



### **Karl Turekian**

Karl Karekin Turekian was born in New York City, the only child of Vaughan Thomas and Victoria Turekian. He received his high school education at James Monroe High School in New York City. He attended Wheaton College, Illinois, between 1945 and 1949, with an interruption in 1945-46 for military service in the U.S. Navy. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Columbia University in 1951 and 1955 respectively. He was Lecturer in Geology in Columbia College of Columbia University in 1953-54 and Research Associate at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University between 1954 and 1956. In 1956 he joined the faculty of Yale University as Assistant Professor. He became Associate Professor in 1961 and Professor in 1965 and was named Henry Barnard Davis Professor of Geology and Geophysics in 1972. In 1985 he was designated Benjamin Silliman Professor. In 2003 he was designated Sterling Professor. He was Chairman of the Department of Geology and Geophysics from 1982 to 1988 and Chairman of the Studies in the Environment from 1992 to 1993. He is Curator of Meteorites and Planetary Science in the Peabody Museum, a member of the Council on Archeological Studies, Director of the Center for the Study of Global Change and Director of the Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies at Yale University.

His major fields of interest are trace element geochemistry, marine, atmospheric and surficial geochemistry, planetary evolution and geochronology. He is the author of five books, "Oceans", (Prentice-Hall, second edition 1976), "Chemistry of the Earth" (Holt, 1972), "Man and the Ocean" with B.J. Skinner (Prentice-Hall, 1973), "Oceanography" with C.L. Drake, J. Imbrie and J. Knauss (Holt, 1978) and "Global Environmental Change" (Prentice-Hall, 1996). He is the Editor of "Late Cenozoic Glacial Ages" published in 1971 by Yale University Press, a co-Editor of the "Handbook of Geochemistry" published by Springer-Verlag (beginning in 1969), Editor, with J. Steele and S. Thorpe, of the Encyclopedia of Ocean Sciences (Academic Press, 2001) and Executive Editor (with H.D.Holland) of the Treatise on Geochemistry (Elsevier, 2003). He was the first Editor of the "Oceans and Atmospheres" section of the "Journal of Geophysical Research" from 1969 to 1975, a co-editor of "Earth and Planetary Science Letters" between 1975 and 1989, Editor of "Global Biogeochemical Cycles" from 1990 through 1995, and Editor of *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* from 1997 through 1999. He has written numerous articles in the field of geochemistry. He has been involved in national and international organizations relating to scientific problems of the oceans, the atmosphere and the environment.

He was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1962-63 for work at the Department of Geophysics at Cambridge University and was a Sherman Fairchild Distinguished Scholar at the California Institute of Technology in 1988. He holds an honorary D.Sc. from SUNY, Stony Brook. He was awarded the Goldschmidt Award and medal of the Geochemical Society in 1989, the Maurice Ewing Medal of the American Geophysical Union in 1997 and the Wollaston Medal of The Geological Society of London in 1998. In 1975-76 he was President of the Geochemical Society. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His wife, Roxanne, and he have two children, Karla Ann and Vaughan Charles.