Gareth Mitchell, contributing author for award winning book

Gareth Mitchell, research associate in the EMS Energy Institute, was a contributing author for *Applied Coal Petrology: The Role of Petrology in Coal Utilization*, which recently received the 2009 Ralph Gray Award for Outstanding Book in Coal and Organic Petrology. Mitchell, who is also the director of the Coal & Organic Petrology Laboratories at the Institute, wrote the chapter on direct coal liquefaction (chapter 6).

The Ralph Gray Award, given by The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP), was developed in memory of TSOP founding member, Ralph J. Gray, to recognize excellence in coal and organic petrology publications. While the award was primarily established for refereed papers, outstanding publications in non-refereed venues can be considered and TSOP felt this book warranted recognition.

*Applied Coal Petrology*, edited by Isabel Suárez-Ruiz and John C. Crelling, is a valuable reference book for coal producers, marketers, industry professionals, researchers, and teachers. It explains the applications of coal petrology, a branch of geology that deals with understanding the origin, occurrence, structure, and history of coal, and petrology’s significance in the coal industry and other coal-related areas. According to the book back cover, “Coal petrology, when employed effectively, is one of the most important tools we have for the management of coal as a producer of energy.” This book will provide readers with “information and solutions to the day-to-day issues of coal management and gives the reader insight into long-term planning.”

Other contributing authors include: Joan S. Esterle, Robert B. Finkelman, Stephen F. Greb, Jack C. Pashin, Nicola J. Wagner, Colin R. Ward, M. Coertzen, R.H. Matjie, J.C. van Dyk.