

MICHAEL J. MORAVCSIK WINS THE
1985 DEREK JOHN DE SOLLA PRICE AWARD

The Editorial and Advisory Board and The Publishers of *Scientometrics* have awarded Professor Michael J. *Moravcsik* (University of Oregon, USA) the 1985 Derek John de Solla Price Award for his distinguished contributions to the field of scientometrics.



Dr. Eugene *Garfield* (right) presents the 1985 Price Award to Professor Michael J. *Moravcsik* at an awarding ceremony held at the Institute of Scientific Information's (Philadelphia) headquarters on September 16, 1986.

COMMENTS ON MICHAEL J. MORAVCSIK,
RECIPIENT OF THE THIRD DEREK
DE Solla PRICE AWARD

J. DAVIDSON FRAME

*Department of Management Science George Washington University
Washington, D. C. 20052 (USA)*

Several years ago, when I learned that Mike *Moravcsik* would be visiting Washington, D. C., I invited him to speak before my graduate class on international science and technology. The week before his arrival, I announced to my class that in the next session they would be addressed by Dr. Michael J. *Moravcsik*, the grandest scholar in the scientometrics community. My students were not disappointed. Upon seeing him—six feet eight inches tall—they concurred that he must indeed be the grandest scholar in scientometrics.

Those who know *Mike* know that he is grand in many other respects as well. He does his work with zest and on a grand scale. To date, he has published some 340 articles, about half of which cover physics topics, the remainder being apportioned among topics in scientometrics, science policy, and Third World science. In addition, he has written three books.

Mike is also a grand world traveller, in the same class as *Derek de Solla Price*, another phenomenal traveller. He has lectured and worked in many countries including Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, France, Guyana, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Turkey, the U. K., the U. S., Venezuela, and Yugoslavia. I have grown so accustomed to seeing *Mike* abroad and hearing of his wide-ranging peregrinations that I was not at all surprised to bump into him at the Hong Kong planetarium last summer—I don't think I'd be surprised if I should encounter him by chance on the peaks of Kilimanjaro or along the Ucayali river in the jungles of Peru.

His travels began when, in 1948, he moved from his native Hungary to the United States. He studied physics at Harvard, and received his A. B. degree in 1951. He continued his physics studies at Cornell, where he obtained the Ph. D. while studying

under Hans *Bethe*. After receiving his doctorate, *Mike* worked for a time at the Brookhaven National Laboratory and the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory. Finally, in 1967, he settled in at the University of Oregon, where he became a professor of physics and where he remains today.

Mike's contributions to scientometrics are many—as a scholar, critic, organizer, and presence. He has been active in this area since the early 1970s, when he began writing about the measurement of scientific efforts [see, for example, “Measures of Scientific Growth,” *Research Policy*, 2:3, 256 (1973)]. In 1975, he coauthored a seminal paper with P. *Murugesan* where, using content analysis, he demonstrated statistically that there are several clearly distinct motivations for citing scientific papers [“Some Results on the Function and Quality of Citations,” *Social Studies of Science*, 5:1, 86 (1975)].

Throughout the 1970s and up to today, *Mike* has been one of the driving forces behind the scientometric community. In the last few years, he has been especially active in trying to introduce scientometric methodologies into Third World countries, so that with better statistics and analytical tools, Third World science can be better managed. To this end, he has worked closely with the United Nation's Council on Science and Technology for Development. In 1984–85, he also organized an International Workshop to Assess the Coverage of the Scientific Output of the Third World, which culminated in a meeting in July 1985.

Michael J. *Moravcsik's* receipt of the Second Derek de Solla Price Award is well-deserved. I am sure that *Derek*, who knew *Mike* well, would have been pleased.