Michael S. Zhdanov joined the University of Utah as a full professor in 1993 and has been director of CEMI since 1995. He received a Ph. D in 1970 from Moscow State University. Before moving to the University of Utah, he spent more than twenty years as a professor at the Moscow Academy of Oil and Gas, as head of the Department of Deep Electromagnetic Study, as deputy director of IZMIRAN, and later as founder and director of the Geoelectromagnetic Research Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia. In 1990 he was awarded an Honorary Diploma of Gauss Professorship by the Gottingen Academy of Sciences, Germany, and in 1991 he was elected full member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences. He became Honorary Professor of the China National Center of Geological Exploration Technology in 1997 and a Fellow of the Electromagnetics Academy, USA, in 2002. In 2013 Dr. Zhdanov received Honorary Membership Award of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG). Dr. Zhdanov was elected at the position of Distinguished Professor of the University of Utah in 2016.