



Association of Applied Geochemists

www.appliedgeochemists.org

28th INTERNATIONAL APPLIED GEOCHEMISTRY SYMPOSIUM (IAGS)

The 28th International Applied Geochemistry Symposium was held 16–21 June 2018 at the Convention Centre in Vancouver (Canada) in conjunction with the Resources for Future Generations (RFG2018) conference. The Association of Applied Geochemists (AAG) was well represented at the RFG2018: we had numerous technical sessions, three short courses and a field excursion. A highlight of the week was the AAG gala dinner, which was held at the Vancouver Aquarium where the AAG's gold and silver medals were awarded for 2016 and 2017.

CITATION FOR 2016–2017 AAG MEDALLISTS

Reijo Salminen, AAG 2016 Gold Medal

The 2016 Gold Medal for outstanding contributions to exploration geochemistry went to Professor Reijo Salminen (Geological Survey of Finland, retired). Professor Salminen has had a long and successful career in geochemical research in Finland and Europe, beginning in the late 1960s and culminating in becoming a research professor in geochemistry in the Geological Survey of Finland (GTK) from 1997 to 2010. During this time, he led numerous national and international geochemical mapping projects in Finland, the Barents Sea region and elsewhere in Europe, and managed large collaborative projects. He participated in the GTK's international geochemical mapping projects, including fact-finding, project planning and implementation missions in Tanzania, Uganda, Nigeria, Russia and Norway. He ran undergraduate and post-graduate courses in the universities of Helsinki and Turku (both Finland) and supervised graduate theses.

Professor Salminen was a pioneer in developing geochemical mapping at different scales, particularly in the use of glacial till, and a leader of national and international geochemical mapping projects. His work has been widely acclaimed by the international geological community. His impressive publication record includes some 36 refereed scientific papers, and he was the lead author and/or editor of 15 geochemical atlases and books. He is, or has been, a member of the editorial boards of scientific journals, including *Geochemistry: Exploration, Environment, Analysis*. His leadership roles on international collaborative projects have included Chair of the European subcommittee of the International Union of Geological Sciences/International Association of Geochemistry Working Group on Global Geochemical Baselines, and the Forum of Geological Surveys of Europe/EuroGeoSurveys Geochemistry Working Group (FOREGS) 1996–2006. Professor Salminen has remained active in international geochemistry projects since his retirement in 2010. He is a worthy recipient of the AAG 2016 Gold Medal.

Stu Averill, AAG 2017 Gold Medal

The 2017 Gold Medal for outstanding contributions to exploration geochemistry went to Stuart (Stu) Averill, founder of Overburden Drilling Management Ltd (ODM) and an innovator in applied geochemical methods. Stu has had a several-decades-long career of achievement in applied research, particularly in the development and application of innovative indicator mineral and gold grain methods for mineral exploration.



The Convention Centre in Vancouver (Canada).

Over the past 45 years, he has made important contributions to mineral exploration methods in the glaciated terrain of Canada and globally through his research and develop-

ment at ODM in Ottawa (Canada). His extensive achievements include the initiation and improvement of rudimentary heavy mineral laboratory separation procedures to concentrate indicator minerals from surficial sediments, making such minerals more effective and practical for exploration. He also expanded the range of indicator mineral methods

and suites to span a wide variety of deposit styles, from kimberlite-hosted diamonds to magmatic massive sulfide deposits. In addition, Stu developed a gold grain shape and surface texture classification that is now used worldwide, and he has discovered or delineated indicator mineral dispersal trains for more than 20 mineral deposits in North America and Chile.

During his long and successful career, Stu has been a generous collaborator with other scientists in government, industry and academia, and a willing mentor to students and junior geoscientists. He has contributed numerous presentations to past International Applied Geochemistry symposia and published many technical articles in *EXPLORE*. He is interna-

tionally acclaimed for his body of work and is a most deserving recipient of the 2017 Gold Medal.

David Cohen, AAG 2016 Silver Medal

The Association of Applied Geochemists' Silver Medal is given to those who have voluntarily devoted extraordinary time and energy to the affairs of the AAG. The 2016 Silver Medal is awarded to Dr. David Cohen of the University of New South Wales (Australia) for his dedicated service to the AAG. This reward is a reflection of his long-standing and continued service, particularly related to symposia coordination, student awards, council and presidential duties, and his ongoing drive to provide education and training to younger geoscientists.

David has served as a councillor or council member almost continually from 2000 to the present, including the Executive Council during his four years as AAG Vice-President (2006–2007) and President (2008–2009). He has held the position of Symposia Coordinator for more than 9 years and has been a prolific educator and geochemical short-course organizer at innumerable International Applied Geochemistry symposia (IAGS) and other geological conferences. He has also been a driving force behind the AAG student awards, which are often organized in parallel with an IAGS. David has consistently been a strong advocate for student awards as a means of fostering young scientists and retaining them as members of the AAG. He is also the AAG's representative on the Australian Geoscience Council, a position he has held since 2008. More recently, David has served on AAG's Strategy Committee, which is tasked with understanding where the AAG is with respect to its members and in developing a future strategy to ensure the longevity of the association over the coming decades. He is a worthy recipient of the 2016 Silver Medal.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: 2016 winner of the Silver Medal, David Cohen; 2017 winner of the Gold Medal, Stu Averill; Pertti Sarala accepting the 2016 Gold Medal on behalf of winner Reijo Salminen.