



Newsletter of the ASA & CSCA

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Registration Open for Annual Meeting at APU July 22–25, 2016

Click here to register for the ASA Annual Meeting: <http://network.asa3.org/event/2016>

The Mars Curiosity Rover. Biomedical optics for underresourced environments. Faith and experimental psychology. Boyle's Law. Interdisciplinary neuroscience. What do they all have in common? They're all areas of expertise represented by our 2016 plenary meeting speaker lineup: Roger Wiens, Audrey (Ellerbee) Bowden, Justin Barrett, Ted Davis, and Bill Newsome. Read more about the speakers in the meeting brochure.

Along with talks by these speakers, the meeting will feature contributed papers, a celebration of the 75th anniversary of the ASA, a

student track, and two panels. We will worship together, enjoy the fellowship of other Christians in science, and maybe even reprise last year's volleyball match.



There is huge excitement in the air for this conference, and we've heard from many of you who are planning to come. To take advantage of the early bird discount, register before **May 31**.

Also, we will have many of our VIPs (50 plus-year members) in attendance,

so you'll have an opportunity to hear from

many longstanding ASA members. Join us at Azusa Pacific University (APU)!



Director's Corner

Interview with New Executive Director Leslie Wickman

In her initial Director's Corner, Leslie shares her thoughts in a welcome interview.

ASA: What are you most excited about as you start serving ASA as Executive Director? What do you see as the next steps in ASA's work to support Christians in science?

Over the years, the mission of reconciling science and faith has become my life's passion. So, in many ways, I feel that God has been preparing me for this role all my life. One of my greatest joys is in helping people understand that science and faith are compatible, and that they don't have to choose between the two.

The ASA has a very important message for our culture, particularly for young people who are still trying to decide what to do with their lives. We need to reach young people at an earlier age, so they understand that science and faith can coexist—that it's possible to be both a faithful Christian and a top-notch scientist. With that in mind, we need to extend our reach to churches, families, youth, and those who teach and influence them, such as educators, pastors, and seminarians.

ASA: Tell us more about your previous work in science and education. How do you see those experiences and skills informing your new role with ASA?

Over my long career in academia and industry, I have participated in virtually every imaginable aspect of developing, directing, and executing programs. I am passionate about people, research, and academics, and I'm an energetic problem solver. I have run both academic centers and departments as well as research labs, managed software development and engineering projects, served as Principal Investigator on research programs, directed technology development, and worked with various successful technology startups. My systems engineering and management background coupled with a working knowledge of a broad range of technical and academic disciplines enable me to adapt and apply a flexible approach to a wide range of challenges.

For the better part of two decades as a professor, Center Director, and Department Chair at Azusa Pacific University (APU), I enjoyed teaching science classes to science majors and nonmajors alike. In addition, I have worked with students and other faculty members in developing and executing STEM educational and research projects, and have promoted faith integration in the sciences within the academic community, including both faculty members and students. I enjoy working with and mentoring students, junior faculty members, and community members alike.

For the past 15 years, I organized and executed the annual Center for Research in Science (CRIS) Science, Faith and Culture Lecture Series at APU, and for the past two years, I was instrumental in hosting the Southern California Christians in Science (local ASA chapter) Winter Conference at APU.

I have written and presented on numerous topics in the science and faith arena, addressing diverse audiences, including both scientists and laypeople, Christians and others.

In April of 2015, my book on science and faith, *God of the Big Bang: How Modern Science Affirms the Creator*, was published, and since then I've been giving many radio, print, and television interviews on the intersection between science and faith.

As I mentioned previously, illuminating the connections between science and faith has become my greatest passion, and all of these life experiences contribute to my ability to effectively lead an organization dedicated to that very mission.

ASA: How did you first become involved with ASA? What have been some highlights of your experience with ASA up till now?

My first exposure to ASA was when a senior colleague (Lester Eddington) at APU shared some of his *PSCF* journals with me, and invited me to an ASA meeting at Pepperdine University in 2002. After that, I attended the 2003 meeting at Colorado Christian University, where I met Calvin DeWitt, who became a wonderful mentor to me in the area of environmental stewardship. Soon after that, I began presenting some of my own work at ASA meetings. As I got more involved and got to know more members, my appreciation as well as my commitment to the organization grew. The meeting is a place for sharing both fellowship and scholarship. (I might also add that the opportunity to play sand volleyball at the annual meetings has been a plus!) Over the years, the ASA has become like family to me.

ASA: Tell us a little about your life outside of your valuable work in faith and science circles. Do you have favorite places to be, avocations you pursue, and so on?

I love to be outdoors, enjoying various aspects of God's creation, whether star-gazing, hiking, or being out on the water. I enjoy outdoor sports of all kinds, particularly beach volleyball, paddle-boarding, and skiing. I feel a strong responsibility toward the care of creation.

In my “spare time,” I work as a research scientist on technical and political aspects of national aerospace and defense issues. Some of my recent projects include climate change research, assessment of future spaceflight missions and technologies, and human factors problems for extreme environments.

ASA: What do you see as exciting developments coming for ASA in the near future?

We’ll soon be launching a grassroots style “Local Chapters Campaign.” This campaign will reach out to individual members, as well as to colleges, seminaries, schools of education, churches, and para-church organizations, particularly in areas where there are currently no local ASA chapters. We will encourage and assist the development of more local chapters by sharing the examples of other successful local chapters. By doing this, we hope to reach a broader audience, and support both new and current members in the science and faith dialogue within their own communities.

We’re also beginning to plan for a new program I’m calling “Missions of Service through Science” (MOSS). MOSS will be aimed at connecting faculty, students, and other science practitioners with STEM-oriented missions opportunities, to enable Christians in the sciences to use their disciplines to be difference-makers for Christ. As a fringe benefit, we hope to attract new members who have a passion for social justice.



New Mexico Chapter Highlight NASA Scientists and Church Collaborations

Founded in 2012 by National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO) Astronomer Deb Shepherd, the New Mexico chapter has already hosted former NASA astromaterials curator Carl Allen (pictured) and the senior project scientist for the Hubble Space Telescope, Jennifer Wiseman. The current director of the Vatican Observatory, Br. Guy Consolmagno, also spoke on his book *Would You Baptize an Extraterrestrial?* All these speakers were part of the New Mexico chapter’s current main focus, the Faith and Science Lecture Series, in the small rural college town of Socorro, New Mexico. New Mexico Chapter leader Raul Morales Juberias says, “It is exciting to see how God continues bringing people to the small community of Socorro who can contribute to our faith and science series, not only as helpers on the local organizing committee, but also as speakers.”

Raul describes the three central goals of the series: “First, we want to explore how science and religion can coexist in harmony, with each one helping to inform the ideas about the other (e.g., how does our science affect our faith and vice versa). Second, we hope to attract people in the community who are curious about

this topic, people who are willing to speak up and speak out about their faith and provide them with positive role models of both scientists who are Christian, and people of faith who value science. Through this we want to give them an opportunity to think critically and positively about God, religion, and science. Finally, we want to encourage and develop compassion and understanding between congregations in our community, allowing individuals to get to know one another and discover that we have more in common than we may think.”

The Faith and Science Lecture Series is an ecumenical effort from some of the main denominations in Socorro, and the leadership has been able to establish collaborations with like-minded groups in Albuquerque and Los Alamos. These groups may even organize a larger event together. Stay tuned for further ideas in the works. Raul adds, “We acknowledge the startup support we received from the ASA and their continuous encouragement through its leadership (Randy et al.). Let us know if you are passing through New Mexico and would like to speak in our lecture series!” Contact info is socorrofaithscience@gmail.com.



Honoring ASA's Executive Directors

As Leslie begins her tenure as Executive Director, it’s a great moment to honor our four living Executive Directors, acting and emeritus. We are blessed to celebrate the work of Bob Herrmann, Don Munro, and Randy Isaac (all emeriti), and Leslie Wickman (incoming). Bob, Randy, and Leslie were able to come to ASA’s recent reception at Gordon College (pictured on page 5). We wish Don Munro could have joined us too, but Vicki Best was able to visit Don and his wife Joyce in Florida recently (picture left). Join us in thanking all our talented and faithful Executive Directors.



ASA 2017 in Denver

Exploring New Heights for Science and Stewardship!

By Lynn Billman, ASA Council President

Golden, Colorado, just west of Denver, will be the exciting location for the July 28–31 ASA Annual Meeting in 2017! Following the 2016 annual meeting in the Los Angeles area, our Denver meeting will kick-off ASA's *next* 75 years. We hope you will take a close look at what Colorado has to offer for visitors, including families, to entice you to consider booking your 2017 vacation in our wonderful state.

Our venue, the Colorado School of Mines, will give us an unusual opportunity to influence a very secular campus with our presence. Christian faculty and support staff on campus are ready to help us make this a prominent event, including inviting local pastors to our special dinner. Beginning Friday, we will feature several excellent field trips, such as a local geology and fossils tour and visits to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, the National Ice Core Laboratory, and the Rocky Mountain National Park. We may even hike in the local foothills.

Given that energy is a major emphasis at Colorado universities, federal laboratories, and private institutes and companies, the 2017 annual meeting will emphasize energy and environmental topics. Of course, we welcome high-quality presenters in all areas of science and engineering, research and teaching, and related theological studies. We

have several major names in mind for plenary speakers, so stay tuned!

The annual meeting will be supported by our local ASA group, the Rocky Mountain Chapter. In addition to planning for this major event, our chapter is also transforming itself! We are pioneering a transition that may become common across ASA local chapters, which is to divide our one

ASA chapter into two smaller groups. One of the two groups, comprising our active members in the north central part of Colorado (around Colorado State University and Northern Colorado University), is more than an hour's drive from the other group, the active members in the Denver metro area (around Colorado Christian University, Colorado School of Mines, and the University of Colorado).

The two new groups will do things in their geographic area, while staying in touch and doing things together

with the other group when it makes sense (like organizing this big 2017 conference!). ASA leadership folks are considering a new local chapter structure across the US that will encourage the formation of small ASA groups like this that are connected within their state and within a region. This new approach to support local ASA chapters should increase awareness and personal involvement beyond the annual meeting and the website forums ASA members already use.



ASA Hosts Retirement Reception for Randy Isaac, Meet and Greet with Leslie Wickman

A lively crowd of ASA members gathered at the Ken Olsen Science Center lobby at Gordon College on April 8, 2016, eager to celebrate Randy Isaac's achievements and welcome Leslie Wickman as she steps into the role of ASA Executive Director. After mingling and enjoying refreshments, the group entered the Science Center's auditorium for the evening's presentations, which can be viewed [here](#).

During the presentations, ASA Director of Operations and Development Vicki Best surprised Randy by presenting a book of memories gathered from the 2,400 members of ASA. Sharon Carlson, administrator of ASA's Nexus Forum, and Lyn Berg, Managing Editor of *PSCF*, collaborated with Vicki to put it together. Randy was deeply moved.

Randy's many achievements were celebrated, including the fact that he wrote welcome letters to every new member, grew the student membership to over 1,000 in four years, revamped the computer system infrastructure (a huge job!), donated his ASA salary back to the organization over several years, and took the ASA from a precarious financial position to a strong position for fiscal stability and financial sustainability.

When Leslie took the podium, she thanked Randy for his excellent leadership and then expressed her vision for ASA.



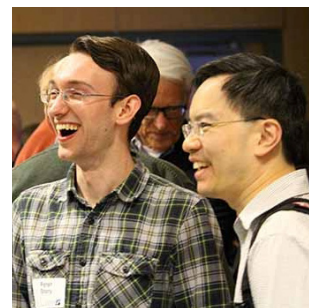
She said, "It is truly an honor and a privilege to take the reins as Executive Director in this the 75th anniversary year of the ASA. And, in many ways, I feel that God has been preparing me for this role for all of my life."

Leslie described how she became fascinated by science as a young person growing up in a Christian home, and how an encounter with a biology teacher who challenged her beliefs led to her lifelong quest to integrate faith and science. She stated, "Through the years I've come to see how science and theology can really enlighten and inform each other, as we seek through both of these fields to know the ultimate truth about both God and nature."

Leslie also explored her hopes for ASA in the talk. Some of her goals for ASA include encouraging and empowering members to lead the dialogue in their own churches, schools, and communities; continuing a very intentional effort to engage and retain young Christians in the sciences; and supporting networking and collaboration among ASA members based on overlapping interests, skills, and resources. She said, "I would like to suggest that we can make ASA the preeminent national professional organization for science and faith."



Three Executive Directors together: Bob Herrmann (emeritus), Randy Isaac (retiring), and Leslie Wickman (incoming); we wish emeritus Executive Director Don Munro could have joined too!



Members in Glory

Wayne Frair

(1926–2015) Zoologist of Basking Ridge, NJ

Wayne Frair passed away on Thursday, Jan. 29, 2015. He was born in Pittsburgh, PA, on May 23, 1926. He received a BA in zoology from Houghton College, a BS in zoology from Wheaton College, an MS in embryology from U of Massachusetts, and a PhD in biochemical taxonomy from Rutgers University. Except for a sabbatical at Rutgers, his entire career was as a professor of biology and chairman of the biology department at King's College in Briarcliff Manor, NY. He was an expert in sea turtles and on baraminology.

Wayne became a Christian while in the US Navy in 1946 and then became interested in issues of science and faith. He joined the ASA in 1952 and became an ASA Fellow, remaining with the ASA until 2005. He was an advocate of young-earth creationism, having been influenced by George Mooreland at Houghton. He served on the board and was president of the Creation Research Society from 1986 to 1993. He wrote several books including *A Case for Creation*. While many other creationists left the ASA a few years after the Creation Research Society was founded, Wayne remained active in the ASA and was an outstanding example of civil discourse with opposing views. Walt Hearn was one who remembered Wayne as “a good friend, one of the brightest, certainly the gentlest, [young earth creationist] I knew in ASA. At ASA Annual Meetings we had many good discussions about creation/evolution, but never an argument.”

Frederick “Merrill” Galloway Jr.

(1938–2015) Chemical Engineer of Tomball, TX

Merrill Galloway, age 77, of Tomball, Texas, went to be with Christ on December 27, 2015. Born in Philadelphia, Merrill held degrees from Wheaton College and Case Western Reserve, where he completed a PhD in chemical engineering. He served as a professor of chemical engineering at Cleveland State University from 1970 to 1980. Afterward, he pursued a successful 34-year career in the chemical industry, working in research and process development at BF Goodrich,

Westlake Chemical Co., and most recently SABIC Americas. He was a man of faith and integrity, both at work and at home. He joined the ASA in 1997 and had the greatest respect for ASA and its publications.

Charles Patton Poole Jr.

(1927–2015) Physicist of Columbia, SC

Charles Patton Poole Jr. passed away on Sunday, November 1, 2015. Born June 7, 1927, in Panama City, Panama, he received a BS in preMed from Fordham University in 1950 and an MS in physics in 1952. He obtained a PhD in solid state physics from the University of Maryland. After Charles obtained his Master's degree, he took a job at Westinghouse designing microwave components for radar. He participated in the design of an electron spin resonance (ESR) spectrometer and spent six years using ESR in the related field of nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR). He was then professor of physics at the University of South Carolina until his retirement. He served as an ordained deacon at St. Joseph Catholic Church and the Newman Center in Columbia. Charles joined the ASA in January of 2012 and contributed letters and book reviews to *PSCF*.

Harold F. Winters

(1932–2016) Physicist of San Jose, CA

Harold Winters passed away on January 21, 2016. He was born on May 19, 1932, and received his BS at Whitworth College and his PhD in physics from Washington State University. He worked at IBM Almaden Research Center from 1963 to 1993 with a focus on plasma surface interactions. He was a trustee of the American Vacuum Society and received awards including alumni outstanding achievement award from Washington State U, and the “Thinkers Award” from Tegal Corporation.

Harold joined the ASA in January of 1964 and was a member for 54 years. In the '70s he served on the board of the Bay Area ASA section, working with Dick Bube, Walt Hearn, and others to organize and host meetings on science and Christian faith.

Executive Council Semi-Annual Meeting in Topsfield

By Vicki Best

The ASA Executive Council met the weekend of April 8–9 in Topsfield for their semi-annual meeting. In addition to reviewing the accomplishments of the last fiscal year, we looked forward to a new chapter in the life of ASA. Among the important topics of discussion were approving the Fiscal Year 2017 budget, working through the long-term strategic plan, and setting the course for the future sustainability of the ASA. It was a wonderful time to be together as a leadership team, to uphold the organization in prayer, and to look



expectantly to God to continue His faithfulness to this important ministry.

As we celebrate our 75th anniversary in 2016, we are excited about the future direction of the ASA. Coming on the heels of Randy's admirable leadership, we are confident that Leslie is uniquely equipped to take ASA to a new level of ministry effectiveness. Please join us in praying for God's grace and favor upon this organization that is near and dear to our hearts.



A few more images from the retirement reception for Randy Isaac and meet and greet with Leslie Wickman



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Seated (l to r): Lynn Billman, Sharon Carlson, Miriam Gingerich, Owen Gingerich, Bob Herrmann, Betty Herrmann **Standing (l to r):** Steve Moshier, Keith Miller, Craig Story, Leslie Wickman, Randy Isaac, Marta Isaac, Lyn Berg, Vicki Best, Johnny Lin, Phil Best, Marty Herdrich, Hannah Eagleson

Randy's Retirement Party

By Vicki Best

We surprised Randy with a private retirement party on Saturday, April 9 after the all-day executive council meeting. The executive council, staff, and some of Randy's close friends met at a local restaurant for a wonderful dinner and evening of celebrating his service to the ASA. While Friday night's event at Gordon College was the "serious" evening, Saturday night we let loose and had some fun "roasting Randy" with funny gag gifts and a hysterical Barry Manilow impersonation of his popular song "Randy" (errr, I mean "Mandy"!) It was a great time had by all.

Wow! ASA has so much news, we just can't fit it all in. We'll be printing names of new members from our record-breaking fall membership drive as we can over the next few issues. Our apologies if you're waiting, and we're thrilled to welcome so many new members!

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