

## **LARRY MICHAEL (MIKE) DARNELL**

Mike Darnell received a B.S. degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from Texas A&M University in 1974 and studied geology (post baccalaureate) at the University of Houston. In 1978 he joined Getty Oil Company as a member of their geochemical research team and subsequently Texaco as a geochemical analyst and organic petrographer. In 1995 Mr. Darnell moved to the Houston Advanced Research Center as a research associate within the Petroleum Geochemistry Unit of the Geotechnology Research Institute. In 2001 he joined the University of Houston Department of Geosciences as a senior researcher in the Center for Petroleum Geochemistry. His areas of analytical expertise include organic petrography (vitrinite reflectance, thermal alteration index and visual kerogen analysis), gas chromatography, pyrolysis-gas chromatography, gas chromatography/mass spectrometry and stable carbon isotope spectrometry. Mike has authored or co-authored numerous technical reports and several scientific papers on geochemical technology including geochemical inversion and geochemical archeology. He currently manages daily laboratory operations as well as the operation and maintenance of the geochemical instrumentation listed above. His current research focus includes unconventional resource assessment (oil shale and tar sands) and design and method development for experimentation for in situ conversion of oil shale and in situ upgrading of tar sands.