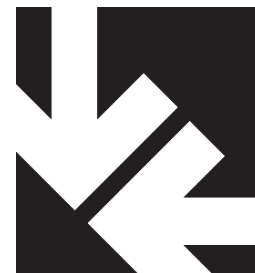


NEWSLETTER

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Joe Sheldon testifying in Washington, DC.

Sheldon Testifies before Congressional Committee

Messiah C. prof of biology and environmental science **Joseph Sheldon** testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Resources, the only educator on a panel of 14 representing various backgrounds. *The Messiah College Bridge* adds, “Students in Sheldon’s Conservation Biology class accompanied him to Capitol Hill and had the opportunity to observe environmental policymaking in action.”

Responding to a bill that he believed would weaken the Endangered Species Act, he testified in April:

The Critical Habitat Reform Act of 2003 weakens the Endangered Species Act by denying adequate habitat protection and by requiring a cost-benefit analysis [What is the value of the proposed project, e.g., a dam, versus the value of the species?].

Continued on p. 7, Sheldon

“Pregnant with Possibilities”

That’s the way **Jack Swarengen** describes the upcoming Annual Meeting. He’s especially enthusiastic about two plenary lectures on the topic “Technology: The Solution or the Problem?” He elaborates, “Egbert Schuuman will discuss contemporary struggles in the ethics of technology, and Robert Wauzzinski will consider the impact of technology on culture, with special reference to the use of energy.” They will “address *limits* (social, ethical, spiritual and other) to technology, and to challenge us to think more deeply about appealing to technology to solve problems that perhaps would be better addressed as social, political, or ethical issues.”

The pregnant possibilities are “for moving ASA into a new era, where our members become proactive in critical issues that face society in the 21st century.” You have a date in the Keystone State, where the presentations come to birth Aug. 5–8.

Which Enhancements Are Advancements?

The evening began with a reference to the vintage *\$6 Million Man* television series, where a scientist said he could build a better human or humanoid. It continued with the moderator reminding the audience, “Could doesn’t equal should.”

On Sept. 16, **C. Christopher Hook** of Mayo Clinic C. of Medicine and

James Peterson of McMaster Divinity C. were on the Wheaton campus to discuss, “Building a Better Human: Is It Morally Acceptable to Enhance the Chemical and Genetic Nature of Persons?”



C. Christopher Hook

Peterson listed four criteria for judging the morality of such intervention:

1. Is it safe for the recipient?
2. Is it a genuine improvement, all things considered?
3. Does it increase recipient choices? We don’t want to predestine or shape people, but if we give them more choices, that increases their freedom.
4. Is it the best available use of always finite resources? What do we do with the time we save?

He classed strengthening teeth with fluoride and using vaccine to bolster the immune system, as enhancements.

Hook responded that he did not consider these to be enhancements. “Repairing or restoring to normal health is not enhancement.” Then what is enhancement? In his view, it is:

Continued on p. 3, Enhancements

The Executive Director's Corner

Donald W. Munro

Happy New Year from Elizabeth City, NC. Yes, we successfully made the move and are now attempting to get settled in our new home. We are the second settlers in a 55+ community that is supposed to have at least 100 homes, a clubhouse, pool, and walking paths along the canal. My main contact with the ASA office is by phone, e-mail, and the US postal service. Carol Aiken has been busy keeping the office running smoothly. Please do keep the staff (Carol, Lyn Berg, Jonathan Chechile and Diane Kemmer) in your prayers during this transition time.

The abstract deadline (Feb. 11) is coming soon for ASA's 60th Annual Meeting to be held at Messiah C., Aug. 5-8, 2005 in beautiful south central Pennsylvania. The closest major airport is Harrisburg which is about 30 minutes away. I have visited the campus on several occasions and one of many good features is the convenient, central location for meetings, rooming and dining. Students and early career scientists are again welcome on scholarship that covers room, board, and registration as long as the funds last. Their abstract deadline is Feb. 28. You may want to send a donation above your usual ASA gift to help us fund a

student or early career person as well as encourage such a person to attend.

Ted Davis and Jerry Hess are working hard on local arrangements and Kenell Touryan, assisted by Jack Swearengen are developing an interesting and informative program. Alternative energy resources are important near future considerations as we try to balance those needs with potential environmental adversities. There are at least four symposiums in the works with the following leaders: Jack Swearengen, Technology: The Solution or the Problem? Robert Kaita (Princeton U.), The Promise of Fusion Energy; Walter Bradley (Baylor U.), Science and Appropriate Technologies for Developing Countries; and John Bloom (Biola U.), Models for Creation: Intelligent Design and Evolution.

My first column of the year has traditionally congratulated those who have been members for 50 years. We extend our best wishes to Eugene C. Jekel, James L. Kroon, and Dale Swartzendruber. We also want to recognize those who have been members for at least 55 years (we do not have records before 1950) by joining in 1950 or before—Henry Beilstein, Wilbur Bullock, James O. Buswell III, Ann Deckard, Alfred C. Eckert, Jr., F. Alton Everest, George H. Fielding, Robert B. Fischer, Lawrence H. Johnston, Norman L. Loux, Paul B. Mauer, Russell L. Mixer, John Vayhinger, and Roger J. Voskuyl. What a wonderful landmark!

The Templeton/ASA Lecture Series wound down this past November with about 150 lectures in this series which went from 2002 to 2004 and were held at some of the top universities and colleges in the US and Canada with a couple in the UK. The average attendance was about 200 per lecture. Just recently, five judges rated the second round of videos and again the results were very close. The two winners were John Hedley Brooks of Oxford U., first prize (\$2,000) and Richard Weikart of California State U., second prize (\$1,000).

As this new year begins, I want to recognize and thank our faithful editors: Roman Miller, journal editor, David Fisher and Margaret Towne, newsletter editors, Richard Ruble, book review editor and Lyn Berg, managing editor. They have given us an interesting and informative year and much hard work. Also a special thank you to Terry Gray and Jack Haas for their work with the web site. The work for these projects never stops.

Thanks are also due to our sister organization in Canada, CSCA, with the many contributions and important suggestions for ASA/CSCA from Don McNally, executive director; Robert Mann, president; Esther Martin, secretary; and the rest of their Executive Council. Judith Toronchuk did an excellent job hosting us at Trinity Western this past summer and I appreciate all the effort she put into that.

My final thanks are to those of you who gave financial contributions above your dues to the ASA. We would not be able to pay our capable staff without it and this was a very tight year where we were really hard put to keep things going but somehow with God's help we managed without borrowing which we would be loath to do since it tends to be a downhill spiral. However, funds will be depleted quickly in the first few months of 2005 and without your sacrificial gifts we will be faced with a deficit but I know you will give willingly and that has eased my anxiety over the past eleven years. A new person will take up that banner this summer and I know you will continue to be generous—thank you, thank you, and again thank you.

May this new year provide excellent opportunities for us all to serve our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and to help lead our fellow scientists and others to faith.



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Managing Editor: Lyn Berg

Enhancements *continued from p. 1.*

that which takes normal anatomy and physiology and attempts to alter it or re-engineer the underlying system to produce supposedly superior performance, based upon some arbitrary narcissistic individually- or culturally-constructed criteria for improvement. Enhancement ... is a repudiation of the normal and an attempt to re-engineer ourselves into something that *we* think is better than the original design. It is taking something that isn't broken and changing it because we are dissatisfied with it merely because it is normal.

Thus growth hormone for someone whose goal is to be a taller athlete, genetic intervention to change some attribute such as strength or intelligence; skin, hair or eye color; selection of sex or attributes of a child by pre-implantation or prenatal diagnosis; the use of steroids ... to increase athletic performance, and use of SSRI antidepressants to make a person more gregarious, or maybe in the future implanting a memory chip or broadband modem into our brain—all fit into this understanding of enhancement.

The use of glasses or contacts to restore vision, the use of growth hormone for a child who has premature growth plate closure, or of a medication to return the hemoglobin level of an anemic patient to more appropriate levels, or a gene therapy to heal a patient with hemophilia or cystic fibrosis, would not be enhancement but healing.

Technology and the Olympics: What Will Be Ethical?

Scientific American brought up a related issue: The 2004 Olympics may have been one of the “last Olympic Games without genetically enhanced athletes,” says H. Lee Sweeney, physiology prof. at U. of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He believes gene

therapies designed to combat muscle loss caused by muscular dystrophy or old age could be used in the future to help athletes gain a competitive edge.

These therapies would be in the muscle, not the blood or urine. They would be identical to the person's natural counterpart and not detectable. “The ethical issues surrounding genetic enhancement are many and complex,” says Sweeney. There is time to discuss this as it will probably be 10 years before this could be employed. This is another setting where science/technology and ethics/morality need a dialogue.

See this article at www.sciam.com/feature_directory.cfm?chanID=sa006

ASAers in Print

- Carl Sagan discounted Earth's importance, reasoning that its non-central location in the cosmos made it an insignificant speck in a vast, meaningless universe. In *The Privileged Planet*, Iowa State U. astronomy and physics prof. **Guillermo Gonzalez** and Discovery Institute vice president Jay W. Richards reverse the argument, concluding that our non-central location provides the best vantage point from which to observe and learn about the universe.

Subtitled “How our place in the cosmos is designed for discovery,” the book covers the various parameters that make Earth optimum. Examples include our sun having the precise mass and composition that a habitable planet requires; the moon being the right size and distance from Earth, with its gravity stabilizing Earth's rotation; our atmosphere, the characteristics of water, and many other parameters being “exactly right.” Richards refers to “the concept of ‘constrained optimization,’ the sort of optimization that engineers use when designing an object, where multiple computing factors must be joined in the best overall compromise.” Using the analogy of a laptop computer, he says, “The best such computer will be the one that attains the best overall compromise of, say, size, weight, CPU speed, durability, price, etc.”

On the jacket, **Owen Gingerich** comments, “Passionate advocates of the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI) will find much to ponder in this carefully documented analysis.” Dennis Danielson calls it “a high-class piece of work that deserves the widest possible audience.” (Washington, DC: Regnery Publishing, 2004). It is also available on DVD from Campus Crusade for Christ.

- After selling more than 250,000 copies of his classic *The Universe Next Door*, **James W. Sire** has produced a fourth edition. In 259 pages, he explains the basic tenets of Christian theism, deism, naturalism, nihilism, Eastern pantheistic monism, New Age philosophy and postmodernism. In addition to updates throughout, it significantly refines his previous definition and thought about the essential nature of worldviews.

Exploring the essence of worldviews in more depth is his *Naming the Elephant: Worldview as a Concept*. He explains the title of the 163-page book:

At the foundation of a person's understanding of reality lies the Elephant that holds up their whole conception of life. The name each of us gives to that Elephant—God, the Cosmos, the Divine Fire, the Void—is the most important aspect of our worldview.”

Feedback from his previous books has helped him refine his thinking; he says:

It takes the largely intellectual concept I first formulated in *The Universe Next Door* in 1976 and asks whether it is still adequate. As a result of this analysis, I offer a revised definition that preserves the importance of the intellect but identifies the essence of a worldview as a matter of the heart—the central control room of the human being—rather than solely as a matter of the mind. The final chapter suggests ways in which worldview analysis can benefit us and our culture.

Both Sire books were published by InterVarsity Press in 2004.

ASAer Provides Daily Weblog

Hugh Ross and Reasons to Believe colleague **Fazale Rana** have initiated a daily feature, "Today's Reason to Believe." Ross says several new discoveries each day imply a Christian apologetic, usually a cosmological "argument from design." Information and free sign-up are available at www.reasons.org

Local Chapter Activity

• The Bay Area local section of ASA held an impromptu gathering Oct. 23. During the past decade the group has lost much of its robustness, as exorbitant housing costs have forced many veteran members to live farther from the center of things, and newcomers face crowded freeways and demanding schedules.

The catalyst of the October gathering was Shirley & **Ken Lincoln** announcing that they were returning from their Santa Barbara home for a weekend of family reunion and a Stanford class reunion. Eunice & **Ken Olson** hosted a potluck at their Foster City home, facilitated via email by Nancy & **Jack Swearingen**, who are now back in the Bay Area after establishing a school of engineering at a new Washington State U. campus in Vancouver, WA, and semi-retired in Santa Rosa.

Also attending were Ginny & **Walt Hearn** from Berkeley, environmental engineer **Li-Yang Chang** of Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, and Beverly & **Jack Irvine**, semi-retired in Pacific Grove. The Irvines, who have taught in Iran, Afghanistan, and most recently in Romania, brought with them Christian physicist Ioan (Puiu) Daneti from a polytechnic institute in Timosoara,

Romania, who was in the States for a conference and to visit supporters of Christian work in his country.

Only Li-Yang and Ken Olson are still employed in the Bay Area, so there was much catching up of ministry and other activities from "the diaspora." The Lincolns brought greetings and updated news from ASA patriarch **F. Alton Everest**, living in the same Santa Barbara retirement community. Others reported their recent contacts with emeritus Stanford materials scientist and former *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith* editor **Richard Bube**.

The lively conversation ranged from commercial production of human collagen (Olson) to the trials of an academic start-up (Swearingen) to the religious situation in Romania (Daneti). Swearingen, assistant program chair for the 2005 Annual Meeting at Messiah C., handed out copies of a call for papers for his session on "Technology: The Solution or the Problem?" He also urged all ASA members to pray for Carol and Lyn in this time of transition in the Ipswich office. The gathering ended in a round of prayer, before all scattered over various freeways, "full of nostalgia and Eunice Olson's famous tamale pie." ☒ *Walt Hearn*

• Two area chapters in the OK-TX section have informed us of their activities. Several Houston-area ASAers attended a Sept. 7 lecture by **Hugh Ross** at Rice U., entitled "Astronomers Discover Humanity's Destiny in Space, Time & Physics." **Scott Robinson** noted that Richard E. Smalley, who shared the 1996 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the discovery of fullerenes, was present and was seen nodding in agreement several times. Robinson reports: "There are 1300 Houston-area addresses in RTB's [Ross's Reasons to Believe organization] mailing list, the highest concentration on the planet," and at least 4 volunteer apologists trained by RTB.

Pizza and *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith (PSCF)* articles seem to be the main menu items at the Houston's area's luncheon meetings,

held at Star Pizza in Houston. The primary discussion at the Sept. 11 meeting was **John Warwick Montgomery's** September *PSCF* article, "Computer Origins and the Defense of the Faith."

The Dallas group met in September at the Jumbo Super Buffet in Arlington. The program involved discussing several articles from *PSCF*. **Tar Timothy Chen**, who founded the Dallas area meeting, has relocated to Missouri to pastor St. Louis Chinese Gospel Church. Penny and **Scott Robinson** credit him with making the Dallas-area meeting the example after which the Houston-area meeting has been modeled. **Brad Stults** will become Dallas leader, and the January meeting will be held at his home in Plano. For information about future meetings in the OK-TX section, contact scottandpenny@ev1.net
☒ *Scott & Penny Robinson*

• **Oscar Gonzalez** believes he is ASA's only member in Peru. He is one of the founders of *A Rocha Peru*, part of an international organization led by Christians which does environmental conservation and research in various areas of the world. He comments: "It was so interesting to see people from the church and professionals in science sat together hearing about theology and conservation." He requests prayer as he undertakes this new undertaking.

☒ *Oscar Gonzalez*

Please let us know what's going on in your locality. We would like to publish it and encourage others to participate with you.

ASAer on the Move

William Dembski, a philosopher of science and director of the International Society of Complexity, Information, and Design and a senior fellow for the Discovery Institute's Center for the Renewal of Science and Culture, has been hired to head Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's new Center for Science and Theology in Louisville, KY. Dembski has been at Baylor U. in Waco, TX, in recent years.

Newsletter Disclaimer

This publication is a newsletter. As such, its purpose is to present news spanning a spectrum of activities, reports, and publications in order to keep readers abreast of a variety of events and views. Just as newspapers report statements made by people of various viewpoints and opinions without endorsing them, inclusion in this newsletter does not constitute or imply official ASA endorsement.

E-Mail Address Update

Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith book review editor **Richard Ruble** has a new e-mail address:

richardanne@cox-internet.com

His old address will continue to work for several months during a transition period, but he encourages book reviewers and others to change their e-mail address books to the new address.

ASAers in Action

Harry L. Poe and **Jimmy H. Davis** traveled to Oriel C., Oxford, Sept. 6–9 to attend the Austin Farrer Centenary Conference. Farrer and his wife were close friends of C. S. and Joy Lewis, and Poe reports that Farrer's primary idea of current interest is "a biblically rooted alternative to Process Theology, in his notion of double causality." Overall conference theme was "The Human Person in God's World."

Six plenary speakers explored implications of Farrer's ideas of dual causation and verbal images, as related to God's activity in the world, the divine-human relationship and the nature and interpretation of God's revelation. Nancy Murphy spoke of "downward causality" in Farrer's *work* providing a way out of "the insolubility of the determinism v. indeterminism debate;" he avoids reductionism to the lowest level by providing a "recognition that the whole has reciprocal causal effects on its parts." Edward Henderson argued that the Incarnation is the apex of double agency. Brian Hepplethwaite stated that Farrer accepted some process of evolution, but not as a blind, *natural* force; "it is more likely that a hidden guidance lies behind it," persuading and influencing its development "by the divine will."

Poe, who is Charles Colson Prof. of Faith and Culture at Union U., Jackson, TN, summarizes:

The renewed interest in Farrer comes at a critical time in the development of philosophy and theology and their interface with science. While several projects have run their

course, the quiet, humble scholar, whom A. N. Wilson describes as "the one true genius of the Church of England in the twentieth century," speaks to critical issues of today. Once ignored because his ideas were "out of fashion," a new generation has begun to realize that he was ahead of his time.

Conference planners hope to publish the conference papers, as well as new editions of Farrer's most important works. ✉ *Harry Lee Poe, hpoe@uu.edu*

Templeton Announces Journalism Fellowship

The John Templeton Foundation is inaugurating a fellowship program to enable ten print, broadcast or online journalists annually to pursue an intensive two-month course of study in issues of science and religion. The fellowship includes three weeks of seminars at the U. of Cambridge, UK, featuring eminent authorities in the field. It provides a \$15,000 stipend, a book allowance, and travel expenses. Details at www.templeton-cambridge.org.

Of Interest ...

Mars *Spirit* Finds Water Signs

After 160 days traversing a plain and climbing a steep hill, the Mars explorer *Spirit* has detected significant quantities of water. *Spirit's* twin, *Opportunity*, has also found evidence of water half-way around Mars in a crater. Both NASA craft have been exploring Mars' geology since January.

DNA and the Dead Sea Scrolls

Authorities are hoping that DNA testing of seven mule bones discovered inside cleaning pots and storage jars at the Qumran plateau will reveal the origins of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Archeologists believe the findings will resolve the debate sparked nearly half a century ago with the discovery of the biblical manuscripts in 11 separate caves on the shores of the Dead Sea.

Researchers will do DNA tests on the bones and compare results with DNA

of the Dead Sea Scrolls parchment. If a match is found it means that the people who lived in Qumran in the first century BCE prepared the scrolls from animals at the site itself. A connection has not been found as yet between the scrolls and the site. If such a connection is established it will answer the question as to whether the scrolls originated from within the Qumran community or were transported to the caves from outside before the siege of the Romans in 66 CE (from Online Edition, *Jerusalem Post*, Aug. 18, 2004).

Archeologists Seek Link to King Solomon

Five George Washington U. geology students and their professor, in partnership with Tel Aviv U., went to Armageddon this past summer to explore whether a palace attributed to King Solomon, in what is now northern Israel, was in fact built by Solomon. Their dig was on a hill about 15 miles southeast of Haifa, Israel, known as Megiddo. (Armageddon is a Greek corruption of the Hebrew word *har*, meaning mount, and Megiddo.) Information gleaned from this site has significance for Christians and Jews. Some European scholars maintain that Solomon is a mythological figure. Others believe that Solomon's Palace at Megiddo was constructed in the ninth century BC, a century after his reign.

This site is one of the world's richest archaeological fields, having yielded layered remains of two dozen cities over a 6,000-year period. The group did not find an inscription or other definitive evidence to connect the palace to Solomon, who the Bible says built Megiddo (1 Kings 9:15). Part of a series starting in 1992, the dig this past summer was the sixth time excavators came to the site. A group will return in two years (*The Detroit News*, *Nation/World*, August 19, 2004).

"Fooled You" Follow-up:

The Sep/Oct 2004 *Newsletter* reported the practical joke **David Cechetto** had played on his surgical team while hav-

ing thumb surgery, stopping his heart several seconds and seeing four heads suddenly peer over the screen.

From U. of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, **David Campbell** e-mailed a sequel:

The heart-stopping performance by David Cechetto brought to mind a recent experience of my father's. While he was recovering from heart catheterization, the heart monitor went to a flat line. The nurse rushed in to find him sitting up, combing his hair. A loose wire was soon identified as the cause of the false alarm. My father reported that this was quite unlike the near-death experiences one reads about. I pointed out that the combing was evidence that he had *de-parted*.

Coming Events in North America

- Jan. 14.** "Religious Beliefs Affecting Family Healthcare," Lehigh Valley, PA. www4.desales.edu/SCFC/Baranzano/calendar.htm
- Jan. 20.** "Does the Future Need Us? Being Human in an Age of Artificial Intelligence," St. Paul, MN. Speaker: Noreen Herzfeld. (651) 641-3221; E-mail: apadgett@luthersem.edu www.luthersem.edu/NCPST
- Jan.20.** Canyon Institute for Advanced Studies Public Lecture Series, Phoenix, AZ. Speaker: **Margaret Towne**, "Genesis and Evolution: Integration." (602) 589-2508; E-mail: cias@grand-canyon.edu www.canyoninstitute.org
- Jan. 21–25.** Fourth International Conference on Enlightenment, Santa Fe, NM. (505) 474-7604; E-mail: message@bizspirit.com
- Jan.25.** New Resources for Process Thought II, Claremont, CA. Speaker: Philip Clayton. (909) 621-5330; E-mail: events@ctr4process.org.
- Jan. 27–30.** International Conference on Unity and Diversity in Religion and Culture, Seattle, WA. (360) 527-3006; E-mail: skyeburn@onebox.com

Correction

In the Nov/Dec 2004 issue (p. 4), we incorrectly reported the acronym in the title of the item. The event was the VI World Congress of the International Christian Studies Association (ICSA) sponsored by the Institute for Interdisciplinary Research (IIR) and organized by **Oskar Gruenwald**, editor of the *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies (JIS)*. For more information, visit their web site: www.JIS3.org

Also, CSCA member **Thaddeus J. Trenn** is an ASA Fellow.

- Feb. 4–5.** "Bioethics and Public Policy," St. Louis, MO. Speaker: Paige C. Cunningham. (636) 207-7540; E-mail: Barbara.Quigley@thebc.org
- Feb. 4–6.** "Sexual Sickness," Christian Medical & Dental Assns., Cannon Beach, CA. www.cmdahome.org, click "Conferences."
- Feb. 17–21.** "The Nexus: Where Science Meets Society," Washington, DC. (202) 326-6450; E-mail: aaasmeeting@aaas.org
- Feb. 24.** "Religion, Spirituality and Aging: Purpose and Power in Retirement," Winston-Salem, NC. Speaker: Harold Koenig. Contact: Samuel Matthews. E-mail: shepcntr@bellsouth.net www.dukespiritualityandhealth.org
- Feb. 26.** "A Liberating Cosmology, Race, Identity, and the Rhetoric of Science," Claremont, CA. Speaker: Barbara Holmes. (909) 621-5330; E-mail: events@ctr4process.org www.ctr4process.org
- Mar. 10–12.** "Spirituality and Addiction: Scientific, Clinical, & Theological," Indiana State U., Terre Haute, IN. Speakers: Alan Marlatt and Linda Mercadante. www.indstate.edu/psych/cshrs/addictions%20Conference.htm
- Mar. 17–20.** "Spirituality in Medicine," Christian Medical & Dental Assns., San Antonio, TX. www.cmdahome.org, click "Conferences."
- Mar. 18–19.** The Society for Continental Philosophy and Theology, "The Wisdom of Love," Wheaton C., Wheaton, IL. Speakers: John D. Caputo and Amy Laura Hall. E-mail: Bruce.Ellis.Benson@Wheaton.edu www.scptonline.org
- Mar. 18–20.** Fifth Annual Goshen Conference on Religion and Science, Goshen C., Goshen, IN. Speaker: Robert John Russell. (574) 535-7302; E-mail: carlsh@goshen.edu
- Mar. 29.** "The Beauty of Creation: Encountering God through Art and Science," Philadelphia, PA. Speaker: Richard Viladesau. (215) 248-7197; E-mail: kduffy@chc.edu
- Mar. 30–Apr. 1.** Wheaton C. Science Symposium, Field demonstrations, poster sessions, speakers and panels, Wheaton, IL. (630) 752-5866; E-mail: Jeffrey.K.Greenberg@wheaton.edu
- Apr. 1–3.** "A New Genesis? Bioethical Developments Since *Evangelium Vitae*," Lehigh Valley, PA. www4.desales.edu/SCFC/Baranzano/home.htm
- Apr. 7–9.** "Caring for the Whole Person," Christian Medical & Dental Assns., Bristol, TN. www.cmdahome.org, click "Conferences."
- Apr. 8–9.** "Bioethics and Public Policy," Center for Bioethics & Culture, St. Louis, MO. Speaker: Paige C. Cunningham. www.thebc.org
- Apr. 8–10.** The Annual Fay Lecture Series in Analytical Psychology on "Ethics of Therapy & Analysis," College Station, TX. Speaker: Luigi Zoja. (979) 845-2530; E-mail: thr@psyc.tamu.edu
- Apr. 12.** "Galileo, the Church and the Cosmos," Grove City, PA. Speaker: David C. Lindberg. (724) 458-2002; Contact: Kevin S. Seybold: kseybold@gcc.edu
- Apr. 14.** "Religion, Spirituality and Health Care," New Britain, CT. Speaker: Harold G. Koenig. E-mail: willardbaumgartner@sbcglobal.net
- Apr. 17–19.** "Our Brains and Us: Neuroethics, Responsibility and the Self," MIT, Cambridge, MA. Organized by American Association for the Advancement of Science, Dialogue on Science, Ethics, & Religion. www.aaas.org/spp/dser/neuroscience/index/shtml
- Apr. 22–27.** Seventh International Conference on Science and Consciousness, Santa Fe, NM. E-mail: message@bizspirit.com www.bizspirit.com
- Apr. 24.** Adult Education Series: "Religion, Spirituality and Health," Raleigh, NC. Speaker: Harold G. Koenig. E-mail: jtoddbrantley@yahoo.com
- May 17.** "Religion, Spirituality and Health," Loma Linda, CA. Speaker: Harold G. Koenig. E-mail: dbutler@sph.llu.edu
- May 29–30.** Canadian Jacques Maritain Association conference on "Technology & the Changing Face of Humanity," U. of Western Ontario, London, ON. E-mail: cbeauvais@ustpaul.ca or reist@ustpaul.ca
- June 4–8.** Science and Religion: Global Perspectives, Philadelphia, PA. (215) 789-2200; E-mail: info@metanexus.net
- June 20–July 1.** "Keeping and Talking the Word: Scripture Memorization for Contemplation, Formation and Proclamation," Grand Rapids, MI. Speaker: Timothy Brown. (616) 526-8558; E-mail: seminars@calvin.edu
- June 27–July 1.** "Faith in the Classroom: Christian Perspectives on Teaching and Learning," Grand Rapids, MI. Speaker: David Smith. www.calvin.edu/scs/2005/seminars.
- July 11–15.** CCCU Philosophy Workshop, Grand Rapids, MI. Speakers: C. Stephen Evans and Eleonore Stump. (616) 526-8558; E-mail: seminars@calvin.edu www.calvin.edu/scs/2005/seminars
- Aug. 5–8.** "Alternative Energy Resources, Conservation and the Environment," **ASA Annual Conference**, Messiah C., Grantham, PA. Speakers: Stan Bull, **George Sverdrup**, Robert Wauzzinski, Egbert Schuurman. Contact: Carol Aiken, (978) 356-5656; www.asa3.org

With the Lord

• **Henry R. Beilstein**, 83, died of prostate cancer July 10. He joined the Philadelphia Public Health Department in 1945 and remained there 33 years, becoming head bacteriologist in clinical microbiology during the mid-1950's and finally director of public health laboratories, overseeing evaluations for the water department. After retiring from that post in 1979, he taught and conducted research for eight years at Manor C. in Jenkintown, PA.

In 1949 Beilstein completed studies at Philadelphia Biblical U. He has taught classes on the Bible most of his adult life and recently was a Sunday school teacher at Berachah Church in Cheltenham, PA. —*Philadelphia Inquirer*. www.fortwayne.com/mld/inquirer/news/obituaries/9147429.htm

• **Charles Hummel**, 81, died Aug. 16, after a long battle with vascular dementia. He had an MIT master's in chemical engineering, a Wheaton master's in theology and an honorary doctorate from Geneva C. After a year at Exxon, he joined InterVarsity Christian Fellowship in 1951, became IVCF's interim director, became president of Barrington C. 1965–1974, and returned to IVCF in 1975 as Director of Faculty Ministries and remained there until his retirement in 1991.

He was an avid sailor and belonged to the Barrington Yacht Club for 30 years. His 15 books included *The Galileo Connection: Resolving Conflicts between Science and the Bible*; *The Tyranny of the Urgent* and *Fire in the Fireplace: Contemporary Charismatic Renewal*.

• **J. Raymond Knighton, Jr.**, 81, died Aug. 30 of congestive heart failure. Knighton was the first executive director of the Christian Medical Society. In 1954, when an acquaintance at a

pharmaceutical company offered him a batch of extra medicine, he gave the supplies to medical missionaries and launched a branch of the society called Medical Assistance Programs (MAP). Nine years later, MAP became an independent agency and Knighton became its president.

In addition to providing medicine and supplies to the poor worldwide, MAP International provides health education and training in Africa and Latin America. Knighton's honors have included knighthood in the Order of Christopher Columbus from the Dominican Republic and a Layman's Citation for Distinguished Service from the American Medical Association.

• **Edwin Fast**, 90, died Oct. 7 in Idaho Falls, ID. He was a nuclear physicist at Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory until his 1993 retirement, taking time out to teach at Missouri Baptist C. during the 1973–74 school year. He was a charter member of the Idaho Academy of Science and joined ASA in 1954.

Idaho Academy of Science executive director Philip A. Anderson recalls that when the academy first established a website, in 1994 or 1995,

Ed told me his name was missing from the list of charter members. I told him that we would correct that omission ... But *just to make sure*, the following day Ed showed me the check with which he paid his IAS dues as a charter member—not just a *copy* of the check, but the *original* processed check that he still had in his possession from 1958. That speaks volumes about what an “organized” person he was.

Fast often led Bible studies at the lab during his lunch hour. He was a member and deacon of Calvary Baptist Church in Idaho Falls, where he led music, taught Sunday school, and held various leadership roles. ✉ *Philip A. Anderson, Executive Director, Idaho Academy of Science; Kirk Casey of Calvary Baptist Church and Margaret Shinnhorn, Fast's daughter.*

• **Stanley M. Block**, 82, died Oct 22 in Carol Stream, IL. After obtaining his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from U. of Minnesota, he was prof. of industrial engineering at U. of Minnesota, then at U. of Chicago, then chairman of the Dept. of Industrial Engineering at IL Inst. of Tech. Later he was professional lecturer and consultant to several companies, and labor arbitrator.

He was heavily involved in InterVarsity Christian Fellowship in various parts of the world. He also sang in the church choir. ✉ *Ray Brand*

Job Postings

For descriptions of job postings, visit the ASA web site: www.asa3.org. At press time, these included:

Chemistry: John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AK, and **Postdoctoral Position, Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Exercise Science-Muscle Plasticity:** University of California, Irvine, CA.

www.asa3.org

Sheldon, continued from p. 1.

Committee members asked him follow-up questions, and after the hearing New Mexico Rep. Tom Udall thanked him and indicated that they might request additional testimony from him in the future. Messiah's dean of the School of Health and Natural Sciences **Jeffrey Moshier** commented:

This was a tremendous and well-deserved honor for Dr. Sheldon. More importantly, he has demonstrated how questions engaged in science can serve the global community by sharing insights on how to care for creation that are both scientifically sound and faith-affirming. —*Condensed from The Messiah College Bridge, Summer 2004.*

Editor's note: Sheldon's original oral and written Congressional testimony is on the Web <http://resourcescommittee.house.gov/archives/108/testimony/2004/josephsheldon.pdf> Unfortunately, it does not include Pombo's and Udall's questions or Sheldon's responses.

An insightful and aesthetic issue of *Creation Care* is at www.creationcare.org/magazine/pdf/cc_mag_summer04.pdf. It contains an article by Sheldon on pp. 12, 13, and 18.

**Welcome, New Members!
October–November 2004**
Bolster, Carl H. —Bowling Green, KY
Breukelman, Laura L. —Halifax, NS
Canada
Brock, Larry —Lexington, MA
Brown, H. Carolyn Peach —Ithaca, NY
Cechetto, David F. —Mount Brydges,
ON Canada
Craig, Paul A. —Rochester, NY
D'Agostino, Rex A. —Southborough, MA
Flaman, Paul J. —Edmonton, AB Canada
Heim, Liz —Modesto, CA
Hess, Dale E. —Wolf Lake, IN
Hewlett, John —Murray, KY
Hol, Adrienne T. —Vancouver, BC
Canada
Laird, Dale —London, ON Canada
Lee, Troy V. —Prince George, BC
Canada
Oosterhuis, Thomas J. —Edmonton, AB
Canada
Ruaba, Gerald A. —Moline, IL

Associated Press Article Notes ASA

During his 27 years with *Time* magazine, Richard N. Ostling has won prizes in each of the six categories for religious coverage in the general (non-religious) press. In November he wrote a syndicated article for the Associated Press, in which he mentioned ASA and quoted President **Martin Price**. Entitled "Adventists reaffirm view of creation," it primarily focused on the Seventh-Day Adventists' restating their stance of requiring "a literal, recent, six-day creation."

The two paragraphs relating to ASA say:

Today, there are few young-Earth creationists among the 1,800 evangelical scientists in the American Scientific Affiliation, a nondenominational group that believes in God as creator and "the divine inspira-

tion, trustworthiness and authority of the Bible."

ASA President Martin Price reasons that God revealed himself both through the Bible and "through the creation which he made. Correctly understood, these can't be in conflict." So, if science has solid evidence against 10,000 years or six days, such interpretations of Genesis need reconsideration, he suggests.

Some newspapers included the ASA web address. A Google search revealed that among the newspapers carrying it were the *Detroit News*, the *Washington Times* and the *Kenai Peninsula Clarion*. Punster **Dave Fisher** thanked **Walt Hearn** for using his "keen eye" to spot the article in the *West County Times* of Contra Costa county, CA.

✉ *Walt Hearn*

Call for Papers

The American Scientific Affiliation (ASA) will meet at Messiah C. in Grantham, PA, Aug. 5-8, 2005. The theme of the meeting is Alternate Energy Resources, Conservation and the Environment.

We welcome proposals for contributed papers and poster presentations on all topics related to science and Christianity, though special consideration will be given to papers and posters dealing with the meeting's theme.

If you would like to present a paper at this year's Annual Meeting, **Feb. 11** is the deadline for submitting an abstract. *Exception:* Undergrads, grad students, and early career scientists wishing to present papers or posters have until **Feb. 28**. Details at:

www.asa3.org

click *Call for Papers*.

American Scientific Affiliation
P.O. Box 668
Ipswich, MA 01938-0668

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