



# NEWSLETTER



of the  
American Scientific Affiliation &  
Canadian Scientific & Christian Affiliation

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## Bouma Elected to ASA Council

Hessel (“Bud”) Bouma III, prof. of biology at Calvin C., has been elected



Hessel Bouma III

to the ASA Council. After earning a B.A. in biology from Calvin, he got his Ph.D. in human genetics from the U. of Texas, and was an NIH Post-Doctoral Fellow at UCSD, researching

the structure of fibrinogen, the human blood-clotting protein.

Bouma has been on the Calvin faculty since 1978, where he regularly teaches courses in cell biology and genetics, human biology, perspectives in medical science and biomedical ethics. He coordinated and team-taught “Science and Religion in the Classroom: Controversies in Creation, Cosmology, and Ethics,” a distance-learning graduate

course for secondary-education teachers. He conducts 10–15 adult education classes annually on topics in biomedical ethics in area churches.

Bud has lectured at medical conferences and guest-lectured at numerous universities, including Xiamen U. in China. He has spoken on the scholarship of teaching and learning at several American Association of Higher Education meetings in the US and Canada. Bud has testified on human cloning before committees of the Michigan House of Representatives and the US House of Representatives, and major newspapers have quoted his expert opinions. He serves on the Spectrum Health Ethics Committee and Metropolitan Hospital Ethics Committee.

### ASA Involvement

An ASA member since 1974 and a Fellow since 1998, Bud has presented papers at six Annual Meetings and co-organized a Teaching Bioethics Workshop and two symposia on bioethical issues. At the 2002 Annual Meeting, he spoke on “Science & Ethics of Embryonic Stem Cells: Perils and Promises.”

*Continued on p. 7, Bouma*

## Stars Clustering in Colorado

A constellation of star speakers is being scheduled for the ASA annual meeting, which orbits this year around the theme of Cosmology. One plenary speaker is Dennis Danielson, author of *The Book of the Cosmos: Imagining the Universe from Heraclitus to Hawking* (Perseus Books, 2000).

Among other insights, Program Chair **Jennifer Wiseman** reports that Danielson “calls into question the general assumption that ‘removing the Earth from the Center of the universe’ was a ‘dethroning’ of Earth and a challenge to Christian theology ...” Mark your calendar for July 25–28, and arrange transportation to Colorado Christian U., Lakewood, CO (further details on p. 6).

## Gingerich on PBS Nova

Owen Gingerich



Owen Gingerich

was a featured guest on a two-hour *Nova* telecast of “Galileo’s Battle for the Heavens,” aired on most PBS stations on Oct. 29, 2002. From the many statements that Gingerich taped, the final cut included the following:

- “Copernicus described the Sun as though on a royal throne, ruling the planets that circled around it. It was a wonderful system aesthetically. For decades after his book, most astronomers simply suspended judgment ... [because] there was no observational evidence that the Earth moved. In fact, it seemed almost silly that the Earth moved.”

- “One of Galileo’s young protégés ... Benedetto Castelli ... got invited to one of the intellectual brunches that ... the grand duchess Christina was wont to put on. ... She said, ‘What about Copernicus, and what about Joshua at the Battle of Gibeon when he commanded the Sun and not the Earth to stand still?’”

- “Galileo tended to overestimate his own powers of persuasion. He thought that if he could go down to Rome and talk to some of the hierarchy, he could easily persuade them to remain open on the question of, ‘was the Earth moving or was the Earth fixed?’”

*Continued on p. 3, Gingerich*

## The Executive Director's Corner

by Donald W. Munro

We are ready to start 2003 and look forward to the wonderful things God has planned for ASA. At our recent Council meeting Nov. 22–24, we continued our discussions on future services. One goal we set is to have a secure, online, ASA membership directory by the beginning of 2004. It will let members find addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses. We hope that we can simultaneously change both our local and online databases. The major obstacle as usual is cost and whether we can squeeze this out of the 2003 budget. Also, we soon hope to have an interactive membership application online. **Terry Gray** is working on that.

Our Council meeting took place at Wheaton C. in Wheaton, IL, which was nostalgic for me, a Wheaton grad. Our president, **Dorothy Chappell**, treated us royally. We had a special tour of the Wade Center which houses extensive materials from the so-called inkings—Owen Barfield, G. K. Chesterton, C. S. Lewis, George McDonald, Dorothy L. Sayers, J. R. Tolkien and Charles Williams. Then we walked over to the Wheaton C. library to take a look at the ASA archives. On Saturday we began our meeting at 8:30 AM and adjourned for the day at 11:00 PM.

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At the close of the meeting, **Kenell Touryan** was elected president for 2003; **Martin Price**, vice-president; and **Marilyne Flora**, secretary/treasurer. **Dot Chappell** becomes past president and **Hessel Bouma III** starts his five-year term. As I have observed this rotation method, I think it has contributed much to the stability of ASA. **Susan Daniels** continues next year as our invited, nonvoting student and early career representative. Her contributions have been very helpful. **Steven Hall** was our first such representative. Council set the term of this representative as two years.

Do not forget to get your abstracts in for our annual meeting in Lakewood, CO, at Colorado Christian U. They are due by **January 31, 2003**. Take a few minutes on a weekend or between semesters, if you are a faculty person, and put your thoughts together. We want this to be another outstanding gathering for ASAers. Several field trips are planned, some of which will take advantage of the natural beauty of this part of the US. It is a wonderful family place as well.

Scholarships which cover registration, room and board are available for students and early career scientists. Check out the call for papers and our web site, and encourage those in these categories to take advantage of this opportunity.

This is the exciting time of the year when we name those who will be celebrating their fiftieth anniversary of ASA membership in 2003. Hearty congratulations to the following sixteen people: **Douglas C. Babcock, George L. Bate, Robert W. Cooke, Thomas F. Cummings, Benjamin B. Dayton, Donald E. DeGraaf, David L. Dye, Stewart E. Ensign, Paul R. Godfrey, Thomas Key, Stanley E. Lindquist, Harry Lubansky, Sr., Howard W. Lyon, William R. Nesbitt, Earl H. West and David L. Willis**. I have been privileged to know several of you, and I imagine that you could supply us with some really interesting

material about the early days of the ASA. I am sure that the newsletter editors would love some tidbits from you. We wish you many more years of participation and thank you for your numerous past involvements with ASA.

On a personal note, the trip to Plymouth, MA, that I mentioned in the last column was as meaningful as we thought it might be. Eating Thanksgiving dinner at the Plimoth Plantation and then visiting the replicas of the Pilgrim and Indian villages and interacting with those portraying the original people was a delight. They were cooking eel for their dinner, so I was really glad we ate elsewhere. We also toured the Mayflower II and thought about traveling in the bowels of that dark ship for over two months—only crew members were allowed on deck. The remaining portion of the Plymouth Rock got our attention and, of course, so did the bountiful gift shops.

We have set up the new computer equipment, and we are so thankful for the financial gift that made it possible. **Phil Jackson** has worked very hard on ordering and installing the equipment. Needs, of course, continue. A major need is for an automatic letter folder as the Harold Hartzler memorial folder truly has bitten the dust. A really good one costs over \$2,000. The other pressing need is for a good network laser printer with adequate memory especially for use in preparing the ASA newsletter. It also would be nice to have one printer in the office that can print color. The cost would probably be at least \$3,000. I know that some of you like to give specific items so here is a start.

We greatly appreciate your continuing financial support. We desire for you a most wonderful new year with good health and spiritual growth.



## Gingerich, *continued from p. 1*

• “From the point of view of physics his most important contribution is his *Discourse on the Two New Sciences*. Indeed, ... that book ... provides the real foundation for Isaac Newton.”

• “I ... think ... his *Dialogue on the Two Great World Systems* was the persuasive book that made it intellectually respectable to believe in a moving world, a Sun-centered universe. It was the book that won the war.”

Other participants in the telecast included Guy Consolmagno of the Vatican Observatory, theoretical physicist Julian Barbour, Albert Van Helden, and *Galileo's Daughter* author Dava Sobel. A transcript is available at [www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/transcripts/2912\\_galileo.html](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/transcripts/2912_galileo.html). Chuck Colson's BreakPoint broadcast publicized the event the day before the telecast; his script is available at [www.breakpoint.org](http://www.breakpoint.org).

Gingerich provides more in-depth coverage of the subject in “The Galileo Affair in Contemporary Perspective,” (*Scientific American*, August 1982), and reprinted in *The Great Copernicus Chase and Other Adventures in Astronomical History* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992).

The late Isaac Asimov points out ways in which Galileo failed to “win friends and influence people” and thus may have been his own worst enemy. He wrote:

He had a brilliant and caustic wit and he could not resist using that wit to make jackasses—and therefore bitter enemies—of those who disagreed with him. Even as a college student, he had been nicknamed ‘the wrangler’ because of his argumentativeness and non-conformity. ... Besides he was so brilliant a lecturer that students flocked to hear him, ... while his colleagues mumbled away in empty halls, and nothing will infuriate colleagues more than that (*Asimov's Biographical Encyclopedia of Science & Technology*, 2d rev. ed. [Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1982]).

On balance, Gingerich told ASAN that Galileo's abrasive personality was not the primary cause of trouble:

... [I]t was a turf battle over who had the keys to truth, one that was especially exacerbated at the time because of the Catholic battle with the Protestants over the way to interpret Scripture, so it was not so much the issue of heliocentrism as how literally Scripture was to be interpreted.

OK, then. How should Scripture be interpreted? Read on.

## Opinion: “Galileo's Spin on Scripture”

(DISCLAIMER: The following is a personal reflection by editor **Dave Fisher**. It does not necessarily reflect an official view of ASA or of Dave's employer, Trans World Radio).

When atheists want “proof” that science disproves the Bible, Exhibit A in their arsenal is the conflict between Galileo and the Roman Catholic Church. But how valid is their argument?

Church scholars criticized Galileo for saying Earth moved around the sun instead of vice versa. They cited Ps. 19:6, which says the sun “rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other ...” Psalm 93:1 adds: “The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved.”

Theologians construed this to mean Earth is stationary, and the sun rotates around it. They bolstered their case with chapter 10 of Joshua:

On the day the Lord gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the Lord in the presence of Israel: ‘O sun, stand still over Gibeon, O moon, over the Valley of Aijalon.’ So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day (Josh. 10:12–13).

“So there, Galileo,” some said. “Stop contradicting God's Word.”

However, when we affirm that the Bible is God's Word, let's clarify to whom it was given. It was written to the human race. If it were a message from one all-knowing intellect to another—an interoffice memo from God the Father to God the Son—the Bible might have expressed these ideas differently. But since God was addressing his Word to *Homo sapiens*, he inspired the biblical writers to describe phenomena the way they appear to a human observer on Earth.

Can you imagine God letting battle casualties mount while he fine-tuned Joshua's prayer? “No, Joshua, I refuse your ‘Sun, stand still’ request. Adjust your cosmology and re-submit your petition as, ‘O Earth, stop rotating, so that Gibeon receives extended solar exposure and the Valley of Aijalon gets prolonged moonlight.’” God communicates with his children in ways they can understand.

Even today, an on-camera TV weatherperson may have a graduate degree in meteorology, but he or she still forecasts the times when the sun will “rise” and “set.” Even in our enlightened era, that's the way we talk in popular conversation.

Cardinal Baronius had a point when he said: “The Bible teaches how to go to heaven, not how the heavens go.” But if we correctly understand anthropomorphic language, the Bible accurately reflects how the astronomical heavens function when viewed from human perspective.

## Job Postings

For descriptions of job postings, visit the ASA web site. At press time, these included:

**Visiting Fellows**, Baylor's Institute for Faith and Learning; **Science Education/Secondary**, Calvin C.; **Environmental Studies**, Dordt C.; **Mathematics**, North Park U.; **Biology**, Oral Roberts U.; **Mathematics**, Taylor U., Upland campus.

[www.asa3.org](http://www.asa3.org)



## Wired Cover Features "Science + Religion"

The cover of the December *Wired* magazine featured a metallic technocross. Founding editor Kevin Kelly, a Christian, provides an article entitled "God Is the Machine" and subtitled "In the Beginning there was 0. And ... 1." His thesis: "Life itself is information. So is every bit of matter. And the universe is not merely like a computer, it is a computer."

Gregg Easterbrook writes of "The New Convergence" between science and religion. Among the authorities quoted are:

- **Charles Townes** says the multi-universe idea rests on assumptions that would be laughed out of town if they came from a religious text. Speculation about billions of invisible universes "strikes me as much more freewheeling than any of the church's claims."

- **Francis Collins** adds: "I am unaware of an irreconcilable conflict between scientific knowledge about evolution and the idea of a creator God. Why couldn't God use the mechanism of evolution to create?" and "A lot of scientists really don't know what they're missing by not exploring their spiritual feelings."

- The late Gerald Soffen, who oversaw the life-seeking experiments of NASA's Viking probes to Mars, states: "It's hard to imagine how these things could have happened. ... Once you reach the point of a single-cell organism with genes, evolution takes command. But the early leaps—they're very mysterious."

Easterbrook opines:

And as the era of biotechnology dawns, scientists realize they're stepping into territory best navigated with the aid of philosophers and theologians. *We are entering the greatest era of science-religion fusion since the Enlightenment last attempted to reconcile the two, three centuries ago.*

- The same issue includes an article about Father George Coyne titled, "The Pope's Astrophysicist." It closes with a conversation in which the late Carl Sagan asked: "George, how come God chose you and not me?"

Coyne answered: "God chooses everyone sooner or later, but not everyone realizes it. ... I hope, Carl, that when God chooses you, you will recognize it."

- *Christianity Today* interviews Kelly in a spinoff article, "How Computer Nerds Describe God," <http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2002/145/31.html>

## ASAer in Action

In Washington, **Jennifer Wiseman** is exhausted but elated. A Dec. 2 e-mail says, "I am still juggling finishing up on Capitol Hill with returning to full-time research at Johns Hopkins." (For background on her assignment as a Congressional Fellow sponsored by the American Physical Society, see the Sep/Aug 2002 issue of *ASAN*).

Jennifer summarizes her concluding achievement:

The biggest item of note lately was the recent passage by both House and Senate (and now signed into law) of the National Science Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2002, which was drafted and pushed through by the House Science Committee (where I worked). I contributed to this bill. It significantly increases funds for basic research and also improves some other science policies in several ways, such as providing better planning for large research projects and starting an interagency advisory committee for astronomy and astrophysics.

She concludes:

I was on the House Floor at 3:00 AM in mid-November when the bill finally passed! It was a nice way to end my year of service on Capitol Hill. The Lord has brought good

fruit through a very challenging but interesting year.

Bravo, Jennifer!!

## ASAers in Print

- **Oskar Gruenwald** edits *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies (JIS)*. He reports that Vol. XIV (2002) features "liberal arts in theistic perspective, renewing both higher education and the culture of liberalism," an article which has garnered much praise. Gift subscription forms are available on-line: [www.JIS3.org](http://www.JIS3.org) and print "Invoice." Annual subscription is \$15 in US, \$20 elsewhere. Libraries are encouraged to subscribe to the entire interconnected thematic series of *JIS*, I–XIV (1989–2002+).

- Harper & Row has published new editions of **Richard T. Wright's** *Biology through the Eyes of Faith* and **David G. Myers** and Malcolm A. Jeeves' *Psychology through the Eyes of Faith*. Original publication dates were 1989 and 1987, respectively.

## Members on a Mission

- **Jack Irvine** and his wife are heading for Romania to teach ESL and do a TOEFL prep course at a Christian outreach program to university students. Jack describes the Student Plus outreach as "run by InterVarsity student types from out of the Romanian revolution." They plan to leave around Feb. 1 and return at the end of April. This will be their third outing under the auspices of International Messengers of Clear Lake, IA.

Last summer they had a camp for Romanian teachers to develop curriculum at levels up through university. Irvine reports:

Teachers and administrators were so touched with how Scripture could be related to what they teach, that they returned to their areas with a desire to not only change their class projects to more interactive

methods but to change their lives, some by stopping their smoking habit, which is endemic out there!

Jack can be reached at jbirvine@pacbell.net. As one who has lived overseas, I can assure you that informing missionaries of your prayers, is better than praying without telling them.

• Wheaton math prof. **Paul Isihara** spent four weeks in Ethiopia last summer, helping to establish Mekelle Institute of Technology (better known as MIT)—a new engineering college in the northern state of Tigray. Much of Tigray lacks electricity, paved roads, or running water, and MIT is envisioned to train top math and science students to become leaders in the fight against poverty.

MIT opened in December with 120 students taking basic courses in English, biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, and computer science. Initial B.S. programs will be in civil & construction engineering, computer & electrical engineering, and computer science & information technology, with a total enrollment of 500 students. The school greatly needs funds for student scholarships and basic instructional resources. On behalf of MIT, Isihara is appealing for contributions. Pick-up of books and other material donations can be arranged, but the cost of shipment is high (roughly \$2/lb), so any help with shipping costs is also greatly appreciated.

Financial support from Wheaton's Faculty Missionary Project and Don Church's Timothy Project, plus technical help from Brian Hurley and John Hayward, enabled Isihara to set up a small Unix computer lab and give a workshop on teaching and doing research in math—using Maxima, Xfig and Latex software. ASAers are encouraged to visit MIT for short-term summer projects or sabbaticals.

Although MIT is officially secular, Isihara prays that the Lord will continue to guide evangelical involvement there, “not only to help with Tigray's poverty struggle, but also to link with

the steadily growing evangelical church.” He adds:

Though historically Tigray has been overwhelmingly orthodox Christian, Muslims are gaining rapidly in power throughout Ethiopia, and even in Tigray. I saw mosques in almost every little town and village. Your timely interest and prayers in this regard are greatly appreciated.

Support for a student is US \$1744/yr. To qualify as deductions for IRS purposes, checks should be made payable to “Timothy Project” and sent via Isihara at Wheaton C. His e-mail is Paul.A.Isihara@wheaton.edu.

## Coming Events

• **Jan. 8–29.** MIT Independent Activities Period, Seminar & Discussion Series: “How did the Christian faith, which so many great scientists professed, influence their scientific thinking, and how did their science affect their faith?” Wed. noon, Marlar Lounge, MIT 37-252:

**Jan. 8** – “Astrophysics & Mysticism, the Life of Arthur Eddington,” **Ian Hutchinson.**

**Jan. 15** – “Newton, Rationalizing Christianity,” Rosalind Picard.

**Jan. 22** – “Pascal: Divine Proofs,” Rev. Kevin Ford.

**Jan. 29** – “Michael Faraday: Scientist and Nonconformist,” **Ian Hutchinson.**

Lectures and luncheon open to all. Bring your own lunch. Sponsored by MIT Christian Faculty Fellowship. Contact Ian Hutchinson, MIT, hutch@psfc.mit.edu or (617) 253-8760.

• **Templeton/ASA Lecture Series** announces its upcoming lectures.

**Jan. 21** – “Cosmology and Creation: The Origin, Development and Destiny of the Universe,” William Stoeger, Emmanuel College, Room 001, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**Jan. 23** – Same lecture as above, Queen's Theological C., Kingston, Ontario, Canada

**Jan. 24** – “Sustainable Seas: The Vision, The Reality,” Sylvia Earle, Jones Auditorium, 10:00 AM, Meredith C., Raleigh, NC

**Jan. 31** – “Is the Universe Self-Caused or Caused by God?” Quentin Smith, Chemistry and Physics (CP) 145, 8:00 PM, Florida International U., Miami, FL

**Feb. 26** – “Galileo: Hero or Heretic,” **Owen Gingerich**, Science Auditorium, 7:00 PM, Berry C., Mount Berry, GA

• **Jan. 30–Feb. 1.** “God & Physical Cosmology,” A Russian-Anglo Conference on Cosmology, Notre Dame U., McKenna Hall.

This conference will bring together leading philosophers, theologians, and cosmologists from the USA, Great Britain, and Russia to discuss the implications of recent work in physical cosmology for theology and religious belief generally. The conference is sponsored by the John Templeton Foundation, the Society of Christian Philosophers, the Center for Philosophy of Religion at the U. of Notre Dame, and the Societies of St. Sergius and St. Albans.

The seven speakers from Russia include scientists, philosophers, and theologians. Anglo-American

## Welcome New Members! Oct.–Nov. 2002

Bertsche, Kirk –San Jose, CA  
Braun, Mike J. –Mannheim, ON, Canada  
Geddes, Robert S. –Hamilton, ON, Canada  
Hayes, Robin L. –Los Angeles, CA  
Hicks, Walter J. –Acton, MA  
Hobbs, William D. –Pen Argyll, PA  
Hussong, William M. –Wheaton, IL  
Ingebritsen, Thomas S. –Ames, IA  
Kuhlman, Daniel L. –Lawrence, KS  
Lacksonen, James W. –Toledo, OH  
Martin, Marty –Englewood, CO  
Means, Peter –Pullman, WA  
Pechan, Michael J. –Oxford, OH  
Sprowl, Donald R. –Alexandria, LA  
Steward, Daniel C. –New Orleans, LA  
Zheng, Ming Y. –Wenham, MA

speakers include: Sean Carroll (physics, U. of Chicago); Robin Collins (Philosophy, Messiah C.); William Lane Craig (Philosophy, Talbott School of Theology); Ernan McMullin (Philosophy, Notre Dame), Phillip Quinn (Philosophy, Notre Dame); Richard Swinburne (Philosophy, Oxford); Del Ratzsch (Philosophy, Calvin C.); and Dean Zimmerman (Philosophy, Syracuse and Rutgers).

Contact: Professor Michael Murray, Franklin and Marshall C., Lancaster, PA 17604-3003, Michael.murray@fandm.edu. Details at [www.fandm.edu/Departments/NDConference/philosophy.htm](http://www.fandm.edu/Departments/NDConference/philosophy.htm)

• **Feb. 11.** Center for Theology and Natural Science Public Forum: “Violence and the Cross” Rene Girard, Stanford U. Graduate Theological Union, GTU Library Board Room, Berkeley, CA, 7:00 p.m. No charge.

• **Feb. 13–18.** AAAS Annual Meeting in Denver. Messiah C.’s **Ted Davis** will present a paper, “New Light on the Scopes Trial.” Additional details at [www.aaasmeeting.org](http://www.aaasmeeting.org).

• **Feb. 25.** CTNS Public Forum: “The Problem of Suffering in Neo-Darwinian Biology and Christian Theology,” Michael Ruse, Florida State U. Held at Stanford U., same time and place as Feb. 11 item.

• **March 9.** John Haught, from Georgetown U., Gresham Hall at Grace Cathedral, 1100 California St., San Francisco, 9:30 a.m. No charge.

• **March 11.** CTNS Public Forum: “The Suffering of Sentient Life: The Theodicy Problem in Evolutionary Theism,” John Haught, GTU Library Board Room, Berkeley, CA, 7:00 p.m.

• **June 2003.** Disciplinary Faculty Development Workshop for math and computer science educators, sponsored by Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU). Full-time faculty teaching in these departments at CCCU member or affiliate institutions are eligible to attend. Application deadline:

**Feb. 1, 2003.** Information at [www.cccu.org/conferences/eventID.222/conference\\_detail.asp](http://www.cccu.org/conferences/eventID.222/conference_detail.asp).

## Calls for Papers

**ASA Annual Meeting**, July 25–28 at Colorado Christian U. (see box, p. 1). Meeting will highlight astronomy and cosmology, but all science-Christian topics are welcome. Papers will be considered for four symposia: (1) Your Science and Faith at Work and Church; (2) Bioethics and Stewardship: Human Over-Population and Global Climate Change; (3) Technology Developments and Applications from a Christian Perspective; and (4) Divine Action in Nature. 200–250-word abstract deadline **Jan 31**.

**Early career scientists or engineers** are encouraged to submit an abstract and apply for a scholarship. Application deadline **March 3**. Submit online <[http://129.82.76.41:591/asa\\_presentations/application.html](http://129.82.76.41:591/asa_presentations/application.html)> or by mail: ASA, PO Box 668, Ipswich, MA 01938. More information from Jennifer Wiseman, program chair: [jwiseman@pha.jhu.edu](mailto:jwiseman@pha.jhu.edu).

## Cutting Edge Issues

For students looking for term-paper material, and for teachers seeking lecture material that integrates a biblical perspective with their scientific knowledge, the *Newsletter* hopes to provide leads and bibliographies. (See “Tapping the Reservoir, Expanding the Plumbing” in the Nov/Dec 2002 issue).

Toward that goal, we suggest several sources that add up to a balanced understanding of the controversial subject called Intelligent Design, the concept that the complexities of nature imply that Someone intelligent designed it.

### 1. AAAS Board Opposes Teaching I.D.

The Nov. 29 issue of *Science* reports:

The AAAS Board of Directors has passed a resolution urging policy-

makers, scientists, and other members of the public to oppose teaching “intelligent design theory” ... in the nation’s science classrooms, noting that the concept has so far not been supported by credible scientific evidence.

The article, on p. 1804, cites AAAS CEO Alan I. Leshner as saying the AAAS believes ID theory, “if presented within science courses as factually based—is likely to confuse American schoolchildren and to undermine the integrity of US science education.”

The article concludes: “America’s science classrooms are certainly no place to mix church and state.”

✉ **Paul Arveson** and [www.aaas.org/news/newsandnotes/inside90.shtml](http://www.aaas.org/news/newsandnotes/inside90.shtml)

### 2. Perspectives Provides Balanced Discussion of I.D.

The Dec. 2002 issue of ASA’s journal, *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith*, discusses the pros and cons of the Intelligent Design paradigm. The first 51 pages deal with the subject from various angles. It begins with a dialogue between Mark Discher and **Howard Van Till**, continues with a case study by Timothy R. Johnson and **Karl Giberson**, then Richard Thornhill analyzes “The Historical Relationship Between Darwinism and the Biological Design Argument,” and **Gordon C. Mills** concludes with “In Defense of Intelligent Design.”

### 3. Other I.D. Resources

The *Perspectives* articles provide extensive bibliographies. Primary sources of the I.D. concept are listed among them, including those by Michael Behe, Phillip Johnson, and Kenneth Miller.

**Edward B. Davis**, “ID critics’ use of ‘creationist’ label is lazy and deliberate,” and John G. West, “Intelligent design and creationism just aren’t the same,” both in *Research News & Opportunities in Science and Theology* (John Templeton Foundation), December 2002, p. 18.



## With the Lord

• Twenty-five-year ASA veteran **Allen Bilderback** died of pneumonia at age 87. He was a Free Methodist missionary to Burundi, then pastor and finally social worker. His favorite article in *JASA* (predecessor of *Perspectives*) was Edward Kessel's "A Proposed Biological Interpretation of the Virgin Birth" (Sept. 1983). He found the possible explanation of parthenogenesis liberating and handed out many copies of this article in his Sunday school class.

His son **Don Bilderback** comments:

As an amateur scientist and a student of the Scriptures, dad found many connections between science and faith issues that I've never heard others talk about. His astronomical dating of the book of Revelation from the vision of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse in Rev. 6:1-8 is unique. He interpreted the vision in terms of planets and constellations, making the ordinary assumptions for the story of the stars known for thousands of years. He concluded that the vision was seen around Nov. 4, 96 AD plus or minus 10 days (Allen Bilderback, *Revelation and Apocalyptic Symbols* [Puyallup, WA: Valley Press, 1991], partially online at [www.lightlink.com/donald](http://www.lightlink.com/donald)). He interpreted Ezekiel's vision of wheels as halos around the Sun due to refraction of light from ice crystals. ... Dad gave a paper on these findings at one of the ASA annual meetings (Eastern U. in PA, I believe) and the material was received as being on the cutting edge.

• ASA Fellow **Larry Martin** died Oct. 25 of a brain tumor. Annual meeting attendees remember Larry and his wife Susan as what Ken Touryan calls "the coveted team leaders for worship at our ASA meetings." Larry had a diverse educational background. He earned BAs in Music and Math. Ed. from Virginia Tech., an MA from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. in Physics from UNC, where his

dissertation was "Self-trapping of Electrons in Fluid Neon."

Martin became professor of physics at North Park U., Chicago, in 1991. In addition to physics courses, he coordinated "Science through the eyes of Faith." Last summer he moved to Durham, NC, to be near lifelong friends during his final months.

"My faith has not changed through this occurrence," Larry wrote on 3/12/02. "I've always known I was mortal, like 100% of every preceding generation. ... But I'm also immortal and wish to live out my life in light of that fact as well." Subsequent journal entries included, "The prognosis is not very good," "Praise God from whom all medicines come" and "I can no longer list all the meds I'm on." Yet he resolved, "In any case, I'm still inclined to go out with faith in God through Christ."

He died peacefully at 5:30 a.m. on Oct. 25, 2002. A memorial service was held Nov. 2 at Chapel Hill Bible Church. A memorial fund has been established at North Park U. Details and additional journal entries are at [www.admin.northpark.edu/Lmartin/brain\\_tumor/Default.htm](http://www.admin.northpark.edu/Lmartin/brain_tumor/Default.htm)

## Touryan: *continued from p. 8*

Later at American U. in Beirut, he "accidentally" met International Students Inc.'s Mark Hanna reading the Bible on campus. Hanna's one-on-one guidance through the Navigators' course "really strengthened my faith."

Even during the Soviet era, Ken witnessed unabashedly. Before a trip to Armenia, he taped a series of lectures and asked Trans World Radio to broadcast them while he was there, "because I had students who would listen and then we would discuss it." The KGB monitored his broadcasts and interrogated him. "We had an argument, and I told them if you want my technology, you've got to have my faith as well. They said OK but be careful."

His energetic passion to witness his faith—his God-given combination of boldness and discretion—provides an exceptional role model.

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**God is the Best and  
Most Orderly Workman of all.**

—Copernicus

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## Bouma: *continued from p. 1*

Bud currently chairs ASA's Bioethics Commission, is editor of ASA's Bioethics Commission Newsletter, and co-organizer of a 2003 symposium tentatively titled "Bioethics and Stewardship: Human Overpopulation & Global Climate Change."

Raised in a Christian family and educated in Christian schools, Bud says:

My faith was challenged and strengthened through employment opportunities in high school and college and in my graduate and post-doctoral experiences.

... Throughout my professional career, being open about being a Christian and a scientist has created opportunities for Christian

witness which I would never have dreamed possible. At the same time, my interest in science and biomedical ethics has opened many opportunities for me to encourage Christians to think more carefully about issues of science and the Christian faith."

Bud's vision for ASA involves increasing "its size, diversity, resources, and influence." This includes recruiting "the many scientists, historians of science, and theologians and philosophers interested in science affiliated with the many Christian colleges and universities who presently are not associated with ASA; this is an enormous untapped resource which ASA already is positioned to serve in unique ways."

## Touryan Energizes ASA as New President

Within seconds of hearing **Ken Touryan** start to speak, you sense an energetic sense of mission. The man who became ASA’s new president in January is an expert in “alternative energy,” in more than one sense.

Ken is Chief Technology Analyst in the Technology Deployment Support Office at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, CO. He also directs all DOE projects in the former USSR, aiming to develop defense technologies into non-military applications, including renewable technologies of solar, wind, biomass, geothermal and hydrogen. Born in Beirut of Armenian ancestry, he has various levels of proficiency in Armenian, English, French, Russian, Arabic and Spanish.

In an interview at Pepperdine U. with *ASA Newsletter* editors **Margaret Towne** and **Dave Fisher**, Touryan said

many scientists in the former Soviet Union are now unemployed, and rogue states try to pick their brains for weapons of mass destruction. To counter that, Congress funds U.S. labs to collaborate with labs in Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Armenia—keeping 15,000 scientists busy on research projects with potential commercial applications. Ken continues, “We go into nuclear cities that were not even on the map until recently ... Some ... are so isolated that they have no concept of what Christianity is. But they are very much interested in learning about Christ.”

Ken’s interest in Christ began when he saw his father on his knees, “every morning reading the Scriptures, no matter how early I got out of bed and sneaked into his room.” As a high school senior, he struggled with the occult and the miraculous, and wanted a sign from God. When Helen Keller re-



ASA President Ken Touryan

cited the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, “That just floored me—a person who can’t see or hear, who can talk, reciting something!” He concluded God must be real.

*Continued on p. 7.*

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### In This Issue

Bouma Elected to ASA Council .....	1
Gingerich on PBS <i>Nova</i> .....	1
Stars Clustering in Colorado .....	1
The Executive Director’s Corner .....	2
Opinion: “Galileo’s Spin on Scripture” .....	3
Job Postings .....	3
<i>Wired</i> Cover Features “Science + Religion” .....	4
ASAer in Action .....	4
ASAers in Print .....	4
Members on a Mission .....	4
Coming Events .....	5
Welcome New Members! Oct.–Nov. 2002 .....	5
Calls for Papers .....	6
Cutting Edge Issues .....	6
With the Lord .....	7
Touryan Energizes ASA as New President .....	8