BALZAN PRIZE FOR SCIENCE OF CLIMATE CHANGE TO WALLACE S. BROECKER

Wallace S. Broecker. PHOTO COPYRIGHT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

The International Balzan Foundation awarded one of its prestigious prizes to **Wallace S. Broecker** "for his extraordinary contributions to the understanding of climate change through his discoveries concerning the role of the oceans and their interactions with the atmosphere, as well as the role of glacial changes and the records contained in ice cores and ocean sediments. His contributions have been significant in understanding both gradual and abrupt climate change."

The goal of the International E. Balzan Prizes is to foster culture, the sciences and the most meritorious humanitarian initiatives of peace and brotherhood among peoples, regardless of nationality, race or creed. Each prize has a value of one million Swiss francs (about 650,000 euros); half of the prize must be designated by the prize-winner for research work, preferably involving young scholars. The International Balzan Foundation was established in 1956 by Angela Lina Balzan in memory of her father, Eugenio Balzan, who was co-publisher for many years of the *Corriere della Sera*, an influential Italian newspaper. It awards four prizes every year in the fields of natural sciences, humanities, social sciences, and art.

A prolific researcher, teacher and author, Broecker has published more than 400 scientific articles and is the author or coauthor of several textbooks. He is the Newberry Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Columbia University. Among his many awards and citations, Broecker was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1979. He is also a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a Fellow of both the American and European Geophysical Unions. In 1996, he was presented with the National Medal of Science by President Bill Clinton and he was the recipient of the Blue Planet Prize. He was also awarded the 2006 Crafoord Prize in Geosciences.

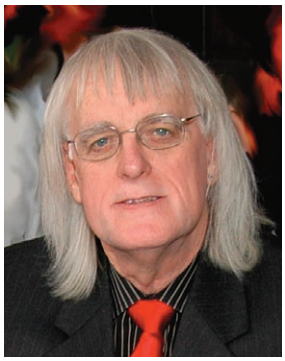
INAUGURAL IMA MEDAL TO CHARLES T. PREWITT

Charles T. Prewitt

The IMA is proud to announce that **Professor Charles T. Prewitt** of the Carnegie Institution has been designated as the first recipient of the IMA Medal for Excellence in Mineralogical Research. The IMA expressed admiration for his research eminence in developing a wide variety of new fields in crystal chemistry, materials science and mineral physics.

In crystallography he was one of the pioneers in the use of the single-crystal diffractometer, creating computer programs to handle diffraction data, and more recently in his use of synchrotron radiation for solving problems in mineral physics. In experimental techniques he was in the forefront of the development of new methods in high-temperature and high-pressure mineral synthesis. Charles Prewitt has not only produced an enormous number of extraordinary publications, he is also responsible for directing much larger research projects on an international basis. He was director at the Geophysical Laboratory in 1986–1999. His research on silicates and oxide materials, specifically, his development of the principles of ionic radii in these materials, has been highly influential in the Earth and materials sciences over the past 40 years. Charles Prewitt will receive the award and also give a lecture during the 2009 Goldschmidt Conference in Davos.

KILLAM PRIZE TO FRANK HAWTHORNE



Frank C. Hawthorne

Frank C. Hawthorne, University of Manitoba, was awarded the Killam Prize in Natural Sciences for 2008 by the Killam Foundation of the Canada Council for the Arts. Isaac Walton Killam was one of the most successful Canadian business and financial figures in the first half of the 20th century. His wife formed the Killam Foundation, which provides funds for the Canada Council for the Arts to award annual Killam Prizes in Natural Sciences, Health Sciences, Engineering, Social Sciences and Humanities. Worth $100,000 each, they are among Canada's most prestigious awards. This is only the second time that the prize has been awarded to a geoscientist.

Frank Hawthorne's work on quantitatively predicting mineral stability as a function of chemical bonding at the atomic level has advanced mineralogy beyond traditional descriptive methods. He combines chemical theory and mathematics with new and innovative ways of understanding minerals. He has done groundbreaking research on crystal structures and crystal chemistry of complex minerals and has contributed to advances in a number of topical areas, including environmental mineralogy (e.g. the disposal of high-level wastes). Dr. Hawthorne has received many awards, including the principal medals for research from the Royal Society of Canada, the Mineralogical Association of Canada, the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Geological Association of Canada. He was awarded a Canada Research Chair in Crystallography and Mineralogy (2001). He is an Officer of the Order of Canada (2006), and a Foreign Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences (2006).

DONALD B. DINGWELL NOMINATED TO ACADEMIA EUROPÆA

Donald B. Dingwell

Donald B. Dingwell has been named Chair of the Earth and Cosmic Sciences section of the Academia Europaea, Europe's Academy of Arts and Letters. The Academy is composed of 14 sections. Earth and Cosmic Sciences is one of the oldest, with over 300 members. The section chair represents the section in the Council of the Academy.

Dingwell is Chair of Mineralogy and Petrology at the LMU University of Munich and currently serves as the Director of Earth and Environmental Sciences. In 2007, he was awarded a research professorship via the Bundesexzellenzinitiativ. He has been a member of the Deutsche Mineralogische Gesellschaft for 20 years; he is also a member of the Mineralogical Society of America, the Mineralogical Association of Canada, and the Geochemical Society.