

Dr. Ramachandra Rao – a Profile

S. Ramachandra Rao graduated from St. Aloysius College in 1956 with B.Sc. in Chemistry. In the college, he won prizes in Chemistry, Hindi elocution and English essay and in the graduation year was awarded the medal of Social Service League. Upon graduation, he was awarded University (Madras) medal for Chemistry. He pursued graduate studies at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, earning doctorate in Physical Chemistry in 1962. He then served in the faculty of Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi till the end of 1971. In 1967 he studied in the U.K. (on leave from IIT, D) as Colombo Plan trainee at Imperial College of Science and Technology, London.

Dr. Rao was awarded Post-Doctorate Research Fellowship of the national Research Council of Canada in 1971. In Canada since 1972, he worked at Canadian universities and in industry Research and Development and is presently a Senior Research Associate and Industry Consultant in the department of Metals and Materials Engineering at McGill University, Montreal. His research is mainly in the areas of mineral processing, recycle water and resource recovery from process wastes. He is the principal author of over 50 research and review papers in these areas.

As an active member of Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM), Dr. Rao initiated International Symposium on Waste Processing and Recycling in Mineral and Metallurgical Industries held once every 3 years since 1992 and was Editor-in-Chief of five symposia volumes. He was awarded the Fellowship of CIM (FCIM) in 2001. In addition, Dr. Rao is a member of the review panel of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC.

In his Montreal community, Dr. Rao actively participates in l'Association du Village Shaughnessy and is a member and missions communicator at Snowdon Baptist Church.

As a member of St. Aloysius College Alumni/ae Association since 1960 (then known as Old Boys' Association), Dr. Rao has maintained close contacts with the Alma Mater. Some of the highlights of his college life are recorded in his article "Evergreen, Everlasting" published in St. Aloysius College Centenary (1980) Souvenir (Reminiscences Section, page 44). His homage to Rev. Fr. E. J. Jacques, SJ, Rector and Principal during his student years, was published in "The Aloysian", Special number, July 1993 (page 14). Dr. Rao is a Founding Member of APNA and is assisting in the development of Aloysians, Josephites And Partners (AJAP) which also serves as Canadian branch of APNA.

Dr. Rao has authored four technical books. The first, written in India, *Xanthates and Related Compounds* (Marcel Dekker, New York, 1971) is still referred to in technical literature. He wrote the revised edition of Jan Leja's *Surface Chemistry of Froth Flotation* in 2 volumes (Kluwer Academic, New York, 2004). In 2006 he completed a book on *Resource Recovery and Recycling from Metallurgical Wastes* (Elsevier, Amsterdam). Also in 2006 he was recipient of Teck Cominco Environment award of the Metallurgical Society of CIM.



Dr. Dan Ashman, Senior Engineer with Teck Cominco Metals presenting the Teck Cominco Environmental Award to Dr. Ramachandra Rao of McGill University at the annual Conference of Metallurgists of CIM on October 3, 2006.