

CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS

The joint meeting
of the
Christians in Science
and the
American Scientific Affiliation
August 2–5, 2007

University of Edinburgh
Edinburgh, Scotland

Frontiers in Science and Faith

"He (Jesus) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible..."—Colossians 1 15–16a

Keynote Speaker: Alister McGrath

Prof. McGrath has doctorates in both molecular biology and theology. He is currently Professor of Historical Theology at Oxford University and Director of the Oxford Centre for Evangelism and Apologetics. His book *Dawkins' God: Genes, Memes and the Meaning of Life* convincingly exposes the frailty of the arguments put forward by Richard Dawkins, the UK's well-known and very vocal proponent of atheism and scientism.

PLENARY SESSIONS

Caring for the Planet:

Genes and Evolution:

Bioethics:

Neuroscience:

Cosmology:

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

Sir John Houghton, formerly of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change

Sir Ghilleen Prance, former Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew

Calvin B. De Witt, Au Sable Institute

Simon Conway-Morris, University of Cambridge

Jeffrey Schloss, Westmont College

Ernest Lucas, Bristol Baptist College

D. Gareth Jones, University of Otago

Nigel M. de S. Cameron, Illinois Institute of Technology

Joe Perry, Rothamsted Experimental Station

William Newsome, Stanford University

Stuart Judge, Oxford University

John Polkinghorne, Cambridge University

Christine Done, Durham University

Joan Centrella, NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center

CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

Papers on any topic relating Christian faith to science and/or technology may be submitted, but preference will be given to papers pertaining to the topics listed below.

PLANNED SYMPOSIA

1. **Science and Appropriate Technology for the Developing World**

Over four billion of the Earth's people live in poverty, usually experiencing a significant reduction in quality of life and life expectancy. Science and technology have much to offer to improve nutrition through better agricultural practices, access to clean water and sanitation, sources of suitable energy, more efficient means of producing goods, production of better housing, and delivery of better healthcare. As followers of Christ, we have a special challenge to help meet the needs of persons who are poor. Papers in this symposium will focus on ways in which science and technology can be applied simply and economically to help meet these needs, the Christian values that motivate us to make this a priority, and the fruits of such work.

Session coordinators: Ruth Douglas Miller, Kansas State University; Walter Bradley, Baylor University

2. **Christianity and the History of Science**

Papers in this symposium should focus on aspects of the historical interaction of science with Christian beliefs and practices. Biographical essays are especially welcome, but papers on historiography, case studies of major events (such as the Galileo affair; the reception of the mechanical philosophy; the impact of Copernicanism, modern geology or evolution on biblical hermeneutics; etc.), and the use of history of science in science education are also invited.

Session coordinator: Edward Davis, Messiah College

TOPICS RELATED TO THE PLENARY SESSIONS

Cosmology • Neuroscience • Environmental Stewardship • Genes and Evolution • Bioethics

REQUIREMENTS, GUIDELINES AND DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED ABSTRACTS

1. Regular contributions (papers and posters) must be submitted as abstracts of 250–300 words. All abstracts must be submitted by using the online submission form available at www.asa3.org and the link to the joint 2007 ASA/CiS meeting. The abstract should emphasize what is new and important in your presentation and contain as much detail of the work as possible within the 250–300 word limit. The abstract and presentation should be intelligible and clear to nonspecialists.
2. Submit copies of your abstract no later than **Wednesday, January 10, 2007**. Authors will be notified of the acceptance or rejection of their papers by Monday, January 22, 2007.
3. Authors may present only one paper but may be included on other multiple-authored papers. All submissions will be reviewed and screened for quality and relevance. Papers should be based on the author's area of expertise and experience, though exceptions may be considered for papers of exceptional creativity. Program limitations may require some individuals submitting requests for an oral paper to present a poster.
4. Contributed oral papers will be accorded a time slot of 25 minutes plus 5 minutes for discussion.

November 2006

Dear CiS and ASA members (and indeed, potential members),

What images and thoughts does the word *Edinburgh* conjure up in your minds? The Castle and the Royal Mile steeped in history, Princes Street for shopping, the bagpiper performing outside the train station, the array of arts and cultural activities, the world-famous Festival, the excellent reputation of its universities, the Scottish Parliament, the spectacular geology of the Salisbury Crags and Arthur's Seat, the quieter beauty of the Firth of Forth ... As a real fan of Edinburgh I could go on but I am sure that I have given you enough to whet your appetites.

If your appetite has indeed been whetted, you will be delighted to know that the 62nd Annual Meeting of the American Scientific Affiliation is to be held jointly with Christians in Science in Edinburgh. The programme will begin Thursday evening August 2, and continue through Sunday evening August 5, 2007. It is my pleasure to **invite you to submit a proposal for a contributed paper or poster** to be presented at what already looks to be a very exciting meeting.

The exact venue for the meeting is the Pollock Halls of the University of Edinburgh, with accommodation, catering and conference facilities all on one site. The Halls nestle beneath the magnificent Salisbury Crags and Arthur's Seat so there is plenty of opportunity, right on the doorstep, for walks and runs providing different levels of exertion. For those who prefer their exercise to be aquatic, the excellent Commonwealth Pool complex is a few minutes away while chasing the little white ball is well catered for at Edinburgh's several public golf courses. Exploring the city is easy too—it takes about 20 minutes to walk to the City Centre, and it's even quicker on the bus.

The conference will be preceded by several field trips on Thursday, August 2, which will give opportunities to enjoy the ornithology, geology and other aspects of the natural environment as well as some of Scotland's best in engineering innovation. For those with more time before or after the conference, Edinburgh is a great base for exploration, within easy reach of the rolling hills of the border country to the south and of the Highland region with its stunning mountains, lochs and coastlines to the north and northwest, not forgetting the golfing Mecca, St. Andrews, a short train or car ride away. And if this is not enough, visitors can stay on to enjoy the world-renowned Festival which gets going as our meeting finishes. Indeed, even before the Festival, the streets of the city become alive with informal performances ranging from piping to mime.

The conference itself has a full programme with opportunities to hear from speakers who are at the forefront of their field and who have learnt how to relate their science to their faith and to apply their faith to their science. All our talks and posters will keep us on our toes during the day but we will also relax together in a real Scottish ceilidh on Saturday night and will worship together daily.

I look forward to your proposal for a presentation and to seeing you in Edinburgh. If you know of anyone else who may be interested, please pass this invitation on to them. For further information, check the ASA (www.asa3.org) or CiS (www.cis.org.uk/conferences/edinburgh2007.shtml) websites.

Yours sincerely,

John Bryant
Chair, Christians in Science