

COMMUNIQUÉ

Creation of the F. Ellenberger prize by the French Committee for the History of Geology (Cofrhigéo)

This year, Cofrhigéo decided to create a prize to honor authors of outstanding work in history of geology (and related disciplines). It seemed natural to name it after François Ellenberger, founder and first president of the Committee, and himself author of a remarkable two-volume *History of Geology*.

The prize will be awarded in principle every other year by the Cofrhigéo Board of Directors, regardless of nationality or place of work. It will be presented at one of the Committee's regular meetings.

The prize was first awarded to Jacques and Lydie Touret for their work on the history of petrology, mineralogy-crystallography and museology. It was presented to them in the form of commemorative medals at the Cofrhigéo meeting held on June 14, 2023 at the Société Géologique de France.



After completing his studies and Ph. D. at the University of Nancy, Jacques Touret was professor at University of Nancy and then Paris 7 from 1969 to 1980, and, from 1980 until his retirement in 2001, professor of mineralogy, petrology and metallogeny at the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam. He is best known for his research on fluid inclusions and contribution to knowledge of the Earth's history, in particular through very high-grade metamorphic rocks (granulites). Jacques Touret is a member of the Academies of Science of the Netherlands and Norway, and of the Academia Europea. He holds an honorary doctorate from the University of Liège, is a Knight of the French National order of Merit, and has been awarded the Belgian André Dumont and Dutch Van Waterschoot Van der Gracht medals. Since his retirement in 2001, his work has focused exclusively on the history of geology, in particular on the beginnings of microscope petrography in the 19th century.

After studying at the University of Nancy, Lydie Touret taught Earth Sciences at Paris 7 from 1975 to 1980. From 1981 to 1990, she was a research assistant at the Mineralogical and Paleontological Cabinet of the Teylers Museum in Haarlem. In 1985, she was awarded the Langerhuizen prize for her research on the museum's unique collection of crystal models: 388 by J.B. Romé de l'Isle and 627 by R.J. Haüy. From 1990 to 2012, Lydie Touret was Curator of the Mineralogical Museum of the École des Mines de Paris, and President of the Museum Commission of the International Mineralogical Association from 2008 to 2013. Her current research focuses on the biography of J.-B. Romé de l'Isle.