Dr. Vaclav Smil (Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Environment and Geography in the Riddell Faculty) was recently appointed to the Order of Canada. Dr. Smil is a renowned expert on global energy issues and he provides critical insights into energy development, distribution, and usage challenges. His diverse and prolific writings are considered essential reading by policy makers, scientists and academics in the field. Bill Gates wrote in June 2013 that “There’s no author whose books I look forward to more than Vaclav Smil. With his vast knowledge of science and energy, history and business, he brings new insights to every topic he examines.”