New Frontiers in Science and Faith

August 2–5, 2007

He (Jesus) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible ... Colossians 1:15–16a

University of Edinburgh
Edinburgh, Scotland
New Frontiers in Science and Faith

Program Highlights, August 2–5, 2007

Keynote Speaker

Prof Alister McGrath, Prof of Historical Theology at Oxford University and Director of the Oxford Centre for Evangelism and Apologetics

Plenary Speakers

New Frontiers in Environmental Stewardship:
• Sir John Houghton, formerly of the Inter-Governmental Panel of Climate Change and the Met Office
• Prof Sir Ghillean Prance, former Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Science Director, The Eden Project
• Prof Bob White, Geophysicist; and Associate Director of the Faraday Institute for Sciences & Religion
• Dr Calvin DeWitt, President Emeritus, Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies

New Frontiers with Genes and Evolution:
• Prof Simon Conway Morris, Prof of Evolutionary Palaeobiology, Cambridge University
• Dr Jeffrey Schloss, Prof and Chair of Biology, Westmont College
• Rev Dr Ernest Lucas, Vice Principal and Tutor in Biblical Studies, Bristol Baptist College, Bristol University
• Dr Denis Alexander, Director of the Faraday Institute for Science & Religion
• Prof Joe Perry, Rothamsted Research; and Visiting Professor of Biometry, University of Greenwich

New Frontiers in Neuroscience:
• Prof Bill Newsome, Professor of Neurobiology, Stanford University, School of Medicine
• Prof Peter Clarke, Department of Cell Biology and Morphology, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
• Prof Nancey Murphy, Prof of Christian Philosophy, Fuller Theological Seminary

New Frontiers in Cosmology:
• Rev Dr John Polkinghorne, former President of Queens’ College, Cambridge University
• Prof Christine Done, Astrophysicist, Department of Physics, Durham University
• Dr Joan Centrella, Astrophysicist, of NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center

New Frontiers in Bioethics:
• Prof D Gareth Jones, Department of Anatomy, University of Otago
• Prof Nigel M de S Cameron, President of the Institute on Biotechnology and the Human Future; Director of the Center on Nanotechnology and Society; Research Prof of Bioethics; and Associate Dean at Chicago-Kent College of Law
• Prof Joe Perry, Rothamsted Research; and Visiting Professor of Biometry, University of Greenwich

Tentative Meeting Schedule

Pollock Halls, University of Edinburgh

Thursday, August 2
Afternoon: Field trips
Evening: Cheese and beverage reception

Friday, August 3
Morning: Plenary: New Frontiers in Environmental Stewardship
• Prof Sir John Houghton: “The Challenge of Global Warming”
• Prof Sir Ghillean Prance: “Why Should a Christian Care About Bio-diversity?”
• Prof Bob White: “The Biblical Basis of Care for the Environment”
• Dr Calvin DeWitt: “Our Personal Response”
Afternoon: Parallel Session
Evening: Poster session

Saturday, August 4
Morning: Plenary: New Frontiers with Genes and Evolution
• Prof Simon Conway Morris: “Does Evolution Have a Deep Structure, and If So What Are the Theological Implications?”
• Prof Jeff Schloss: “Evolutionary Theory, Religious Belief, and Human Altruism”
• Rev Dr Ernest Lucas: “Interpreting Genesis 1–3”
• Dr Denis Alexander: “Darwinian Evolution: The Really Hard Questions”
Afternoon: Plenary: New Frontiers in Neuroscience
• Prof Peter Clarke: “Free-will and Determinism”
• Prof Bill Newsome: “Mind, Brain and the Evolution of Religion”
Evening: CiS General Meeting and ASA Business Meeting

Sunday, August 5
Morning: Ecumenical Worship Service
Plenary: New Frontiers in Cosmology
• Rev Dr John Polkinghorne: “Space, Time and Eternity”
• Prof Christine Done: “Dark Matter, Dark Energy and the Light of the World”
• Dr Joan Centrella: “Binary Black Holes and Gravitational Waves: Opening New Windows onto the Universe”
Afternoon: Plenary: New Frontiers in Bioethics
• Prof Nigel M de S Cameron: “Emerging Technologies and Human Dignity”
• Prof Gareth Jones: “Designers of the Future”
• Prof Joe Perry: “Bio-tech Crops: Where Are the Frontiers?”
Chair’s closing comments
Evening: Videos and posters
Parallel Sessions

Science and Appropriate Technology for the Developing World

Papers in this symposium will focus on ways in which science and technology can be applied simply and economically to help meet the needs of improvement in nutrition, access to clean water and sanitation, sources of suitable energy, more efficient means of producing goods, production of better housing and delivery of better healthcare.

Session coordinators: Ruth Douglas Miller, Kansas State University
Walter Bradley, Baylor University

Christianity and the History of Science

Papers in this symposium will focus on aspects of the historical interaction of science with Christian beliefs and practices.

Session coordinator: Edward Davis, Messiah College

Field Trips

All field trips will be Thursday afternoon

The Falkirk Wheel

www.thefalkirkwheel.co.uk/index.asp

Almost 100 years ago, a series of 11 locks was used to connect the Forth & Clyde Canal, running from Glasgow to Edinburgh’s Union Canal. As part of a millennium initiative to encourage waterway usage, the Falkirk Wheel was designed and constructed to provide a 21st century solution to join the canals. It is a truly unique and awesome spectacle.

Once you have seen it, you’ll understand what a simply ingenious design it is. Basically it’s a rotating arm with gondolas at either end. It turns, like the sails of a windmill, and lifts and lowers boats in gondolas from one level to another, joining the two canals. Bring comfortable shoes.

Museum of Scotland

www.explore-edinburgh.com/museum.html

A striking new landmark in Edinburgh’s historic Old Town, the Museum of Scotland presents for the first time the history of Scotland—its land, its people and their achievements—through the rich national collections. The stunning series of galleries take you from Scotland’s geological beginnings through time to the twentieth century.

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

www.rbge.org.uk/rbge/web/visiting/ebg.jsp#Location

The garden was founded in the 17th century as a “Physic Garden,” growing medicinal plants. This first garden was in St Anne’s Yard, part of the Holyrood Palace grounds, and occupied an area the size of a tennis court. It now extends to four sites—Edinburgh, Benmore, Logan, and Dawycks. It is the second richest collection of plant species in the world. Wear comfortable shoes, waterproof coat.

Geology of Arthur’s seat

www.bgs.ac.uk

The tour will be run by a friendly volunteer from the British Geological Survey’s Edinburgh base. Bring strong shoes, waterproof coat.

Scottish Seabird Centre

www.explore-edinburgh.com/seabird.html

Perched on a rocky outcrop at North Berwick Harbour, overlooking the islands of the Firth of Forth and sandy beaches of East Lothian, the Scottish Seabird Centre is unique in the world.

A world leader in remote wildlife viewing, with cameras located on these wildlife rich islands, visitors can pan and zoom to see the tiniest details (like the ID ring on a bird’s foot) and observe thousands of nesting seabirds and marine mammals, without disturbing the animals in any way.

This prestigious Five Star visitor attraction is a great day out whatever the weather. Live cameras, cinema, fun interactives, children’s workshops (holidays and weekends), year round festivals and events. Guided bird walks along the beach and boat trips around the islands. Licensed Café Bistro with open deck and panoramic views over the sea. Attractive Gift Shop. Sandy beaches, picnic and play areas. Bring warm waterproof clothes, hat and non-slip shoes.

Travel Information

Edinburgh transportation: www.edinburghfirst.com/edinburghfirst/travel.asp

Edinburgh has excellent road, rail and air links and is very accessible from almost anywhere in the UK. There are direct flights to Edinburgh from New York, Atlanta, or Toronto. For those who will fly initially into London Heathrow or London Gatwick, there are good onward flights into Edinburgh. Some attendees, depending on where they are based, may consider other primary destinations in the UK or neighboring countries. You may also fly to Amsterdam, Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Exeter, Dublin, Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle and Paris. All of these airports except Glasgow and Newcastle have scheduled flights to Edinburgh (from both Glasgow and Newcastle, Edinburgh is easily reached by train.) Anyone who enjoys train travel, Edinburgh may be reached by rail from any of the UK mainland cities mentioned above, although the plane is often less expensive.

Getting to Pollock Halls

A cab from the airport to the conference venue currently costs about $40. However, there is a regular airport bus service which will take you to Edinburgh Waverly train station for about $9. From the train station you may take a cab to the Pollock Halls for $10 or alternatively take a local bus.

Prices below do not include Value Added Tax (VAT) of 17.5%

Meals

Breakfasts are included with your lodging

Lunch: $14.00 per person, per lunch; Wednesday–Sunday
Dinner: $22.00 per person, per dinner; Wednesday–Sunday

Lodging

All rooms except dorm rooms have private baths.
Rates are per person, per night

Salisbury Green (twin beds) $196 Single occupancy
$108 Double occupancy
*Enhanced rooms have a sleep sofa in addition.

Masson House (double beds) $184 Single occupancy
$110 Double occupancy
*Holland House is a two-story building with no elevators

The dormitory rooms have a shared hall bath
$86 Single occupancy

Chancellor’s Count (twin beds) $152 Single occupancy
$98 Double occupancy

*Holland House (twin beds) $102 Single occupancy

Any special requirements due to disabilities or dietary restrictions, indicate your needs in registration such as lodging, meals, or field trips online at www.asa3.org or mail form to: American Scientific Affiliation, PO Box 668, Ipswich, MA 01938 with payment in US funds. Make check payable to ASA or pay by VISA/MC.

PLEASE NOTE: Any change in registration such as lodging, meals, or field trips after June 15, will result in a $50 fee. We cannot guarantee lodging or meals after June 15, 2007. No refunds after June 15, 2007.

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