

# NEWSLETTER

of the  
American Scientific Affiliation &  
Canadian Scientific & Christian Affiliation



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SEP/OCT 2003

## Elevated Altitude, Elevated Attendance, Elevated Aspirations

Mile-high terrain attracted 240 to attend ASA's 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, held at Colorado Christian U. July 25–28. Although campus buildings are air-conditioned, there were occasional exposures to temperatures that broke the 100° mark.

With the theme, “The Heavens Declare the Glory of God,” plenary presentations explored astronomy-related themes in an effort to “think God’s thoughts after him.” **Deborah Haarsma** reports twenty-six identified themselves as astronomers. A tithe of the attendees?

## Leprosy Pioneer Paul Brand Dies at 89

When Dr. Paul Brand met his first leprosy patients, he was told, “Nothing



Paul Brand

can be done with hands—or feet or faces—like this. It’s just leprosy.” Translation: You can’t fight the inevitable.

But “just leprosy” was not in Brand’s vocabulary. He found leprosy deformities were correctable; he performed surgeries on thousands, and taught his skills to others who outlive him. He died July 8.

Brand saw the body as God’s ally in healing. He declared:

I have come to realize that every patient ..., every newborn baby, in every cell of its body, has a basic knowledge of how to survive and

Parallel sessions covered the alphabet from Anthropology to Zoology.

This issue introduces some of the presentations. Others are available on the ASA web site ([www.asa3.org](http://www.asa3.org)): “Final Schedule of Abstracts” and “Links to [Some] Papers.” Some will appear in future issues of this newsletter and *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith*.

The closing session encouraged ASAers to aspire higher than the astronomical heavens. **Hugh Ross** presented insights on communicating the gospel to scientists who lack scriptural background (see p. 8), and **Ken Touryan** challenged us to use our expertise in various scriptural ways (see p. 7).

how to heal, that exceeds anything that I shall ever know. ... God ... has made our bodies more perfectly than we could ever have devised.

His med. school professors called the thymus a “vestigial organ” whose usefulness humans had outgrown. Brand commented:

Today we can see from the victims of AIDS, that people cannot survive without those immune cells from the thymus and bone marrow. A lot of biologists still cling to the idea of evolution by chance, and now it is scientists from mathematics, information theory and computers that are forcing us to recognize that chance alone cannot possibly account for the code of DNA and the wonders of life. All of science points toward a creator.

Brand spoke at ASA’s 1993 Annual Meeting at Seattle Pacific U., presenting Sunday morning worship and Monday devotions. Carol Aiken recalls, “He so impressed me that I went to the book-

*Continued on p. 3, Brand*

## Danielson Debunks “Copernican Cliché”

As a student, Dennis Danielson was told

Copernicus discovered that Earth orbited the sun, and that this knowledge allegedly demoted our planet and its inhabitants. But nearly a decade of independent



Dennis Danielson

research convinced Danielson he had been misled. July 26 he lectured on “The Tale of the *Pale Blue Dot*”—stressing the fictional quality of certain ideas promulgated during the past several centuries, epitomized in Carl Sagan’s book, *Pale Blue Dot*.

“The stage version of this transformation features the dark forces of religion and the Church locked in mortal combat with the enlightening power of science,” he said. “Science had demonstrated the insignificance of mankind and the universe overall, and it has established—you guessed it—the *centrality and importance of scientists* in showing us how cosmically unimportant we are.”

This became the “standard interpretation,” so standard that many people assume it is historical fact. But Danielson is convinced “the great Copernican cliché” is false. Yes, medieval scholars thought the Earth was the center around which the known universe revolved. But no, they did not think that position made Earth the top of the cosmic heap.

*Continued on p. 3, Danielson*

## The Executive Director's Corner

by Donald W. Munro

The 2003 annual meeting is over and we are all safely back in Ipswich. It was definitely another great one and I am sorry for those of you who missed it. You will read much about the meeting in the rest of the newsletter. **Jennifer Wiseman**, program chair, is to be fervently thanked for all the hard work and professionalism she brought to the program. Thanks also to **David Oakley**, local arrangements chair for smoothing the way for us at Colorado Christian U.

Now it is time to continue thinking about next year's meeting at Trinity Western U. in Langley, BC from July 23 to 26. **Judith Toronchuk**, program chair, announced the theme for the 2004 meeting as *Neuroscience and the Image of God*. **Kenneth Dormer**, representing ASA on the program committee, was also in CO, and so he and Judy had an opportunity to make initial plans. Several symposia are in the works, and we will announce them as they materialize. Some plenary speakers are about to be confirmed.

Most of you will have received my recent letter which included an announcement concerning the post-meeting trip through beautiful western Canada leaving from Langley and end-

ing in Calgary. Since then, I have come across a Canadian airline called West Jet which flies between Calgary and Vancouver about twelve times a day. A one-way trip costs about \$75 US so that if you fly into Vancouver or park your car at Trinity Western, this may be the less expensive route to go. You might even want to try booking a round trip ticket to Calgary and then fly one-way to Vancouver at the start of the meeting. The first Western Rockies trip reservations have already arrived at headquarters so do not delay.

In this newsletter, ASA gives honor to those who are celebrating thirty years of membership in the ASA, having joined as a full member in 1973. There are 28 in the group: **Ross O. Barnes, Walter L. Bradley, Dale Burger, John B. Cannon, John N. Clayton, Kyle M. Cudworth, Donald D. Detweiler, Arthur D. Fleming, John R. Forrestal, John E. Fredrickson, Susan E. Halbert, Gary R. Harpel, Roger H. Kennett, Charles H. Kraft, John E. Kroll, Harris H. Lloyd, Harry J. Lubansky, James F. Mahaffy, David P. Martinsen, Stanley W. Moore, Terrance B. Murphy, Robert W. Newman, Patrick L. Nolan, Charles D. Park, Richard A. Stark, Charles B. Thaxton, Wesley J. Wentworth, Jr., and David Yee**. Congratulations to each of you. Please send your remembrances about an early meeting to the newsletter editors and tell them what you are doing or have done over these years. We so desperately wish to feature more news about our members but if they do not provide it, obviously it cannot be done. How you served the Lord and the honors and appointments you received can be an encouragement for our members and especially those early in their career. It also gives praise to God.

This column was full in the last newsletter so I had to forgo any more comments on the environmental stewardship survey given at Congress 2003 in Boston earlier this year. The next

question was: "What do you see as the best approach to the problem of global warming?" Two answers received no responses: (1) We cannot afford to take action to prevent it, so we might as well let it take its course; and (2) We can continue business as usual because it is only a problem for future generations. Seven people did not answer the question at all. Fourteen indicated that there is no clear evidence that it is occurring but 39 checked the statement that the evidence is clear that it is occurring and we should take action to prevent it.

Moving to a different topic, respondents were asked what their approach would be in providing family planning in developing countries. Forty-four checked that it should be supported as long as it does not involve abortion while seven thought that it should be fully supported regardless as it helps them to reduce their rapid population growth. Four felt that it should not be supported because it leads to abortion, and two felt that family planning was unnecessary because the developing countries still need more people. Three people did not answer. That takes care of four of the eight questions. What's left? Genetically modified food, what would Jesus drive, ranking health risks and opinions on the endangered species act. Tune in next time for more.

We greatly appreciate the offering of \$3,322 taken at the ASA annual business meeting in Colorado. A little more has come in since our return. We do hope that members will continue to help us as we have received only about 30% of what is needed from donations with less than half the year to go. I also hope that your ASA prayer cards are still available and that you remember your staff and other ASA projects as often as possible. Praise to God for all that has been accomplished.



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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](mailto:asa@asa3.org); Web site: [www.asa3.org](http://www.asa3.org)

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

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## Danielson, from p. 1

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To the contrary, they considered the center a dunghill, according to fifteenth-century philosopher Pico. So discovering that Earth orbited the sun was really a promotion. As Rheticus said: "The globe of the Earth *has risen*, while the sun has *descended* to the center of the universe."

Danielson stressed that geocentrism does not equal anthropocentrism:

[T]here's much in Copernicus and his followers which is more anthropocentric than anything you'll find in Ptolemaic cosmology. Copernicus himself refers in *De Revolutionibus* to God as the Great Architect. He says God created the universe *propter nos*, for our sakes or because of us.

Man does not need to be at the cosmic center to be the center of God's concern. Galileo "read Earth's non-centrality, and its corresponding planetary status, as an exaltation!"

It was not until the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century, 100 years after Copernicus' death, that the now-standard interpretation first appeared—advanced not by scientists, but by French satirists Cyrano de Bergerac and Bouvier de Fontenelle. Almost overnight, this take on Copernicanism became the apparently unquestioned version of the Enlightenment.

Danielson paraphrases a "larger pattern" of demotion:

"the Earth dethroned by Copernicus, the sun and ... the Milky Way dethroned by subsequent generations of astronomers, ... *Homo sapiens* dethroned by Darwin, and reason or spirit dethroned by Sigmund Freud."

Space constraints keep us from publishing Annual Meeting presentations in their entirety. Audio tapes of all sessions and videos of plenary sessions are available through Florian AudioVisual, 811 24th St., Wilson, KS 67490, 785.658.2375, Florian@wtciweb.com Also, the version of this lecture that Danielson delivered to the combined meeting of the American Astronomical Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers in January 2001, can be accessed on the Web at: [http://campus.northpark.edu/physics/SciFaith/Cliche\\_AJP1.doc](http://campus.northpark.edu/physics/SciFaith/Cliche_AJP1.doc)

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## Brand, from p. 1

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store and bought his book for my daughter who was in Gordon C. at that time."

Brand was knighted Commander of the Order of the British Empire. But CRISTA president Jim Gwinn pays an even higher tribute: "To know Paul Brand is to know Christ better. He evidenced his compassion, grace and mercy to all."

In a final expression of frugality and modesty, he chose to be buried in a plain plywood box with the lid nailed shut. His last message was, "Only one life, 'twill soon be past. Only what's done for Christ will last."

### For further reading:

- "Noted Surgeon and Author Paul Brand Dies at Age 89," *Christianity Today*, posted 07/10/03, [www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2003/127/41.0.html](http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2003/127/41.0.html)

- [www.breakpoint.org/Breakpoint/ChannelRoot/FeaturesGroup/BreakPointCommentaries/In+Gods+Wonderful+Image.htm](http://www.breakpoint.org/Breakpoint/ChannelRoot/FeaturesGroup/BreakPointCommentaries/In+Gods+Wonderful+Image.htm)

## ASAer on Mission

In per capita income, Moldova recently displaced Albania as the poorest country in Europe. *Operation World, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Edition* reports \$460 per capita income and 80% unemployment.

In 1990, **Bill Yoder's** home church, Grace Chapel in Lexington, MA, established a sister church relationship with Jesus Savior Church in Chisinau, Moldova. Jesus Savior Church has grown from forty to more than 1,000 regular attendees, constructing a new building with substantial financial help from Grace Chapel. During the week of May 11, 2003, Bill and two others went to Moldova to learn more about the ministries of three Chapel mission partners and to discuss future ministry plans, including new church plants.

A second partner, Little Samaritan Mission, operates an orphanage and a senior soup kitchen. It also ministers in forty-one government-run orphanages accommodating about 12,000 children. One orphanage says the government

allocates only \$7 per child per year for clothing, so they appreciate Grace Chapel's providing clothing, supplies, and visiting medical and dental teams. Little Samaritan Mission also prepares gospel broadcasts for a network of stations in Moldova and Romania.

A third partner, the College of Theology and Education, trains students for church ministry and leadership. Grace Chapel's primary interest is seeing the gospel taken to where the church is not yet firmly established, and students include some from former Soviet republics who will return home after completing their studies. While Bill was there, another Grace Chapel missions team arrived to conduct a "Business as Mission" seminar at the college. ✉ *Bill Yoder*

It sounds as if these people take seriously Paul's example, "By all means to save some" (1 Cor. 9:22).

## ASAers in Action

- There are 28 million hearing-impaired people in the U.S. Only five million benefit from hearing aids, and about a million need a cochlear implant to overcome total deafness. For the millions between those two extremes, **Ken Dormer** and an associate have worked 23 years and developed Soundtec, "an implantable, magnetic hearing device for sensory-neural hearing loss." It involves surgically implanting a small magnet in the middle ear bone through the ear canal, with the magnet remaining inconspicuously there the rest of the patient's life. An additional device deep in the ear canal electromagnetically drives the internal magnet to give high-fidelity sound perception, without blasting and usually without feedback.

Working with Dormer on this device is fellow believer Jack Hough, M.D., an otologist who recently received the Servant of Christ Award from the Christian Medical and Dental Associations. When he and colleagues instruct surgeons throughout the world how to install the device, they use the occasion as an entrée to share Christ.

At the Annual Meeting, Ken was praising God for recent relief from a year and a half of litigation. A compet-

itor had sued, claiming to own the patent. This was such a discouraging time that “we almost had to give up.” Eight days before our Colorado conversation, that case ended when the other company went bankrupt.

Dormer and his associates continue to push further ultraminiaturization to make the device cheaper and safer without reducing effectiveness. He says, “If we can eliminate the 20-min. surgery, where they have to open your eardrum and put the magnet inside, and just do magnetic nanoparticles on the eardrum, that would cut [the cost] in half.”

Dormer requests prayer “that we can use this effectively for the Kingdom and use it as an entrée to get into countries where we can talk about the surgery and the technology but also say, ‘By the way, here’s Whom we praise.’” Invitations have come from a number of countries, including communist Viet Nam.

Additional information about the device is at [Soundtecinc.com](http://Soundtecinc.com).

• Alan E. Gutmacher and **Francis Collins** have begun co-editing a series of review articles on genomic medicine in the prestigious *New England Journal of Medicine*. Already published under this rubric are articles titled “Genomic Medicine—A Primer” (347 [2002]: 1512–20), “Population Screening in the Age of Genomic Medicine” (348 [2003]: 50–8), “Alzheimer’s Disease and Parkinson’s Disease” (348 [2003]: 1356–64), “Hereditary Colorectal Cancer” (348 [2003]: 919–32), “Molecular Diagnosis of the Hematologic Cancers” (348 [2003]: 1777–85), and “Breast Cancer and Ovarian Cancer” (348 [2003]: 2339–47). Persons interested in the HGP [Human Genome Project] would be well served to keep abreast of these fascinating and timely articles.

—Excerpted from *ASA Bioethics Commission Newsletter*. To receive this newsletter, contact the editor, **Hessel Bouma III**, [boum@calvin.edu](mailto:boum@calvin.edu)

#### 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.

## Van Till Receives NCSE Honor

**Howard Van Till**, Professor Emeritus of physics and astronomy at Calvin C., was presented with a Friend of Darwin Award for 2002 by the National Center for Science Education.

NCSE is affiliated with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and defends the teaching of evolution in public schools. This award is presented “for support of evolution and science education and for service to NCSE.” NCSE’s executive director Eugenie Scott states:

For decades, Howard has been working to help the public understand evolution as a science, and science as a way of knowing. ... His thoughtful reflections on the complex, and often contentious, relationship between evolution and Christian theology have been nothing short of inspirational to those who hope for a rapprochement between the two.

Howard will be this year’s featured speaker at the annual Pascal Lectures on Christianity and the University at the U. of Waterloo, Ontario, Oct. 19–21. His stated goal is to encourage a non-adversarial and mutually-informative engagement of Christian theology and the natural sciences. For more information, contact Prof. John Vanderkooy (519) 888-4567, ext. 2223.

Van Till is author of *Science Held Hostage: What’s Wrong with Creation Science and Evolutionism*; *Portraits of Creation: Biblical and Scientific Perspectives on the World’s Formation* and *The Fourth Day: What the Bible and the Heavens Are Telling Us About Creation*. After graduating from Calvin C., he earned his Ph.D. in physics from Michigan State U. in 1965; his research



Howard Van Till

Courtesy of [www.countersbalance.org](http://www.countersbalance.org)

includes both solid state physics and millimeter-wave astronomy. He is a founding member of the International Society for Science and Religion, served as ASA President in 1990, and is a member of the Editorial Board of *Science and Christian Belief*. He also edited the *Reader’s Supplement* of the publication *Progress in Theology* starting in 1996.

## Ian G. Barbour Honored

The Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences will present a conference entitled “The Past and Future of the Science-Religion Dialogue: Celebrating the Work of Ian G. Barbour” Oct. 3–5 in Berkeley, CA. This will also recognize Ian’s 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. He has been a pioneer in interfacing science and religion and has influenced many scholars in these fields. CTNS invites anyone to submit a tribute to Barbour, even if unable to attend the conference. To submit a tribute: [www.ctns.org/barbour/tributes.html](http://www.ctns.org/barbour/tributes.html)

Barbour earned a Ph.D. in physics at U. of Chicago, where he was a teaching assistant to Enrico Fermi, who designed the first atomic reactor. He then studied theology at Yale Divinity School and began teaching at Carleton C. in 1955. He established the department of religion while teaching in the physics department and began his long tenure of research and writing on how these dynamic fields relate. In 1999 he was awarded the Templeton Prize for Progress in Religion. Additional details at [www.ctns.org/barbour](http://www.ctns.org/barbour)

## New Director at Zygon

In May, at a special conference entitled “Religion and Science: The Questions that Shape Our Future,” the Zygon Center for Religion and Science honored Philip Hefner, director since it was founded in 1988, and welcomed its new director, Antje Jackelen.

Hefner credits Hartwick C. with triggering his interest in science and faith by inviting him in 1962 to give a series

of lectures on those subjects. Soon he became an international leader in the faith-science discussion. He was on the Lutheran Theological Seminary faculty 1967–2001, edited *Zygon: Journal of Religion and Science* and has authored over 125 scholarly articles and seven books. He has developed the Zygon Center into a major institution contributing to the science-and-faith dialogue.

Jackelen was ordained a priest in the Church of Sweden in 1980 and received her Ph.D. in philosophy of religion and systematic theology from Lund U., Sweden, in 1999. Her thesis was “Time and Eternity: The Concept of Time in Church, Natural Science and Theology.” She has been a member of the European Society for the Study of Sci-

ence and Theology since its beginning in 1990, and an associate professor of systematic theology in religion and science at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago since 2001.

—*Research News and Opportunities*, June 2003, p. 34.

## Local Societies Initiative

The Local Societies Initiative, a project of the Metanexus Institute with funding from the Templeton Foundation, provides 3-yr., \$5,000 per year grants to fund start-up costs for dialogue groups exploring the religion-science interface. The program welcomes applications from a wide spectrum of groups from colleges, universities and other unique organizations. Applications are taken through April 2005. For more information, visit [www.metanexus.net/local\\_societies](http://www.metanexus.net/local_societies) or e-mail: [lsi@metanexus.net](mailto:lsi@metanexus.net)

## Coming Events

• **Sept. 19–20.** “The Face of the Future: Technosapiens?” Waterfront Plaza Hotel, Oakland, CA.

[www.thecbc.org/conferences.html](http://www.thecbc.org/conferences.html)

• **Sept. 23.** “The Challenges of Malaria Control In Africa,” New York. [www.columbia.edu/cu/cssr/calendar.html](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/cssr/calendar.html)

• **Oct. 3–4.** “Life & Death in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Making Ethical Decisions in an Age of Technology,” Thousand Oaks, CA [www.cbhd.org/conferences/regionals/thousandoaks.htm](http://www.cbhd.org/conferences/regionals/thousandoaks.htm)

• **Oct. 3–5.** “The Past and Future of the Science-Religion Dialogue: Celebrating the Work of Ian G. Barbour,” Berkeley, CA. [www.ctns.org/barbour](http://www.ctns.org/barbour)

• **Oct. 7.** “The Romance of Water: Culture, Religion, Science & the Pathway to Sustainability,” New York. [www.columbia.edu/cu/cssr/calendar.html](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/cssr/calendar.html)

• **Oct. 16.** “The Emerging Alliance of Religion & Ecology,” Philadelphia. E-mail: [Kduffy@chc.edu](mailto:Kduffy@chc.edu).

• **Oct. 21.** “Connectivity for Sustainability: Deploying IT & Knowledge for Development,” New York. [www.columbia.edu/cu/cssr/calendar.html](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/cssr/calendar.html)

• **Oct. 22–23.** “Living in the Image of God: The 2003 Sharpe Lectures on Social Ethics,” Chicago. E-mail: [mjohnson@midway.uchicago.edu](mailto:mjohnson@midway.uchicago.edu)

• **Oct. 23.** “Religion in Motion,” Norfolk, VA. <http://las.alfred.edu/~soc/SSSR/>

• **Oct. 23–24.** “Spirituality Symposium,” Salina, KS.

E-mail: [holly@logicmediagroup.com](mailto:holly@logicmediagroup.com)

• **Oct. 24.** “Scientific Findings about Forgiveness,” Norcross, GA.

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

• **Oct. 24–26.** Religious Research Association Annual Meeting: “Religion & Contemporary Culture: Exploring the Intersections of Religious Research,” Norfolk, VA. <http://tra.hartsem.edu>

• **Oct. 25.** American Theological Society/Midwest Conference, Chicago. E-mail: [paulp@elmhurst.edu](mailto:paulp@elmhurst.edu)

• **Oct. 30–Nov. 1.** “Christianity, Cultures & Worship Worldwide,” Seminars in Christian Scholarship, Grand Rapids, MI. [www.calvin.edu/scs](http://www.calvin.edu/scs)

• **Nov. 1–4.** International Conference on Process Thinking & Educational Reform in an Era of Globalization, Claremont, CA. [www.ctr4process.org/Events/CPSEvents.htm](http://www.ctr4process.org/Events/CPSEvents.htm)

• **Nov. 6.** “Religion, Spirituality & Medicine: History, Research & Clinical Implications,” Lynchburg, VA. E-mail: [randal.Walton@centrahealth.com](mailto:randal.Walton@centrahealth.com)

• **Nov. 6–9.** “Toward a Free & Virtuous Society,” North Bend, WA.

[www.acton.org/ffavs](http://www.acton.org/ffavs)

• **Nov. 7.** The Christian Fellowship of Human Geneticists will meet at noon in the Los Angeles Convention Center. We convene during annual meetings of the American Society of Human Genetics with the purpose of providing an opportunity to discuss religious and ethical issues in the field with our colleagues. We welcome ASA members and friends and would appreciate the names and e-mail addresses of others you think may be interested in this and future meetings. For details, contact **V. Elving Anderson** at [ander087@umn.edu](mailto:ander087@umn.edu).

• **Nov. 7–9.** “Flourishing: What Can the Sciences & Philosophy Learn from Each Other?” Brattleboro, VT. [www.marlboro.edu/~nweiner/ethics](http://www.marlboro.edu/~nweiner/ethics)

• **Nov. 14–15.** 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Archaeology Conference, “Tell Dothan 1953–2003: Emerging Portrait of a Biblical City,” Wheaton C., Wheaton, IL. [www.wheaton.edu/theology](http://www.wheaton.edu/theology), click “Conferences.”

• **Dec. 27–31.** InterVarsity Christian Fellowship’s Student Missions Convention, U. of IL, Urbana, IL. See details in July/Aug issue of ASAN, or [www.urbana.org](http://www.urbana.org)

## Call for Papers and Submissions

Beginning with the 2004 issues, *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith* will include a new section, publishing submissions that integrate art, science and faith. Submissions must be original, previously unpublished, and can be in the form of poetry, music, drawings, cartoons, photography, short prose, or meditative thoughts. Submissions must show some relationship between science and Christian faith.

*Guidelines for submissions.* Submissions must be sent to the editor with a cover letter indicating that the submission is intended for the “Art, Science, and Faith” section. All submissions must have a title. Submissions with text must be less than 200 words. Photographs and artwork must be black-and-white or grayscale; colored artwork, photographs, or slides cannot be accepted. Three copies of each submission must be on single sheets of plain white paper; one copy must be in digital file form (Word document for text files, JPG or TIFF for artwork), sent on a PC-formatted floppy disk or as an e-mail attachment. Submissions will be peer-reviewed prior to publication.

**Roman J. Miller**, Editor of *PCSF*  
[millerj@rica.net](mailto:millerj@rica.net)  
4956 Singers Glen Road  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802



# ASA Annual Meeting, Lakewood, Colorado, July 25–28, 2003



William Traugott

Paul Arveson, Brain Thomas, James Brian Pitts



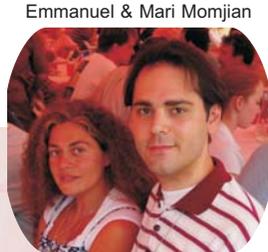
Gerald Cleaver, Owen Gingerich, Robert Mann



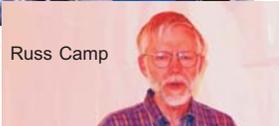
Caroline Berry



Terry Gray



Emmanuel & Mari Momjian



Russ Camp



William Monsma



David Wilcox, Peter Rüst, Craig Rusbult



Peter Payne, Larry Olsen, Robert Newman



Ken Dormer



## ASAers in Print

Who would ever dare to debate Nobel laureate Steven Weinberg, an atheist, about God's existence? After some coaxing, Nobel nominee **Henry F. Schaefer III** consented to a "non-debate" in which Weinberg and he would make prepared remarks for 40 minutes each, followed by rebuttals and audience questions.

Schaefer himself had once been unsure about God's existence. His spiritual pilgrimage had begun with multiple "inoculations" that biased him against Christianity. As he applied his research acumen over decades to investigate claims made for and against concepts including God, the resurrection and the Bible, he learned that each of these doctrines had solid factual bases. His new book, *Science and Christianity: Conflict or Coherence?* developed from university lectures he has given over the past twenty years.

Among the chapters are "Scientists and Their Gods," "Climbing Mount Improbable: Evolutionary Science or Wishful Thinking?" "The Non-Debate

with Steven Weinberg," "C. S. Lewis on Science and Scientism," "The Ten Questions Intellectuals Ask About Christianity" and Schaefer's own pilgrimage "From Berkeley Professor to Christian."

This is one of those rare books that combines solid substance with understandable style, spiced with humor. I read some books for relaxation, others to stretch my mind. This book does both. It is available only from the Apollos Trust: [www.ApollosTrust.com](http://www.ApollosTrust.com)

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### Challenge, from p. 8

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**Ken Touryan** was born in Beirut, Lebanon. His biography appears in the Jan/Feb 2003 issue of this Newsletter.

With a Ph.D. in Aerospace Sciences from Princeton, he is presently Chief Technology Analyst in the Technology



Ken Touryan

Deployment Office at National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, CO. He has received a Distinguished Service Award from the Federal

Laboratory Consortium, and the Midwest Research Institute Outstanding Performance Award for his work in technology transfer.

For 35 years, he has used his background in science and technology to share his faith as a "tentmaker," giving seminars and workshops on the compatibility between science and Christian commitment, most recently in the former Soviet Union.

Speaking on "ASA in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: How to Expand Our Vision for Serving the Lord in Science," he said that he sees ten crises intensifying. He places energy at the top of the list—increasing demand coupled with dwindling supplies. He projects running out of fossil fuels by 2050 and believes we

need to move to solar, wind and geothermal sources. Solar alone can make 165 terawatts of energy available.

What more can we do? Members with special expertise need to continue preparing position papers. More members can participate in ASA commissions. Also do not confine participation to within ASA. **Cal DeWitt** became mayor of a small city and established policies. Touryan's wife shook Denver to change archaic water-use rules.

He admonished each long-time member to sponsor at least one new student member, and to mentor a student.

And we can export ASA abroad. Start with former Soviet Union (FSU)/ Eastern European countries. Many have an amazing openness, more than U.S. Establish ASA affiliations, adapted to the local cultures. He anticipates personally starting one in Ukraine.

### Closing *Bon Mot* from Touryan

“I put Eph 3:20-21 in a formula: “The Ratio of Resource to Challenge is always very much less than one.” We don't have resources; we have too many challenges. Gideon had 300 people; Christ had five loaves and two fishes. But God has a secret quantity called infinity. Multiply any of these by infinity, and no challenge can stand up to it. God can use the smallest quantity and multiply it by infinity, and the resource goes way over the challenge. All we have to do is yield our smallest to his greatest.

“Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly, above all we ask or think, through the power that works in us.” There is a very curious word used in Greek. “Exceeding abundantly” is a very compound word: *ouper ek parisso* “super extra beyond,” like supercalifragilistic expiliadosius. A Greek friend tells me he never saw that word before; the Apostle Paul made it up because the power of God is so great ... that any of these challenges, through the help of God the Holy Spirit working in us, we'll be able to do them.”

### Welcome, New Members! June–July 2003

- Allen, John –Canton, IL
- Baylor, Martha E. –Boulder, CO
- Crowell, Jory P. –Spencerport, NY
- Daily, Michael D. –Baltimore, MD
- Drews, Carl –Boulder, CO
- Eckert, III, William A. –Durham, NC
- Erhardt, Martin K. –Valparaiso, IN
- Fleenor, Matthew –Durham, NC
- Fowler, Kevin –Groton, MA
- Frierson, Edward W. –Columbia, SC
- Johnson, William T. –Mesa, AZ
- Kuhn, Dawn –Ft Collins, CO
- Mulhearn, James J. –Voorhees, NJ
- Nichols, James R. –Abilene, TX
- O'Malley, Tom –Danville, CA
- Olson, Roger G. –Kouts, IN
- Osborn, Randy R. –Reynoldsburg, OH
- Puttick, Donald W. –Ottawa, ON  
Canada
- Robertson, Michael D. –Wolfville, NS  
Canada
- Spencer, Jr., Robert D. –Leavenworth, KS
- Sutherland, John C. –Atkinson, NE
- Unwin, Stephen F. –Kingwood, TX
- Wallace, Ruth Ellen –Hamilton, ON  
Canada
- Wells, Chester V. –Nampa, ID

## Ross & Touryan Close ASA '03 with Challenge: "Outreach and Service to Church and World"



Hugh Ross

Hugh Ross had been saved several years before he met Christians with whom he could fellowship. When he led several to salvation, they also

had difficulty finding a church home. Ken Touryan observes that scientists in former Soviet Union have the same problem, finding a church where they can feel at home.

What can the church do to make scientists welcome? Ross says:

- Make the church intellectually more challenging.

- Do not let teachers preach.
- Make class so participatory that attendees basically teach themselves.
- Make class size between 50 and 100 so non-Christians can hide but still participate.
- Put people in research assignments.
- Break the ice with a couple of reports on new scientific discoveries, as evidence for the Christian faith. Reasons to Believe posts a new discovery/evidence on its website every day: [www.reasons.org](http://www.reasons.org). Ross invites, "Feel free to steal it."
- Focus on Bible problems and controversies.
- Keep the doctrinal statement simple: one-page maximum.

What can we do as scientists to communicate more successfully? Ross says:

1. Do not intimidate. One man applied perturbative analysis to a class and

lost everyone. Break people up into study groups.

2. Become an expert in the English Bible. Read every page. Instead of encouraging people to read the Bible in two years, do it in two months. Rapid reading gives perspective.
3. Live the Life. Teach with meekness and gentleness. Pastoral staff and elders tend to pretend controversies and problems do not exist, so they fester and get worse. Join a moral impurity healing team, not to rebuke but to help.

Ross advises starting at the beginning. Cover creation, not just in Genesis, but in the 20 major creation accounts in the Bible. For example, Isaiah has five times as much to say about it as Genesis.

Begin discussion with a quiz, e.g., Who first wrote about the big bang? Job and Moses. The Bible has much to say about continual expansion and cooling: e.g., "Stretching the heavens" and verses referring to fixed physical laws.

*Continued on p. 7, Challenge*

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

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## Job Postings

For descriptions of job postings, visit the ASA web site.