

Association Announcement

Eleventh William Christian Krumbein Medalist: John Clements Davis



John C. Davis (left) receiving the Krumbein Medal from Daniel F. Merriam at Redwood City, California on 15 April 1987.

John C. Davis is the International Association for Mathematical Geology's 11th William Christian Krumbein Medalist. I take great pleasure in presenting it to him on this occasion of the 2nd Mathematical Geologists of the United States

meeting (MGUS-87) here in Redwood City, California. It is doubly pleasurable for me to present it to him at this meeting because it was 5 years ago that I received my WCK medal at the first MGUS meeting in Golden, Colorado; and John has been a friend, colleague, and confidant for more than 30 years.

John was born 49 years ago in Neodesha, a small town in southeastern Kansas. I first met him while he was a high school student when he presented an excellent paper at an annual meeting of the Kansas Academy of Science. He later attended the University of Kansas, graduating with a BS degree in Geology in 1961. He did his graduate work at the University of Wyoming, completing his MS in geology in 1963 and his PhD in 1967.

Prior to completing his PhD, John accepted a teaching appointment at Idaho State University, and in 1966 was enticed away to the Kansas Geological Survey. He became Chief of the Advanced Projects Section (formerly Geologic Research) in the KGS in 1970 and a Senior Scientist in 1977. Concomitant with his appointment in the Survey, he is Professor of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Geography-Meteorology at The University of Kansas.

He has worked as a geologist's aide to the U.S. Geological Survey, as a junior geologist for Pan American Petroleum Corporation, and as a geologist for a Wyoming Geological Survey. He has been Visiting Professor at Wichita State University, a Visiting Senior Fellow in the Department of Geography at the University of Nottingham (England), and Visiting Professor at the Instituto de Geografia at UNAM (Mexico City, Mexico).

John is a member of many professional organizations including the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists (SEPM), Classification Society, Canadian Cartographic Association, Pattern Recognition Society, Association of Earth Science Editors, Kansas Geological Society, and, of course, the IAMG and affiliated MGUS. He has served on committees of these groups including the AAPG Committees on Computer Applications to Geology, Research, and Field Trip Research and Coordination; SEPM Computer Technology Research Group; American Congress on Surveying and Mapping's Committee for Digital Cartographic Data Standards; and the COGEO DATA Committee for Data Capture and Data Display. He has served as an advisor, reviewer, representative, convenor, chairman, lecturer, and keynote speaker to and for many organizations and for many functions. He has taken part in countless meetings including the International Geological Congress in Sydney in 1976, Paris in 1980, and Moscow in 1984. He has held offices and served on numerous government committees and had a term as chairman of the U.S. National Committee for the International Geological Correlation Program; he has consulted for industry and government both nationally and internationally.

John has been involved actively with editing as a technical editor for the Kansas Geological Survey *Computer Contribution Series*, as an assistant editor

for the *Journal of Mathematical Geology*, and as an associate editor for *Geocom Programs*. He also has served on the Editorial Board for *Geo-Processing* and is a member of the Editorial Board of *Geobyte*. In addition, he has served as a special editor for several proceedings.

John Davis has published 125 books, technical articles, reviews, and abstracts. His classic book on *Statistics and Data Analysis in Geology*, published by John Wiley & Sons in 1973, is now in its second edition. Many of his contributions are coauthored with colleagues including Curt Conley, John Doveton, John Harbaugh, Ricardo Olea, Floyd Preston, and Robert Sampson.

His research has ranged through a gamut of interests starting with sedimentary petrology, especially the Cretaceous of the Western Interior Seaway, through data analysis and computer programming on subjects such as trend-surface, discriminant- and principal-component analysis, and optical-data processing of rock-pore structure and fluid flow. This early work was incorporated in his book *Statistics and Data Analysis in Geology*. Later came resource appraisal, methodology, cartography, and computer graphics; this work was summarized in the book by the three Johns—Harbaugh, Doveton, and Davis—*Probability Methods in Oil Exploration*. His interests continue now in artificial intelligence and geochemical exploration. Through all of these studies is the theme of quantification—geomathematics, geostatistics, and computer applications.

John has received many awards and honors. He was a NDEA doctoral fellow, received several NSF travel grants and the KU Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering Teaching Award (1982). He also won the best paper award for an article in the *Journal of Mathematical Geology* (1984). He is an honorary member of the Kansas Speleological Society.

He has served IAMG well, first as Western Treasurer (1972–80), then as Secretary-General (1980–84), and finally as President (1984–89). He has helped with the Association's journals, has arranged, convened, chaired, and taken part in meetings sponsored by IAMG, and has represented the Association at many functions. It is appropriate that the Association recognize his many contributions and service by presenting him with the 11th William Christian Krumbein Medal. Although recognizing these past events, the occasion also anticipates future contributions from this talented, productive, dedicated person.

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