

# Newsletter of the ASA & CSCA

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## Meet the New ASA/CSCA Fellows

The ASA/CSCA selects its Fellows from among our members who have been part of the organization for five years or more and who demonstrate a commitment to Christian service at work, at home, and through participating in ASA/CSCA events and publications. Read the brief profiles below, and join us in congratulating them!



### Warren S. Brown

Warren S. Brown is Professor of Psychology and Director of the Lee Travis Research Institute at the Graduate School of Psychology, Fuller Theological Seminary. He is a research neuropsychologist/neuroscientist interested in the cognitive and psychosocial impact of a congenital brain malformation (agenesis of the corpus callosum and hemispherectomy), and has coauthored over eighty peer reviewed

scientific articles. He is also author or editor of four books on neuroscience and philosophy/religion; *Whatever Happened to the Soul*, edited with Nancey Murphy and H. Newton Malony; *Did My Neurons Make Me Do It?*, with Nancey Murphy; *Neuroscience, Psychology and Religion*, with Malcolm Jeeves; and *Physical Nature of Christian Life* with Brad Strawn.



### James R. Buchholz

Jim Buchholz is a professor of mathematics and physics at California Baptist University (CBU), where he has taught since 1989 and was the department chair for more than 11 years. During his time at CBU, he developed and introduced several new courses and helped introduce a math major to the university. Jim has a PhD in physics from the University of California, Riverside along with

more than 40 semester hours of graduate mathematics coursework.

In 2001, along with Jeff Cate of Christian Studies Department, he won CBU's first and only Templeton Science and Religion Course Prize for the development of "Science and Faith."

Jim served as the program chair of the 2012 ASA Annual Meeting. Following this, he attended and presented at several national and local ASA meetings and has been personally responsible for hundreds of CBU students joining ASA.



### David Buller

David Buller is Program Manager at BioLogos, where he manages the BioLogos Voices speakers bureau and oversees planning for BioLogos national conferences and other major public events. Prior to joining BioLogos, David was a program associate in the Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion program at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in Washington, DC. At AAAS,

he helped lead and plan projects, working with scientists and seminary leaders on science engagement in theological training, as well as a project working with evangelical pastors and organizations.

After completing his BS in biochemistry and molecular biology at Bob Jones University, David earned an MA in theological studies, religion and science emphasis, from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. While in Chicago, David worked as a student coordinator at the Zygon Center for Religion and Science, and served as Student and Early Career Representative to the American Scientific Affiliation Executive Council.



### Alan Dickin

Alan Dickin is a professor of geology at McMaster University, Ontario, Canada, where he has taught for more than 30 years. With a bachelor's degree from the University of Cambridge and a DPhil from the University of Oxford, he moved to Canada to run an isotope dating facility at McMaster, where he researches the geology of the Canadian Shield.

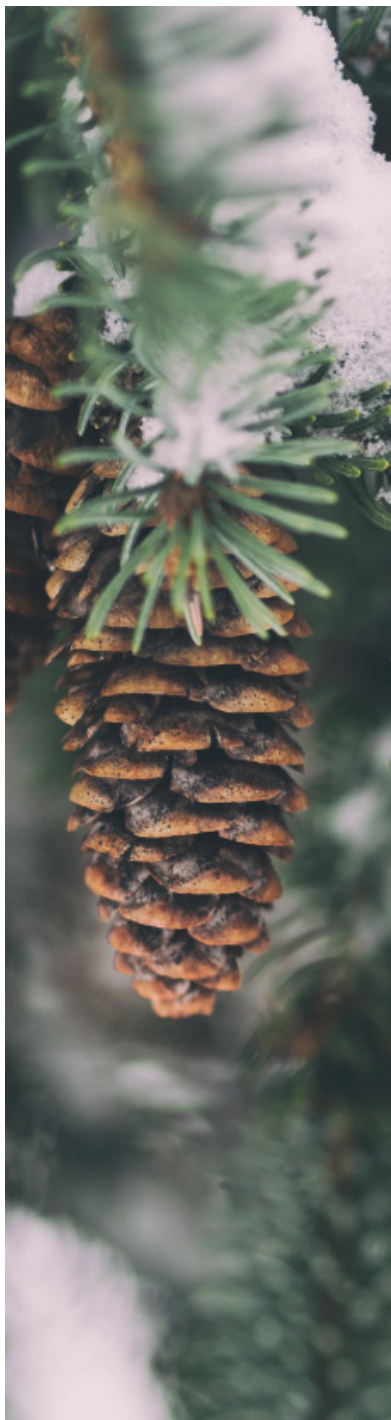
Alan has also been researching biblical accounts of origins for over 30 years, and his vision is to help recover the historical context of Genesis in ancient Mesopotamia. By comparing literary and archaeological records with geological and climatological evidence, he determined a Neolithic date for Noah's Flood, leading to a reassessment of early Sumerian religion (*PSCF* 70, 176–93). His current research seeks to understand the creation story of Genesis 1 from the context of the Flood experience.

His books include *Radiogenic Isotope Geology* (1995, 2005, 2018), *Pagan Trinity—Holy Trinity* (2007), and *A Scientific Commentary on Genesis 1–11* (2015, 2018).

(Cont'd on page 3)



## Director's Corner



## Executive Director Leslie Wickman

Dear friends –

As the holiday season is already upon us (is it just me, or does it seem to start earlier every year?), we have much to celebrate. This newsletter is chock-full of the many wonderful things that are going on within our fellowship across North America. You can read all about the Hermann lectures in Boston and the acclaimed one-man play Mr. Darwin's Tree which toured a number of CCCU campuses this fall, as well as various local chapter events.

It has been another busy fall (when is it ever not busy?). As I write this, I've just returned from an encouraging trip to Athens, Georgia, for several events hosted by our brand new University of Georgia chapter. I've also made trips to Philadelphia for Templeton meetings, Denver for the Evolving Faith conference and other small group meetings, and New York for the Canadian-American Theological Association meeting. Each of these trips provided opportunities to connect with both old and new friends, to explore potential relationships with other Christian organizations, and to further the reach of our organization.

The ASA 2020 meeting plans for San Diego are shaping up nicely around the theme of The Gift of Scientia, the Body of Christ, and the Common Good: Scientists and Theologians Working Together. If you haven't already done so, please consider submitting an abstract. The submission deadline is January 15, 2020.

As always, remember that the ASA's mission spreads best through the efforts of our members. So, if you have an organization or other group you'd like us to help reach 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.

Enjoy the holidays with your friends and family, and join us in gratefully celebrating the gift of God's Son!

Yours in Christ's service,

Leslie

## Annual Fund Update

In this season of giving, we are grateful for every gift—no matter the size. More important to us is participation, and we are seeking 100% participation. Would you consider a gift or pledge and donate? You can make a contribution here <https://network.asa3.org/donations/donate.asp?id=11992>.

### Annual Fund Campaign

**Goal**

\$ 88,000	\$ 120,000	\$160,000
Gifts received	Contribute toward the \$72K needed to reach our goal	





### Keith Furman

Keith Furman's professional work experience was in molecular genetics as a complex biotech patent examiner with full signatory authority. He examined mostly biomedical applications for genetically engineered and recombinant protein and DNA inventions at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Keith earned his MS and PhD (1988) degrees at the University of Maryland, following a bachelor's of science degree at Florida Southern College, each in horticulture. He researched changes in mitochondrial proteins with aging in seeds along with other aspects of seed vigor and its loss with aging.

He has assisted with various science/faith publications and has been active in social media since 2013, taking ASA content to the streets via his [www.TheGospelAndEvolution.com](http://www.TheGospelAndEvolution.com) blog and as @Evocreatn on Twitter. The story of Keith's science/faith paradigm shift was published by BioLogos in 2016. Keith currently serves as one of three officers in the DC chapter of the ASA.



### Mark Parker

Mark Parker (PhD, University of Denver) trained as a developmental biologist and neuroscientist in preparation for working in academic research, where he studied the development of the vertebrate nervous system. From there he transitioned into the biotech industry where he served as a director of the technical service department, oversaw both internal production and

external production, and directed a research and development team. He has always had a passion for teaching and was blessed to join the CCU faculty in 2011 as an associate professor of biology.

Most recently, Mark has been integral in revamping the curriculum and increasing the enrollment in CCU's science program, developing the new Industrial and Systems Engineering program, and launching the newly formed School of Science and Engineering as its founding Dean.

His wife is a cardiovascular registered nurse pursuing her nurse practitioner degree, together they have three sons and enjoy all aspects of living in Colorado.



### Derek Schuurman

Derek Schuurman worked as an electrical engineer for several years and later returned to school to complete a PhD at McMaster University in the area of robotics and computer vision. He has taught computer science at Redeemer University College, Dordt University, and is now professor of computer science at Calvin University where

he is the current William Spoelhof Teacher-Scholar-in-Residence chair.

He serves as a book review editor for *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith* in the area of computers, engineering, and technology. He has written about faith and technology issues and is the author of the book *Shaping a Digital World: Faith, Culture and Computer Technology* published by InterVarsity Press (2013).



### April Maskiewicz Cordero

April Maskiewicz Cordero, PhD, is a professor of biology at Point Loma Nazarene University. Her research focuses on developing more effective approaches for teaching ecology and evolution that enable students to develop not only factual knowledge, but biological ways of thinking and reasoning about the living world. As a Christian biologist trained in science

education research, she is in a unique position to investigate science students' perceptions of the relationship between scientific issues that evoke controversy (i.e., evolution, human origins, climate change) and Christian faith.

April gave a TEDx talk on evolution and faith, and she speaks nationally at churches and universities about reconciling science and faith. She is also active in several professional development projects with schoolteachers as well as university biology faculty.

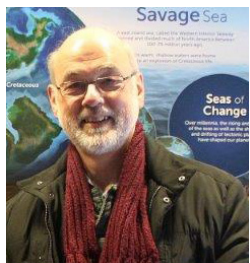


### Barry Pointon

Barry Pointon is a nuclear and medical imaging physicist by training. He has taught nuclear medicine physics at British Columbia Institute of Technology for almost thirty years and has had the pleasure of teaching astronomy at Trinity Western University, where he is an adjunct professor. He recently became involved in astroparticle (neutrino) physics research as a member of the international

Super-Kamiokande and the Hyper-K collaborations. His scientific interests include supernova neutrinos, machine learning techniques, and PET scanners.

He was fortunate to attend Regent College between his undergraduate and graduate years, and there learned how to effectively integrate faith and thought. He has also benefited from Faraday Institute Summer Schools at Cambridge. His many years of involvement with the ASA/CSCA has been a source of inspiration to his mind and faith and he is strengthened by the comradery with other scientists of faith. He lives in beautiful Vancouver with his wife, Fiona, and daughters, Isabelle and Lucy.



### Jitse Van der Meer

Jitse M. Van der Meer obtained his PhD (developmental biology) from Radboud University (NL) (1978) and an MA (history and philosophy of science) from the University of Guelph (1993). He did research in that area at the University of Heidelberg (1978–1979) and Purdue University (1979–1982). He is a member of the founding faculty of Redeemer University College, Ancaster,

Canada (1982). In 2013 he retired as professor of biology and of history and philosophy of science.

He cofounded the Pascal Centre for Advanced Studies in Faith and Science (1988) and was its director from 1988 to 2000. His publications cover developmental biology, history and philosophy of biology as well as science and religion. He edited or coedited nine volumes in science and religion. Current research interests include the engagement of religion and science, the history and philosophy of nineteenth-century biology (G. Cuvier, T. Dobzhansky), and theoretical biology.

# RECENT LOCAL CHAPTER AND OTHER ASA-SPONSORED EVENTS

## “Death and Dying in Theology” Presented at Boston Chapter Meeting

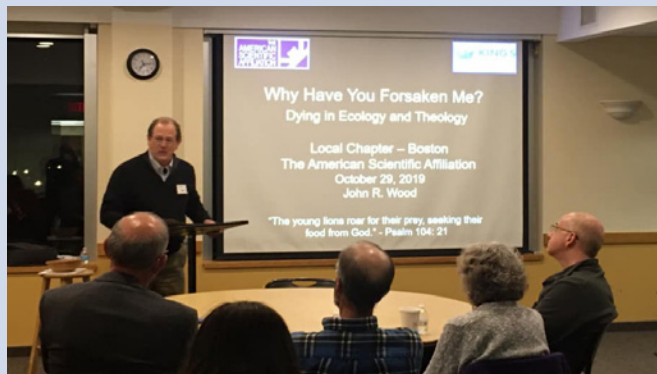
By Randy Isaac

How often have we echoed Jesus’s heart-rending cry “Why have you forsaken me?” when he faced imminent death? The depiction of death as the ultimate sacrifice and the last enemy to be destroyed dominates our attitude toward death.

In sharp contrast, John Wood presented a view of death as part of God’s good creation to the ASA Boston Chapter meeting on October 29, 2019, at Grace Chapel in Lexington, MA. John recently retired from his career as ecologist at King’s University in Edmonton, AB, and is now serving as ASA Executive Council President. Drawing on his deep knowledge of ecological systems in nature, John illustrated the importance of death for successful life on earth. Without death, he argued, life on earth would not be possible, or at least not in the form we recognize.

John took us through a brief history of theologians and philosophers who have addressed this difficult topic. Above all, he challenged us to rethink our view of death. What does it mean for God to incorporate death as an essential part of his good creation? The seemingly intermingled concepts of spiritual death and physical death make it difficult for us to recognize death as being good.

The group enjoyed dinner and fellowship together followed by a great discussion. John’s slides can be seen and his talk heard at [https://network.asa3.org/members/group\\_content\\_view.asp?group=87261&id=834523](https://network.asa3.org/members/group_content_view.asp?group=87261&id=834523)



## From *Ardi* to the Garden: Theologians and Scientists Meet

By ASA Executive Council President John R. Wood



William P. Brown is the William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA

What happens when over 85 theologians (mostly) and scientists meet for a conversation about “The Garden and Human Origins”? For one thing, lots of new questions and insights arise. Keynote speaker William P. Brown (Columbia Theological Seminary) opened the Canadian-American Theological Association (CATA) fall conference with a public lecture “From *Ardi*<sup>1</sup> to Adam: The Garden and Human Origins.” His talk was based on the Smithsonian’s traveling exhibit that is making the rounds among seminary and college libraries this fall.

Brown said that the point is not to harmonize the two stories (Genesis and science), but to reread the ancient story in light of the modern. Asking the question, “what does it mean to be human?” is open-ended. The answer, Brown says, is being written anew in our generation.



Saturday morning conferees listened to a moving video devotional by CSCA Executive Council President (on medical leave) Patrick Franklin. If you missed Patrick’s story earlier, see it here <https://youtu.be/IPne3N5KkDI>.

What wisdom might the Old Testament prophet Job bring us today? In an imaginative riff on YHWH’s speeches from the whirlwind, Brown next took us through “Job, Astrobiology, and the Science of Awe.” He ended with a 10–minute-long free verse reading, set to music and illustrated with stunning pictures of creatures from the abyssal ocean depths. This made a wonderful bookend to the keynote address on “Many Worlds” by Deb Haarsma at the ASA annual meeting in Wheaton, Illinois, this summer, <https://youtu.be/cxseoJpLzCM>.





## Mr. Darwin's Tree Explores the Interface of Science and Faith

By Louise Huang

On October 30, 2019, the acclaimed British one-person, single-act play, *Mr. Darwin's Tree* was performed in Munson Chapel at Azusa Pacific University. *Mr. Darwin's Tree* elegantly explores the intricacies of science and religion through the life of Charles Darwin. Actor Andrew Harrison brilliantly played 15 different characters and took the audience on a powerful journey of a scientist who brought upon historical discoveries and complex implications for two centuries and more.



After the play, a discussion panel moderated by Robert Duke (Dean, School of Theology and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences) further unpacked the complexities Darwin wrestled with. Playwright Murray Watts encouraged us to not only seek answers but also to think deeply about what questions are being raised and how to live with them. Historian Stan Rosenberg (Executive Director, SCIO; Vice President of Research, CCCU) pointed out how differently evolution was perceived in Europe and in North America during the Civil War, and in the context of eugenics. APU biologist and ASA follower Cahleen Shrier reminded us of the spectrum of perspectives and the importance to be respectful of these differences within the church.



This performance is part of the 2019 North American Tour, which has been made possible by the generous funding of the Templeton Religion Trust and the Blankmeyer Foundation through Scholarship & Christianity in Oxford (SCIO): Bridging the Two Cultures of Science & the Humanities program.

Leslie Wickman, Vicki Best, and I represented the ASA at this October 25–26 conference held at Northeastern Seminary in Rochester, New York. Richard Middleton (Northeastern Seminary) planned the event which was co-sponsored by the ASA, CSCA, BioLogos, and Northeastern Seminary. The CATA forum is an excellent platform for students, faculty, and ASA members to interact. We all left the CATA fall conference with a deeper appreciation of the insights and questions that our academic disciplines bring to understanding humanity. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to connect with many ASA and CSCA members over dinner after the conference.

<sup>1</sup> "Ardi" is the popular name for *Ardipithecus*, a genus of extinct hominids living during the late Miocene and early Pliocene epochs in east Africa.

## Prairie Chapter Update

By Carl Fictorie



The Prairie Chapter co-sponsored a lecture by Stan Rosenberg, Director of the SCIO program at Oxford and a faculty member of Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, on November 5, 2019. He spoke on "Between Organic and Mechanistic Views of Nature: Creation *ex nihilo* and Augustine's reworking of Genesis." It was a fascinating discussion of Augustine's notions about creation, making a case that Augustine's view anticipated aspects of the mechanistic worldview several hundred years before the scientific revolution of the 17th century. A lively Q&A session followed. Approximately 50 people were in attendance, including ASA members; faculty from Dordt University, Northwestern College, and Bethel University (Minnesota); and students. Following the lecture, the ASA Prairie Chapter hosted a reception. The event was also supported by Dordt University and "Bridging the Two Cultures of Science and the Humanities," a project of Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford (CCCU).





## ASA Chapter Members Join Gordon College ASA Student Chapter Members for a Roundtable Event

By Evangeline Cornwell

On Monday, November 18, 2019, Randy Isaac led a delightfully stimulating evening of dinner conversation, roundtable-style, on the topic of "What it means to be a Christian in a scientific vocation." The event was hosted by the Gordon College Student ASA Chapter, and more than 50 Gordon College students were in attendance.

This event represented the first time that the roundtable format had ever been attempted in a joint meeting with Boston ASA Chapter members and Gordon College ASA Student Chapter members. According to the Gordon College students in attendance, especially the growing ASA student chapter leadership, the evening was a resounding success!

The evening began with students entering the venue and excitedly choosing where to sit by choosing his/her favorite candy bar, since each table had been decorated with a different candy bar. Vicki Best, Director of Operations and Development, started the evening by sharing background on the ASA, introducing the Gordon College student leaders, and explaining the roundtable rules. Randy then shared his personal story, and gave the audience some perspectives on how to frame faith/science integration. Participants were then charged with sharing their thoughts over a meal of gourmet sandwiches and pasta salad.

Boston ASA Chapter members and Gordon College faculty members generously volunteered to moderate discussion at each of the tables. Using prompts from Randy, these moderators skillfully led lively interactive discussion at each of the tables. The discussion period concluded with a time of sharing from each of the table moderators and a period of final response from Randy.

Many students enthusiastically praised the event by stating that they were inspired by hearing Randy's story, that important conversations were held at their respective tables, and that they especially enjoyed meeting some of the Boston ASA Chapter members, many of whom have had long and successful professional careers in STEM fields. Many students voiced appreciation for this event, and expressed interest in attending a follow-up roundtable discussion in the future.

The event was made possible with support from the Oxford Interdisciplinary Seminars in Science and Religion: Bridging the Two Cultures of Science and the Humanities II, SCIO, and the UK Centre of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities with funding from the Templeton Religion Trust and The Blankemeyer Foundation.



## Donald W. Munro (1937–2019), Zoologist; ASA Executive Director



Donald William Munro, 81, of Secane, Pennsylvania, passed away on September 3, 2019. Don was born to Donald and Emily Munro, on December 27, 1937, in Narberth, Pennsylvania. He graduated from upper Darby High School and received a Bachelor's Degree cum laude in biology from Wheaton College, Illinois, and a MS and PhD in zoology from Penn State University. He served for a time in the US Army and was stationed in Fort Dix, NJ. He married Joyce Thomas in 1961, and they lived together in Houghton, NY; Ipswich, MA; Elizabeth City, NC; and Orlando, FL. Don was a biology professor at Houghton College, NY, and then the director of the American Scientific Affiliation in Ipswich, MA, until he retired.

Don learned about the ASA as a Wheaton student from his professor, Russell Mixter. He joined the ASA in 1962. During his 28 years at Houghton College, Don's ASA activities included serving on the executive council from 1981–1986, as local arrangements chair for the 1986 Annual Meeting at Houghton, as chairman of the bioethics commission, and as program chair of the 1994 Annual Meeting at Bethel University in Minnesota on the topic Bioethics: Perils and Promise. When Bob Herrmann stepped down as executive director, Don applied for the position. He began to serve as executive director in July of 1994, serving through 2004.

During his tenure, he managed the Templeton-ASA lecture series through a major grant from the Templeton Foundation. The Templeton involvement included at least 360 lectures in almost 200 different colleges, universities, or seminaries with an average attendance of over 250 per lecture. In 1994 in his first annual meeting as director, the ASA website was created by Terry Gray and Jack Haas. Later the ASA listserv was established for dialogue among ASA members. While he was the ASA executive director, he also served as adjunct pre-med advisor at Gordon College, effectively increasing the number of students accepted into graduate programs.

Don's final Executive Director's Corner and more information about his time as ASA director can be found in the March/April 2005 ASA newsletter.

## ASA New Members July–September 2019

Please join us in welcoming these new members!

Elizabeth Barker –Granby, CO  
Kathryn Blaha –Peoria, AZ  
Israel Borokini –Sun Valley, NV  
Jacob Brown –Aurora, CO  
Samantha Burnett –State University, AR  
Tina Carter –Manchester, TN  
Paul Celauro –Benton, AR  
Davis Culy –Lakewood, CO  
Mackenzie Edwards –Eagle River, AK  
Ruth Enns –Tulsa, OK  
David Foster –Iowa City, IA  
Erin Gaffney –Glendora, CA  
Sarah Garlanger –Sodus, MI  
Albert Gonzales –Peoria, AZ  
Jim Green –Golden, CO  
Adam Green –Waltham, MA

John Griffin –Potomac, MD  
Heidi Haviland –Huntsville, AL  
Alexander Heide –Athens, GA  
Zachary Herde –Atlanta, GA  
John Hickernell –Chicago, IL  
Katelynn Hoover –Lakewood, CO  
Rachel Housworth –Louisville, KY  
Katrina Hughes –Diamond Bar, CA  
Mark Juhn –Los Angeles, CA  
Julie Kaylor –Maumelle, AR  
Kelsie Krantz –Charlottesville, VA  
Jacob Lahti –Phoenix, AZ  
Wei Han Lau –Toronto, ON  
George Lei –Vancouver, BC  
Victoria Lim –Irvine, CA  
Frank Lyon –The Woodlands, TX

Joseph Lyon –Lafayette, IN  
Stephen McKay –Nashua, NH  
Jodie McLennan –Wheaton, IL  
Calvin Mercer –Greenville, NC  
Luke Morrison –Wichita Falls, TX  
Mark Murray –Bowling Green, FL  
Joshua Oakley –Fresno, CA  
Natalie Oswell –Marietta, GA  
Lawrence OToole –Beverly, MA  
Aaron Pachal –Three Hills, AB  
Matthew Pevarnik –Virginia Beach, VA  
Emelie Randell –Lakewood, CO  
Davis Reardon –Athens, GA  
Rogers Redding –Helena, AL  
Sudin Regmi –Chandler, AZ  
Christopher Reilly –Fredericksburg, VA

Beth Renz –Riverton, UT  
David Richter –Durban North, South Africa  
Adam Schwing –New York, NY  
Joy Serrano –Hialeah, FL  
Joseph Shane –Carlisle, PA  
James Sherley –Boston, MA  
Michael Shields –Mount Airy, NC  
Melissa Stanley –Cave Creek, AZ  
Gordon Stead –Athens, GA  
Bob Trube –Powell, OH  
Kevin Vander Meulen –Ancaster, ON  
Amy VanDusen –Byron Center, MI  
Andrew Wang –Chicago, IL  
Robert Ward –Hamilton, ON  
Caitlin Wong Hickernell –Chicago, IL  
Erik Yost –San Jose, CA  
Chloe Zimmer –Grove City, PA

# ASA 2020 Call for Abstracts

## A Message from Program Chairs Stephen Moshier, Michael Everest, and Geoffrey Fulkerson

The American Scientific Affiliation invites you to attend and present a paper (orally or as a poster) at the 2020 ASA Annual Meeting at Point Loma Nazarene University, July 24–27, 2020, in San Diego, California. The convenient and spectacular location for this meeting is nothing short of outstanding!

ASA 2020 promises to chart new territory for the ASA, featuring a partnership with the Carl F.H. Henry Center for Theological Understanding based at the Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (Illinois). Our plenary speakers will offer meeting participants a window into historical and current theological thinking on the doctrine of creation with applications to issues of science and culture ([see plenary speakers and lecture titles here](https://network.asa3.org/mpage/ASA2020)): <https://network.asa3.org/mpage/ASA2020>

## New programming structure for 2020

One track of each parallel session following the plenaries will be devoted to further exploration of the plenary topic with the speaker and invited respondents. This offers meeting participants the opportunity to interact more significantly with the plenary speakers than in a typically brief period of Q&A.

Your contribution is welcome.

We invite meeting registrants to contribute oral or poster presentations to traditional parallel session tracks on a range of STEM topics, health science, science education, and biblical studies and theology. There will also be sessions on provocative topics with presentations by invited speakers.

Submitted abstracts will be evaluated for both technical and theological content. Since accepted papers will need to show adequate understanding of both science and faith, it may be helpful to collaborate in your presentations. Opportunity for such collaboration will also be available after abstracts are evaluated. Posters are particularly encouraged from student members. To read the full call for abstracts or to submit an abstract, click here <https://network.asa3.org/page/call-for-abstracts-2020>

**All abstracts must be submitted on or before January 15, 2020.**



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

218 BOSTON STREET  
STE. 208  
TOPSFIELD, MA 01983

