October 19, 2014

Dr. James F. Davis receives AGI's 2014 Medal in Memory of Ian Campbell for Superlative Service to the Geosciences

At today's GSA Awards Ceremony Dr. James F. Davis was awarded the AGI Medal in memory of Ian Campbell honoring his contributions to the geoscientific community.



Dr. Davis has made tremendous contributions to optimizing the role that geoscience plays in society, over a five-decade career in capacities such as State Geologist of New York, State Geologist of California, President of the Association of American State Geologists, President of AGI, and recent positions such as Chair of the Geology and Society Division of GSA and a very active member of the GSA Geology and Public Policy Committee. He has been an influential innovator in the field of mitigating earthquake hazards. In California, he implemented a program of detailed fault-hazard mapping and made sure that zoning based on these maps was implemented at the local level with the force of State law. He also established a statewide program of landslide- and liquefaction-hazard mapping and oversaw a program for improving seismic safety in public schools and hospitals. Concurrently, his work with natural hazard experts from the social sciences improved links between geoscientists, emergency managers, and decision makers.

The Ian Campbell Medal is given in recognition of singular performance in and contribution to the profession of geology. Candidates are measured against the distinguished career of Ian Campbell, whose service to the profession touched virtually every facet of the geosciences. Campbell was a most uncommon man of remarkable accomplishment and widespread influence. In his career as a geologist, educator, administrator, and public servant, he was noted for his candor and integrity. The title of the award was changed for the 2009 award to add "for Superlative Service to the Geosciences" in order to emphasize the importance of service shown by the recipient.