

HUBERT CURIEN, CRYSTALLOGRAPHER AND MINERALOGIST



A special meeting will be held on **MAY 19, 2006**, at the Ministry of Research in Paris, Amphithéâtre Poincaré, in memory of Hubert Curien, who passed away suddenly on February 6, 2005 at the age of 80.

He was professor of crystallography at the Laboratoire de Minéralogie-Cristallographie of Paris. Former president of the Société Française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie, he had major responsibilities in Europe and in France, when he was Minister of Research. As a crystallographer and mineralogist, Hubert Curien had interests ranging widely from solid-state physics to mineral-

ogy. This meeting will be dedicated to the major advances in which he was involved in the 1950s and 1960s, in the fields of Compton scattering, ionic conductivity, and the radiation effects on ionic crystals. In mineralogy, his contributions included the determination of the structure of several minerals, the early development of the electron microprobe, and the significance of structural defects. A new mineral was named after him—curienite, $\text{Pb}(\text{UO}_2)_2\text{V}_2\text{O}_8 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$. Several colleagues who worked with him, as well as younger researchers active in these areas, will participate to this meeting, which will show how fascinating it is to conduct research outside classical tracks.

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