

NEWSLETTER

of the
American Scientific Affiliation &
Canadian Scientific & Christian Affiliation



Volume 48, Number 4

JUL/AUG 2006

ASA Science Education Website Offers “Multiple Position” Perspective

Suppose a friend asks how scientifically-educated Christians reconcile their scientific knowledge and their faith. It’s an encyclopedic question, but he wants a concise answer. Do you hand him a book or article, knowing it covers only one aspect of the spectrum of views held by ASA members? Or do you



Craig Rusbult

give him a bibliography that will take him weeks to digest? To help your friend and other searchers, **Craig Rusbult** is developing an on-line resource to

provide a balanced introduction in minimal time.

Avoiding “Monday without Tuesday” Indoctrination

Rusbult patterns his approach after a favorite high school teacher who handled multifaceted, controversial issues in a creative way:

On Monday he convinced us that “his side of the issue” was correct, but on Tuesday he made the other side look just as good. After a while we learned that, in order to get accurate understanding, we should get the best information and arguments that all sides of an issue can claim as support.

Years later, Craig is applying that principle to the Science Education part of the ASA website. He’s attempting to provide the best evidence for various positions that Christians take on a variety of subjects in seven areas, subdivided into 20 sub-areas.

A “Cliff Notes” Approach

He strives to deliver “a high ratio for what you learn/the time you invest.” His goal is to present “the distilled essence of important ideas”—“clear and simple, ... yet without oversimplifying and losing the inherent richness of the ideas and their relationships.” That’s an ambitious goal, and he explains his procedure:

Although complex ideas are often simplified in an overview, this should be done skillfully, in a way that is accurate (although incomplete) and is consistent with the best available scholarship. This accuracy will allow a smooth transition to an exploratory phase, since you won’t have to “unlearn what you already learned” when you continue to learn more. You can retain the “accurate yet incomplete” ideas from the introductions, and fill in the details as you learn more.

Selectivity without Censorship

Selectivity is the key to providing an overview that balances viewpoints without overwhelming a reader with too many choices. “But our selectivity is not censorship. We try to be fair by providing opportunity for representatives of each perspective to clearly express their own views and criticize other views.” He links to other sites, with the disclaimer that “linking to a page does not imply an endorsement by the ASA.”

Learn more about the educational philosophy at www.asa3.org/ASA/education/quickedu.htm or dive into the homepage at www.asa3.org/ASA/education and then click the bottom-of-page link for “An Introduction to the Areas.”

Meet the Calvin Host

A lot of work and planning go into an event like our Annual Meeting. This year, **Hessel “Bud” Bouma III** has secured plenary speakers and symposia leaders, written a call for papers, selected abstracts, publicized



Hessel “Bud”
Bouma III

the Annual Meeting, and planned the schedule. He will also run the meeting.

A member of ASA since 1974, Bud is an ASA Fellow (1998) and president of the executive council this year. He has been teaching at Calvin C. since 1978. He says:

While a student at Calvin C., many of my science faculty were ASA members active in the discussions of issues regarding science and the Christian faith. In graduate school (U. of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston), when I found myself facing these issues in a secular educational setting, I found the ASA to be a vibrant, thought-provoking and ecumenical source of intellectual stimulation from various Christian perspectives.

Bud received a Ph.D. in human genetics and for the past two decades has been very much involved in medical ethics. He has spoken at national and international conferences and testified before a subcommittee of Congress and has served on the Ethics Committees of several local hospitals and the Board of Trustees of Hospice in Michigan. His present work focuses on the

Continued on p. 3, Meet the Calvin Host

The Executive Director's Corner

Randall D. Isaac

Our ASA offices were right in the middle of the heavy rainstorms that struck northeastern Massachusetts in the middle of May. Fortunately our offices suffered no damage but the basements of several staff members were more than a little wet. Two local residents lost their lives as the Ipswich River rose to historic heights. The week of rain and hard work of battling seeping water finally yielded to a glorious rainbow, and we had a small portion of Noah's sense of relief.

The damage was small compared with the recent impact of Katrina and the tsunami but nevertheless the storm again raised the issue of God's role in nature. No, this is not a column about theodicy but rather about providence.

Why do people care about esoteric issues such as origins? Why do people seek so diligently to understand the history of our world and of humankind? What does it matter how we got here? Why do we care about the relationship between science and Christian faith? We're here and need to deal with urgent issues of the present. There may be many reasons, but I would suggest that one reason people care so deeply about origins is the issue of

providence, God's role in carrying out his purposes through nature.

ASA is a fellowship of Christians in science. We are a group of men and women in science who believe that God created the world and sustains it every moment. Furthermore, we are fascinated by ideas of how God works. The fundamental issue that is common to Creationism, Intelligent Design, Evolving Creation, or any of the many other views of origins is how God's work might be made manifest in nature. For some people, his work is revealed through the orderliness, predictability, and pervasiveness of the laws of nature. For others, it is through dramatic and unconventional acts that defy scientific description. Still others point to patterns in nature that indicate divine direction. What unites us is our belief that God does carry out his purposes, in whatever way he chooses.

The Bible portrays floods, winds, storms, droughts, famines, and other episodes of nature as means by which God communicates and interacts with his people. In times like the flood that we just experienced, we wonder what God is communicating to us. We ponder the means by which God controls the wind and the rain. We are humbled by the power and the force of nature.

The study of origins may reveal clues about how God works through nature. Thereby, we hope to strengthen our confidence that he works through nature today to carry out his will. For some people, the inviolable orderliness and predictability of nature indicate that God doesn't need to do anything unique today to achieve his purposes. For others, his influence is hidden by the uncertainty of quantum probabilities. Still others see his influence revealed as a pattern of complex unexplained behavior. Many are confident that God causes a series of unseen miracles to make his purposes known.

Though we all enjoy the discussions, I suspect we will never come to a consensus of a single "correct" answer. God in his wisdom speaks to each of us in his own way. It may be through

the wind or the fire or the rain or a still small voice. My neighbor, whose furniture was damaged by the flood, was awed and humbled by the experience, realizing more profoundly than ever what the victims of Katrina experienced. Each of us heard a different message in the flood but one thing seemed clear. God had spoken and made his power manifest. Were we listening?

By the time you read this, many of you will be getting ready to come to the annual meeting at Calvin. It's not too early to start making your plans for next year's meeting at Edinburgh, Scotland. I look forward to seeing you there.

Welcome, New Members! April-May, 2006

- Bebej, Ryan –Ann Arbor, MI
- Borodiansku, Serguei –Harrisburg, PA
- Bratton, Benjamin –Lake Villa, IL
- Carvajal, Oscar –Kitchener, ON Canada
- Chmielewski, Elizabeth –Woodbine, MD
- Choi, Peter –Sheridan, IL
- Cross, Todd –White River Junction, VT
- Downey, Peter –Petoskey, MI
- Engman, Drew –Pinon Hills, CA
- Fleeger, Claire –Saxonburg, PA
- Haak, Jenny –Danville, IN
- Haverkamp, Jerilee –Simcoe, ON Canada
- Heaton, Jill –Rochester, IL
- Hillard, Laura –Columbia, MO
- Himes, Ryan –Elmhurst, IL
- Hubbell, Katie –Wheaton, IL
- Hugendubler, Emily –Middletown, PA
- Johnson, Joshua –Portland, OR
- Kim, Seungbum –Edmunton, AB
- Kraynak, Donna –Mechanicsburg, PA
- Larsen, Jeffrey –Wheaton, IL
- Lue, Jessica –Germantown, MD
- McClure, Judson –Peekskill, NY
- Moyse, Ashley –Langley, BC Canada
- Nanninga-Penner, Lindsay –Edmonton, AB
Canada
- Nelstead, Kevin –Billings, MT
- Okoronkwo, Chika –Wheaton, IL
- Ooms, Laura –Alsip, IL
- Osburn, Robert –Minneapolis, MN
- Pals-Rylaarsdam, Robin –Palos Heights, IL
- Royuk, Brent –Seward, NE
- Sult, Kimberly –New Freedom, PA
- Wala, Philip –Waseca, MN
- Wiggers, Scott –Newton, GA

The **Newsletter of the ASA and CSCA** is published bimonthly for its membership by the American Scientific Affiliation. Send *Newsletter* information to the Editors: David Fisher, 285 Cane Garden Cir., Aurora, IL 60504-2064. E-mail: dfisherasa@comcast.net and Margaret Towne, 8505 Copper Mountain Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89129. E-mail: TowneMG@aol.com. Both receive e-mail through asan@asa3.org

Please send Canadian matters to: CSCA, P.O. Box 40086, 75 King St. S., Waterloo, ON, Canada N2J 4V1.

Send address changes and other business items to the American Scientific Affiliation, P.O. Box 668, 55 Market St., Ipswich, MA 01938-0668. Phone: (978) 356-5656; FAX: (978) 356-4375; E-mail: asa@asa3.org; Website: www.asa3.org

©2006 American Scientific Affiliation (except previously published material). All rights reserved.

Editors: David Fisher, Margaret Towne
Managing Editor: Lyn Berg

Meet the Calvin Host from p. 1.

issue of intersexuality, and the various challenges and opportunities persons who are not clearly male or female present to the Christian community.

Bud has been a leader in ASA over the years. He has been a member of the ASA Bioethics Commission Board since 1993, serving as chair since 1999. He has presented material at Annual Meetings and co-organized three symposia on bioethical issues. This year he is co-organizing the symposium on "Human Stem Cells: Science, Ethics and Public Policy."

We want to acknowledge all of the effort Bud has given and continues to give and thank him for organizing and facilitating the program for our Annual Meeting. **Larry Molnar** has been active as local arrangements chair and we will summarize his role in the next newsletter.

Speaking of Calvin ...

A new museum in Geneva, Switzerland is devoted solely to the Protestant Reformation and has attracted more than 20,000 visitors in its first ten months. *Musée International de la Réforme* (www.musee-reforme.ch) is believed to be the first in the world dedicated exclusively to the Reformation. It is housed in *Maison Mallet*, built in 1722 next door to the cathedral of the Protestant Church of Geneva, founded by John Calvin, that dominates Geneva's skyline.

The fledgling museum is looking forward to 2009, the 500th anniversary of Calvin's birth and will coordinate its celebration with others in Geneva. From *The Presbyterian Outlook* (April 10, 2006): 7.

Newsletter Disclaimer

As a newsletter, this publication presents 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.



Spontaneous discussions occurred at the annual meeting of the Science, Technology and Faith Ecumenical Roundtable on the campgrounds of the Emrich Retreat Center in Brighton, MI.

2006 Ecumenical Roundtable

The annual meeting of the Science, Technology and Faith Ecumenical Roundtable was held the end of April at the Emrich Retreat Center in Brighton, MI. The Episcopalians were the hosts this year and over 45 were in attendance including Episcopalians, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, and members of the United Church of Christ. Trees were in bloom and dandelions, daffodils, and irises were everywhere throughout the campgrounds.

ASA members in attendance included **Phina Borgeson, Barbara Pursey, David Bailey, Karl Evans, Margaret Towne and Bob Schneider**, who was one of the organizers. In addition, our Executive Director, **Randy Isaac**, was present and he had the opportunity to explain ASA's mission and encourage those present to join. Many scientists were present who also are ordained. The various denominational leaders came a day early and had their independent board meetings.

There were some excellent presentations. Jim Miller, one of the "founding parents" of the Ecumenical Roundtable, spoke on "That the Lame May Walk, and the Blind May See"—a reference to Albert Einstein's quote, "Science without religion is lame. Religion

without science is blind." Ron Cole-Turner, on the faculty at Pittsburgh Seminary, spoke on "Embryonic Stem Cell Research: Churches, Ethics, and Politicians." Olivia White, John Carroll U. prof. who recently retired after 20 years at U. of North Texas and as Executive of the United Church of Christ Common Global Ministries, and Christie Holland, also recently retired as Prof. and Director of Virology, Immunology, and Infectious Disease Research from Children's National Medical Center in Washington, DC, gave presentations on human stem cells and bone marrow transplants. Karen Lebacqz, Visiting Professor of Ethics at Yale U. and who will be a featured speaker at our annual meeting at Calvin C. in July, spoke on "Ethical and Theological Issues: What is the Controversy?"

Much sharing went on over meals, between the meetings, in discussion groups, and into the night. Spontaneous discussions occurred on the campgrounds (see photo). This was a very stimulating group and one could not help but observe the unity which was enjoyed. There was much laughter and depth of discussion. Everyone who attended was edified, enriched, and blessed. Next year the conference will be in Manchester, NH, with the Lutherans as hosts.

ASAer in Action

Barbara Pursey joined ASA in 1989 through the influence of her friend,



Barbara Pursey

Walt Hearn. In 1993 she led a worship service at the Seattle ASA Annual Meeting. Barbara has B.S. and Ph.D. degrees in organic chemistry from UCLA and a Master of Divinity degree

from Dubuque (IA) Theological Seminary. She has taught chemistry at Cal State Northridge and Iowa State and did postdoctoral research at U. of Glasgow, Scotland. In 1988 she was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and was called to be on the faculty as Assoc. Prof. of Christian Formation and Faith Education at the seminary in Dubuque. Barbara says,

In 1970, I had a profound religious renewal which released the gifts of the Holy Spirit in my life. This led me out of science into a ministry of teaching, healing, spiritual growth, and pastoral counseling in many ways and places. One of these avenues was Christian healing ministry under the auspices of the International Order of St. Luke the Physician, a biblically-based, Christ-centered, church-oriented and sacramentally-connected mainline church organization, seeking to restore the ministry of healing to the church. I am at present a regional director of OSL.

Barbara was one of the organizers of the Presbyterian Association on Science, Technology and the Christian Faith (PASTCF) in the early 1990s and has served on its board in a variety of roles since 1992. She has written articles and given presentations and seminars on the science and faith dialogue over the years. In 1985 she received certification from the American Psychological Association in the use of the Myers-Briggs Temperament Indicator.

This summer, she and her husband, Derek, a physicist, will offer a seminar titled "God Talk in an Age of Science: What Language Shall I Borrow?" July 31-Aug. 6 at Ghost Ranch, a Presbyterian conference center in Abiquiu, NM.

Barbara states, "I do not try to make science fit a changeless faith, nor do I try to fit my theology into an absolute science. Mystery is found at the roots of each, and I am content to let it be that way. It has been a wonderful journey, and the journey continues ..."

ASAer on Mission, Hospitalized

Jim Kraakevik joined ASA in 1954. During the 52 years since then, he has directed the physics dept. at Wheaton C., taught in Nigeria, served as director of the Billy Graham Center at Wheaton, and recently returned to Nigeria. Both Nigerian assignments were under SIM, which outgrew its original name of Sudan Interior Mission by ministering in more than 40 countries and is now known as Serving in Mission (www.sim.org).

In a 1968 *ASA Newsletter*, Jim explained the satisfaction motivating him to continue. Speaking of his teaching at Titcombe C. in Nigeria, he said that many of the 360 students then attending "[came] bound in superstition and [left] as Christians."

For several years, his mobility was limited by his wife's debilitating illness. After she passed away in April 2005, he returned to Nigeria, this time to Bingham U. to head the physics dept. Starting with facilities "a few notches below standard for university use," he was "trying to be creative to use what materials are available from local stores and shops to teach the principles, using simple materials from the mechanics' and plumbers' shops." Among his prayer requests, Jim said he "would still like some profs from overseas (sabbaticals?)."

Unfortunately, a stroke paralyzed his right side on May 23. At press time, he was in a hospital in Johannesburg and had recovered some movement but was still having difficulty speaking.

Dave Fisher is following the situation and can provide updates on his condition and on opportunities for faculty to serve. Contact him at dfisherasa@comcast.net

ASAers on the Move

• **Gwen Schmidt** received her Ph.D. in psychology in May from Colorado State U. Her specialization was in cognitive neuroscience and her dissertation is titled "Extending Local-Global Processing to the Semantic Domain: The Role of Stimulus Context." She has accepted a post-doctoral fellowship to work at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (U. of PA Medical School). She will be using a new technology called magnetoencephalography (MEG) which measures the magnetic component of brain waves. She will be using this to do research regarding language processing in autism spectrum disorders and is very excited about this opportunity. She has committed to one year and will be embarking on a new adventure: an LDR (long distance relationship) with her husband, Gary, a music pastor, who will remain in Colorado.



Gwen Schmidt

Gwen has been a member of ASA since 2003. She found out about it through some books she was reading and looked it up online. Since the annual meeting was in Denver that year, she attended. The rest, she says, is history! She's been able to attend our annual meetings in 2004 and 2005 and serves on the local board of the Rocky Mountain Section. She says, "I find the ASA a great place to explore matters of faith and science, and particularly enjoy the people I meet at the annual meeting." Gwen's son and daughter are both in college at this time. The Schmidt family is originally from Toronto. We give her our congratulations and look forward to her experience in this amazing field.

• **William Dembski**, a leading proponent of Intelligent Design, is leaving Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY, to become research professor of philosophy at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, TX. He says he enjoyed his time at Southern Baptist Seminary, but family considerations have driven this decision to move back to Texas.

Still Time for Papers

Oskar Gruenwald, Editor of *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*, informs us that it is not too late to send abstracts for a symposium titled "Virtue Ethics: Interdisciplinary Perspectives" which will be in San Francisco, Aug. 4-6. Send to Dr. Oskar Gruenwald, 1065 Pine Bluff Dr., Pasadena, CA 91107 or email: info@JIS3.org. (Our previous newsletter had the incorrect email address.)

Themes can be on the following: Ethics of beginning and end-of-life issues, business/corporate ethics, medical ethics, ethics in scientific research including bioengineering, stem cells and cloning, ethical conduct in government, public affairs, law and professions. How can Old Testament virtues which emphasize justice and redress for wrongs be reconciled with the New Testament vision of compassion, mercy, forgiveness, and love? In sum, what are the prospects for an objective, universal grounding of ethics in cross-cultural and interdisciplinary perspective?

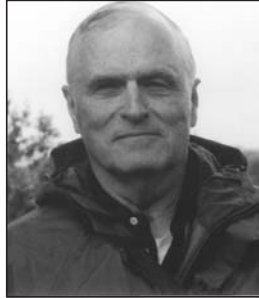
Congratulations, Long-time ASAers!

Celebrating 35 years of membership

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Robert J. Bartholomew | Martin L. Price |
| W. Don Beaver | Pattle Pun |
| Russell V. Benson | Dale Ritter |
| Robert Brown | Herman R. Schoene |
| John W. Burgeson | Walter B. Sinnamon |
| John E. Carey | Arnold W. Sodergren |
| Mildred V. Carlson | Robert E. Sundell |
| Dennis L. Feucht | C. Richard Terman |
| Patrick E. Guire | Roger G. Vieth |
| Charles E. Howard | Ronald J. Vos |
| David H. Ives | Roy D. Walton, Jr. |
| H. Newton Malony | Eugene F. Young |
| Alan W. Pense | |

McNatt Retired and Honored

Jerrold McNatt, professor of physics at Gordon C., retired at the conclusion of the spring 2006 semester. He joined the Gordon faculty in 1971 and served



Jerrold McNatt

as chair of the physics dept. during his entire tenure. He initiated and taught courses in analog and digital electronics, thermal physics and modern physics,

and developed a course for nonscience majors called "Energy and Man," seeking to understand the complex energy issues facing the US and the world.

Provost Mark Sargent noted that many of McNatt's students have gone on to achieve major distinctions in the academy, industry, and missions, saying, "He will leave a strong legacy of challenging some of Gordon's finest students to pursue excellence."

At a retirement dinner attended by physics alumni, family, and friends, more than \$100,000 was raised toward a physics laboratory to be named in McNatt's honor that will be part of the Ken Olsen Science Center, an 80,000 sq. ft. facility that will be constructed on Gordon's campus beginning this summer.

McNatt holds degrees from Wheaton C. (B.S.) and the U. of Illinois (M.S. and Ph.D.). He published a paper "James Clerk Maxwell's Refusal to Join the Victoria Institute" in the Sept. 2004 issue of *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith*, and was local arrangements chair for the 2000 Annual Meeting at Gordon C. He will be working at his wife's veterinary clinic in the months to come. ✉ **Jack Haas**

Future ASA Annual Meetings

- August 3-5, 2007:
University of Edinburgh, Scotland
- August 1-4, 2008
George Fox University, Newberg, OR

Biotechnology Ethics Conferences

It is more than coincidental that ASA's Annual Meeting theme, "Embedding Christian Values in Science and Technology" deals with some of the same issues discussed in the following conferences. These are extremely significant subjects in cultures around the world today.

• In March, scholars of Judaism, Islam, and Christianity gathered at Hebrew C. and Andover Newton Theological School to discuss ethical boundaries of biotechnology research. The more we are able to learn and then apply information which can manipulate living things, the more ethical, legal, and moral issues will continue to arise. This interdisciplinary conference "The Outer Limits: Defining Ethical Boundaries of Biotechnology Research," brought over 100 participants from medicine, law, social science, major religious traditions, and biotechnologists together. What are our motives? Where do we get the moral wisdom to make sound decisions? Such interdisciplinary and cross-cultural sharing is most necessary and productive.

• In early May, the International Biotechnology Consultation St. John the Divine Convent met 3 days in Toronto, co-hosted by the Canadian Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches, USA. Participants also came from the Christian Council of Asia, Conference of European Churches, Latin American, Middle East, and World Council of Churches. These varied groups shared their work and concerns about biotechnology—such as cloning, stem cells, and human genetics—as well as equity for women, children, and the poor. There was tremendous energy and excitement among the group for the opportunity to share and learn from each other. The group unanimously decided to have an International Conference of Biotechnology in 2007 or early 2008. They realized that the technology is moving quickly and has many ethical, moral, and social implications that the church needs to address.

✉ **Olivia White**

Templeton Announces “Books of Distinction”

Three books in the Religion and Science category have been selected by the John Templeton Foundation as part of its 2006 “Books of Distinction” marketing campaign. Among them is *Not Just Science: Questions Where Christian Faith and Natural Science Intersect*, edited by **Dorothy F. Chappell** and E. David Cook and including chapters by several ASAers (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing Co., 2005).

Also honored were *The Science of God: An Introduction to Scientific Theology* by Oxford professor of historical theology Alister E. McGrath (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2004) and *Exploring Reality: The Intertwining of Science and Religion* by John Polkinghorne (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2006).

ID Proponents Face ID Critics

On May 12, five leading Intelligent Design proponents, Michael Behe, **Guillermo Gonzalez**, **Stephen Meyer**, Paul Nelson, and Jonathan Wells, took questions from a panel of ID critics in front of an audience of over 2,000 people at Biola U. in La Mirada, CA. The event was organized and moderated by **John Bloom**, the Master of Arts in Science and Religion program director. Questions from California State U. faculty Bruce Weber, Jim Hofmann, and Craig Nelson ranged from the latest challenges of irreducible complexity, to why this discussion was taking place at a Christian university instead of at a secular scientific meeting. Keith Morrison (Dateline NBC) probed the relationship between ID and religion.

One of the most informative moments occurred when a critic asked why no ID proponents had published articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals, and Steve Meyer responded that he had, but that afterward the journal editor had been fired and harassed for allowing his

article to be published. The audience, which was largely sympathetic to ID, was surprised at this documented bias against ID.

Overall, audience reaction was that the event was cordial and balanced. Both ID proponents and critics made valid points and there was the sense that the discussion needs to continue. A video recording of the evening will soon be available at www.biola.edu/id

✉ **John Bloom**

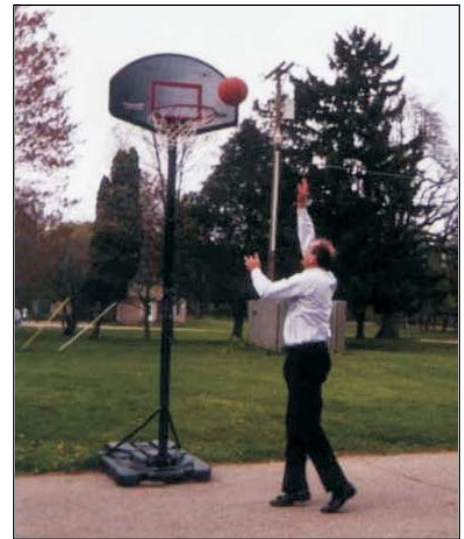
Of Interest

• **Francis S. Collins**, director of the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) at the National Institute of Health will speak on the topic “Bios through Logos: Seeing God in the Human Genome” at the C. S. Lewis Foundation Summer Institute, July 7–16 at Williams C., Williamstown, MA. Collins will also be a speaker at ASA’s Annual Meeting at Calvin C.

• Scientists at the U. of Washington School of Medicine deciphered the DNA of the chimpanzee. This will help us understand the human genome. **Francis Collins** said, “It’s a huge deal. We now have the instruction book of our closest relative.” When asked whether this helps define what it means to be human, Collins responded that this was “more than a biological question—that’s also a theological question.” DNA studies may not explain things like “how do we know what’s right and wrong.” From *Science and Theology News* (Nov. 21, 2005)

• In early June, **Jeffrey Schloss**, professor of biology at Westmont C. and Director of Biological Programs for the Christian Environmental Association, was one of the speakers at the annual Metanexus Institute conference titled “Continuity and Change: Perspectives on Science and Religion,” at the U. of PA.

• Fuller Theological Seminary has pioneered the integration of Christianity and psychology. This year it is celebrating its 40th anniversary of the School of Psychology. *Pasadena Star News* (2/7/2006) states that when it started, Fuller was the first Christian graduate school



ASA Executive Director **Randy Isaac** shooting a basket at the Ecumenical Roundtable.

in clinical psychology and its mission of faith and academic excellence was met with skepticism and criticism from both secular and Christian observers. Since psychology is rooted in naturalism there was a strong bias against faith and religion during the 1960s to the 1980s. Winston Gooden, dean of the school, stated: “One cannot test God or subject one’s faith to a series of tests that show they’re right.”

Fuller’s 350 psychology graduate students take courses in the School of Theology. They are trained in empirically validated psychological treatments and at the same time bring their faith and understanding of God into that work, says Cynthia Eriksson, asst. prof. of psychology at Fuller. She says she subscribes to a motto, “All truth is God’s truth.” James Furrow, assoc. prof. of marriage and family therapy at Fuller, says there is a “groundswell” of interest in spirituality in the field of psychology, and Fuller is looking for ways to contribute to the field. (Marshall Allen, Staff Writer, *Pasadena Star News*)

• *Science* (3 March 2006) states:

Charles Darwin recorded his experiments, observations, and thoughts in 16 books, 150 papers, and more than 80,000 pages of notes. This new digital library from the American Museum of Natural History in New York City will post the Darwin oeuvre, including previously unpublished notebooks and drafts, along with a host of other

key evolutionary texts. Among the titles already on the shelves are two of Darwin's early sketches on natural selection and his colleague Thomas Huxley's book on human evolution. The library will add works by his predecessors, successors, and detractors, including early French anatomist Georges Cuvier, the late Stephen Jay Gould, and Edward O. Wilson (p. 1221). See: darwinlibrary.amnh.org

• Paul R. Corts has been chosen to be the fifth president of CCCU (Council for Christian Colleges and Universities). He has served as Assistant Attorney General for Administration for the US Dept. of Justice since 2002. CCCU includes more than 170 Christ-centered institutions around the world. There are 105 members in the US and all are fully accredited. In addition, 74 affiliate campuses from 25 countries are part of CCCU. The council's mission is to advance the cause of Christ-centered higher education and to help its institutions transform lives by faithfully relating scholarship and service to biblical truth.

Experimental Biology Christian Fellowship Meets

The Experimental Biology Christian Fellowship gathered on April 2 during Experimental Biology (EB) 2006, this year's meeting of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) in San Francisco. With some 12,000 researchers in the biomedical sciences attending, EB is one of the largest scientific meetings in the world. The EB Christian Fellowship may be the longest-running specialized group of Christians in scientific work.

Physiologist Bill Cliff of Niagara U. (NY) and Shawn Bender, Ph.D. candidate in cardiovascular physiology under Richard Klabunde at Ohio U. in Athens, were co-ordinators of this year's gathering. They invited retired biochemist **Walt Hearn** from across the bay in Berkeley to speak to the group. Walt told the story of how at the 20th Inter-

national Congress of Physiology in Brussels in 1956, he had met the late Kurt Weiss, an ASA member and then professor of physiology at the U. of Oklahoma College of Medicine in Oklahoma City. Walt introduced Kurt to ASA, and in 1957 the two began meeting to pray together at the annual FASEB meetings. They began inviting others to join them and had soon dubbed their annual gathering the "Federation of Christian Fellowship" (FCF) and arranged for it to be listed among the ancillary group meetings in the Federation program. Since "Federation" is not very descriptive, over a decade ago the name of the annual meeting was changed to "Experimental Biology." Thus, FCF eventually morphed into the EB Christian Fellowship.

Walt also described his work with Roger Guillemin that led to Guillemin's winning the 1977 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for the discovery and isolation of "brain hormones" stimulating the pituitary gland, work that was completed by Walt's former grad student, the late Roger Burgus, an ASA member. Walt put in several plugs for ASA during his talk, and thought he recognized several current or former ASA members in the group of about forty bioscientists, including physiologist David Randall of the U. of Kentucky and biochemist **Doug Hayworth** of Pierce Biotechnology, Inc., in Rockford, IL. ✉ **Walt Hearn**

Coming Events

July 7–16. C. S. Lewis Foundation Summer Institute, Williams C., Williamstown, MA. **Francis Collins** will speak on "Bios through Logos: Seeing God in the Human Genome." See: www.primezone.com/newsroom/news.html?d=98850

July 13–15. "Neuroethics: The New Frontier," Deerfield, IL, Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity. Large roster of speakers. Details at www.cbhd.org/conferences/neuroethics/neuro.htm

July 16–20. American Association for Artificial Intelligence Conference, Boston. E-mail Ted Metzler: tmetzler@okcu.edu; (405) 208-5511. Details at www.aaai.org/Conferences/National/2006/aaai06.html

July 17–21. "Faith in the Classroom: Christian Perspectives on Teaching and Learning." This seminar is

designed for Christian educators and includes the teachings of 17th century Moravian thinker John Amos Comenius, as well as modern insights. Calvin C., Grand Rapids, MI. E-Mail: seminars@calvin.edu

July 28–31. ASA Annual Meeting. "Embedding Christian Values in Science and Technology," Calvin C., Grand Rapids, MI. See www.asa3.org

July 29–Aug. 5. "Emergence: Nature's Mode of Creativity," Religious Implications of Emergence in Cosmic and Biological Evolution, Institute on Religion in an Age of Science, Star Island, NH. See www.starisland.org or www.iras.org
Speakers: Murray Gell-Mann and Daniel Dennett.

July 31–Aug. 6. "God Talk in an Age of Science: What Language Shall I Borrow?" Ghost Ranch Conference Center, Abiquiu, NM; Presenters: Derek and **Barbara Pursey**. For more information, see www.ghost ranch.org or contact bapursej@mwci.net

Aug. 4–6. "Virtue Ethics: Interdisciplinary Perspectives," U. of San Francisco. International Christian Studies Association Conference. E-Mail **Oskar Gruenwald**: info@JIS3.org See. www.JIS3.org

Sept. 11–15. "World's Religions after September 11: A Global Congress," Montreal. To reflect on our values and the means at our disposal to build a peaceful world in light of the Sept. 11, 2001 events. Sponsor: The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions. Speakers include Karen Armstrong, Harvey Cox, Deepak Chopra, Karen Singh, Huston Smith, Shirin Ebadi. See www.worldsreligionsafter911.com

Sept. 22–23. "Christianity & the Environment: Finding Balance between the Natural, Human, and Engineered Worlds," U. of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN. Sponsored by MacLaurin Institute, co-sponsored by InterVarsity's Graduate and Faculty Ministry. Speakers: **Rolf Bouma**, Steven Bouma-Prediger, **Cal DeWitt**, Susan Drake Emmerich. E-Mail Scott Noble at scott@maclaurin.org or call (612) 378-1935. See: www.christianenvironmentconference.net

Oct. 25–29. "Breakthroughs in Contemporary Cosmology: Process Contributions toward a New Synthesis," Claremont, CA. Contact J. R. Hustwit at (909) 621-5330.

Oct. 26–28. "Religion and Postmodernism 5: Athens and Jerusalem on the Polis." Nine speakers will be at Villanova U., Philadelphia, PA. Call: (610) 519-9887 or visit www.villanova.edu/ReligionAndPostmodernism

Oct. 27–28. "Creation, Resurrection, and Eschatology," Messiah C., Grantham, PA. Speakers: John Polkinghorne and Luke Timothy Johnson.

Nov. 9–11. The Redemption of Reason Conference, U. Chicago. This is "A Conference for International Christian Scholars in conversation with the Sciences and Scientists Today." Speakers: **Henry F. Schaefer III**, Alvin Plantinga, **Ian Hutchinson** and Ard Louis. Details at www.redeemingreason.org/2006/index.html

Wood Appointed Au Sable Dean

ASA Fellow **John Wood** has been appointed Academic Dean at Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies in Grand Rapids, MI, effective Feb. 1. Along with this new position, John will continue to serve as Director of the Environmental Studies Program and Prof. of Biology and Environmental Studies at The King's University C. in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. John received a B.A. from North Park C., an M.S. from Central Washington State C., and his Ph.D. in aquatic ecology/entomology from the U. of CA., Berkeley.

John has taught environmental courses in a variety of places including Belize and has given numerous presentations in the academic arena, to Christian environmental groups, and on radio and TV. He has published in

research journals as well as in popular publications.

John is on the Urban Parks Advisory Board for the City of Edmonton as well as serves on the Board of Reference for the Canadian environmental group, *A Rocha-Canada*. He is also a member of the Society for Conservation Biology.

Au Sable Institute is a Christian institute whose mission is to bring healing to the biosphere and the whole of creation. It accomplishes this through academic programs for students with transferable credits to over 50 colleges and universities and has research projects in the Great Lakes Forest of northern MI, Puget Sound in the Pacific Northwest, South Florida, Africa, and India. It also contributes to environmental education for local



John Wood

school children and provides information for churches and the wider community. ✉ **Ken Freestone**

American Scientific Affiliation
PO Box 668
Ipswich, MA 01938-0668

Address Service Requested

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Ipswich, MA
Permit No. 46

In This Issue

Meet the Calvin Host.....	1
ASA Science Education Website Offers	
“Multiple Position” Perspective	1
The Executive Director’s Corner.....	2
Speaking of Calvin	3
2006 Ecumenical Roundtable.....	3
ASAer in Action	4
ASAer on Mission, Hospitalized	4
ASAers on the Move	4
Still Time for Papers	5
McNatt Retired and Honored.....	5
Biotechnology Ethics Conferences	5
Templeton Announces “Books of Distinction”.....	6
ID Proponents Face ID Critics	6
Of Interest	6
Experimental Biology Christian Fellowship Meets	7
Coming Events	7
Wood Appointed Au Sable Dean.....	8