

John's service to AAPG on local society, section and national levels includes regular attendance and sponsorship of the Coast Geological Society (CGS) meetings and also sponsorship of San Joaquin Geological Society (SJGS) meetings. He is a Past President of the CGS serving in 1994. John also has been elected to three terms representing the CGS in the AAPG House of Delegates. He was recently elected as the AAPG Division of Professionals Affairs (DPA) Councilor from the Pacific Section for the term 2012-2015. And, importantly, Petrolog, Inc. has been an exhibitor and sponsor at national AAPG and Pacific Section AAPG meetings since 1991.

John has also found time to be an educational volunteer lecturing on geology and applied applications of geological well logging at the Santa Barbara City College, in area elementary schools and with Boy Scout leadership training. I have been privileged for the past nine years to have John speak on mud logging to the students in my Advanced Topics in Well Logging course in the Energy Resources Engineering Department of the School of Earth Sciences at Stanford University. He is a member of the Ventura Rotary Club and Chair of the Mission Endowment Fund Council of the Trinity Lutheran Church in Ventura. Some of John's other important interests include raising cattle, growing lemons and avocados and hiking the hills at his ranch in Piru, Ventura County.

John and his wife, Cindy, have been married 33 years and have 3 children.

It is a sincere pleasure and honor to write this citation for John Thomas Williams. Through his dedication and exemplary service to AAPG, the Pacific Section AAPG, the Coast Geological Society, the San Joaquin Geological Society and his ever present commitment to the profession of geology, John is most deserving of the Pacific Section's prestigious Distinguished Service Award.

Bob Lindblom, Citationist

Pacific Section AAPG Distinguished Educator Award

Ellen P. Metzger, PhD



I have known Ellen at least since 2000, when we worked together on the K-12 program for the San Diego Annual AAPG Meeting. Don Lewis has known and supported her since the early 1990's. She always has impressed me with her technical knowledge in geology and her commitment to teach K-12 teachers Earth Science. She has contributed greatly to the Earth Science field and to how it is taught to the general public.

Ellen was born in Sioux City, Iowa and moved with her family to New Orleans at age twelve. She earned her BS, cum laude, in Earth Science from University of New Orleans in 1977. She then went north to Syracuse University to earn her graduate degrees in Geology: MS - 1980 (Investigation of partial melting at Ledge Mountain central Adirondacks, New York) and PhD - 1984 (Structure, lithologic succession, and petrology of the Stony Creek area, Warren Co., southeastern Adirondacks, New York).

In 1984, Ellen went to University of North Carolina, Wilmington, as an Assistant Professor. She moved on to the Department of Geology, San José State University, San José, California, in 1989, as an Associate Professor. She has been a Professor at SJSU from 1994 to present. From July 2008 to June 2011, she served as Director of Science Education, College of Science, San José State University, San José, California. January – August 2012, Ellen was a Visiting Scholar at Stanford University, working on detrital zir-

cons to evaluate source regions for Proterozoic to early Paleozoic sediments from the White Mountains of eastern California. At San José State University, she served as on many graduate students' committees, serving as primary advisor for 6 Geology graduate students and 12 Science Education graduate students.

As we endeavor to improve the public's understanding of the earth sciences, in 1990, Ellen and her compatriots at San José State University, formed the Bay Area Earth Science Institute program to educate teachers in Earth Science, to make them feel comfortable in dealing with the sciences that this audience loves and uses daily. She has been Co-Director of BAESI from 1990 – present. While many of us have written papers and attended conferences on geology and engineering, Ellen has written articles not only on geology including petrology and geochemistry, but also on: diversity in the geosciences; incorporation of Earth Science into physics & chemistry classes; and how Earth scientists can reach out to teachers. Her Geology studies and publications have focused on the California Coast Ranges. Her Science Education focus has been with teachers in the San Francisco Bay Area. Ellen was a National Association of Geoscience Teachers Distinguished Speaker from 2005-08. She has participated in several AAPG Meetings through our K-12 programs, as well as worked on NSF Earth Science and Climate literacy and development of Earth Science systems. She has also worked with the Northern California Geological Society on field trips and Earth Day events.

A real problem that Ellen has is that she develops strong and lasting relationships with a broad spectrum of people. I know at least 15 Chevron employees and retirees who have worked with her and the BAESI program. We all volunteer to help her teach teachers...and have a good time. We change our schedules to set up field trips, help conduct classes – teaching K-12 science teachers about the “dark” side (oil/gas E&P), basic geology, environmental issues, and climate change. More than 2,000 teachers have taken her BAESI classes, and gotten credit through San José State University! Many take multiple classes over several years.

In her “free” time she has worked with NASA, Chevron, NSF, Intel and others to solicit funding for her programs, as well as served on the Board of Directors of California Science Teachers' Association. If we had more educators like Ellen, this country would be able to develop a strong energy program, and have a public that understood its importance!

Paul Henshaw, PhD, Citationist

Pacific Section AAPG Honorary Life Membership

Alvin A. Almgren



Great men sometimes come in small, quiet, unassuming packages. When I first met Al Almgren, some 25 to 30 years ago, he had been recommended to me by Dr. Vic Cherven as the man to answer some complicated stratigraphic questions in a particular area of the Sacramento Basin. Vic said “that man knows more about the Sacramento Basin than anyone else”. Years later the late Dr. Tor Nielsen gave him the ultimate compliment as “The Father of Sequence Stratigraphy”. Vic said what he said because Al had helped him unravel the turbidity current deposits of the Upper Cretaceous Winters formation for his dissertation at Leland Stanford, Jr. University, and Tor had said what he said because Al had written some classic papers on the Tertiary submarine valley fills and associated sequences of sedimentation that he saw in the geological record of the Sacramento Basin. Though he did not coin the term and received none of the glory, Al's papers were, in Tor's mind, the work that set off one of the greatest revolutions in the science of sedimentology.