with that everyone committed to the casting industry could attend. I have not stopped talking about the great time I had and the intelligent students that we met

I was very impressed most by the 3 speakers. By far my favorite speaker was the CEO from Blackhawk.

I was most impressed by the range of other delegates that I met. Of course, meeting companies is important, but I felt that the networking that occurred between students was at least as important because we will all be coworkers in the same industry in the next few years. Having contacts with this incoming generation of metalcasters is going to make collaboration down the road more accessible and will help build a stronger foundry industry as a whole.

The caliber of facilities and conference activities were top notch. Also, the conference ran very smoothly and transitions between events were seamless.

The People. I was very impressed by all of the people at the FEF conference – professionals from industry and academia, as well as fellow delegates. I was amazed at the community of people in the FEF family. What became very apparent to me through the conference is that FEF is a supportive network that believes in helping one another succeed in the casting industry; it's a network created with passion and integrity, which is very inspiring. I was also very impressed by, and am incredibly grateful to, Fairmount Minerals who showed me and several students incredible hospitality and kindness.

How much employers and other members of industry want all of us to succeed in our futures and how much they are all willing to help. The overall set up of the conference and format of events was absolutely top notch.

How approachable all the companies were. I have been to many job fairs where the companies seemed like they really didn't want to talk to you or answer questions.

I was really happy with how helpful all of the FEF members were to the students. The hospitality and willingness to talk to us throughout the conference was amazing.

The thing that impressed me the most was the feeling of camaraderie between everyone. I don't know if this is only characteristic of the casting industry, but it was very comforting to know that everyone there was my friend. Also, the wealth of information that Raymond Monroe shared with us was a complete eye-opener, to say the least.

I wanted to thank you again for the honor to attend CIC. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet other students interested in metalcasting as well as industry folks. I was most impressed with the speakers, especially Patricio Gil. He spoke very genuinely and humbly, and I was inspired by the things he had to say.

I was amazed at how on schedule things were. I believe this to be the first time in my life I have been to an event and had things transition so smoothly. I also really enjoyed the three speakers Friday morning. Each one had something interesting to offer.

Being able to stay at the Drake was very impressive. I really enjoyed that companies take you out to dinner to get to know you. The whole experience was great but I especially liked the one on one time with industry.

The Drake was a wonderful venue, I am sorry that this will be its last year hosting the conference. I was impressed by the turn-out of companies, especially in this economy. I also would like to commend Patricio Gil for an outstanding lecture, it was definitely a highlight of the conference for me.

THE DRAKE and the presentations on Friday.

I was very impressed about how much the industry takes care of each other and the willingness of companies to reach out to students.

I was really impressed with the magnitude of the conference and how tight knit the casting community is. Also the speakers this year were very inspirational and drew me into the discussions.

The amount of alumni support and organization.

I was impressed most by the generosity of the companies that were present at the conference. I thought the companies taking the students out to dinner on Thursday night provided a great opportunity for the students to learn more about the company and industry.

the involvement with the industry reps and how supportive the industry was for the students.

I was very impressed with the level of commitment that all the professors and professionals had to the student delegates. I really felt that each and every one of them were invested in the future of the industry and were willing to help out the students in any way that they could.

The speakers impressed me most. I was inspired by their stories and views on the future in metal casting.

I thought The Drake hotel was a great place to hold the event. I was also impressed by how approachable many of the company representatives were.

First of all, let me say I am very proud to have been invited to the CIC this year. I thought it was a wonderful experience. Chicago is a wonderful city to host any kind of event. One of the things that impressed me the most about this years set up was the structure of the activities schedule. I never felt like I was sitting around waiting for something to happen.

The hotel was very impressive. I have never been to a conference that was set up as professionally as the CIC Delegate conference.

I was impressed by Chicago and how many people were dedicated to promoting casting in order to help keep this industry moving forward and strong.

The thing that impressed me the most was the people. I come from a family that owns a small concrete business, and that industry is very cut throat. All of the industry leaders there were friendly with each other. That really impressed me and speaks to the caliber of the people in the metal casting industry.

I was extremely impressed with the entire conference but specifically i was impressed with the speakers, the friendliness of the industry, and the exposure to the foundry industry.

I thought that the speakers impressed me the most at the conference. Also the networking that I acquired throughout the conference professionally and student wise was worth the entire trip in my opinion.

I was very impressed with the hospitality of everyone involved with the conference. I don't think you guys spared any expense in trying to make this the best experiences of my life.

The thing that impressed me the most was the dedication of the members and their willingness to help out the students.

The overall organization of all of the events and staying on schedule. The hospitality and generosity of all of the industry professionals and company representatives.

The first thing that impressed me the most was the Drake Hotel, it was just an extremely beautiful building. I was also impressed with the overall conference, I don't know what I was really expecting but it all just blew me away; the level of speakers, food, and overall entertainment by the conference and by the companies.

The speakers impressed me the most. They really did a good job at having informational and interesting speeches.

I would have to say the thing that impressed me the most about the conference was how friendly and down to earth the representatives of this industry were. When I was chosen as a delegate for WMU I was excited and nervous that I would not fit in. However, this was just not the case.

The things that I really enjoyed about the FEF Conference was the way that we were respected and treated the entire time. It really gave us a chance to talk to people within the industry and get our names and resumes out.

I particularly enjoyed the speakers and informational session this year. All of the speakers were top-notch people with industry experience and great stories and journeys.

I was very impressed by the organization, industry people and presentations during the conference. Each of these aspects are tools that help students to identify, create and follow a path to be successful in our professional life.

The things that impressed me the most had to be that the conference was held at the Drake Hotel, I also liked how we had down time to meet and talk to the company reps and to also walk around downtown Chicago. Having open bars was very nice too.

The conference was very organized and the program was not too crazy. The Industry Information Session was good. Having it before the mixer allowed us to meet the people more than once, and think about the information they had given us previously.

The amount of companies despite the down economy and the companies ability to make me feel welcome and not alienated.

I'd have to say the different companies that were in attendance, and also the time available to interact with many of the corporate representatives. I really enjoyed meeting several students from many different universities, some of which I am still in contact with.

The things that impressed me the most was the organization, everything was well planned.

What impressed me the most was the opportunity to talk to such prestigious individuals from different companies and different societies. Speaking to these individuals with experience can help direct young individuals like myself.

The things that impressed me the most at the CIC event was definitely the friendly atmosphere of both industry and students. I thought it was great to learn and hear all about the success of one man's achievements in the metal casting industry, from his first job to CEO, Patricio Gil and "Why he make makes castings." Not to mention, all the contributions that were made by individuals and companies to

the FEF organization. That really impressed me!! As much as I love to receive, I do look forward to the day when I'm in a position to give just as much back, if not more!

The speakers were a highlight for me. They were very motivating. I was also impressed with the overall enthusiasm and effort industry rep's and professors put in to communicating with students. The event as a whole was forever memorable.

I was impressed with the camaraderie within the industry. At the CIC and the SFSA T & O conference last week I observed how close-knit a group metal casters can be.

Things that impressed me the most about the conference was the overall quality of everything involved. the hotel was amazing, the food was great, and the organization and flow I thought was good. I met a lot of really cool people as a result of this conference. Oh and the most impressive thing to was the support by industry that i witnessed.

Holding the conference at the Drake Hotel.

The Board Meetings- I was extremely impressed by the amount of rigor put into the systematic organization of FEF.

The time that the companies took to spend the time with us and the amount of scholarships that were given were definitely the most impressive parts of this conference.

## **2. The things you felt could be improved.**

Not much of anything. I liked the format change with the Industry Information Session on Thursday.

I thought that the event in general was excellent. The only suggestions I would consider making would be to move it up a little earlier in the year to avoid the potentially cold November weather. But even that wasn't really unpleasant.

I was incredibly pleased with the event; the companies, speakers and the hotel were all great. I know it is a tall order but, if the economy could be changed by next year I the event would be more rewarding for everyone involved.

Maybe if anything, the Friday breakfast could be a little later but I understand the constraints with the speakers and lunch. Also I heard that in the past there have been more companies involved which would have been nice, but I understand the limitations of the economic situation.

I wish more companies could have been in attendance. I thought the dinners Thursday evening were a little crowded. It seemed that the lunch dragged on a little.

The programs of the agenda could have been better because there was some mix up before hand.

I guess the dinner on Friday night was misrepresented or I misunderstood, but I thought there was going to be a bigger spread.

More information on the companies that attend it took to long to visit each companies website to get even the basics of what they did and where they were located.

Overall, I felt that the conference was very good. One thing I would have like to have seen is more information about the companies that were there or were sponsoring. While it is not difficult to navigate to the company website and find out more about them, having a bit more background starting out would be nice. Also, for the luncheon, I sat at a table sponsored by Caterpillar who was not in attendance. In a case like that, it would be nice if they included an info sheet, perhaps on the sponsored table, just to give us a feeling for some of the other companies who we might want to explore.

More time for speakers. Also, would like to know how we could make students from Texas State University more appealing to the scholarships being given out. We felt that we were of the same caliber or higher than some of the other students who recieved scholarships. Yet, it seems that based on the criteria, we are at a disadvantage based on where we live. More points were awarded to those that lived in the region the scholarship originated.

The nature of the conference, its focus on being student-centric, and the level of organization with which it is conducted are amazing. The only thing in the existing structure of the conference that could be improved would be to have more companies represented at the Industry Information Session (though due to economic times, it's completely understandable that this is challenging). One potential suggestion though might be to invite more OEMs and end-users of castings – companies that include castings in their products and who could benefit from having students with casting backgrounds as employees. This sentiment of OEMs needing more people with casting knowledge was mentioned in the conference session by one of the speakers.

It would have been nice to be able to sit down for meals and such with company representatives more often since that is a comfortable and easy format to talk in.

Food was good they just didn't give you very much.

One of the main things that I think could be improved upon would be the dinner that closed the conference out. The only problem I saw with this dinner was that there were not enough seats for everyone to sit down and eat. So my only are for improvement would be to add just a few more tables at the dinners so that more people could sit and eat.

I felt I could have been more informed on the atmosphere of the "mixers." I had absolutely no idea that it was more of a job fair/recruitment tool. If I would have known the aggressiveness of the situation--the recruitment aspect--I would have better prepared myself for that event.

The thing that I think could be improved would be to have a hotel with better connectivity to the internet. Paying \$5/hr to use the internet is a bit steep for students who need to be able to email groupmates from school or others. I know that the conference will be held at a different hotel next year, so this is probably a moot point since most hotels have excellent internet connectedness.

I understand the point of meeting new people but I did not like staying in my room with random people. I had a lady that snored and I could barely sleep. I spent very little time in my room so I did not get to know them at all. I spent more time with other students at the meals. I mostly used my room for sleep and I would rather sleep near people I know. It was also difficult to compete with people that have 10 years of work experience for scholarships. Of course undergraduate are going to be less knowledgeable than graduates. They take different level classes so how can we really compete for scholarships. It did not seem very fair.

I felt as though the arrangements for the dinner Thursday night could be improved. I did not ask any companies to take me out, expecting them to ask me, so I didn't push the issue. So in the end, Pam had to arrange my meal. In the future it would be nice if it was set in stone that companies have to ask, or students have to ask.

The career fair/dinner system on Thursday night, I felt awkward asking companies to take me, so I feel like it should be known to them that it is their obligation to pick each student. But then how do they choose within the 2 hour time limit. Maybe it is just an immediate thing for them to take every resume, scan them down, and then call each student after the career fair session. Maybe moving up the overall time to earlier in the afternoon would help, because then they would have time to make their top 4 choices, and call those 4 students to tell them where to meet.

Better descriptions on the type of position/type of person companies are looking to hire. All the descriptions were vague and visiting their websites wasn't helpful because the positions weren't listed there either.

Meal portion size.

It would have been nice to have definitely starting times for all the events. I really liked having the second delegate letter that explained what all the events were so that I had a better idea of what to expect.

It would be nice to have internet access (without having to pay for it) so that students may work online for homework and such items of that nature. I realize that FEF already takes on a huge cost to take so many students to Chicago, etc... but perhaps some kind of deal could be arranged for 50% off internet access, or even a donation by the hotel.

It would be beneficial to have some session focused on metal casting technology.

The only thing I would have liked to see was more companies. I saw that in past years there were more and that no one can help the fact that the economy was poor this year.

I know that this probably was due to the down economy, but I would have liked to see more representation from the investment and die casting industries.

The only thing that could have been improved was the sleeping arrangements. Three students to a room was a little cramped, but I have been on my own for a number of years so my opinion could be a little biased and I can certainly understand price would become an issue with such a large number of students if things were done a different way.

The breakfast on Friday could be moved to 9:00 am rather than 7:15 am.

I think that the biggest improvement and my suggestion for the future would be going to rooms with students you know. I understand the purpose behind splitting up the students, but I do not feel that the students actually benefit from it. With the way the dinners with the companies and such are organized, it is very unlikely that you see the people in your room for any amount of time.

The awards lunch or whenever the awards are presented. If awards are being presented and recipients have to get up on stage, the dress code for the lunch/dinner/whenever the awards are presented must be "Business Attire" on the schedule of events. Also, while I understand the reasons for not notifying the recipients prior to the presentation of the award, an alternative may be to require all delegates to write a couple lines for a quick thank you speech, so they don't get up there and go "deer in the headlights" or just say thank you indiscriminately and go sit down.

I felt that the job fair could be placed in a bigger room so that there was more room to walk around from booth to booth.

I find it very hard to answer this question. I have never been treated so much like a young professional. The conference truly made me feel like an important member of this industry. The only thing that I would like to see improved would be the length of time the delegates were able to meet with industry professionals Thur. night. I would like to see it be just a bit longer.

I don't know for sure what necessarily needs to be improved. The location was great and gave us a chance to be downtown in one of the greatest cities in America as far as I am concerned. I think it would have been nice to have a little bit more time to at the job fair to allow for us to get to talk to more companies but other than that it went great.

In particular, this year the industry sessions seemed very crowded - even though the companies were few (and we were aware of that...) there was little room for students to move around, and actually see several of the kiosks. I think there should be a little bit more room in the hall with industry sessions.

I hope more companies get involved in this conference to increase the job opportunities among students from different universities.

Things I felt that could have been improved were the rooms, maybe next time have the delegates from the same school stay in the same room.

I can not think of any improvements overall an excellent conference.

It would be nice, though this would be difficult, to actually extend the conference another day. It seems like there was a lot of information presented in it where it could be fun to expand it another day and try to elaborate further on some of the events. It would also be nice to get contact information regarding our roommates ahead of time so we can actually try to get to know them a little better than right when we arrive at the hotel.

Being the only School from the South (Texas), I felt that most of the scholarship went to school from the Midwest. I'm not sure if because most of these companies are still in the Midwest, or maybe because they weren't any company from Texas. I would like to see more recognition for our school, being the only FEF school from Texas.

Everything seemed just fine to me. Perhaps for the initial interaction time between delegates and industry representatives could be extended a bit. It seemed like this 2 hour time frame wasn't enough.

The one thing I felt that could be greatly improved is the STUDENT DELEGATE ONLY MIXER session. I found that many students were using this time just to mingle amongst their own colleagues.

I wish there would have been more employers hiring, but that is certainly beyond our control.

Things I thought that could be improved were the number of industry representative that showed up and had a small booth. However I do understand that the economy didn't warrant such a turnout.

Letting students know they will have the opportunity to say a few words upon receiving a scholarship.

There is not many elements in which I thought needed improvement. However, with the great attendance and the sale of so many raffle tickets, there could have been a larger ticket mixing drum.

I actually think it would be beneficial to have more than three speakers there although they were very good.

### **3. Your new ideas and suggestions for our conferences in the future.**

For graduate students interested in studying metal casting topics further, or in becoming key professors, maybe they can attend a portion of the professors meetings instead of just the industry information session.

The one thing that might change would be to separate undergrad students and grad students in scholarship selection.

I think it would be beneficial to hold the conference earlier on in the school semester. By this time students have already been getting site visits and job offers from companies. It is difficult to decline a standing offer with hopes that you will eventually get an offer from one of the companies at the event, especially in today's economic environment where the market is not necessarily stable and the future outlook is up in the air. If the event was held earlier on in the semester it may help to alleviate students from being picked up by other industries prior to the event.

As for new items, I think it would be interesting to have some sort of activity replace the delegate mixer. I tend to socialize a lot better during some manner of sport, or activity. For example instead of a potentially awkward room full of strangers have the delegates and their CIC roommates be teams and play against each other at some low intensity activity. It would help to take the pressure off, and provide alternative entertainment if a conversation isn't going well.

Possible games would be corn hole, bowling, Wii sports, etc; nothing too involving, but still something to keep your self busy with.

I think it would be beneficial before the luncheon to have name cards at certain seats stating Industry Professional to avoid having to many students at one table. I only mention this because I sat with someone from industry that I was talking to at the mixer, we were the first to the table but by the time lunch started there was five to six other students at the table. I noticed the students late to the table all sat together and did not speak with the industry representatives; defeating the main purpose of the luncheon.

I had such an amazing time and the conference got me all fired up to work in the foundry industry but maybe some of that excitement should be shared with younger students. I thought that if younger students had an experience like I had they would be more motivated to take classes that are more related to casting and the foundry industry. Also I know that our AFS chapter is always looking for younger members and this could be a wonderful intensive. Involving younger members leads to more stable organizations and in the long run more foundry related events and more interest in the industry. I suggest maybe 15-20% of the students attending should not be graduating that year, but naturally keep the focus on career networking for the senior students. Since the hotel is booked Friday night perhaps an optional breakfast could be sponsored on Saturday morning.

I wish the students interacted with the companies more and less with themselves. Also the lines at the food stations were a little long on Friday night.

More social times with the companies representatives.

I guess I find it sad that the conference is moving to a new location next year after the rich history that CIC has had at the Drake.

A longer mixer on Friday to speak informally with the companies that attended the conference.

During the industry info session, it was a bit hectic and free-for-all. If there were some way to spread out the tables a little more, that might make everyone a little more accessible.

More time for the speakers, these were some knowledgeable industry experts we younger metalcasters could learn from.

One idea might be to have a resume and/or interview workshop during the Friday afternoon. This could be optional to attendees and could feature one-on-one consultations between students and HR representatives from various companies, giving advice on how to improve resumes and interview techniques; for instance, there was an HR representative from Kohler on Thursday evening who would be a good candidate for this. This might be a way to continue the conference's focus on "job-finding" for students, even if the number of companies in attendance is low and perhaps not offering job placements immediately. This workshop could improve delegates' opportunities to successfully obtain employment in the future.

Make it longer. It was great.

One of the biggest suggestions I have for future conferences is to see if it would be possible to have a specific time that all of the students must be in Chicago by. The only issue I had was that not all of my roommates were present at the same time in our room so we didn't get to set up a schedule for the getting ready before the breakfast. This messed a few things up and made some of us late in the morning.

The best suggestion I could give is that the industry sponsors provide information on the jobs they are looking to fill. The background packet on the companies was excellent, and it would be very useful if they could include something like "we are looking to hire a process engineer in March" or something along those lines.

Having breakfast at 9am would be more beneficial. I understand the reason for the early breakfast the next morning, but human nature is generally unavoidable.

Book people from the same school in the same room. It is pointless, it made it miserable for me to sleep and get ready. My friend that was in another room was stuck with a guy that would get drunk and continuously talk while he was trying to finish up some homework. Have graduate specified scholarships for them to apply for and separate for undergraduate, also financial need could be taken into consideration.

It might be nice for a quick introduction (< 1 min) of each company there before the job fair/mixer. The handout just have enough info for my taste.

Free internet access in the hotel would have been nice.

Probably not possible, but a plant tour. Or have the company that wins the foundry of the year award have them make a video of their facility.

Maybe next year since it is not at the Drake FEF could cater in one of the meals, something Chicago style. even if it is Chicago style deep dish pizza or loaded chilly dogs. not that the food wasn't good at the conference, the food was excellent. just an idea to change it up a bit and honor Chicago.

More scholarship opportunities.

While at the conference one thing that I found interesting was talking to students from other schools about their curriculum. I think it would have been interesting if every school completed a brochure or presentation about their school describing their curriculum and showing their facilities.

The only thing that may help is a little more time for delegate/industry mixers. There are so many great people to meet and talk to and it was hard to get to all of them.

I think it would be really great for the student delegates to have one trip into the city together, maybe to Millenium Park or some other inexpensive tourist attraction, where they could all see the city and get to know each other a little better.

I believe it would be beneficial for schools to be roomed together. If students were invited in increments of 3, then those students would be able to be roomed together eliminating some issues which were encountered at this past conference, such as people bringing those of the opposite sex back to the hotel and keeping their roommates up the entire night. I realize placing delegates from other schools together allows some extra networking, but at the cost of sleep and comfortability it may be better to room student with people they know.

Maybe some session on metal casting technology specifically. A speaker from the industry talking about his particular company's innovations would be interesting.

Other than moving the breakfast to a later time, I thought everything was perfect.

I would like to see a little competition at the conference. You said we were the best in the country so give us an opportunity to prove it. Also internet would have been a nice addition to the rooms.

One suggestion would be to move the breakfast on Friday to 8 instead of 7am. Another suggestion would be to allow underclassmen in on this conference. I think they would be extremely impressed and strive to get exposed to the foundry industry at an earlier stage in their careers.

I know that social networking is becoming popular and I think that maybe a Facebook page or some form of social networking to keep the students and other in contact before and after the conference.

Have speakers talk about and address more directly the current state and direction of the industry, i.e. the reduction in the number of foundries in the US, the reduced number of companies attending the CIC vs previous years even if they aren't hiring, new markets or venues that could be accommodated by casting, and the reduced number of students as a whole that even know about the casting industry as a career option. An organized open discussion between delegates and industry professionals on a subject that might be chosen by vote or a discussion between delegates, industry professionals, and professors on how to improve the schools' curriculum to more effectively prepare students for challenges and projects faced in the real world.

More companies at the job fair.

In addition to all of the great pictures at the conference, I think it would be really fun and exciting to have a video of the weekend's events. This could be something available for purchase to help with donations and cost. I know I would personally buy a video if it was available.

Wow.. this is a little difficult. One thing in particular - there are particular delegates (though we are few) who are interested into going into the academic side of metalcasting. While the industry sessions are important, I wish there was an "academic" session, for the few of us who are academic. Even if we could somehow attend the professor's meeting, it would be interesting for us. Remember, that

many of us are actually directly involved with students as we do teach metalcasting-related courses. It would be interesting to see what the academic portion of FEF involves.

I hope "The Drake" can be selected again to hold the future College Industry Conferences.

I really liked how the conference was set up and ran. It went very smoothly and everyone in charge was very professional. I can't say I would change anything.

More merchandise available for purchase would be nice.

Again, I would suggest perhaps adding an extra day to the conference.

More company available for the students and I think also more advertising for the FEF conference.

Other than what I mentioned for #2, I don't have any suggestions for the future conferences.

One idea for the STUDENT DELEGATE ONLY MIXER is to give everyone an assignment to know X amount of cool things about the other schools and/or student. If not this, than perhaps another kinda cool Ice breaker. Just thought this might make it more fun and a better way to get to know everyone.

The only thing I can think of would be a paper-based questionnaire for immediate feedback. At the SFSA T & O conference, I found it easier to fill this out as events went on than to get around to sending an email.

Suggestions on future conferences is a hard one, its tough because it was such a good experience.

Keeping the conference at the Drake would be nice, but other than that, I felt like the confrence was very well prepared and presented.

Keep allowing a student delegate to attend the Education Committee meeting and The Board of Directors meeting.

I think it would help for the students to have more time to talk to the companies and really learn what each and every one of them do.

#### **4. Did you observe any improper behavior from other delegates?**

Yes, i was the one who approached you about the incident with the Michigan Tech student, I thank you for your consideration.

I saw a lot of my fellow delegates having a good time and enjoying the experience, but nobody was behaving improperly, or unacceptably. It was rather refreshing to see all the guys in suits and such cut loose a little bit.

I noticed that several delegates imbibed a little too much when alcoholic beverages were offered. Also several students were dressed in what I would call a leisure suit and did not present their image as professional and made me question their involvement and invitation to this wonderful event.

I thought that the behaviour of other delegates was quite good – students attending seemed to be quite polite, courteous, and serious about acting professionally and finding a job (or job ideas) and making connections. I thought that the upfront communication (i.e. delegate

letter) helped to establish this standard of behaviour.

Other than some excess drinking I didn't observe any improper behavior.

Besides some people drinking a little too much (which was no surprise haha) I personally did not see anything of concern from other delegates.

I did not observe any improper behavior from delegates.

I did not notice any inappropriate behavior from any of the delegates. In fact, I was almost surprised at how the majority of the delegates were almost trying too hard to be professional. Because of this, it was somewhat difficult to make friends with other delegates.

I heard a couple students brag about how expensive the drinks were that they were ordering on a company's tab.

Unfortunately, I did experience some inappropriate behavior from one of the other delegates that was invited out to dinner with me. At dinner he was overly friendly with me both verbally and physically and was very intoxicated. It made me incredibly uncomfortable. Thankfully, some of the other delegates took notice and intervened. Also, his key professor found out about his behavior and talked to him the next day, after which he very graciously apologized to me for his inappropriate behavior and he stayed in his hotel room that night.

I noticed some of the delegates may have had one or five too many drinks. Other than this I did not notice any rudeness toward each other. Everyone seemed to get along in a professional manner. For the most part, the other delegates seemed to have behaved pretty well.

As all of the delegates are of the college age, we do tend to get a little wild when we are in a new environment and presented with new experiences. I think that all of the delegates handled themselves in an appropriate manner. I wasn't witness to some of the behavior I heard about going on after hours, but I think that the situations were handled with.

I found all of the delegates to be friendly and warm hearted. I thought that students acted professionally when it was appropriate.

There was improper behavior from one delegate in particular towards some of the female delegates. When the key professor of the school was notified, the behavior was rectified and the particular delegate offered heartfelt apologies to the others. Everything was okay after understandings were reached, and apologies were offered.

For the most part, there was just a ton of alcohol being consumed from many delegates that I saw outside of the hotel. I truly wasn't affected negatively by this, but there were some delegates that did drink more than they should have.

I did not witness any improper behavior, only stories about how some people were kept up due to students bringing home ladies of the night.

My roommates had some problems with his roommate that brought another girl back to the room late at night, but my roommates were great.

## 5. What effect did this conference have on you personally and with your career plans?

This conference has been tremendously beneficial to me personally. It will enable me to continue in the path to incorporate metal casting in my research work, and in my future teaching plans. I also made and remade some key connections that will benefit me in the future.

As a person i know that there are people willing to help i you just ask in the propoer manner, and my career plans are to pursue a metalcasitng job or to follow up on my grad studies in the same area.

I have gained an even stronger appreciation for the industry and feeling of belonging within the industry. Jobs may not be readily available in the industry at the time, however, my interest in metal casting and appreciation for the industry will always remain even if I don't start my career in the industry. If I do enter another industry in the interest of job availability, I will be sure to try and enter it at a later time in my career because of my experiences with the CIC, FEF, AFS, and other related organizations.

This conference was very motivational for me as a student to finish school strongly. The conference also encouraged me to keep trying to further my career as a metal caster.

This conference was admittedly a little depressing. Mostly due to the fact that I discovered I am not quite what companies in the casting field are after. This isn't overly surprising, as I do not have a wealth of experience in the metals industry, but I had underestimated how large a gap I have to bridge. However, I am not giving up, and hopefully with a little luck I will be able to find an employer whose needs match up with my credentials/abilities.

I have always planned on a career in metalcasting; this event has just reassured me that the choice I have made will be very rewarding in the future.

I think the conference helped me solidify the fact that I want to work in the foundry industry, and I met a bunch of really great people and made some valuable contacts.

It had a huge impact. More enthusiasm for metal casting has grown.

It have a vast effect of knowing that even though the economy right now is not exactly the best there will always be rooms for engineers. And this conference made me think to set long time goals of things I would like to accomplish in my life.

I learned an incredible amount about myself and how to interact with others. I had never had an experience like this before talking with very important people of industry and essentially asking them for a job. My maturity level increased and forgot about any nerves that I might otherwise had and approached these companies with no fear of rejection and presenting myself as who I really am and how I might be of value to their company.

Helped me to really focus on what I want to do with my education and that I want to be in the casting industry.

This conference enlightened me to the range of people in and joining the metalcasting industry, as well as confirming to me that this is the right place to be.

Developed a much greater interest in the metalcasting industry and desire to persue my own research while in school.

I was incredibly impressed by the conference and moreover on the FEF organization

and opportunities in the casting industry. Prior to this conference, I hadn't had specific work experience in the casting industry (though in other areas of manufacturing). I am taking a casting graduate course in the upcoming winter semester, and I am inspired to learn more about casting and pursue potential employment in this field.

This conference solidified my plans that I want a job in the metals casting industry. Everyone that I spoke with was very kind and supportive. Every company works together in a way that you just don't see in other industries.

Made me realize that there really are a lot of jobs within casting. I feel like it would be a fantastic field to get in.

The conference actually changed my career plans for the better. I was really unsure as to what options I had once I graduated but I got the opportunity to talk to several companies which seem promising and I'm working with one right now to hopefully organize an interview.

Mr. Monroe's presentation was very informative in the fact that it reassured me that industry in the United States is thriving and always will. Despite what critics say, the casting industry is very much alive and active. Mr. Gil's presentation has to be, hands down, the most inspirational/motivational event I've ever had the opportunity to be a part of. The amount of motivation and drive that he possesses has inspired me to strive to be the best I can possibly be.

In terms of my perception of the casting industry, the conference bolstered the already high perception of the casting industry. However, my short-term career plans will most likely not be in the metalcasting industry since I graduate in a month, and there are very few, if any, companies looking to hire in the short term. However, I do plan to accept a job with a manufacturing company that heavily utilizes cast parts, so a career in metalcasting may still come back around.

Raymond's presentation empowered me. Patricio's presentation showed me anything is possible. This conference helped me network with individuals I would not have had the chance to in day-to-day activities. Now that contacts have been made with these business representatives who know how far my career will take me.

I majorly helped I was very excited to get the opportunity to talk to everyone and meet new people. I have already had contact outside of the CIC with people in industry.

Hopefully, it will land me my first job in the industry. It definitely showed me that this is a thriving industry full of careers.

It strengthened my belief that this is a great career field, and that I should not worry about the future of it.

This conference helped motivate me to be much more aggressive in things that I want in life. No one is going to give you something for nothing, you need to get out there and work for it. Another thing that I learned is to make career goals and write them down to help stay motivated and focused as your career progresses. Finally, one of the most important things I think I learned that there needs to be a balance between work, hobbies, and family in order to be a successful individual. My career plans haven't really changed because of this conference.

this conference really opened my eyes to the possibilities in the castings industry as well as the general attitude of the professionals. It really is an industry to grow in.

It was a great opportunity to meet with companies in the industry. Also, being paired with delegates from other schools was another great opportunity to meet people from other backgrounds.

The conference allowed me to speak with many companies at the career fair. From this interaction I have become aware of several potential positions that I would not have known about otherwise.

It helped me by giving me the opportunity to talk to the companies I was considering from employment. A resume can only go so far, meeting the people gives a face and personality to the application.

It was certainly an experience that I will never forget. Having learned so much more about the industry, it definitely influenced my career goals.

I believe it allowed me to fine tune my networking skills as well as forced me out of my comfort zone when it comes to initiating conversation with others. It has strengthened my ability to approach others and carry on a conversation with them without any prior introductions.

It has shown me that I shouldn't be down about the job market. Take advantage of what I have and work with it.

It instilled more confidence in my decision to pursue a career in the metalcasting industry after speaking with employers and other members of AFS and FEF as well as the other student delegates. I made some contacts at the CIC that will hopefully turn to career opportunities.

It exposed me to many industries that I am going to keep in contact with for when I graduate.

The conference helped me to feel more comfortable with the job availability for foundry engineers, and also other types of foundry support job. By support job i mean supplying alloys or equipment necessary for the foundries to function. My career plans have been to work in a foundry related industry. The conference was encouraging for me to stay on this career path.

The conference exposed me to a verity of companies on a more exclusive level than a normal career fair and hopefully it will help me find a job.

I believe that it makes me want to have a career in the casting industry if it is at all possible.

From this conference I think the biggest thing I got from it was the networking with the companies and connections. I also talked to Raymond Monroe about the foundry I was interviewing with since it was a steel foundry and he gave me some tips and even more contacts also. That to me was a great asset for me to gain during the conference.

I was very flattered to have been selected for this conference and I am seriously and actively pursuing an internship/career at some of the foundries down here in the Lone Star State. The conference allowed me to meet many new and exciting people and I am very grateful to the FEF for this wonderful opportunity.

This conference gave an interesting view to the foundry. I was expecting to see mostly Metallurgy students, but was surprised when I realized there were actually very few of us. It made me feel more confident in my choice of major, knowing that even at a foundry conference it is a major that is highly specialized.

It increased my career opportunities and exposed me to additional facets of the casting industry, as well as showing me that there are definite opportunities for advancement if you have the drive.

Being a Mechanical Engineering Technology major, I hadn't really considered working in more of a manufacturing role, but seeing how friendly these companies were and also being able to sit down and talk to some of them and see what they were really about has open a new door as I am trying to start my career.

I believe that this conference did a very good job at improving my networking skills. My career plans are still open at this time.

This conference has given me an even stronger drive to become part of this industry. Because of my attendance I feel that I have a greater passion for metal casting. I would also someday like to represent FEF as I have seen what a great foundation it is.

The conference had great effects on me because I got a chance to meet numerous people in the industry and even though I might not have landed a job while being there it was great to learn about what goes elsewhere and narrows my focus to what I want to see more of.

In my case, there was little to change in terms of my career plans - I love metalcasting, and plan on including it in my career! I just wish that I could see more of the academic side of things. I think academic jobs should count for a little bit.

I felt very fortunate of experiencing such a wonderful event. I learned there is always a reason to look forward and overcome challenges in life.

Walking away from this conference I took with me the understanding of how being selected to go to this conference separates me from a lot of other students, who like me, will be looking for jobs in this industry. Another thing was meeting people who were once delegates themselves and now they are presidents or division/section heads of companies, that was impressive.

This conference solidified my urge to work in the foundry industry.

It allowed me to better understand how the castings industry in the U.S. is currently situated. Also, it has resulted in me obtaining at least one interview and a few other companies that seem to be really interested in me for a full-time position.

This Conference had a tremendous impact on my life in general, I was very impressed especially on the level of high qualities Casting that some companies are working on. the Military and civilians applications.

The conference gave me a better perspective on the metal casting industry, and also a better feeling that I will enjoy my career if I enter the metal casting industry.

Personally, it has really changed my whole outlook on the metal casting industry for the better!!

This conference was invaluable to me. I could not of imagined a better atmosphere to be in right before graduation. Conversations with industry rep's helped so much on getting an idea of what companies are out there. Having all those people with a similar interest in one place was uplifting. The opportunity to network was priceless. I am set on entering the castings industry.

This conference increased my enthusiasm for the metal casting industry. It gave me some leads to follow and a clearer picture where I might fit in to this industry.

Personally this conference opened up my perspective on the casting industry as a whole. I can now easily see myself moving away from California, and working anywhere in the country if the people are anything like I met in Chicago at the conference.

It gave me a better perspective on how this industry values the education of its future. I hope to stay involved with FEF as I continue into my career in metal casting.

I became proud of how the industry values me and will always have the melting of metal a part of my career.

It gave me a better opportunity to meet with more companies to learn what they do and what kind of job opportunities are available at this time.

## **6. How well did you relate to the speakers?**

Ray Monroe was outstanding and Patricio was very accessible, and his speech very moving. The message from the AFS Communications guy was good, but I heard many comments that he didn't seem as technically competent in the business as he could be.

The speakers were very simple people and I can see myself in these people. The speakers had stories similar to mine and this gives me something to aim for.

Each speaker had something to offer me. The success story of Patricio's life was very encouraging, and Raymone and Albert's presentations were both enlightening.

Again I could really relate to the speakers hearing how they were able to accomplish their goals and where the casting industry was headed from an economical standpoint was very interesting.

I actually really enjoyed all of the speakers. The first two gentlemen who spoke were very interesting to me, and I felt they both had a good message, and a lot to share. The last speech was not bad; I think I was just a little worn out by the time he had begun. I was impressed by his passion for castings, but not as much as with the personal, and economical concepts that the previous two speakers discussed.

Patricio Gil, Ray Monroe, and Alfred Spada are some of the most inspiring speakers I have had the chance to hear. After Friday morning I am more positive than ever that I am in the right industry; an industry that has a great potential for growth and supports the next generation of leaders.

Patricio's speech was simply amazing! How incredibly inspiring! I was sure to thank him. Raymond's speech was interesting, providing great facts about American manufacturing and future job prospects; however it was not my favorite speech.

Alfred's speech was also very good, he really has great passion and a phenomenal stage presence. Most interesting was his business perspective about promoting the casting where welding, forging or stamping may otherwise be used.

Very well.

I related well with the speakers and they were not boring at all.

The point that Patricio Gil made about taking a demotion in order to advance your career was eye opening. I feel that I made a decision similar to his just last week, when I had been excited that Benji

Johnson from MAGMA was coming to our class to give a lecture on the software but I did not attend in order to focus on the CIC Pizza Cutters that we made to make sure that we had all of them finished and had what I feel is a winning package memento that I am very proud of and would like to think contributed to the unofficial job offer with ThyssenKrupp Waupaca.

Very well my education and experience reflected what they were saying very well.

I related very well to both Patricio Gil and Ray Monroe. I felt that they both had very good messages and were well delivered. Al Spada's message was a bit unclear, though his enthusiasm for the industry was quite evident.

Speakers were incredible, their speeches were perfectly matched to the function.

I thought that the speakers were excellent and related very valuable information, advice, and wisdom to us. Talking with fellow delegates Friday afternoon and evening, we talked about the quality of the speakers. Every single person I talked to agreed that the first speaker, Patricio Gil, was fantastic (and the other speakers were quite good too). I talked to Patricio at the Friday evening reception, and I told him what an inspiration his speech and presentation was. I was very impressed with his genuineness, integrity, and humbleness amidst his very substantial accomplishments. He demonstrated that success is not a function of what we're given, but rather of what we seek and create; this was an incredibly empowering message – one we could relate into moving forward in our own careers and education with purpose and enthusiasm. The speakers, especially Patricio, was an excellent role model for us to have met and heard from – I feel sincerely blessed to have been a member of the audience who had the privilege of hearing him speak.

I could relate to the speakers very well in regards to problems they faced moving up in the industry as well as problems balancing their lives in regards to family and work. The manufacturing distribution that Raymond discussed is something that affects all of us discussing jobs through out the world. All of the speakers were very interesting and provided vastly different views of the industry.

I thought that they all did a really good job.

All three of the speakers were excellent. They did a very good job of relating all of the material to the students so that we could understand what they were talking about and it was also nice that none of them talked about the same topics. It kept it interesting to listen too.

I couldn't exactly relate any of the speakers' experiences to any of my own, however, that may be why I thought they were very informative and inspirational. They brought information to light that I have never heard. If future speakers at the CIC are as "knowledge wealthy" as these gentlemen were, then nothing but positive comments will be heard.

Very well.

I had seen Raymond speak before and he was great. The other two speakers were amazing as well, they inspired me to make life plans and achievements.

As I mentioned before, Patricio Gil was outstanding. I appreciated Raymond Monroe's message, but I didn't enjoy the way he presented, it felt very angry almost. Alfred Spada's speech was very nice, and along the lines of what I was expecting.

The speakers were spectacular, it was great to see other people's perspective of the industry, as well as their success within the industry. It really helped increase my confidence that this is the right field for me.

I really enjoyed all three speakers and felt that I could relate very well. I thought that Patricio had the best story to tell out of all of the speakers, but I was still able to pull things from the other two. Patricio's story really motivated me.

I thought the speakers were excellent I liked all 3, with Raymond being my favorite. he had a lot of energy and a ton of useful facts and information. – Jordan Kimble, Western Michigan.  
Fairly well, except when talking about marketing and public relations.

I felt that the speakers were appropriate to the audience. Each speaker focused on a specific topic, preventing redundancy.

The speakers were great. Metal casting was covered in the major areas of interest. The first dealt with career decisions and how Patricio was able to accomplish his goals. Ray left us with a better understanding of where the industry sits in the current situation with promise for the future. The last speaker brought enthusiasm to metal casting. He, like myself, came from a different field and was captured by the metal casting process.

I thought the speakers were amazing, they seemed very well tailored for the student delegates. Patricio's was especially interesting and enlightening.

I thought the speakers were very good at meeting the delegates at a social and intellectual level. It was interesting to hear the stories as well as the overall information of the industry as it is now. It was also refreshing to get perspective on the future expectations of the industry and helped alleviate some concerns students have had with regards to finding a job.

Very well, they were my favorite part of the whole experience.

Very well, I thought all of the speakers were interesting and energetic. They all also had realistic ideas of what will occur in the metalcasting industry in the next few years.

The speakers were great. I really enjoyed that portion of the CIC. I really enjoyed Alfred Spada's enthusiasm about the metal casting industry.

Most of the speakers were very personable. It was a good chance to interact with members of the casting industry.

I could relate to the speakers pretty well. Patricio Gil studied Industrial Engineering and I am studying Industrial Engineering as well. He made a good point of how it is important to balance work life with your personal life. Raymond Monroe made an interesting point of how most of the people I work with (at Magparts) are getting ready to retire. I can relate to how many companies are switching from assemblies to single castings in order to reduce assembly time, improve quality and possibly save some money in the process. Alfred Spadra was enthusiastic, I can relate to that because I am enthusiastic. He had made a good point about informing people we know about casting. I do this often. People often ask me what I do, and I always enjoy telling them about casting and how it's done.

I liked the speakers they assured me that I was making a good decision in trying to join the metal casting industry.

I think the speakers were excellent and very much so related to me. I think they were a great inspiration.

Like I said the speakers really reached me and I was able to connect to them all.

The speakers were amazing and very down to earth. I was very impressed with their ability to relate with us students and they offered some great advice.

I fell Patricio Gill was the most interesting speaker, because he showed his path to where he got. He talked about why he did what he did and about the choices he had to make. This made me connect to him greater than the other speakers who I felt were trying to give a foundry pep rally instead of presenting about something practical.

A range of speakers with varying experience or time spent in the casting industry might be beneficial. I personally would find it easier to relate to an engineer that has been with his company for 1-5 years or maybe less than a year discussing projects and jobs that he has handled and how he used knowledge gained in the class room or in internships or co-op's, how his job relates to the big picture of the casting industry, and how he got into the casting industry. I find it much harder to relate to a seasoned industry professional who's got 30-40 years experience, owns the company, and is old enough to be my father. I would recommend if staying with 3 speakers: one with 1-5 yrs experience, one with 10-20 yrs, and one with 20+. All of this years speakers were interesting, but I just had trouble relating due to age and experience gap.

I am not sure if I personally related to any of the speakers, but I find it fascinating hearing about peoples lives, how they started out and how they came to be where they are today, some really great stories.

I thought that the speakers did a good job relating their message to the delegates.

I found the speakers to be exceptional. I was able to relate to each one in a different way. I thought there was a nice mix of personal stories and professional stories. Again, I found that the speeches really fired me up to succeed to my fullest possible potential.

The speakers were all very great on the way they related their topic to something that is most important to us and our future plans.

As I said previously, I adored the speakers. They were very good this year -- the lessons in life that were demonstrated were excellent. I could relate as I was a first generation college student, (and PhD student). Keep up the good work with the choices of speakers!

I had the chance to talk to the speakers about their experiences and job positions in their companies. The latter helped me to understand that there are always work-related problems, but there is also a solution to them.

The speeches that were given were inspirational and informative. They were inspirational because like I said before, the speakers were once students like us trying to learn everything they could about this industry and not knowing one day they would be on that stage speaking to us. The speeches were informative because they let us know how the industry was doing and where it was going in terms of hiring and technology being used.

I feel the wide variety of speakers helped me relate to each one in a different way.

For the most part, it was very interesting listening to one of them speak about his own career path toward becoming CEO, since that is what my career path is focusing on once I graduate. It was also interesting to hear about the steel industry and how it will be affected in the next few years.

The speakers from Mexico was wonderful. I liked the idea of having a flow chart to evaluate life's decision.

I was able to relate well to the speakers. Some of them I shared similar experiences with.

I feel that I really connected with Alfred and his topic on "Markets for Metalcasting." It gave me a different perspective as to where I can use my foundry education to help advance my career in any of the markets mentioned. In particular, I will be looking more into companies that actually buy metal castings or companies that could benefit from a metal casting. I feel that I really connected with Alfred and his topic on "Markets for Metalcasting." It gave me a different perspective as to where I can use my foundry education to help advance my career in any of the markets mentioned. In particular, I will be looking more into companies that actually buy metal castings or companies that could benefit from a metal casting.

The speakers went above and beyond my expectations. Each speaker was excellent. I was thoroughly moved and inspired.

All the speakers were impressive, especially Patricio Gil and Ray Monroe. Gil's story contained good advice for people entering the industry, especially since opportunities for promotion will abound for this generation. Monroe's speech helped put the economic climate into perspective for us as we seek to enter when this industry (as with most) is tight for now. Then again, Monroe can make a speech on brushing teeth informative.

I thought all the speakers were great, I was fascinated by all of them, and as a result they had my attention at all times. I was good to see such good, smart people representing this portion of the manufacturing industry.

I could relate very well; all the speakers touched a part of how I am feeling going to the casting industry as it stands today and gave me hope for the future.

I was very impressed with the College Industry Conference and the events planned for the students and myself. The most interesting part was the speakers, all from diverse fields of the Industry. These were very appealing because they offered a different but entirely factual aspect of the metal casting industry that is rarely discussed between students. The speakers shared their own experiences, as well as a professional outlook on the industries future. The conference was also very oriented around the students, which I enjoyed. The attention the students obtained during the CIC was not comparable to other conferences I have attended. All the students that I met on the trip were very considerate and willing to help one another with schedules and directions around the hotel. This experience was a beneficial part of my current job search. The career fair helped me put into perspective the amount of local metal casting industries as well as an idea of the percentage of these industries that are hiring young people. Thank you very much for the opportunity to attend the College Industry Conference in the beautiful city of Chicago.

I related to the speakers in a sense where, I also have the drive to better my situation when at all possible.

I thought the speakers were really good. I especially like the first guy who talked about what kind of family he came from and how he really smashed the mold.

On Friday morning, it was a great pleasure to listen to the speeches. It was inspiring to learn how people came to pursue a career in metal casting, the steps they took, the obstacles they encountered, how the industry is so much a part of our modern lives, and where it is going. There is quite a lot that was said, that I can identify with, especially with regards to defeating obstacles, and making sacrifices in the pursuit of your goals. That morning helped me to re-evaluate my personal and career goals, give them more structure, and assured me that these goals can be achieved through dedication, as demonstrated by the speakers.

### **General Comments:**

Overall I was very impressed with the event and had a great experience.

I had a great time at the FEF 2009 CIC and I just want to thank you for your part in putting all of it together.

Thank you so much for helping put on such a wonderful event! For me, I believe that it was a truly beneficial experience and I had great fun.

I was please at many of the arrangements for the FEF students. The scholarships, the fine dining, and hotel was very nice. I also appreciated getting to meet potential employers. I was, however, appalled by the constant alcoholic drinking and partying. I do drink on occasion, but belly dancers, random women in students rooms (including mine) and drunk students not sleeping the whole weekend is not representative of what I have seen at the many conferences that I have been to. I know no one can control what the students do, but many of the sponsors were part of it too. I heard a reference from a speaker that said, " This will be the most fun you will have while standing up!"

I heard FEF sponsored an all nigh bar tab at a local bar. I guarantee you that the reason students are saying that this conference is great is because they got drunk for free and danced with women. I apologize for this detail but I think that if FEF and the industry sponsors didn't make it so obvious what was important in their individual day to day lives then the young students wouldn't think that this is what they should do to be successful. I do appreciate the efforts among the few to keep the conference professional.

Thank you for the opportunity to attend CIC it was one of the most eye opening and fun things I've done in college.

Attending the FEF conference in Chicago, has truly been one of the most remarkable experiences of my life. I feel privileged and honored to have been selected by my professor Brad Bowman. At the conference, I had the pleasure of meeting several fellow delegates, members of the FEF, and industry professionals. It was very informative and inspiring to meet these people, united by a common passion for metal casting. As I was the only candidate from my school, I was intimidated at first. This intimidation was short-lived, due to the hospitable and welcoming attitude displayed by the FEF members, industry representatives, and student delegates. I am very thankful for that. I cannot express how magnificent the Drake hotel is, and how well suited it was to this event. It was an excellent forum to conduct the conference. A memorable stay to say the very least. In summation, the conference as a whole was thoroughly enjoyable, and an unforgettable experience. I am excited for future delegates, and the wonderful time they will have.

Thank you again for the chance to experience this!

Thank you so very much to FEF for creating this amazing opportunity for students - I feel sincerely blessed to have been able to take part in the event and to have met so many great people. I feel very fortunate to have been able to attend the FEF College Industry Conference. Thank you so much to

the FEF organization for creating this amazing opportunity for students, and to the companies and individuals who participate and make this event one of inspiration and community. And thank you so much to Dr. Sokolowski, for choosing me to attend. The FEF College Industry Conference is an experience I will never forget. Thank you!

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend this conference. I have nothing but positive marks to give.

Thank you again for putting together such a lovely conference.

I first wanted to say thank you for helping this event to exist year after year. I had a great time.

was for me, my best experience as an student, I never been before in one event like this. the speakers was wonderfull. the delegates was very friendly. I have not words to describe the experience, thank you to the FEF for give me this oportunity, and I hope this is just the beginning.

Thank you for your part in arranging the conference. I enjoyed it greatly, and am very grateful for such an opportunity to enter the metalcasting industry. Thank you again for this opportunity.

Thanks for all that you did for this year's conference Bill.

Thank you for allowing me to have the opportunity to be a student delegate at this year's conference. I really appreciate and feel that it has made me a better person.

I would like to thank you for the work that was put into this conference this year it was beyond my expectations. it was nice meeting professionals in this industry and seeing all of the opportunities metal castings has to offer. Thanks again for the opportunity to be involved with FEF and all of the support FEF has provided to Western Michigan University.

Thank You for everything.

The event was very well coordinated and I hope I was able to stand out among a group of very capable students.

Thank You. I really enjoyed the conference.

Thank you for the opportunity to go to the CIC. It was a great experience for me.

Thank you very much i had a wonderful time at this conference.

Thank you so much for the awesome opportunity!

I had a great time at the conference and made some very good connections. Overall it was a wonderful experience and helped to expand my career possibilities in the casting industry.

I just want to start off by saying thank you to you and to FEF for your gracious hospitality during the entire conference. The only complaint that I have isn't with the conference but with the Drake. Apparently their housekeeping staff threw away a plastic bag I had in the bathroom of our room that had some bathroom supplies as well as my electric razor in it. I had talked with the head of housekeeping before we left and he said that he would look into the situation and I received a call about a week ago saying that they could not find it so they are just treating it like a lost item. But I do have to say that their staff was very polite when dealing with the situation. I had a great time at the conference and thank you again for having me and I wish you all great success in the future.

I also just want to thank you again for such an outstanding conference this year. I was blessed to be a part of it.

It was a wonderful conference and I had a great time in Chicago. Thanks a lot for all the opportunities you were able to give all of us.

Thank you for giving the opportunity of being part of such a great conference.