

IMA MEDAL AWARDED TO NICK SOBOLEV



Nick Sobolev, recipient of the IMA Medal. PHOTO COURTESY OF H.-P. SCHERTL

The International Mineralogical Association has awarded its 2013 Medal of Excellence in Mineralogical Sciences to Academician **Dr Nikolay Vladimirovich Sobolev**, professor at the V. S. Sobolev Institute of Geology and Mineralogy of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Novosibirsk, Russia. Nick Sobolev, as most colleagues know him, is a distinguished scientist known worldwide, whose work on the petrology, mineralogy, and geochemistry of high-pressure and ultrahigh-pressure crustal and mantle rocks, kimberlites, and their xenoliths and diamonds has had a

profound effect on many disciplines in Earth science. Nick has written several hundred peer-reviewed scientific papers on mantle mineralogy and petrology as revealed by diamonds and their mineral inclusions. He is the world expert in this field, and his name is synonymous with diamond-inclusion research. His h-index (48) and more than 8000 total citations are the highest for a Russian Earth scientist.

With his interest in diamonds, Nick Sobolev has followed in the footsteps of his world-famous father, Academician Vladimir Stepanovich Sobolev, who first predicted the probability of diamonds in Yakutia (northern Siberia); his three brothers are also all geologists. Nick's 1974 book, *Deep-Seated Inclusions in Kimberlites and the Problem of the Composition of the Upper Mantle*, rapidly became not only the worldwide "Bible of Yakutian Kimberlites" but the most thorough collection and scientific evaluation of mantle mineralogy for decades. His work on inclusions provided the foundation for the current use of mineral compositions in diamond exploration. Work with colleagues on carbon isotope analyses of diamonds in the 1970s led to the first proposal that eclogitic diamonds form from crustal carbon recycled into the mantle by subduction, and in 1990, together with V. Shatsky, Nick proved that the continental eclogites he was studying in Kazakhstan contained microdiamonds, leading to the entirely new field of research of ultrahigh-pressure metamorphism.

You can read more at www.ima-mineralogy.org. A plenary lecture and medal presentation ceremony will be held at IMA2014 in South Africa. Many congratulations to Nick!

COLLINS MEDAL TO MICHAEL BROWN



Michael Brown was nominated for the 2014 Collins Medal of the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland on two grounds: his science, which is truly international in quality, scope and breadth, and his contributions to the development of metamorphic geology.

Brown has published over 120 peer-reviewed papers in the fields of high-*T* metamorphism, including HP and UHT granulite metamorphism; crustal anatexis and melt segregation, extraction, ascent and emplacement;

the *P-T-t-d* evolution and tectonics of metamorphic belts; and secular change in styles of metamorphism and tectonics. This work has played a fundamental role in developing understanding in these fields.

Brown's main legacy, however, may be in how he has facilitated research. Brown founded the Metamorphic Studies Group of the Mineralogical Society and the Geological Society of London. This specialist group has consolidated the position of metamorphic studies in the UK. Brown was the founder of the *Journal of Metamorphic Geology (JMG)* and is still the driving force on the editorial board as the journal, with an impact factor of 3.418, enters its 30th year. It is difficult to imagine how the study of metamorphism could have reached its current strength in the absence of this journal. *JMG* has published seminal papers by Bell and by Holland and Powell, among others. An enthusiastic conference organizer, Brown has convened over 25 major thematic meetings.

HAP McSWEEN, PRESIDENT ELECT OF GSA



Harry Y. (Hap) McSween, Chancellor's Professor at the University of Tennessee and a former principal editor of *Elements*, has been elected vice president/president elect of the Geological Society of America (GSA). The GSA is an umbrella organization with 25,000 members, and Hap is the first planetary geoscientist to lead the GSA. He is also a member of the Mineralogical Society of America, the Geochemical Society, and the Meteoritical Society, all organizations that sponsor *Elements*.

ORDER OF MERIT TO DON DINGWELL



Dr. Wolfgang Heubisch, Minister of Research of the Free State of Bavaria, presenting the Order of Merit to Don Dingwell (left)

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany has honored **Don Dingwell** with the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany (Bundesverdienstkreuz am Bande), given by the Minister of Research of the Free State of Bavaria. The citation praises "Professor Dingwell's tireless efforts between science and the public during the Volcanic Ash Crisis for Civil Aviation of 2010, his central role in advancing geosciences within Bavaria, Germany and Europe and the global importance of his service as the 3rd Secretary-General of the European Research Council."

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