

Gordon E. Brown Jr.
to Receive the 2012
Ian Campbell Medal for
Superlative Service
to the Geosciences

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Photo courtesy of AGI

The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) is proud to announce that Dr. Gordon E. Brown, Jr. is the 2012 recipient of the Ian Campbell Medal for Superlative Service to the Geosciences. Dr. Brown, the Dorrell William Kirby Professor of Earth Sciences and Professor of Photon Science at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, is recognized for his contributions as a scientist, educator, administrator, and public servant. He received this prestigious award at the Geological Society of America (GSA) Awards Ceremony at the GSA Annual Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina on November 5, 2012.

Brown is honored for his significant work in helping to pioneer innovative applications of the extremely intense x-ray sources known as synchrotrons to help address some of the most pertinent societal issues of our time. Brown's ground-breaking approach to this advanced technology has helped open up new research areas for the Earth sciences. Brown and his research group and collaborators have worked on, among other things, the remediation of contaminated sites, the sequestration of heavy metal/metalloid and organic pollutants/contaminants in ecosystems, and the impact of certain minerals or the elements they contain (or release) on human health, as well as more fundamental studies of geochemical reactions at mineral-water interfaces. His cutting-edge research has helped to focus future studies on the societal repercussions that human activities have on the global ecosystem. Brown earned his B.S. in Chemistry and Geology from Millsaps College in 1965. He then went on to earn his M.S. and Ph.D. in Mineralogy and Crystallography from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1968 and 1970, respectively. Today, Brown is a national and international leader in Mineralogy and Geochemistry with outstanding contributions in not only the earth sciences, but also in environmental science and engineering, and environmental chemistry. Brown received the 2007 Patterson Medal from the Geochemical Society for his research in environmental geochemistry.