

Lawrence A. Mysak

Lawrence A. Mysak, CM, FRSC, is currently Canada Steamship Lines (CSL) Emeritus Professor of Meteorology in the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. He was appointed CSL Professor at McGill in 1989 and retired from this position in 2010. Professor Mysak is also the Past Founding Director (1990-96) of the McGill Centre for Climate and Global Change Research. Prior to his appointment at McGill in 1986, Dr. Mysak was Professor of Mathematics and Oceanography at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver (1967-86).

Dr. Mysak holds degrees from the Univ. of Alberta (Cert. Arts 1960; BSc 1961), Adelaide Univ. (MSc 1963), and Harvard Univ. (AM, 1964; PhD 1967).

Dr. Mysak is internationally recognized for his extensive applications of mathematics to physical oceanography, his basic research on natural climate variability of the Arctic, and the development and application of global earth system models to various climate phenomena. Dr. Mysak has investigated the influence of El Nino on salmon migration, and he has carried out model studies of the climate of the warm dinosaur era, the cold glacial periods, the inception of the ice ages (past and future), the global carbon cycle, and Holocene climate variability.

Prof. Mysak has supervised the research of over 80 graduate and post doctoral students (23 of whom are professors in 13 countries). For his supervisory and mentoring work he was awarded in 2000 the McGill University David Thomson Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Supervision and Teaching. Dr. Mysak has given over 600 lectures at scientific and educational institutions, conferences and public forums in 29 countries. Dr. Mysak has published ca. 170 refereed journal papers which have been cited over 5000 times. He has also co-authored (with PH LeBlond) the widely cited treatise "Waves in the Ocean" (1978), which has been translated into Russian, Chinese and Spanish.

Dr. Mysak is currently Editor-in-Chief of the Springer Publisher (Germany) "Atmosphere and Ocean Library Series" and Past President (2011-15) of the International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans, one of eight associations of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG).

Over the course of his career, Dr. Mysak has received ca. 30 national and international awards and honours. In particular, in 1986 he was elected, by the Academy of Science, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (FRSC), and during 1993-96 he served as President of the Academy of Science, the largest of the three academies comprising the RSC. In November 1996, Dr. Mysak was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada (CM) for his distinguished contributions to, and leadership in science.

Other awards of Dr. Mysak include the Patterson Medal from the Meteorological Service of Canada (1998), and the Tully Medal for oceanography from the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS) (1998). Dr. Mysak was elected an inaugural Fellow of CMOS in 1999, and in the following year he became a Fellow of both the American Meteorological Society and the American Geophysical Union. In 2000 he was also inducted as a Foreign Member of Academia Europaea, a leading academy for the arts and sciences in the European Union. In 2006 Dr. Mysak received the Alfred Wegener Medal for climate research from the European Geosciences Union and the Prix du Quebec for outstanding contributions to the natural sciences. More recently, he received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Univ. of Alberta (2009), the inaugural McGill University Medal for Exceptional Academic Achievement (2010), and the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal (2012). In 2015, Dr. Mysak became an inaugural Fellow of IUGG.