

2021 MGPV Division Distinguished Geological Career Award to Michael Brown: Citation

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One cannot work in the field of metamorphic geology and not come across Mike Brown. Mike is internationally renowned for his comprehensive studies of migmatites and high-temperature metamorphic rocks from around the world and has shifted the paradigm of our understanding of secular change on Earth with his novel studies into paired metamorphic signatures of global tectonic systems. His numerous research contributions—that include field-based studies from each continent—are multidisciplinary, and routinely involve petrology, mineralogy, geochemistry, geochronology, and structural geology. Mike is a genuine multidisciplinary scientist.

A primary theme of Mike's research is the petrogenesis of migmatites and the granite–migmatite connection. The early work of experimental petrologists was highlighted by and enhanced by Mike using field-based observations (starting in Brittany and evolving to migmatites from all over the world) and petrology, which has led to a general scientific consensus that granites are primarily derived from high-temperature metamorphism and partial melting of rocks in the deep crust. It is not an exaggeration to state that establishing the migmatite–granite connection—that we may for granted today—was a principal contribution of Mike Brown to our understanding of the chemical differentiation of Earth's continents.

Mike's second principal contribution bridged global tectonic processes with the metamorphic rock record through the hypothesis that paired metamorphism in orogenic belts is the hallmark of modern-style plate tectonics. Mike's landmark papers on this subject are widely read, cited and have changed the focus in the early-Earth tectonics debate towards metamorphic petrology. Mike has kept metamorphic geology in the spotlight!

In addition to pushing the frontiers of knowledge with technical contributions to high-grade metamorphism and the petrological record of secular change, Mike is a regular contributor to highly-cited review articles that makes the detailed advances in our discipline accessible to researchers in other fields. Mike's drive for high-quality science and his enjoyment of scientific discourse have strongly influenced the way many of us collect data and interpret results – we are all better scientists thanks to Mike Brown.

Mike has been a pillar of the metamorphic geology community for over 40 years. In addition to his scholarly contributions, Mike has convened scores of conference sessions,

organized numerous short courses and field trips, and he was the founding editor in 1982 for the *Journal of Metamorphic Geology*. Mike only recently stepped down from his editorial duties at the *JMG* after 36 years. The incredibly active Metamorphic Studies Group was founded by Mike in 1981 and it is still going strong.

In summary, Mike's career has changed the course of metamorphic geology for the better. His field-based multifaceted studies of migmatites and secular change are game changers for Earth scientists. His service to our research community has substantially elevated the stature of metamorphic geology and his efforts have led to a well-organized and supportive community of new and old scientists to meet the metamorphic challenges of our future. Mike is a most deserving recipient of the Distinguished Geologic Career Award from the MGPV division of the GSA. Congratulations, Mike!