

2023 MGPV Division Distinguished Geological Career Award to Katharine V. Cashman: Acceptance

Katharine V. Cashman, University of Oregon
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First and foremost I would like to thank GSA, the MGPV Division, my letter writers, my nominator and former student Heather Wright, and my citationist Becky Lange, for this wonderful honor. A career award is a time for reflection, for which I am also grateful; I hope that my acceptance speech and the associated presentation reflect this.

Serendipity is not unusual in directing volcanological careers, and in this regard mine is no exception. From my first experience with active volcanism on Mt. Erebus, Antarctica, to the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens, which confirmed my career aspirations as volcanological, to the long-lasting eruption of Kilauea volcano, which for several decades provided an amazing field laboratory for lava flow studies, to the Iceland eruption that sent me to the UK, I have been lucky to pursue volcanological research up close, in the field, around the world, and in the company of an amazing group of volcanologists.

I can't possibly name and thank all of the individuals who have helped me, taught me, collaborated and explored volcanoes with me along the way. Instead I will thank them in groups, acknowledging the spectrum of interactions that we all enjoy over the course of our careers. I will start by thanking my family.

Many of you know that I come from a family of Earth scientists: we now span four generations. Most influential, however, have been my older sisters Pat and Sue: both have PhDs in structural geology and have led long and accomplished academic careers. Although I tried to forge a different direction (English literature, botany), I eventually succumbed to allure of field geology and a geological career thanks to summers of field assisting and the inspirational teaching of Peter Coney.



Sue, Kathy, and Pat Cashman and Becky Lange

My mentors have come in many forms. My professors pushed me to think independently while at the same time teaching me the joy of shared

discovery that has formed the mainstay of my career. And friendships formed during my PhD years with Gordon Grant and Siggi Gislason have lasted a lifetime. For my passion for volcanology I thank those who have worked with me over the decades, sharing their cultures as well as their scientific knowledge.

Working with graduate students, however, has been the highlight of my career. I have learned as much from them as I have given and I thank them all. With students I have shared adventures in the field, challenges in the lab and the excitement of discovery as we have strived, in the words of the poet A.R. Ammons, “to fasten into order enlarging grasps of disorder”.

I end by calling out colleagues who I consider both friends and heroes, including Jim Kauahikaua and Maggie Mangan of the USGS; fluid dynamicists Michael Manga, Ross Griffiths and Alison Rust; physical volcanologists Dick Fiske, Guido Giordano, Mauro Rosi and Raffa Cioni; historian Caroline Williams, and Bristol colleagues Jon Blundy and Steve Sparks – to them I give my heartfelt thanks.