

## **Association Announcements**

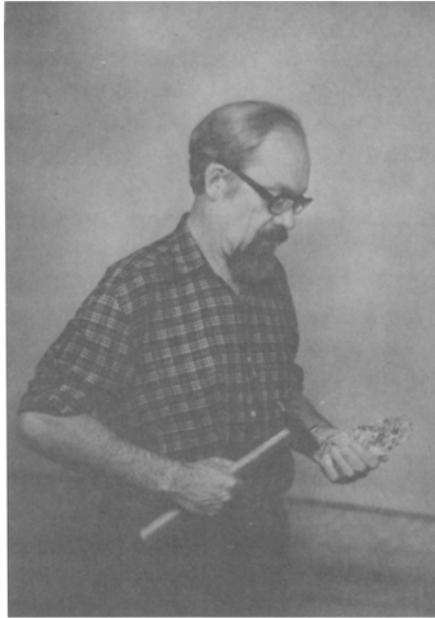
### **FIFTH WILLIAM CHRISTIAN KRUMBEIN MEDALLIST**

#### **Andrei Borisovich Vistelius**

At the General Assembly of the Association convened on July 15, 1980, during the XXVI International Geological Congress in Paris, France, it was announced by President D. F. Merriam that Professor Andrei Borisovich Vistelius is the fifth recipient of the William Christian Krumbein Medal—the Association's premiere award. Although a founding member of the Association in Prague in 1968, Vistelius was unfortunately unable to be present to receive his medal personally.

Born in Petrograd (now Leningrad, U.S.S.R.) on December 7, 1915, Andrei Vistelius graduated as a mineralogist from the University of Leningrad in 1939; he continued his studies at that university and defended his 'kandidate' thesis in geology and mineralogy in 1942. From 1942 to 1946, Vistelius served as senior petrologist with the All Union Institute of Petroleum Geology and Prospecting (Leningrad) and from 1946 to 1950 he was Head of that Institute's Department of Methodology; in 1947, he was awarded the D.Sc. degree in geology from the Moscow Institute of Petroleum. Then, from 1950 to 1952, Dr. Vistelius was Head of the Laboratory of Mining and Geology of the All Union Salt Institute and simultaneously Professor of Petrology, Mineralogy, and Crystallography in the Petroleum Department of the Leningrad Mining Institute. From 1952 to 1962 Andrei Vistelius was senior scientist at the Laboratory of Aero-methods of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. Between 1961 and the present time, Professor Vistelius was Head of the Group of Mathematical Geology, and later of the Laboratory of Mathematical Geology in Leningrad, which are under the aegis of the Mathematical Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R.

Andrei Vistelius' research is well known to Russian- and English-speaking scientists because of his 200 plus papers and books; although most have appeared in the Russian language, many have been translated into English and some were originally published in English. Dr. Vistelius has worked in a wide variety of geological terrains. For example, he wrote on the mineralogy and petrology of



Professor Andrei Borisovich Vistelius

Central Kazakhstan (1939 to 1940), and on the petroleum geology, sedimentology, lithostratigraphy, and paleogeography of the Paleozoic rocks between the Volga River and the Ural Mountains and of the Cretaceous and Tertiary rocks of the Caucasus, Turkmenia, the Transcaspian area, and Middle Asia (1942 to 1967). In 1967 he began extensive regional studies of granitic rocks and tin mineralization and of Cretaceous volcanic rocks in Eastern Asia. He has published on the geochemistry of phosphorus in granitic rocks of several continents, and is now engaged in a detailed study of differentiation in basaltic magmas of the Near Balkhash region.

Vistelius has traveled and lectured widely outside the U.S.S.R.: Bulgaria and Yugoslavia (1966), India (1968 and 1969), England (1970), West Germany (1971), U.S.A. and Canada (1975), and Japan (1978). As early as 1942, Andrei Vistelius began applying mathematical ideas to geological problems, while, in 1945 and independently of mathematicians, he introduced the concept of stochastic models to geology. In a study of the Productive Series of the Apsheron Peninsula, Azerbeidjan, he used the Markov Chain concept (1946); in 1947, he introduced the concept of stationary random processes to geology, and in 1949 discriminant functions. Vistelius' bibliography includes numerous books: larger volumes were "Structural diagrams" (1958 in Russian, 158 pp.; 1966 in English), four books were published between 1961 and 1966 by the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. with titles (in translation) of *Materials for Lithostratigraphy of*

*Productive Series of Azerbaidjan*, (157 pp.), *Red Beds of Cheleken Peninsula (Lithostratigraphy and Geological Structure)* (jointly with M. A. Romanova, 227 pp.), *Phase Differentiation of Paleozoic Deposits of Middle, Near, and Trans Volga Regions*, 203 pp., and *Red Beds of Cheleken Peninsula (Lithology)*, 304 pp. *Studies in Mathematical Geology*, (294 pp.) appeared in New York in 1967. Two volumes have been published in Russian by the Leningrad Nauka Press in 1980: *Principles of Mathematical Geology*, (389 pp.) and *Using Two-Dimensional Regression and Frequency Distributions: A Study of Chemical Composition of Cretaceous Volcanic Rocks, Northeastern Asia* (jointly with Ivanov and Romanova, 316 pp.).

For some 38 years mathematical geology has been the primary professional interest of this prolific scientist, whom the Association is proud to number among its distinguished Krumbein medallists.

E. H. T. Whitten  
*President*  
*International Association*  
*for Mathematical Geology*

#### THE FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MATHEMATICAL GEOLOGY

On July 15, 1980, during the XXVI International Geological Congress in Paris, France, the IAMG Fourth General Assembly was called to order at 18.30 h by President Daniel F. Merriam; among the 37 people present were all of the Association's officers and Council members, except Drs. Burns, Gill, and Hawkins.

The Secretary-General (E. H. T. Whitten) reported briefly on the Association's many and varied activities of the past four years, with emphasis on those of the past year. Because annual reports (prepared for the International Union of Geological Sciences) are available elsewhere, details are not included here. IUGS reports that IAMG is one of its most active affiliated members. It should be recorded, however, that, to combat rising journal printing costs, the annual IAMG membership dues were increased for 1980 (for the first time in the Association's history) to

	1979	1980
Membership including <i>News Letter</i> and the <i>Journal of IAMG</i>	\$US 15.00	\$US 18.00
Membership including <i>News Letter</i> and <i>Computers &amp; Geosciences</i>	\$US 33.00	\$US 33.00
Membership including <i>News Letter</i> , <i>Journal</i> , and <i>Computers &amp; Geosciences</i>	\$US 45.00	\$US 48.00