

September 29th 2008

IMPC Lifetime Achievement Award to Prof. Janusz Laskowski

Mineral processing's highest award, the Lifetime Achievement Award of the International Mineral Processing Council, was awarded to Prof. Janusz Laskowski, at the XXIVth IMPC in Beijing on September 27th 2008.

Prof. Laskowski, FCIM, is President of Laskowski Research Inc. and Professor Emeritus of mineral processing at the University of British Columbia, Canada. He graduated with a B.Sc. in chemistry from the Silesian University of Technology in 1956, obtained an M.Sc. in chemical engineering in 1958, and a Ph.D in 1963.

In 1961/62, he spent a year as a postgraduate student at the Department of Colloid Chemistry, Lomonosov University, Moscow and was involved in research under the supervision of Professor V.I. Klassen at the Mining Institute of USSR Academy of Sciences in Moscow. In 1966 he translated Klassen's monograph on Coal Flotation.



Prof. Laskowski receives the award from Prof. Cyril O'Connor, chairman of the International Mineral Processing Council

Prof. Laskowski obtained a Leverhulme Trust Post-Doctoral Fellowship and in 1967/68 spent one year as a post-doctoral fellow with Dr. J.A. Kitchener at the Department of Mineral Technology, Imperial College, London. When Dr. Kitchener retired he edited jointly with Prof. John Ralston the volume Colloid Chemistry in Mineral Processing in his honour. The book was published by Elsevier in 1992.

He was an associate professor of mineral processing at the Silesian University of Technology until 1973 when he was appointed professor of mineral processing at the Wroclaw Technical University, Wroclaw, Poland.

Prof. Laskowski has been a member of the International Committee of the International Mineral Processing Congresses since 1970, chaired the 13th International Mineral Processing Congress in Warsaw in 1979 and edited the two-volume proceedings. In 1981, he was invited by Professor Douglas W. Fuerstenau to join him as a visiting professor and spent one year with the University of California, Berkeley.

From 1982 he was a Professor of Mineral Processing in the Department of Mining and Mineral Process Engineering, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. When Professor Jan Leja retired after 20 years with UBC, he edited a volume Frothing in Flotation in his honour (published by Gordon and Breach in 1989). This book turned out to be the first volume in a series of publications; Frothing in Flotation II, edited jointly with E.T. Woodburn, was published by Gordon and Breach in 1998; Frothing in Flotation II, edited jointly with C.T. O'Connor and J.P. Franzidis, appeared as a special issue of International Journal of Mineral Processing, Vol. 64, Nos. 2-3 (2002).

In 1966, Prof. Laskowski initiated a series of Polish National Symposia- Physico-Chemical Problems of Mineral Processing and was a chairman of the Organizing Committee until 1980.



Prof. Laskowski pictured with Prof. Cyril O'Connor, Jacques Astier, Prof. Douglas Fuerstenau, and Prof. Eric Forsberg

In 1984, he founded Coal Preparation international journal and was its editor-in-chief until 2004. His monograph on Coal Flotation and Fine Coal Utilization was published by Elsevier in 2001. In 2000 he won the Arthur F. Taggart Award from the Society of Mining Engineering, the Alcan Award of the Metallurgical Society of CIM in 2004, and was awarded CIM Fellowship in 2005.

Prof. Laskowski retired from the University of British Columbia in 2001 but continues to do research with a group of graduate students, and in collaboration with the University of Cape Town, Helsinki University of Technology, JKMRRC and BHP Billiton. In 2002 he started his own research company, Laskowski Research Inc.