

Enachescu-related text from NOIA's AGM 2007 Programme

## Dr. Michael Enachescu, Senior Fellow for Exploration Geophysics and Associate Professor of Geoscience at Memorial University

Dr. Enachescu has been a key player in the exploration and development of the offshore petroleum resources of East Coast Canada, particularly Newfoundland and Labrador, for more than two decades. As a leading member of Suncor's and then Husky's frontier exploration teams from 1981 to 2003, he was involved in a number of discoveries in Atlantic Canada (including both White Rose and Terra Nova). His detailed geological map of the Grand Banks, compiled over several years, is the standard reference for both industry and government, and the starting point for any company considering acquiring lands or drilling offshore in the area.

Since undertaking his post at Memorial University in 2003, Dr. Enachescu's research output has been even more impressive. His students at Memorial benefit greatly from his scholarly rigor, which instills excellent research and presentation skills: several of his students have gone on to receive national awards for papers developed under his mentorship and guidance.

In addition to his professional and scholarly work, Dr. Enachescu contributes energetically in academic, industry and community organizations, including the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (CSEG), Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists (CSPG), American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), Society of Exploration

Geophysicists (SEG), Petroleum Research Atlantic Canada (PRAC), Atlantic Energy Roundtable (AER) Exploration Committee and several immigrant aid organizations.

Dr. Enachescu is a tireless champion of Newfoundland and Labrador's petroleum industry. His work, especially his publications on East Coast basins (Jeanne d'Arc, Grand Banks, Orphan and Hopedale basins), has exponentially increased our understanding of the region's geology, dramatically improved our chances of new discoveries and recaptured the attention of explorers – which, of course, represents our industry's future.

### NOIA Outstanding Contribution Award

The NOIA Outstanding Contribution Award was initiated in 2002, to recognize those who have made exceptional contributions to the development and success of Newfoundland and Labrador's petroleum industry. As part of NOIA's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations, 12 awards were presented in honour of those whose work over that quarter century laid the foundations of our industry and paved the way for its future success.

Presented annually, NOIA's Outstanding Contribution Award recognizes an individual's contribution, within this province's petroleum industry, to:

- project or infrastructure development
- petroleum business development
- human resource development
- technology development
- promotion and marketing of the industry
- development of petroleum-related legislation and/or regulations
- length (number of years) of involvement
- industry-related volunteerism

#### The award:

A powerful storm wave is completely contained within a tetrahedron, the strongest and most stable of structures, set on a thick triangular base.

The artist, Newfoundlander Jim Maunder, carefully selected materials to reflect the distinctive character of this province's petroleum industry. The tetrahedron is fashioned from laser-cut stainless steel, suggesting



*Dr. Michael Enachescu receiving the NOIA Outstanding Contribution Award from Tony Goobie, chair of the Outstanding Contribution Award Selection Committee.*

*Continued on Page 48*

## Dr. Michael Enachescu...

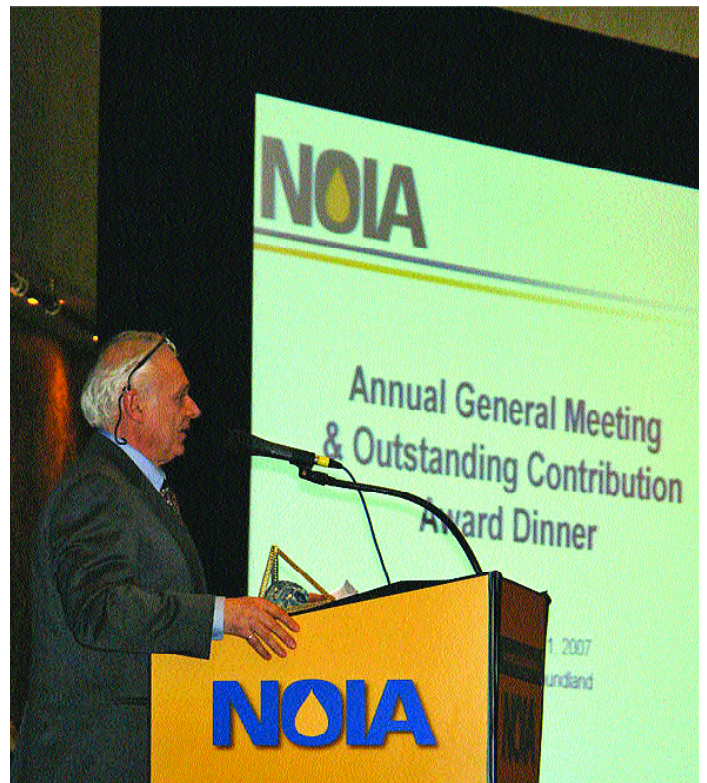
Continued from Page 46

the achievements of engineering and technology. The powerful storm wave is fired clay glazed in blue, sea green and white; contained within the tetrahedron, the adverse environment it represents is tamed. The triangular base is cut from Labrador Anorthocite, which anchors the other elements to our onshore strength and reliability while its iridescent crystals reflect the changing colours of sea and sky and speak of creativity.

Combined in a single award, these three elements beautifully represent the outstanding achievement of an industry that has persevered, prospered, and promises still more.

## Enachescu Recipient of NOIA Outstanding Contribution Award

Dr. Michael Enachescu, Husky Energy Senior Fellow for Exploration Geophysics and Associate Professor in the Department of East Sciences at Memorial University and a member of CSEG, is the recipient of NOIA's Outstanding Contribution Award for 2007. In choosing Dr. Enachescu, the industry association pointed out that he has been a key player in the exploration and development of the offshore petroleum



Continued on Page 49

**Dr. Michael Enachescu...***Continued from Page 48*

resources of East Coast Canada, particularly Newfoundland and Labrador, for more than two decades. "His work, especially his publications on East Coast basins, has exponentially increased our understanding of the region's geology, dramatically improved our chances of new discoveries and re-captured the attention of explorers – which, of course, represents our industry's future," said NOIA.

Michael was a co-author of the Development Plan Applications for both White Rose and Terra Nova fields, now significant oil producers for the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

"I humbly accept this 2007 NOIA Outstanding Contribution award as a recognition to all geologists and geophysicists, who for more than 40 years now have worked and researched for petroleum exploration and development offshore Newfoundland and Labrador, always an uphill battle fraught with many obstacles, but rewarded with great successes and now with the province being a significant Canadian oil producing province," said Dr. Enachescu on accepting the award at NOIA's Annual General Meeting and Award Dinner in early February.

Continued Enachescu, "It is well known ... that behind every offshore mega-project are daring geoscience employees in the industry, universities and government offices dreaming of first subsea hydrocarbon accumulations, convincing their employers to collect geophysical and geological data, mapping the subsurface and a few of them recommending expensive drilling locations with a predicted success ratio of 1 in 10. (Not a profession for the weak of heart!) These honest and hard-working geoscience professionals and scientists are rarely recognized outside their professional and scientific organizations, they never participate to ribbon cutting ceremonies when 'first oil' is produced, nor do they make the front page of business magazines!"

The geoscientist went on to thank his colleagues and graduate students at Memorial, his previous colleagues and managers at Husky Energy, companies who have donated seismic data to MUN (GSI and WesternGeco), research sponsors (NSERC, PPSC, PRAC, Chevron ConocoPhillips, and Landmark Graphics/Halliburton), his family and NOIA executives, employees, award selection committee and members Patrick Laracy and Phonse Fagan who nominated him for the award. **R**

