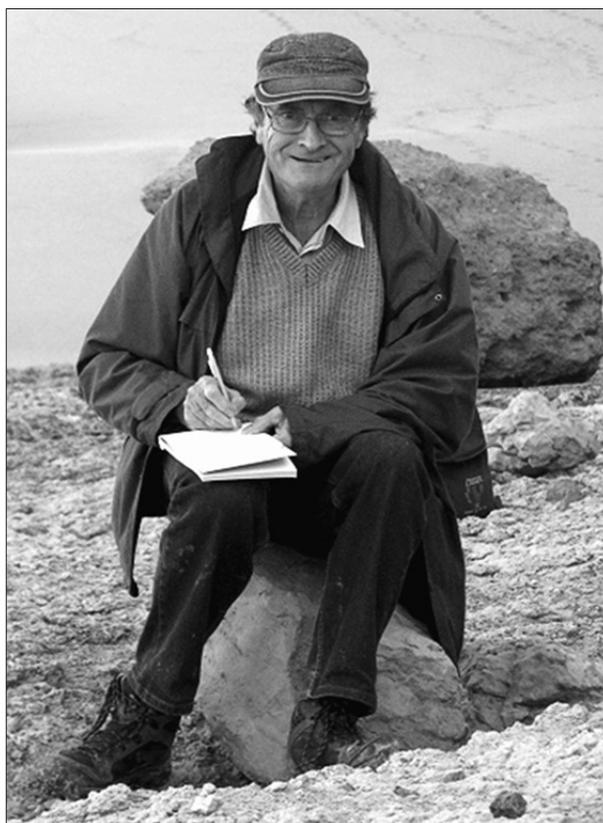


In memoriam

Jacques Rey (1940–2018)

Professor Jacques Rey (1940–2018) died at the age of 77 in March 2018 in Toulouse, France. With his death, the geological fellowship has lost a true colossus, not only among his peers in France, but also in the world's stratigraphy. In the field of research, Jacques Rey devoted more than 40 years of his professional life to the investigation of major topics and problems, such as the stratigraphy of the sedimentary basins associated with the Atlantic, *e.g.*, the Algarve Basin and especially the Lusitanian Basin (Portugal), where he conducted his doctoral research, the coastal basins of the Atlantic Margin of Morocco, as well as the north-eastern part of the Aquitaine Basin (France); the sequence stratigraphy of the sedimentary successions, in which he was one of the forerunners in France; the links between microfossil associations and their host sedimentary rocks. His scientific legacy is extremely rich, reflecting both the intensity and the interests of research that he carried out over the years. Professor Jacques Rey authored and co-authored nearly 300 scientific papers, abstracts, and books. In 1983, the publication of his book "*Biostratigraphy and lithostratigraphy. Fundamental principles, methods and applications*", which was the result of his teaching at the École Nationale du Pétrole et des Moteurs in Paris, earned him an international recognition. The collective work entitled "*Stratigraphy: French terminology*", published in 1997 and translated into English in 2008, was also a testimony to Professor Rey's mastery of this field of geological sciences. Professor of Outstanding Class, Jacques Rey was decorated with the Order of Academic Palms and honoured with Fontannes (1975) and Gaudry (1990) Awards of the Geological Society of France.

Professor Jacques Rey was a great pedagogue and organizer, who knew how to pass on his knowledge to the students and colleagues and how to lead a fruitful teamwork. He held a strong commitment to sound higher education, not only in France, but also in Portugal and Morocco. Apart from his work in the field of geology, Professor Jacques Rey held the highest administrative positions in France, at both local and national levels, having been Director of the Research Training Unit "Life and Earth Sciences" (1984–1987) and of the Laboratory of Sedimentary Geology and



Professor Jacques Rey (picture source: <http://lusodinos.blogspot.bg>)

Palaeontology (1990–1994) at the University Paul Sabatier in Toulouse; Chairman of the National Committee of French Universities (1992–1995) and of the French Cretaceous Working Group (1978–1982); President of the French Committee of Stratigraphy (1990–1998); member of the French National Committee of Geology (1984–1998); and Vice-President of the Geological Society of France (1991), as well as a member of the International Subcommittee on Stratigraphic Classification at the International Union

of Geological Sciences (1990–1998) and of the Evaluation Committee of Research Units in Earth and Space Sciences of Portugal (1996–1998). Professor Jacques Rey was also a member of the Scientific and Foresight Council of the Regional Natural Park of Causses du Quercy (SW France), where he was one of the steadfast supporters of founding a National Nature Reserve of Geological Interest, including when the park's application was raised for the UNESCO Global Geopark label. Professor Jacques Rey organized many scientific meetings and participated in numerous conferences and symposia with presentations of papers, among which are the International Geological Congresses in Paris, Moscow, and Beijing. Professor Emeritus since 2002, the year of his retirement, he continued to pass on his knowledge at public conferences, devoted not only to the stratigraphy, but also to general topics, such as “Life on Earth” and “Time in Geology”. His greatest passion, however, remained the geology of the Pyrenees and the Lusitanian land. He was an exceptional specialist in stratigraphy and a principal author in preparation of detailed geological maps of these regions. His love for these lands earned him the great recognition of the Portuguese geological community, marked in particular by awarding him the title of “Doctor Honoris Causa” from the New University of Lisbon in 2012.

I had the chance and privilege to meet Professor Jacques Rey in 2000, in Toulouse, when he was the Chairman of the Specialized Meeting of the Geological Society of France, the French Committee of Stratigraphy and the Association of the Geologist of Southwest, with the participation of the French Jurassic Working Group and the Association of Geologists of the Paris Basin, organized by the University Paul Sabatier and the Museum of Natural History in Toulouse. I took part of this event with a communication on the Toarcian/Aalenian boundary and the stratigraphy of the Aalenian in the Western Balkan Mountains in Bulgaria. I was very young at that time, and this was my first presentation outside Bulgaria. Professor Jacques Rey took care of me, both for my trip and for the participation in this meeting, where I met the leading authorities in the stratigraphy of the Jurassic System in France. This event had a large impact on my professional life. I feel deeply grateful to have known this man. Professionally, it was an extremely rewarding to be guided by him, and personally I highly enjoyed his sincere friendship. Professor Jacques Rey will remain a key personality both in the history of French science and of the world's modern stratigraphy. Bulgarian stratigraphers extend their deepest sympathies to the family of Professor Jacques Rey. He will be greatly missed.

Lubomir Metodiev