



# International Association of GeoChemistry

[www.iagc-society.org](http://www.iagc-society.org)

## IAGC AWARDS

We are pleased to announce the International Association of GeoChemistry's awards for 2017. Congratulations to all the recipients, and thank you for your service to the IAGC and the geochemical community! We are now accepting award nominations for 2018 through 31 December 2017. Eligible awards for 2018 include the Vernadsky Medal, the Harmon Distinguished Service Award, the Kharaka Award, IAGC Fellow, and the Certificate of Recognition. To nominate a deserving colleague, go to [www.iagc-society.org/awards.html](http://www.iagc-society.org/awards.html).

### Harmon Distinguished Service Award



**Richard B. Wanty** of the US Geological Survey in Denver (Colorado). Rich served as IAGC Vice President for 2011 and 2012, was President in 2013 and 2014, and has just finished his term as Past President. Under his leadership, the IAGC revitalized the Urban Geochemistry Working Group and added the Environmental Geochemistry Working Group and BIOGEOMON group to the list of IAGC-supported

meetings. In addition, Rich fostered more interaction between the IAGC and other organizations, such as the Geochemical Society. Rich continues to be an international leader in the Applied Isotope Geochemistry (AIG) Working Group where he has been a major scientific contributor. This year, he is leading the Applied Isotope Geochemistry 12 (AIG-12) meeting in Copper Mountain (Colorado, USA). Rich always brings great energy and a positive attitude to all he does; he was a thoughtful and collegial leader, setting an example for all who follow. Rich is truly deserving of the Harmon Distinguished Service Award for 2017.

### IAGC Fellows



**John J. Gurney**, Emeritus Professor of Geochemistry in the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Cape Town (UCT) (South Africa), has made significant contributions to the field of geochemistry over the course of a 50+ year professional career. In 1968, Prof. Gurney received his PhD from UCT, which was followed by a post-doctoral fellowship at the Smithsonian Institution

(Washington DC, USA) from 1970 to 1971. As an academic staff member at UCT from 1972 to 2004, John investigated the upper mantle beneath the South African craton and addressed the origin of kimberlites by establishing and leading the Kimberlite Research Group. John has authored 273 peer-reviewed research publications, a body of work that has defined our current understanding of kimberlites and established the way in which diamond exploration is presently conducted. John was granted a Personal Chair in Geochemistry in 1984 and is a Lifetime Fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa. Other awards John has received are as follows: the IAGC Certificate of Recognition for a career of upper mantle and diamond research and its practical application in 2007; Distinguished Lecturer of the Society of Economic Geologists in 2006; Society of Economic Geologists Silver Medal for contributions to mineral exploration in 2005; Professional Management Review Golden Arrow Award for the "Most-Admired Individual in Geology Education in South Africa" in 1999; Draper Memorial Medal (the highest award of the Geological Society of South Africa) in 1995; International Lecturer Award of the Society of Economic Geologists in 1992; Alex L. du Toit Memorial Lecturer Award of the Geological Society of South Africa in 1989.

A chemist by training, John's first research appointment was in 1963 as an analyst in Prof. Louis H. Arhens research team in the newly formed Geochemistry Department at UCT. Trace-element studies on mantle xenoliths led to a PhD and a post-doctoral fellowship at the Smithsonian Museum (Washington DC, USA). Returning to UCT in 1972, he was appointed head of the newly created Kimberlite Research Group (KRG), a position he held until his retirement in 2004. During this period, the KRG was a prolific source of mantle-related theses and publications in scientific journals. The UCT also hosted two very successful kimberlite conferences with John's input, visiting scientists being attracted to

participate in joint research projects. Since his official retirement, while continuing his mantle research, John has established Mineral Services Ltd, a company that consults for the diamond exploration industry.



**Yu-Ping (Yo) Chin** has been a faculty member at the Ohio State University (USA) since 1991. He is an environmental and organic geochemist. He has made important and seminal contributions to the investigation of both naturally occurring and xenobiotic organic matter, its characterization, and its behavior in aquatic systems. He has coauthored 95 refereed publications on the topics of naturally occurring

dissolved organic matter, of trace-metal-organic matter interactions, and of the effects of photo-oxidation and redox changes on anthropogenically introduced pesticides, herbicides, fire-retardants, and related compounds. Besides the quantity of his work, the quality of his work is also very high. He currently has a h-index of 36 (ISI Web of Science), with citations approaching 6,000. He has published in some of the best environmental geochemistry journals in the world, with 30 publications alone in the American Chemical Society (ACS) journal *Environmental Science and Technology*. He currently serves on ES&T's Science Advisory Board. He has been honored by ACS with an Excellence in Reviewing Award, with a Certificate of Appreciation for Service, and has won numerous Certificate of Merit for Oral Presentation awards. He recently stepped down as a member in the U.S. National Research Council's Water Science and Technology Board, and he has been a member of the Committee on Future Options of the Nations Subsurface Remediation Effect.

Yo Chin has been a contributing member of IAGC's Urban Geochemistry Working Group, contributed one of the four papers to the special issue of *Elementa: Science of the Anthropocene* that was devoted to this topic, was a coauthor on the working group's recent review paper in *Applied Geochemistry* (Chambers et al. 2016), and has contributed another paper to a special issue of *Applied Geochemistry* on urban geochemistry. In addition to his scholarly and service contributions, he has also been an outstanding classroom teacher and student mentor. Eleven of his graduate students over the past 13 years have won prestigious fellowships; many of them are now faculty members themselves or are prominent researchers in government laboratories. In his over 20 years at Ohio State, Dr. Chin has developed a distinguished record of research, scholarship, service and teaching, one that is worthy of consideration for Fellowship of the IAGC. He is an international leader in the field of aquatic organic geochemistry.

### Kharaka Award



**Parthasarathi Chakraborty** is from India and received his PhD from Carleton University (Canada) in 2007. Partha has an impressive scientific resumé. He has worked on trace metals, including mercury, and has developed expertise in the geochemistry of both the water column and sediments. He has 46 publications and these have been highly cited: his h-index is 16, according to Google Scholar, and he

has received a total of 538 citations. His most-cited papers address important and interesting aspects of the environmental chemistry of metals. The most highly cited paper is his 2012 work on lead and cadmium speciation in sediments. Other papers dealing with metal binding and speciation are also highly cited, including his paper on cadmium-humic interactions. Other highly cited papers deal with metals in effluents and in sediments. Partha is currently published at a high rate, averaging six papers per year!

Partha is well-recognized for his knowledge, being a member of two Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) working groups, and having received the Krishnan Award from the Geological Society of India, as well as other awards. He supervises graduate students and his students have gone on to have successful careers. The IAGC is happy to bestow the Kharaka Award to Parthasarathi Chakraborty in recognition of his accomplishments, and we wish him well in all his future endeavors in geochemistry.