

Call for Abstracts

American Scientific Affiliation
66th Annual Meeting
July 29–August 1, 2011
North Central College
Naperville, IL

Science-Faith Synergy: Glorifying God and Serving Humankind

*"Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom.
Though it cost all you have, get understanding."
Proverbs 4:7, NIV*

CONFIRMED PLENARY SPEAKERS

STEVEN BOUMA-PREDIGER

Chair, Religion Department
Hope College
Hope, MI

DOROTHY CHAPPELL

Dean, Natural and Social Science
Wheaton College
Wheaton, IL

KATHARINE HAYHOE

Research Associate Professor
of Atmospheric Sciences
Department of Geosciences
Texas Tech University
Lubbock, TX

WILLIAM HURLBUT

Consulting Professor
Neuroscience Institute
Stanford University
Stanford, CA

GARETH JONES

Professor, Anatomy and
Structural Biology
Director, Bioethics Centre
University of Otago
Dunedin, New Zealand

CONFIRMED SYMPOSIA TOPICS

Historical Perspectives on Methodological Naturalism
Probing the Past: Contributions from Paleontology and Archaeology
Bioethics
Environmental Stewardship

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: January 31, 2011

More information on the [ASA website](#)

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Science–Faith Synergy: Glorifying God and Serving Humankind

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Message from Program Chair Rod Scott:

How do science and faith relate to one another? This question has been at the forefront of most discussions of science and faith ever since the historical period known as “the Enlightenment.” And unfortunately, the standard response of many people is “not very well.” I would like the 2011 annual meeting of the ASA to be a showcase of reasons to reject that standard response.

Those of us who are scientists and Christians know that the standard response is wrong and that there was a time when science and Christian faith were assumed by most people to be highly compatible. Most of the founders of the Scientific Revolution were believers who saw the role of science as glorifying God and serving humankind. In this year’s meeting, we want to affirm our fundamental assumption that science and faith are compatible and use that assumption as a starting point to probe ways that the union of science and faith can accomplish great things.

With this theme in mind, I want to encourage you to submit proposals for contributions that will highlight the best of Christian thinking about our world. For example, are there recent developments in your field of specialization that illustrate the beauty or intricacy of Creation in ways that were previously unknown? How do such developments relate to the nature of our God? Are there particular scientific insights or technological developments that provide untapped opportunities for Christians in science to serve the world around us? Let’s bring these ideas and more into the mix this year. Let’s find ways to show the world around us the relevancy of a worldview that incorporates both science and Christian faith.

CONFIRMED PLENARY SPEAKERS

- STEVEN BOUMA-PREDIGER, *Chair, Religion Department, Hope College, Hope, MI*
- DOROTHY CHAPPELL, *Dean, Natural and Social Science, Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL*
- KATHARINE HAYHOE, *Research Associate Professor of Atmospheric Sciences, Department of Geosciences, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX*
- WILLIAM HURLBUT, *Consulting Professor, Neuroscience Institute, Stanford University, Stanford, CA*
- GARETH JONES, *Professor, Anatomy and Structural Biology, Director of the Bioethics Centre, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand*

CONFIRMED SYMPOSIA TOPICS

- Historical Perspectives on Methodological Naturalism
- Probing the Past: Contributions from Paleontology and Archaeology
- Bioethics
- Environmental Stewardship

Symposium speakers will be invited to participate based on known areas of expertise. Individuals wishing to submit abstracts for general talks should see the section entitled “Contributed Paper and Poster Session Topics.”

CONTRIBUTED PAPER AND POSTER SESSION TOPICS

Witnessing God's Glory in The Created Order — Seeking submissions that describe an aspect of the created order that both gives testimony to God's glory, and that explicates one or more theological principles related to this aspect of the Creation.

Serving Humanity through Technological Developments — Seeking submissions that focus on newer technologies that provide unique opportunities for scientists who are Christians to serve people.

Bioethics — Seeking submissions that describe ways that perspectives on bioethics which are supported by Christian principles can contribute solutions to complex problems.

Environmental Stewardship — Seeking submissions that demonstrate how Christian perspectives on stewardship can provide foundations that will strengthen efforts to protect Creation.

Seeking Wisdom through Scientific Endeavors — Seeking submissions that consider how the growth and development of human understanding of the created order through science can contribute to enhanced philosophical and/or theological understanding of God and His purposes in our world.

Student and early career scientists are encouraged to submit abstracts for any of the topical sessions listed above or on a research topic in which they are engaged, whether or not it has an explicit faith-science component.

REQUIREMENTS, GUIDELINES, AND DEADLINES FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION OF CONTRIBUTED TALKS AND POSTERS

1. All contributed talks and posters must be submitted as abstracts of **200–250** words.
2. Each abstract must emphasize what your talk or poster offers that is new and important for the topic chosen. Use the set of topics listed to guide the focus of your talk. Talks in other areas will be considered if they fit within the overall theme of the conference and if they can be otherwise accommodated within the limits of the conference. Provide sufficient detail to be informative, but use language that will be intelligible to a nonspecialist or a scientist from outside your field.
3. Authors may submit only one abstract for which they are the primary author. (Additional abstracts listing individuals as secondary co-authors may also be submitted.) Because of space limitations, some requests for talks may be approved as posters. Space limitations may also require that some talks and posters be rejected; authors of these are still strongly encouraged to attend the meeting to participate in discussions and to meet colleagues.
4. Please note: Talks should be based on work in your area of disciplinary expertise. Where this is not obvious, you may be asked to provide suitable documentation. Exceptions to this policy may be made for abstracts demonstrating exceptional originality and scholarship outside your field of expertise.
5. Talks will be limited to **20** minutes plus **5** minutes for discussion.
6. Poster presentations will be accorded a special time and place in the conference agenda, in order to maximize their impact.
7. All presenters must *register* for the meeting by **May 15, 2011**.
8. All submissions must be entered online using the submission [form](#). Please indicate which topic area is most appropriate for your submission; (or indicate "other"); also indicate whether your submission is for a talk or poster presentation.
9. **Deadline:** All abstracts must be submitted on or before **January 31, 2011**.
10. Program Chair: Rodney J. Scott, rodney.j.scott@wheaton.edu

SPECIAL STUDENT POSTER SESSION

To encourage greater student participation in the ASA, we are creating a new category for poster presentations by student authors with faculty sponsors. Students who might not be able to attend the annual meeting, but who wish to present a poster that is not co-authored by another ASA member can now do so under these new guidelines.

Here are the details for this new category. A student (or several students working together) wishing to present a poster under these guidelines should have a faculty sponsor who, while not being a co-author, is familiar enough with the student's work to vouch for it. The student should submit an abstract for his or her poster through the same online abstract submission system that is used for all other abstracts. The deadline for submission of these abstracts is **March 31, 2011** to give faculty members the chance to

SPECIAL STUDENT POSTER SESSION CONTINUED

promote this opportunity in their spring classes. The faculty sponsor should e-mail a letter of support for the student's work (possibly in progress) to Rodney Scott (rodney.j.scott@wheaton.edu) before **April 30, 2011**. After reviewing the student's abstract and the faculty member's letter of support, the program chair will respond to the student and the faculty sponsor within a month after receiving the faculty sponsor's letter to indicate whether the abstract has been accepted. The posters should be prepared according to the instructions below. If the student is not already a member of the ASA, he or she must become one before **May 15, 2011**. The faculty sponsor can then bring the student's poster to the annual meeting where it will be displayed.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR POSTER PRESENTATIONS

General Comments

Plan your poster presentation carefully. Keep in mind the advantages of a poster over a talk. Posters are available for viewing over an extended period of time. Attendees find that the poster session is a good way to sample many papers, devoting their time in proportion to their interest in the poster topic. Authors and interested viewers have time for much more significant discussion, not the five minutes allotted at the end of a talk. Finally, there is no first or last poster presentation on the program!

Specific Guidelines

Your poster must fit on a 32" by 40" foam core board. Posters should be readable from at least five feet away—this means that no font smaller than 18 point (24 point is better) should be used, with headings of significantly larger font. Mounting materials for your poster will be available at the poster site.

INFORMATION ON SCHOLARSHIPS FOR EARLY CAREER SCIENTISTS AND GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN THE SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING

We invite early career scientists (post docs or those within the first five years of receiving your latest degree) and graduate and undergraduate students to participate in the Annual Meeting of the American Scientific Affiliation, July 29–August 1, 2011, on the campus of the North Central College in Naperville, IL.

This meeting provides an opportunity to meet professionals in your field who share your Christian faith; to hear prominent plenary speakers; to participate in the symposia, talk, or poster sessions; to give a talk or poster yourself; to network with other Christians from a wide variety of colleges, universities, and research institutions; and to explore how to integrate your faith with your discipline. This is an excellent opportunity to share your research with Christian colleagues. Your presentation can be listed on your resume as a talk or poster presented at a national meeting (with an international audience). It is a professional activity that can strengthen your applications for further training, grants, or career advancement.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP

To be considered for scholarship aid, an applicant must be a member or must file an application for membership in the ASA. This membership application must be filed [online](#) with the ASA before **May 15, 2011**. Student rates are substantially lower than the regular rates.

A number of members have graciously provided funding for a limited number of scholarships which are available at two different levels.

1. **Scholarships for Early Career Scientists and Students in the Sciences and Engineering** are available to all early career scientists and graduate and advanced undergraduate students submitting a proposed abstract for a talk or poster. These scholarships will cover registration, room (at double occupancy, dormitory rate) and board at the conference. The deadline for submitting your proposed abstract is **January 31, 2011**; applying for scholarship is **May 15, 2011**.
2. **Scholarships for Undergraduates in the Sciences and Engineering** are available for those who would like to attend but not present a talk or poster. The scholarship covers the cost of registration only. The scholarship application deadline is **May 15, 2011**.

Scholarship application form at: http://www.asa3.org/ASA/meetings/ncc2011/NCC_scholarshipform.pdf