

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS 2004

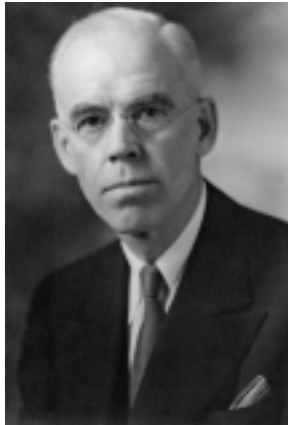
### CHARLES K. LEITH

*In recognition of over three decades of leadership in the Department of Geology and Geophysics during a period of its greatest growth in size and reputation.*

Citationist—Robert H. Dott

CHARLES K. LEITH (BS 1897; PhD 1901) began his geologic career in 1892 as a secretary to Professor Charles Van Hise. Geology so enthralled him that he became a major and completed a BS degree, with high honors, in 1897. His Bachelor's thesis was on the Precambrian volcanic rocks of the Fox River Valley. C.K. Leith completed a PhD in our Department in 1901, with a thesis entitled simply "Rock Cleavage." At age 27, Leith was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department and to the U.S. Geological Survey's Lake Superior Division based at the University.

C.K. Leith presided over the most important expansion of the Department, bringing it to a high level of international visibility. As a protegee of Van Hise, who went on to become President of UW-Madison, Leith became Chairman in 1903. His leadership of the Department spanned more than three decades, during which he was also head of the Lake Superior Division of the U.S. Geological Survey and did extensive consulting. Leith quadrupled the size of the Department faculty in his first 15 years as Chairman. Leith's work on Precambrian geology and mineral deposits in the Lake Superior region catapulted



Charles K. Leith

the Department to international prominence in the period before World War I, and his extensive involvement with mining and resource conservation led to his important advisory role to the Federal Government leading up to World War II.

In addition, Leith made significant contributions to the broader scientific community. His textbooks in structural geology (1913 and 1923) and metamorphic geology (1915) had profound influences and *Economic Aspects of Geology* (1921) and *World Minerals and World Politics* (1931), were landmark works. Leith's service as President of the Geological Society of America (GSA) and the Society of Economic Geology (SEG) helped shape those societies during their pre-World War II expansions. His numerous awards include election to the National Academy of

Sciences and the Penrose Medals of both GSA and SEG. Leith was awarded honorary degrees by Columbia University (1940) and Wisconsin (1956).

C.K. Leith passed away in 1956. His first son, Kenneth, attended the University and worked with his father on mineral resource reports to the government. A second son, Andrew Leith, took three degrees (BS, MS, and PhD) in the Department, and continued the Leith family's history in mineral resources and geology. Andrew's children, Janet Leith Lamphier (BA 1963) and David Leith (BBA 1958) live in Pennsylvania.

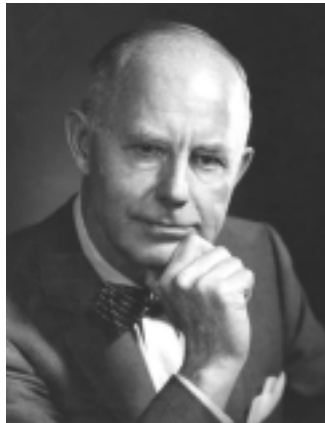
### LEWIS G. WEEKS

*In recognition of outstanding service to the geological community and strong support of the Department of Geology and Geophysics.*

Citationist—Robert H. Dott

LEWIS G. WEEKS (BA 1917) was an undergraduate at UW-Madison between 1913 and 1917, and completed a Bachelor's thesis under C.K. Leith on the mineralogy of Lake Superior iron ores. After graduation, Weeks worked for Anaconda Copper Company in Mexico, prior to enrolling at Cornell in 1919 to study paleontology. However, Weeks recognized that great opportunities existed in stratigraphy and petroleum exploration, and the next year he embarked on the career that would take him across the globe for four decades. After prospecting for oil in India, Weeks joined Standard Oil Company in 1924, and for the next 14 years he explored every country in South America. He helped discover the great Alberta Petroleum Basin in Canada in 1947. He held a position as Chief Geologist for Standard Oil up to his retirement in 1958 at age 65.

Following retirement, Lewis Weeks became a consulting geologist, and started working with the Australian government in 1960. He had long believed there would be substantial oil reserves in the Bass Strait between Australia and Tasmania, and drilling in the region began in



Lewis G. Weeks

1964. The discoveries were great, and Australia moved from near complete dependence on foreign oil to near petroleum independence.

Weeks served as President of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), and has been the recipient of the AAPG Human Needs Medal, as well as its highest honor, the Sidney Powers Memorial Award. He received several honorary degrees, including one from UW-Madison, and a Wisconsin Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award.

Lewis Weeks, and his brother Albert (also a Department alumnus), have been great benefactors to the Department. In the late 1960's, Lewis began discussions about contributing to a new home for the Department, given the extreme crowding in Science Hall. In 1971 he made a substantial commitment for a new building and in 1972 construction began on Weeks Hall. The new building was dedicated in 1974. Subsequently, additional major gifts provided funding for a building expansion in 1981 and two major endowment funds, one from Lewis and one from Albert and his wife Alice. The seed for the current expansion of Weeks Hall comes from this allocation of \$1M. The generous contributions made by the Weeks family continue, to this day, to make a major impact on the Department. Lewis Weeks passed away in 1977.

## JAY C. NANIA

*In recognition of outstanding leadership of the Board of Visitors and exceptional service to the Department of Geology and Geophysics.*  
Citationist—J. Campbell Craddock

JAY C. NANIA (BS 1984; MS 1987) was born in Madison, Wisconsin in 1961 to parents James and Virginia. He is the fifth of five boys. Jay earned a BS degree in Geology from our department in 1984. Before an Undergraduate GeoClub had been established, Jay was elected as the first ever undergraduate to serve as Vice-President of the GeoClub in 1983. Jay continued on at Wisconsin as a graduate student in Structural Geology under Professor Campbell Craddock, receiving his MS in 1987. Jay's fieldwork-based thesis focused on the structure and stratigraphy along a major Proterozoic unconformity on the island of Spitsbergen. The reconstructed cross section from his thesis was included in the 1:100,000 Geological Map of Svalbard published by the Norsk Polarinstitut in 1990.

Since being hired by BP in 1986, Jay has held a variety of roles associated with oil and gas exploration, appraisal, and production, including Lead Geologist on significant the 1997 "Hoover" Oil Discovery located in the deepwater Gulf of



*Jay C. Nania*

Mexico. Jay has also taught early development courses at BP and received an Outstanding Teaching Award in 1990. He currently holds the position of Joint Venture Manager in BP's Gulf of Mexico Deepwater Production Business Unit, leading a multidisciplinary team responsible for BP's interests in several large oil and gas fields. Jay also serves as a Lead Geoscience Recruiter for BP, and serves on the Board of the Fort Valley State University Minority Education Consortia.

Jay served as President of the WAA accredited University of Wisconsin Alumni Club of Houston from 1995-1998. In 1996 he became the youngest person ever asked to join the UW Geology and Geophysics Department's

Board of Visitors, serving as its Chair from 1999-2004. During his tenure he focused the board's energy on his stated "3 M's"—Money, Mentoring, and Minorities (Diversity). Under his leadership the board has successfully facilitated the construction of the Weeks Hall West Wing Addition, established external mentorship opportunities for every undergraduate and graduate student, and facilitated the creation of the first Minority Research Assistantship offered by the department.

Jay and his wife Silvia reside in Houston, Texas with their three children Christina, Jason, and Julia.

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2004

Charles K. Leith—BS 1897; PhD 1901

Lewis G. Weeks—BA 1917

Jay C. Nania—BS 1984; MS 1987

2003

Carl A.P. Fricke—MS 1976

John W. Harbaugh—PhD 1955

Peter R. Vogt—MA 1965; PhD 1968

2002

Richard A. Paull—BS 1952; MS 1953; PhD 1957

and Rachel Krebs Paull—BS 1954; MS 1970; PhD 1980

Philip H. (Pete) Stark—MS 1961; PhD 1963

2001

Ned A. Ostenso—BS 1952; MS 1953; PhD 1962

Robert M. Sneider—PhD 1962

Ray E. Wilcox—PhB 1933; PhM 1937; PhD 1941

2000

Charles C. Bradley—PhB 1935; PhM 1947; PhD 1950

William E. Laing—BS 1951

James D. Robertson—MS 1972; PhD 1975

1999

Kenneth W. Ciriacks—BS 1958

Katharine Fowler-Billings—MS 1929

M. Ray Thomasson—PhD 1959

*Announcing an exhibition honoring a  
Department Distinguished Alumnus:*

## **The Science and the Art of Charles C. Bradley**

**The Steenbock Gallery  
Wisconsin Academy of Sciences,  
Arts and Letters**

**May 2-31, 2005**

The Steenbock Gallery  
922 University Avenue  
Madison, WI 53726  
Tel. 608/263-1692 ext. 16  
FAX 608/265-3039  
[www.wisconsinacademy.org](http://www.wisconsinacademy.org)

Contact: Mary Diman [diman@geology.wisc.edu](mailto:diman@geology.wisc.edu)