

**ASA
2019**

74th Annual
Meeting

EXPLORING CREATION

July 19–22, 2019

Wheaton College in Wheaton, IL

Colossians 1:16 "All things were
created by Him and for Him."

visit ASA3.org



Newsletter of the **ASA & CSCA**

VOLUME 61 • NUMBER 1 • 2019

Come Join Us for **ASA 2019** Our Annual Meeting in Wheaton, IL, July 19–22

The theme of ASA 2019 is Exploring Creation, combining the scientific aspect of exploration with the theological concept of the natural world as creation. This theme epitomizes the work of the ASA, focusing on understanding science and related fields in the context of our Christian faith. We have six fabulous plenary speakers (see right), and parallel sessions and a poster session on various aspects of creation, digital technology, and other topics.

Like previous meetings, we offer pre- and post-conference activities. More on Friday's workshop will be announced shortly. This year's field trips include an architectural boat tour of Chicago, a local geology trip, a Fermilab tour, and a trip to the Morton Arboretum. We will continue the tradition of guided walks in the surrounding campus area on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday mornings as well as a volleyball tournament and a softball game.

We are planning to open registration by April 1, 2019. Continue to periodically check the ASA website for the latest meeting updates.



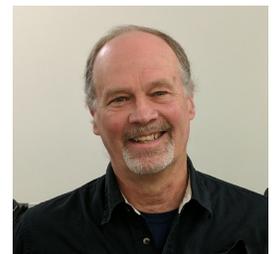
Gerald Gabrielse
Northwestern University



Deborah Haarsma
BioLogos



Jennifer Powell McNutt
Wheaton College



Kenneth R. Miller
Brown University



James L. Sherley
Asymmetrex



Gayle E. Woloschak
Northwestern University



Director's Corner



Executive Director Leslie Wickman

Dear friends –

Happy winter! If you are one of the many Americans or Canadians who has been hit by the “January–February 2019 North American Cold Wave” (as Wikipedia is calling it—yes, it’s now a thing!), I hope you have been able to hunker down and stay warm, or at least have been making the best of it. As I write this, I’m looking out the window at about a foot of snow here in the mountains of Southern California.

Our plans are shaping up for another not-to-be-missed Annual Meeting this coming July, hosted at Wheaton College. One of the parts of the meeting I’m most looking forward to will include Ken Miller, biologist at Brown University and coauthor of the widely used textbook *Biology*, speaking at a public outreach event—preceded by a Chicago-style pizza party—on the evening of Saturday, July 20. This year we’re making a concerted effort to invite attendees from underrepresented disciplines, so we’d love to have your help in spreading the word to your friends and colleagues. And, of course, please plan to attend yourself.

Our list of Local Chapters continues to expand, with a new New Jersey/Princeton chapter added in December, and the Philadelphia chapter kick-off meeting held that same month. Also in December, Jim Peterson, editor-in-chief of *PSCF*, joined me on KKLA radio for a very timely discussion of bioethics, genetic manipulation, and the recently born genetically modified Chinese twins. Watch for that podcast to be posted here soon: <https://network.asa3.org/page/WickmanPodcasts>.

January was likewise a busy month, as I visited a church in the San Francisco Bay Area, introduced some SoCal college students to the ASA, and attended a Templeton-Faraday conference at Cambridge on “Engaging Churches with Science.” Various representatives from organizations on both sides of the Atlantic shared ideas for reaching churches and for collaborating to make the most of our efforts.

As I’m sure you know, the ASA’s good work spreads best through the efforts of our members. So, if you have a church, school, or other group you’d like some help reaching out to, or if you’re interested in getting a chapter started in your own community, please let us know. We’re here to help.

That’s it for now. Enjoy this newsy newsletter, and I hope to see you somewhere soon!

With gratitude,
Leslie



A New New Jersey/Princeton Chapter

By Vicki Best

Leslie and I recently had an enjoyable visit in Princeton with ASA members from the NJ/NY area. The chapter application paperwork was completed at our lunch meeting and the New Jersey/Princeton chapter was officially launched!

We are delighted that this brings our total US and Canadian local chapters to 34. If you live in this area, please stay tuned for ways you can get involved in this ASA local chapter.

Equipping Christian Scholars at Urbana

By Hannah Eagleson



One of my most vivid memories of Urbana 15: sitting at a table of emerging scholars passionately discussing what it means to be missional in a humanities field, while the loudspeaker above blared regular announcements such as, “Those in the green area, you should be finishing your salad now. Those in the red area, you should start clearing your tables now.” I thought back to that moment this year as Emerging Scholars Network (ESN) welcomed the 2018 ESN Urbana Fellows, 30 Christian scholars participating in a program that grew partly out of that moment. I’m excited to tell you more about what God did through ESN’s Urbana presence in 2018, but first let me tell you a little more about that seminal moment at Urbana 15.

A huge thank you to Park Street Missions and the American Scientific Affiliation, generous sponsors of the ESN Urbana 18 Fellows program.

At Urbana 15, I helped Tom Grosh IV and ESN launch a pilot program where we connected with about 30 emerging scholars and provided small group support in contextualizing Urbana’s call to missions for those in or considering grad school. We had videochats for the small groups before and after Urbana, and at Urbana we arranged for each small group to have dinner with a mentor in their broad subject area (natural sciences, social sciences, or humanities).

For those who haven’t been, the Urbana dinner team is amazing: in 2015 they fed 16,000 people every night and got it done in time for the evening plenary. Even as I marvelled at their efficiency and dedication, I wondered how our humanities conversation was going to go. The setting was a far cry from the average humanities seminar. To my joy and amazement, the students in the group and the mentor professor we had recruited to chat with them forged a deep and genuine connection on the spot. The mentor professor talked about the challenges and opportunities of welcoming others to consider Christ in one of the most atheistic cities in the US, where she lives and works.

The students responded by pouring out their own stories: how an encounter with a fellow student complaining about Christianity spurred a study of apologetics and then wider philosophy and theology, how meeting caring Christian students led to one participant’s coming to Christ and then living as a visible Christian in her graduate humanities program, and more. When “the voice in the sky” (what the Urbana hospitality team calls the loudspeaker announcements) suggested that our table finish up, the emerging scholars eagerly found another place outside the dining hall to continue the conversation. I realized that even as someone who had deeply longed for Christian community in my own graduate program, and even as someone who worked for ESN, I had underestimated how excited these emerging scholars were to connect with other believers working in similar contexts.

That dinner conversation really stuck with me, and it’s one of the things that encouraged us to build on that pilot program to provide the ESN Urbana 18 Fellows Program this year. We recruited emerging scholars in four broad field areas (humanities, social sciences, math and natural science, and social science), then supported them through an advance videochat and a dinner at Urbana to help contextualize what it means to be missional in higher education and related professional fields.

We are deeply appreciative of the financial sponsorship we received from Park Street Church Missions (Boston, MA), and from our frequent collaborator the American Scientific Affiliation. They truly made this program possible, and we are deeply thankful. This year, we were able to host dinner in the ESN/GFM Lounge at Urbana. ASA Executive Council member Bill Jordan joined us and engaged the emerging scholars in conversation.

Here is a testimonial statement from one of the InterVarsity ESN Urbana 18 Fellows:

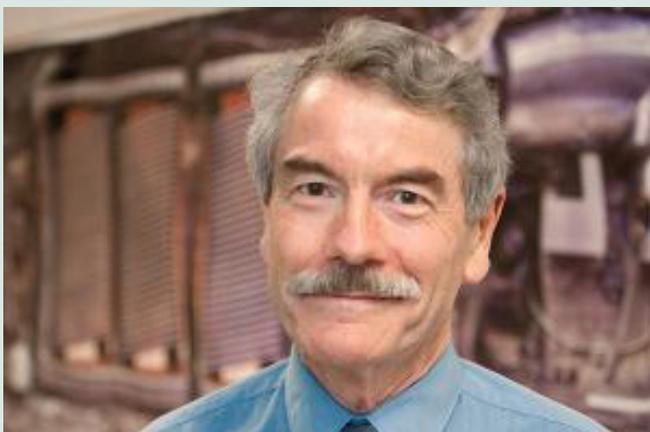
It was amazing seeing so many Christian graduate students passionate about integrating their faith and their academic work. The connections were invaluable and further spurred me on to persevere as a faithful witness to Jesus’ kingdom in the academy.

Thank you to all of you who support us through prayer or financial collaboration—you too made this program possible, and your generosity is making a huge difference for emerging scholars as they follow Christ and work for the common good.

Rocky Mountain Chapter Events

By Lynn Billman and Terry M. Gray

Three hot spots of faith and science were glowing in Colorado recently. The local Rocky Mountain Chapter organized two meetings with great ASA speakers and supported a third meeting organized by the Veritas Forum. The Colorado State University (CSU) branch of the Rocky Mountain chapter of the ASA (RMASA) met on January 31, 2019, at the Lory Student Center at CSU. We watched a video of Ian Hutchinson's (MIT) 2017 ASA Annual Meeting plenary talk entitled "The Technical and Spiritual Challenges of Sustainable Energy." Ian had agreed to join us by Skype for a Q&A after the video—8:10 pm Colorado time, but 10:10 pm Massachusetts time. Thank you, Ian, for staying up so late for us.



On February 21 the brand-new student chapter at Colorado Christian University had its kick-off dinner. Afterward, we had 50 people, mostly students, watch a video on Climate Change by Katharine Hayhoe and skype with her for Q&A.



The meeting with Katharine on climate change was a significantly impactful event. These Christian students had never before heard about the reality of climate change from the perspective of a compassionate Christian and confident, accomplished scientist. When you can see new awareness lighting in the faces of college students, it makes all the time and effort of organizing such an event well worth it. That same night Ian Hutchinson came and participated in a packed-house Veritas Forum at the Colorado School of Mines, which some ASA members attended.



ASA at AAAS

By Mike Beidler

The American Association for The Advancement of Science (AAAS) held its 2019 Annual Meeting, February 14–17, 2019 in Washington DC. As the president of the DC chapter, I represented the ASA this year and focused my attendance on panels and events associated with the AAAS's Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion (DoSER). DoSER program facilitates communication between scientific and religious communities, building on AAAS's long-standing commitment to relate scientific knowledge and technological development to the purposes and concerns of society at large. DoSER's current program director is NASA astrophysicist and ASA Fellow Jennifer Wiseman.

I attended a DoSER workshop conducted by science communication specialists from the AAAS Center for Public Engagement on Science and Technology. This three-hour workshop included an overview of why consideration of the perspectives of religious and spiritual publics is important for science engagement; a discussion of prior experiences or anticipated challenges for scientists engaging with religious communities and individuals of faith; a presentation of strategies for participating in constructive dialogue about research (and science as a whole) with clarity and sensitivity to a range of worldviews; and opportunities to practice effective science communication by tackling challenging questions or topics that lie at the intersections of science, faith, and culture. The amount of interest that DoSER's work has garnered was readily evident by the fact that I was the *only* religious individual at my table of five workshop attendees!

Throughout the workshop's various tasks, I related to my tablemates—two biochemists, a nuclear particle physicist, and a psychologist—my own experience as a science-and-faith communicator, helping my nonreligious tablemates understand how impactful one's religious faith can be on his or her perception of public policy agendas and/or scientific consensus regarding controversial topics such as evolution and climate change, and that faith communities—even within a single denomination or sect—are not necessarily monolithic in how they approach such issues. I consider this workshop one of the best I've ever participated in and encourage all ASA members to participate if ever given the opportunity.

During the Annual Meeting, DoSER also hosted an evening reception, allowing representatives from approximately a dozen science-faith organizations to get to know each other and discuss the work they do to overcome obstacles encountered in the broader science-faith dialogue. After the evening reception, the DC Chapter of the ASA gathered together for a social dinner. Aside from the usual suspects, the dinner attracted newer ASA chapter members as well as clergy participants in DoSER's Science for Seminaries project (scienceforseminaries.org).

Shalom in a Changing Climate

By Sarah Richart

On January 23, 2019, the Center for Research in Science (CRIS) at Azusa Pacific University (APU) hosted a very well-attended panel discussion entitled Shalom in a Changing Climate: The Science, Theology and Practice of Creation Care in the Anthropocene. The invited panel featured climate scientist Katharine Hayhoe from Texas Tech University, theologian Steven Bouma-Prediger from Hope College, and CEO Annie MacAulay from Mountain Sea Adventures.



The event began with each panelist giving an initial short presentation. Katharine discussed how climate change is increasing the strength and frequency of natural disasters, and that the poor are most vulnerable to these effects. Steven laid out theological arguments for why Christians are called to and ought to be earthkeepers. Annie shared some of the conservation education and fieldwork she has engaged in on Catalina Island as a practitioner of creation care. The panelists' presentations were followed by numerous thoughtful questions from a packed audience where there was standing room only. The ASA kindly provided refreshments for this event.



While at APU, Katharine also spoke during student chapel and addressed a larger student audience on climate change. She was also interviewed at APU's inaugural women's luncheon event series, SEE Women, which was attended by APU students, faculty, staff, and community members. Both Annie and Steven were invited speakers to several classes on campus the following day and spent time interacting with staff, faculty, and students on campus, sharing their enthusiasm and ideas for how APU can practice creation care more effectively.

Restart of the Philadelphia Chapter

By Alan McCarrick

After a decade of activity and a decade of inactivity, the ASA group, formerly known as Eastern Pennsylvania local section, is being revived. At ASA 2018 at Gordon College, a meeting was held to encourage formation of local groups and to explain the assistance available from headquarters.

Providentially, at that meeting, sitting together without knowing it were three members from the moribund Eastern PA group: Mark Andrade, Kurt Wood, and Alan McCarrick. We volunteered to work toward breathing life back into the group with a new direction. We met a month later over a Mexican dinner to discuss the most important directions that the group should take. The primary concern coming from that meeting was to reach out to Christians and seekers at the local colleges and universities with which the Philadelphia area is truly blessed. We are still seeking university contacts that would be willing to host events. We wish to reach students, particularly Christians who haven't had believing role models in the science or engineering fields and may feel conflicted over their faith and their love of science.



Our initial meeting was held in early December at Mark and Kurt's church in Abington. They invited friends, church members, and local ASA members to come meet our own Leslie Wickman and Vicki Best. The photo below shows the crowd that came to enjoy pizza and to hear Leslie give her testimony relating her faith founded as a child and her scientific career. At that meeting, we also asked for topic suggestions from those attending. It was enjoyable to meet new folk, see some former members of the old group and to be surprised that the Millers now live in our area.



CSCA Update

By Bob Geddes

The three-year Templeton World Charity Foundation grant, which funded the CSCA's Local Chapters Project, was completed at the end of 2018. As promised, a CSCA project-end newsletter has been released. This 13-page document provides a summary of all the activities (and successes): the CSCA's first national conference last May, the increase to 11 from three local chapters, the publishing of 10 pamphlets on various science and faith topics, and an overview of the CSCA. The report also notes that over the term of the grant, 187 local chapter events and activities were organized. Please check out csc.ca/newsletter for more details (and some great photos). We offer up deep gratitude for the exemplary work of our program development officer for the grant, Mark McEwan. We are delighted to carry on with Mark on a part-time basis as we wean ourselves off the grant.

Our new Executive Director, Arnold Sikkema, has had a very busy and productive time settling into this position and establishing a more western administrative base for the CSCA. You are encouraged to check out Arnold's recent blog post, "The Value of CSCA: Notes from the New Executive Director," at csc.ca/blog. The Council has also decided to revert back to having a separate Treasurer and Secretary. Bob Geddes will remain as Secretary, particularly over this transitional time, and the new Treasurer will be Michael Werth. Mike lives on Vancouver Island in Comox, British Columbia. He is active at Comox Valley Presbyterian Church where his wife Jennifer is the minister.

Of primary focus of the new Executive Director and the Executive Council is the ongoing discussion with the ASA on strengthening and clarifying the unique bond that exists between our two organizations, with a view to build more collaborative and efficient interactions. With that in mind, we look forward to having a good contingent at Wheaton this summer!

We close with another heartfelt thanks, to our recently retired Executive Director Don McNally. He led the CSCA through 15 years of change and spirit-led development, and we are glad he is carrying on with local chapter leadership.



2019 Winter SoCal Conference

By Michael Everest

A great day was had by the 70 science-and-faith enthusiasts who attended the annual winter day conference of the Southern California Chapter at Westmont College on January 26, 2019. The attendees were from as far away as San Diego—more than 200 miles! And even Boston (3,000 miles) as Vicki Best, Director of Operations and Development, was in attendance, too. The program consisted of six separate plenary events:

- **Michael Bowers** (UCSB, chemistry) spoke about his experience of discussing his faith with his secular peers at scientific meetings.
- **Yi-Fan Lu** (Westmont, biology) and **Telford Work** (Westmont, theology) gave an interdisciplinary perspective on gene editing in a joint session on CRISPR/Cas-9.
- **Ron See** (Westmont, psychology and neuroscience) discussed some historical and recent experiments that some claim provide evidence that our actions are entirely predetermined.
- **Kathleen Tallman** (Azusa Pacific, biology) shared with us her experience of teaching anatomy and having several insightful realizations about what it meant for God to become incarnate in the person of Jesus Christ—reflections that she had already reported on in *Christianity Today*.
- **Stephen Contakes** (Westmont, chemistry) provided a historical perspective on medieval theories of matter, drawing parallels to some contemporary science-faith conversations.
- **Tom Ferko** (Cal Baptist, chemistry) shared his thoughts on weighing the challenges and benefits of manned space flight.

We look forward to next year's conference at Azusa Pacific University!



ASA New Members October–December 2018

Please join us in welcoming these new members!

Alycia Abler –Morris, MN
Benjamin Agbo –Tempe, AZ
Brooke Altena –Polk City, IA
Nathaniel Baldwin –Abilene, KS
Benjamin Berger –Mequon, WI
Alec Bonnett –Grove City, PA
Celeste Boyas –Adelanto, CA
David Butler –Sarnia, ON
Sarah Chiu –Riverside, CA
Hannah David –St. Paul, MN
Terry Defoe –Regina, SK
Elizabeth Donaldson –Eden Prairie, MN
Anna Duncan –Albuquerque, NM
Robert Dorough Jr –Lakewood, CO
Miriam Eagleson –Hershey, PA
Joseph Espeland –Saint Paul, MN
Mariah Fitzpatrick –Columbia, MO

Josiah Frazier –Johnston, IA
Jacob Gervais –Cottage Grove, MN
William Grady –Asheville, NC
Lyndi Graff –St. Paul, MN
Jasmine Grewal –Langley, BC
Samantha Hammill –Ramsey, MN
Elizabeth Hanes –Orlando, FL
Cameron Hayes –Cookeville, TN
Cory Hixson –Lakewood, CO
David Howard –Riverview, FL
Garth Huber –Regina, SK
Ngok Yeung Lai –Bedford, NS
Elizabeth Lancaster –Wausau, WI
Sierra Lee –Houston, TX
Tiffany Lemon –Roxbury, MA
John Lewis –Nashville, TN
Carla Marbelt –Lowell, MA

Ross Morgan –Quincy, CA
Rebecca Olin –Somerset, WI
Kellie Pedersen –Cambridge, MN
Brady Peterson –Princeton, MN
Ryan Peterson –Jordan, MN
Joseph Price –El Cajon, CA
Kelsey Rothermel –Roseville, MN
Kayla Saunders –Arvada, CO
Samantha Schindler –Parker, CO
Sarah Schott –Prescott, AZ
Talia Sherry –Apple Valley, MN
John Slattery –Washington, DC
Amanda Smith –Lakewood, CO
Jeffrey Smith –Kingston, ID
Caleb Sokovich –St. Paul, MN
Amanda Sonnenburg –Lakeville, MN
Lisa Sullivan –Apple Valley, MN

Katie Sweezy –Ottawa, ON
Robert Swift –Sebastopol, CA
William Thierfelder –Jackson, TN
Abigail Valine –Carlton, MN
Elizabeth Valine –Forest Lake, MN
Teri Vermilion –Peru, IN
Christian Verziera –Groton, CT
Jaci Walter –Saint Paul, MN
Amanda Williams –Nashville, TN
Kenneth Woffenden –Montréal, QC
Robert Wolff –Columbia, SC
Alej Zapata –Hudsonville, MI
Anna Zhen –Brooklyn, NY
Harmony Zimmerman –Wheaton, IL

Members in Glory

By Randy Isaac

Scott Northrup (1951–2018), Chemistry



Scott Northrup of Silver Point, TN, died suddenly on Thursday, January 11, 2018, at Center Hill Lake, a reservoir in Tennessee, from an apparent boating accident. Born November 10, 1951, in Lamar, Colorado, to the late Robert and Ruth Williams Northrup, Scott earned his bachelor's degree from Northern Colorado University and his master's degree and doctorate from University of Colorado. Moving to Cookeville in 1980, Scott joined Tennessee Tech (TTU) faculty as a professor. His distinguished, impactful, and influential career spanned 35 years. He served as chemistry department chair from August 1997 to August 2005 and also as the department's master's program coordinator. Widely published, he was awarded TTU's Caplenor Faculty Research Award for outstanding faculty research accomplishments in 1988 and the university's Sigma Xi Research Award for outstanding contribution at TTU in 1982 and 1987. He was awarded the University's Outstanding Faculty Award in Teaching in 2015. Post retirement, he continued to serve as faculty advisor for the Tech Bass Fishing Team.

Scott's bright mind and giving heart were also displayed at Trinity Algood, where he has been actively involved in Trinity's Music Ministry since he joined the church in 1992. He was a director of the church's NetMinders Ministry, a men's discipleship and outreach ministry that provides Christian fellowship and fun for men who enjoy fishing, since its inception in 2008. He was also a founding member of God's Jail Ministry. Scott and his wife and ministry partner of 38 years, Christine Conniff Northrup, have led Little Flock Bible study for 25 years. He was a member of the ASA for 40 years.

T. Gordon Scott (1941–2018), Organic Chemist



Thomas Gordon Scott was born on November 27, 1941, and passed away on Friday, August 10, 2018. He was a resident of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, at the time of passing.

Gordon won many honors over his lifetime, including Valedictorian of his Senior Class at Lincoln High in Ellwood City, PA; the Thouron Scholarship from the University of Pennsylvania, which allowed him to attend graduate school at any university in the UK (he attended Cambridge University, England in 1961); and Marquis Who's Who as a Lifetime Achievement Inductee in 2018.

To prepare for a career in chemistry, Gordon earned a Bachelor of Arts (chemistry) from the University of Pennsylvania in 1963, a second Bachelor of Arts (natural science) from Cambridge University in 1965, a Master of Arts from Cambridge University in 1970, and a PhD from the University of Illinois. He has remained at the top of his field through his professional memberships with the American Chemical Society, the Cambridge University Chemical Society, and the American Scientific Affiliation which he joined in 1967.

The Newsletter of the ASA and CSCA is published quarterly for its membership by the American Scientific Affiliation. Please send Newsletter information to Chelsea Church, chelsea@asa3.org, and Coming Events information to David Fisher, dfisherasa@gmail.com. Kindly send Canadian matters to CSCA, PO Box 63082, University Plaza, Dundas, ON L9H 4H0. Send address changes and other business items to The American Scientific Affiliation, 218 Boston Street, Ste. 208, Topsfield, MA 01983. Phone: (978) 887-8833; E-mail: asa@asa3.org; Website: www.asa3.org.

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Please Help Us End the Year Strong by March 31, 2019!

ASA Annual Fund Update

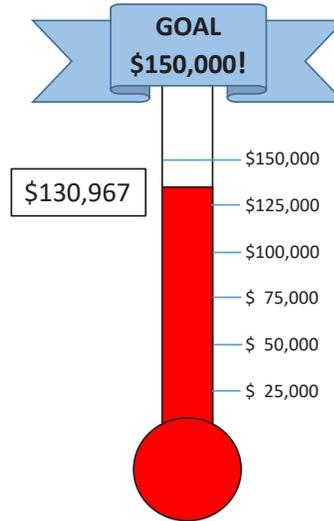
\$150,000	Goal
\$130,967	Gifts & Pledges
\$ 19,033	Left to Fundraise by 3/31/2019

Thank you very much for your generous donations to our Annual Fund appeal. Our fiscal year ends on March 31 and we are seeking to raise another \$19,033 to balance the operating budget. Would you prayerfully consider a first-time or additional gift to help us meet our funding goal?

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

Annual Fund

\$19,033 left to raise by 3/31/19



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