Meet the Class of 2020 ASA/CSCA Fellows

The ASA/CSCA selects its Fellows from among our members who have been part of the organization for five years or more and demonstrate a commitment to Christian service at work, at home, and through participating in ASA/CSCA events and publications. Read the brief profiles below, and join us in congratulating them!

Clayton Carlson

Clayton Carlson earned his PhD in biochemistry from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, in 2010. He is a professor of biology at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, IL. His primary research area involves environmentally induced changes in gene expression, whether those changes occur in plants responding to a hormone disrupter or in mice receiving a beneficial gut microbe. For as long as he has taken the claims of Christianity seriously, he has considered them in light of his scientific training, celebrating the harmonies and investigating the tensions. Clay has been a regional discussion fellow for the Creation Project at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School since 2016 and from 2018—2019 was a visiting fellow in science and religion for the Bridging the Two Cultures—II program of SCIO (Scholarship and Christianity in Oxford). He and his family are members of Hope Christian Reformed Church in Oak Forest, IL.

Gregg Davidson

Gregg Davidson is Professor and Chair of Geology and Geological Engineering at the University of Mississippi. His scientific specialties are in hydrogeology and geochemistry, with a dash of ecology for good measure. Any given day might find him waist deep in a cypress swamp poking in the mud or climbing a tree. He is a frequent writer and speaker on science and Christian faith, with published books including Friend of Science, Friend of Faith, and the team-authored Grand Canyon, Monument to an Ancient Earth. Just for fun, he also dabbles in creative writing, weaving spiritual lessons into science fiction (The Mulapin Trilogy). Gregg is the husband of one wonderful wife, father of four adult children, and working up a requisition for grandkids.

Bryan Dik

Bryan Dik, PhD, is a vocational psychologist, professor of psychology at Colorado State University, and co-founder and Chief Science Fellow, continued on page 3
Dear Friends,

Communication is a key word today. With all of us fatigued by COVID-19 chaos, we struggle to understand and to be better understood. Clarity of purpose is vital in achieving our mission. The ASA Executive Council took a day this fall to think deeply about our mission and vision. We are looking at the ASA through an enlarged, redemptive framework. Does our intent and action as a leadership team match the need of our time? What spiritual and intellectual resources can we draw upon to meet our mission mandate?

The ASA exists to integrate and communicate the discoveries of the social and natural sciences in a rich theological context. We intend to be a bridge to the public, the scientific community, and the church. We aspire to model understanding and dialogue, while providing a community of fellowship for our members. And, out of this base, we seek to engage our scientific colleagues in the most challenging questions of our day.

The ASA was founded in the fall of 1941, on the brink of the global chaos of World War II—a dynamic and changing time. The members of the day took a flexible and creative approach to meeting the mission. Now, eight decades later, we are in another time of global chaos. The form of the challenge is different, yet it is an opportune time to ask, “How are we doing? Are the skills, tools, experiences, and approaches of our work up to our mission?”

When I look at our response to the pandemic challenges, I see a healthy affiliation. The strength of any organization is its constituency, its membership. It is up to each of us to model, integrate, communicate, and be the bridge of understanding and dialogue, and our members are doing this work. Our members are giving leadership and encouragement to each other.

The genius of the ASA, as part of the body of Christ, is the willingness of our members to serve. This is our calling. It is the “work of our hands that expresses our love for our neighbors.” The ASA Fellows are designated as leaders who exemplify this high calling to science and service, both within the ASA and across the broader community of the sciences.

Two ASA Fellows have been especially prominent recently. Together they model unique approaches to communicating science from a faith perspective. Climate policy scientist Katharine Hayhoe was named a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Champion of the Earth last year. Her PBS weekly podcast, “Global Weirding: Climate, Politics, and Religion,” is reaching new audiences with its engaging discussion of the science of climate change.

In his Templeton Prize lecture this fall, “In Praise of Harmony,” Francis Collins spoke uniquely of the perceived disharmony between science and faith. This interaction of disharmony, harmony, and science changes the lens by which we perceive our world. And that is a quintessential ASA way of fulfilling our mission.

Finally, the ASA Fellows were guests this fall of The Cambridge Faculty Roundtable, hosted by ASA member David Thom. In “What Scientists around the World Think about Religion and Why It Matters,” Elaine Howard Ecklund and David R. Johnston presented findings from “the largest international study of scientists’ attitudes toward religion, gender, and ethics ever undertaken.” Their findings help those within the community of faith and those outside to better understand each other and the diversity of our viewpoints. Together this year we are learning to communicate with more clarity and grace.

Advent is upon us. We are looking forward in hope to new beginnings as God has not left us alone but has sent his Son. This sui generis sets the ASA apart from other professional societies and associations; it is the transformative and motive power of our mission. In these challenging days, we need the gifts of the Holy Spirit now as much as we did some eighty years ago.

May the Lord richly bless you, and the work of the ASA.

Cheers,
John Wood

Director’s Corner

When I look at our response to the pandemic challenges, I see a healthy affiliation. The strength of any organization is its constituency, its membership. It is up to each of us to model, integrate, communicate, and be the bridge of understanding and dialogue, and our members are doing this work. Our members are giving leadership and encouragement to each other.

The genius of the ASA, as part of the body of Christ, is the willingness of our members to serve. This is our calling. It is the “work of our hands that expresses our love for our neighbors.” The ASA Fellows are designated as leaders who exemplify this high calling to science and service, both within the ASA and across the broader community of the sciences.

Two ASA Fellows have been especially prominent recently. Together they model unique approaches to communicating science from a faith perspective. Climate policy scientist Katharine Hayhoe was named a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Champion of the Earth last year. Her PBS weekly podcast, “Global Weirding: Climate, Politics, and Religion,” is reaching new audiences with its engaging discussion of the science of climate change.

In his Templeton Prize lecture this fall, “In Praise of Harmony,” Francis Collins spoke uniquely of the perceived disharmony between science and faith. This interaction of disharmony, harmony, and science changes the lens by which we perceive our world. And that is a quintessential ASA way of fulfilling our mission.

Finally, the ASA Fellows were guests this fall of The Cambridge Faculty Roundtable, hosted by ASA member David Thom. In “What Scientists around the World Think about Religion and Why It Matters,” Elaine Howard Ecklund and David R. Johnston presented findings from “the largest international study of scientists’ attitudes toward religion, gender, and ethics ever undertaken.” Their findings help those within the community of faith and those outside to better understand each other and the diversity of our viewpoints. Together this year we are learning to communicate with more clarity and grace.

Advent is upon us. We are looking forward in hope to new beginnings as God has not left us alone but has sent his Son. This sui generis sets the ASA apart from other professional societies and associations; it is the transformative and motive power of our mission. In these challenging days, we need the gifts of the Holy Spirit now as much as we did some eighty years ago.

May the Lord richly bless you, and the work of the ASA.

Cheers,
John Wood

Brown Bag Lunch Returns

Becky English

On Thursday, November 19, 2020, we brought the Brown Bag Lunch back. The successful lunch meeting format, debuting during the 2020 Summer Something Series, once again proved popular as ASA member Frank Robinson spoke on “Asymptomatic Racism: The Silent Contagion of Racism in Us All.” Frank talked about racism as a public health issue in terms of virology and epidemiology. His experiences growing up as a biracial pastor’s son in Alabama during the 1980s provides compelling support for his research. Frank’s passion and compassion were evident in his interactions with the attendees. We were excited to see such great attendance and engaging participation. The link for the video recording can be found on our website.

Annual Fund Update

In this season of giving, we are grateful for every gift—no matter the size. More important to us is participation, and we are seeking 100% participation. Would you consider a gift or pledge and donate? You can make a contribution at https://network.asa3.org/donations/donate.asp?id=11992.

Goal

$220,000

$68,000

Contribute toward the $152,000 needed to reach our goal
Officer of jobZology. Bryan studies meaning and purpose in the workplace, calling and vocation in career development, and the intersection of faith and work. He has served on editorial boards for seven research journals, has published four books (including Redeeming Work and Make Your Job a Calling), and hosts the Purposeful Work Podcast. He is an American Psychological Association Fellow and recipient of the John Holland Award for Outstanding Achievement in Career or Personality Research (APA Div. 17) and the Applied Psychology of Religion and Spirituality Award (APA Div. 36). He lives with his wife Amy and their four sons in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Anthony N. Jelsma
Although living the past twenty years in Iowa, Tony’s roots are in Canada, where his degrees are from McMaster University. After pursuing molecular biology research in England and Montreal, Tony found his true calling in a Christian college setting, where he can get students excited about the intricacies of the biotic creation and have them think deeply about how their faith impacts their study of the creation. He taught at Crandall University in Moncton, NB, before moving to Dordt University in Iowa in 2000. Tony’s many interests, besides his wife Kelli, include developmental biology, questions about origins, and the brain. He also plays the organ in his church, plays hockey, and gets out on his bike when weather and time permit.

Katharine Hayhoe
Katharine Hayhoe is an atmospheric scientist whose research focuses on understanding what climate change means for people and the places where we live. She is currently the Political Science Endowed Professor in Public Policy and Public Law and co-directs the Climate Center at Texas Tech University, she hosts the PBS digital series Global Warming, and she has been named one of TIME’s 100 Most Influential People, the United Nations Champion of the Environment, and the World Evangelical Alliance’s Climate Ambassador. Katharine has a BSc in physics from the University of Toronto and an MS and PhD in atmospheric science from the University of Illinois and has been awarded honorary doctorates from Colgate University and Victoria University at the University of Toronto.

Louise Ko Huang
Louise Huang serves as the director of the Center for Research in Science at Azusa Pacific University. Her interest in environmental science originated from her research on the degradation of pesticides on cellulosic materials. Currently, she teaches and researches environmental stewardship and sustainability. She believes education is vital to thorough and transformative understanding that can result in effective solutions for contemporary issues. In and outside of the classroom, she strives to equip students to cultivate a global Christian worldview through learning and appreciating science. She believes and advocates for interdisciplinary work that can bring about innovation in some of the most challenging areas. She recently helped launch the APU Environmental Studies minor program and the nonprofit, Canyon City Environmental Project.

David A. Larrabee
David Larrabee attempts to bring theology, science, and economics into dialogue around the social justice implications of our unhealthy relationship to the planet. This includes the implications of both individual and collective lifestyles on the planet and on those most at risk from environmental harm. His passion started at Cornell as a member of the Eco-Justice task force, where he earned a PhD in applied physics. While working in industry, David earned his Masters of Business Administration. Returning to academia, David obtained the rank of Professor of Physics. He retired from East Stroudsburg University after earning a MA in systematic theology to work full time on environmental justice issues. David lives in New Jersey with his wife Carolyn Carney.

Richard L. Lindroth
Rick Lindroth (PhD, University of Illinois-Urbana) is a Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor of Ecology and recent Associate Dean for Research at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His research focuses on evolutionary ecology and global change ecology in forest ecosystems. He has been a Fulbright Fellow and an elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the Ecological Society of America, and the Entomological Society of America. Rick and his research group have published over two hundred journal articles and book chapters. He has served in numerous roles at his church and is a member of the BioLogos Voices speaking bureau. He and his wife have two adult daughters and three grandchildren. For recreation, they enjoy road cycling, fly fishing, and reading.

Mark Strand
A member of the ASA since 1990, Mark Strand earned his PhD in health and behavioral science in 2004 from the University of Colorado at Denver. He is a professor in the College of Health Professions at North Dakota State University in Fargo. Mark is active in funded research in chronic disease epidemiology, including diabetes epidemiology, and with emphasis in the last five years on opioid misuse and overdose. He advises and teaches graduate student courses in these same areas.

Mark’s service to the ASA includes attending and presenting at the ASA annual conferences, as well supporting Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith through publishing, reviewing manuscripts, and writing book reviews. He is also an officer in the newly formed Red River Valley Chapter of the ASA. Mark and his wife Rene and their three children are active at Salem Evangelical Free Church in Fargo, ND.
California Baptist University Chapter Kick-Off Event

Effat Zeidan, President and Tom Ferko, Member-at-Large

We are proud to announce the launching of the California Baptist University local chapter this fall. The team is excited to work on structuring and organizing various student and leadership positions within the local chapter. In addition, the team decided to launch the chapter with a virtual event and is anticipating more events in the upcoming year as the transition goes back to face-to-face teaching on campus.

Our CBU community was pleased to host Sy Garte for our first awesome virtual event on September 13, 2020. The talk titled “Science and Faith Conversation with Dr. Sy Garte” was inspired by his unique journey from atheism to faith. The meeting was informal and interactive in nature as Garte shared the journey to his connection with God and how he, a scientific researcher, became a believer later in life. Participants included faculty and students interested in learning more of the connection between science and faith.

Strengthening ASA through Local Chapters

Dana Oleskiewicz

The ASA chapters give the necessary foundation toward our organizational mission. The seminars, networking, and leadership efforts by these local groups are essential to our sustainability and growth. We have been strategic in offering support to these regional teams, done so through communication in the Chapter Review newsletter, Chapter Chats for sharing ideas, and assistance for Zoom chapter events. Fostering brand new chapters is also a priority.

We are pleased to announce that two new chapters have joined our ranks. The Red River Valley (RRV) ASA Chapter hails from the north where the Red River forms the border of North Dakota and Minnesota. This region includes about 100 miles or so on either side of the river and extends into Canada. Fargo, ND, is designated as the epicenter for the group. Noel Anderson is president of RRV, joined by Mark Strand as vice president, David Buchanan as secretary/treasurer, and Ryan Striker as webmaster. A ceremonial signing of the ASA chapter application was done outside with social distancing. The official launch with executed signatures from the home office was September 15, 2020. We look forward to their kick-off event!

Another chapter has organized just southeast of the RRV. Please join us in welcoming the North Star Chapter. Geographic area for this group fills in the space between the more northern RRV and the southwest Prairie Chapter. Two of the North Star chapter leaders reside as professors at University of Northwestern—Saint Paul; Joanna Klein as Vice President and Dale Gentry as Webmaster. The president of the North Star ASA Chapter is Kristine Johnson. This chapter was launched on November 11, 2020, with the official kick-off event being planned. That brings us to a total of 36 ASA chapters throughout the USA and Canada!

Our desire is to start new chapters as well as to strengthen existing ones. Our more established, active chapters are being encouraged to partner with other chapters to cohost an event. This is being modeled after partnerships already in existence, such as the Rocky Mountain/Colorado Christian University Student chapters as well as the Boston/Gordon College Student chapters.

We recently linked the Philadelphia Chapter with the Washington DC Chapter in their offering on November 14 of the seminar “The Bible & Ancient Science: Principles of Interpretation” by Denis Lamoureux. This mentoring effort will continue into 2021 with the intent to reinforce the geographic areas covered by our local chapter networks and activity. If you want to learn more, please email Dana Oleskiewicz at dana@asa3.org.

Mars Exploration and the Search for Life in the Universe

Ralph Stearly

The newly formed West Michigan Chapter of the ASA held its first meeting this autumn, on September 18, 2020. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, our meeting was a virtual one, utilizing the Zoom platform available through ASA headquarters. We are thankful for the help of Dana Oleskiewicz in setting us up for the Zoom meeting.

Nearly 50 people, including several students, were in attendance. While we missed the social atmosphere of an in-person meeting, the virtual environment enabled several guests from outside our normal radius to attend—as far away as British Columbia! So there are some distinct advantages to the virtual format. The small group break-out sessions following Roger’s talk were fun and enabled us to get to know one another better.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Roger Wiens, from Los Alamos National Laboratory, who spoke on the topic “Mars Exploration and the Search for Life in the Universe.” Roger is familiar to most ASA members, having contributed articles to PSCF and a helpful mini-treatise on radiometric dating available in the ASA archives. Roger is a planetary chemist, who has developed instrumentation for past Mars landers and for the Perseverance mission, currently en route to the red planet. For those who missed the meeting, Roger’s talk is available on YouTube, at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PhNuv877aSE&feature=youtu.be.
Transhumanism, Will It Help Us to Love?

Dana Oleskiewicz

The Ohio ASA Chapter gathered virtually on the early evening of Sunday, October 25, 2020, to explore the topic: “Transhumanism, Will It Help Us to Love?” There were eleven in attendance, spanning geographically beyond Ohio, and even joined by a few non-ASA members.

The seminar was composed of three parts: (1) a recorded talk from the 2015 ASA Annual Meeting entitled “Technological Enhancement: What’s a Christian to Do?” by David Winyard, (2) a second recording from 2018 based on the paper, “Christianity, Transhumanism, and Techno-Syncretism” written by David Winyard, Christopher Benek, and Micah Redding; and (3) a live presentation by David Winyard related to church orthodoxy and biblical love. This was followed by an audience discussion, which included references to the June 2020 PSCF articles on transhumanism.

David Winyard opened the meeting by defining transhumanism and introducing its proponents, both Christian and secular. The Christian Transhumanist Society (CTA) was presented, along with an overview on goals and concepts being argued within broader audiences. More- extreme secular proponents view transhumanism as a way to become gods, while Christian transhumanists advocate for objectives to extend God’s calling by preserving and increasing the quality of life for humans.

Discussion ensued on the incompatibility of transhumanism with orthodox Christianity as defined by the major ancient creeds. CTA does not have a statement of faith, either explicit or implicit, which is an area of concern. Technology as a tool and people as co-creators were concepts also of interest within the conversation.

Another highlight was the discussion of the role of sin, salvation, and judgment. Death is not the problem for human life; rather, it is sin, which transhumanism does not address. The evening concluded with a recognition that the topic is complex and in need of more exploration. Attendees were grateful for the opportunity to examine transhumanism within gracious dialogue.

Local Chapter Events in Waterloo, Canada

Bob Geddes

We are happy to focus on some local chapter activities this fall from our Waterloo Chapter. Two events featured husband and wife teams. On November 11, Robert and Nancy Mann shared the topic “Addressing the Elephant in the Room: Can Faith and Science Co-Exist?” They made use of the two world views they represent, one as a scientist and one as a pastor, and how the union of faith and science is somewhat like a marriage. Robert is well known to ASA members, often speaking at our annual meetings. He is a physics professor at the University of Waterloo, and a past president (for 10 years) of the CSCA. Nancy has three master’s degrees (economics, education, and theology) and is a Mennonite pastor.

Another husband and wife presentation took place on December 1. It was entitled “When Crisis Hits: Christian Reflections on Faith in the Midst of Suffering” and was presented by Patrick and Elena Franklin. As summarized in their brief abstract:

This is a story of one family thrust into a journey of intense crisis and suffering. And the faithful surrounding of the family of God, the incredible action of the medical community, and the steadfast engagement, faith, and advocacy of a woman for her husband—who had lived his life for others in ethics advising, teaching, and ministry and one day awakened to his own body on the precipice of death.

Patrick, PhD, is an associate professor of Theology at Tyndale Seminary in Toronto, and is president of the CSCA. Elena, MDiv, is an adjunct instructor at Providence Seminary and a spiritual director.

We remind ASA membership that the talks mentioned above, and other recent presentations are available on the CSCA YouTube channel, which is csca.ca/yt. We invite you to check these out and hope that you will find them useful. Feedback is always appreciated. We are thankful to Mark McEwan, who handles the technical preparations for the channel.

Member Assembly Recap—Leading Lives of Purpose with Bryan Dik

John Wood

Did you have a chance to hear Bryan’s research on calling? The link to the YouTube video is on the ASA home page. This fall Bryan helped us to focus on a notoriously difficult question—what is our life calling? He and colleagues have given precision to the technical meaning of calling and vocation. Together they are conceptualizing not only the idea of “calling,” but are also measuring work satisfaction and framing theoretical models for something once only understood theologically or inspirationally. His research spans relational support for young workers, longitudinal studies, and surveys of older workers to enhancing social justice in career development.

All of us sense the change that is afoot at every stage of our lives. The pandemic is magnifying this feeling, but the disruptive force of COVID-19 will not last forever. What does God have in store for me in the wake of this season? Or if not directly for me, what advice is there for my family, my friends, or my colleagues who are facing life-altering career change?

At the October member assembly, in addition to Bryan, we heard from recent graduate Joshua Ho on the challenges of starting out. Jennifer Wiseman stirred us with the opportunities and challenges that the mid-career stage presents. Then Bryan helped us see what calling and vocation might look like throughout the broad arc of one’s career.

There are many metaphors for a career—a pathway, story, role, or even a journey. Some think of it as a resource through which we may bless others. But my favorite metaphor is that our career is a tapestry. Seen on one side, it is a mess of tangled threads. Yet, in the skilled hands of a weaver, it flows into a beautiful display on the other side. What is the story that God is weaving into your life? Thanks, Bryan, for your articulate presentation of the research on calling and vocation today.
News from CSCA

Bob Geddes, CSCA Secretary

The Canadian Scientific and Christian Affiliation had its annual general meeting on Friday November 13, 2020, via Zoom. There was a record attendance that included members from across the country (Nova Scotia to British Columbia) and also the United States. We were pleased that ASA President and Interim Executive Director John Wood was present and also shared some comments.

The meeting was chaired by CSCA President Patrick Franklin. Patrick introduced the guest speaker, CSCA Vice President Heather Prior. Heather presented a most insightful and inspiring talk entitled “All Generations: A Personal Story of Inheritance.” Heather shared her research and personal experiences on assisted reproductive technologies (ART).

We are “beyond delighted” with Patrick’s recovery in health. It also allowed the CSCA to get back on track with its Executive Council positions. We were very thankful that Janet Warren was able and willing to continue as Acting President until this fall, and so now has moved to the Past President position. We were also pleased to welcome and elect a new Student and Early Career Representative to the Executive Council, in the person of Nyasha Gondora, PhD. Nyasha also currently serves as the Local Chapter Representative for Waterloo and has actively participated in a number of recent ASA and CSCA initiatives. Tim Opperman has served out his term in that position, and we are very thankful for Tim’s work and creativity over the past three years. Completing the Executive Council and affirmed at the meeting are Heather Prior, Vice President; Bob Geddes, Secretary; Mike Werth, Treasurer; and Arnold Sikkema, Executive Director (ex officio). We also note and deeply appreciate the part-time work of Mark McEwan, who so effectively shares his time and technical expertise.

Reports were received from the two “Presidents,” the Executive Director, the Treasurer, and the Secretary (membership update). A highlight was the success of the Local Chapter Leaders meetings, offered by both the ASA and the CSCA on its own. They were considered to be very useful and worthwhile. The Executive Director, in sharing thoughts on future direction, reminded members that the CSCA will be hosting the 2023 ASA Annual Meeting in Canada. This also corresponds with the CSCA’s 50th anniversary of formation. To close the meeting, we were thankful that John Wood was able to participate, and he shared greetings from the ASA and his thoughts on how he has been encouraged by the direction of both the ASA and CSCA. He also noted the value of Canadians in the overall leadership of the ASA.

Zoom Interview with Kermit Ratzlaff, ASA member for 70 years!

Vicki Best

Tell us a bit about yourself and your family.

I currently live in Hillsboro, Kansas, the town where I was born. I was raised as a Mennonite in the Oklahoma panhandle during the dust bowl. I have five children, 14 grandchildren, 18 great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild on the way! In 2016, I lost my wonderful wife of 70 years. After teaching at Biola University for one year, I spent my career as a physiology professor at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, IL.

When did you first learn of the ASA and how did you become a member?

Around 1950, I learned about the ASA through John Sinclair, a fellow biologist, while discussing evolution when I was a grad student at UCLA.

Wow, you have been a member since 1951! What have you enjoyed about your ASA membership?

The biblically related topics about science and evolution, the veracity of the scriptures. I have especially enjoyed reading the journal over the years and the diverse, scholarly topics addressed. I keenly remember attending annual meetings at King’s College and John Brown University in the mid-60s where my family attended as well, and we also visited the World’s Fair while in New York. In addition, I have fond memories of serving as secretary of the Los Angeles chapter of the ASA in the 1950s.

You certainly have lived through much in your lifetime. Living through the COVID pandemic has been challenging for all of us. How are you coping?

While I patiently await the vaccine, it’s been lonely, but I am thankful that I can go to the common dining room for meals. Having few close friends, my socialization is limited. A big plus is zooming with my family on a regular basis.

How old are you? What words of wisdom or advice on life can you offer us?

I am 98 years old, a Christmas baby. I will turn 99 on December 26. An interesting fact about me is that I just retired (after 10 years of delivering the local newspaper) as the oldest paper boy in my town. My advice would be to strongly adhere to basic tenets of Christianity and scripture and, most importantly, to do so during difficult times—like I did while losing my wife and battling cancer.

You have been a long-time donor to the ASA. Why have you chosen the ASA in your charitable priorities?

The ASA has been an important and significant part of my thinking, my study, and my life. Thank you for your leadership and service to the ASA. I hope to give a little bit to the ASA in my legacy estate plans.
Richard Eugene Carlson  
**(1934–2020), Veterinarian/Otolaryngologist**

Dick Carlson passed away early morning on Friday, July 17, 2020, at Family Life Memory Care in Nampa, Idaho, after a courageous battle with Parkinson’s disease. Dick was born on November 11, 1934, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, the eldest son of Iner and Elizabeth Carlson. He grew up on a farm in Sandstone, Minnesota, and he was active in Future Farmers of America and played trumpet in the high school band. After graduating from Sandstone High School, he went to the University of Minnesota, where he earned a bachelor’s degree followed by a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1958—the same year he married Lois Westafer.

After practicing as a veterinarian for several years, he went back to medical school, earning his MD degree from the University of Minnesota in 1966. He completed a one-year medical internship in San Francisco, California, followed by a surgical residency in Baltimore, Maryland. Dick (and Lois) moved to the Seattle, Washington area in 1971. He worked for the Public Health Service for two years, and then he started an otolaryngology practice in Kirkland, Washington, where he was on medical staff at Evergreen Hospital. He also envisioned and cofounded the Evergreen Surgical Center.

In 1982, he left the Seattle area and subsequently practiced medicine in Tulsa, OK, Willmar, MN, and Nashville, TN, until his first retirement from medicine in 1989. He earned an MBA degree from Eastern Michigan University in 1990 and a master of public health degree in 1992. Dick also cofounded the Evergreen Surgical Center.

He and Lois moved to the Denver, Colorado area in 1996 and later to Boise, Idaho, in 2003. Always a lifelong learner with a passion to try new things, he later obtained a real estate license and developed a new hobby of woodworking and making pens. He was also an avid gardener who, working with Lois, created beautiful outdoor spaces in many locations.

Dick joined the ASA in early 1966, during his last year of medical school. While at Tulsa in the 80s, he was at the City of Faith at Oral Roberts where he had the privilege of knowing Bob Herrmann who would go on to become the executive director of the ASA. Dick enjoyed being part of the ASA and interacting with other Christians interested in the sciences. He and his wife, Lois, attended the ASA annual meeting at George Fox University in Oregon in 2008. He encouraged his daughter, Marcy, at the University of Wisconsin, to become an ASA member in 1998.

Melvyn P. Albright  
**(1945–2020), History**

Melvyn Paul “Mel” Albright, 75, of Knoxville, TN, formerly of Egg Harbor, NJ, passed away peacefully and into the arms of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on July 15, 2020. His message: “I don’t want to be in heaven without you. If you never trusted Christ as your Savior, please receive Him now.”

Mel was born in Norristown, PA, received a chemistry education degree from The King’s College formerly of Briarcliff Manor, NY, and a Master of Divinity from the former Biblical Theological Seminary (now Missio, PA). He spent 38 years teaching and influencing high school students in both classroom and on field trips at The Pilgrim Academy (NJ), Christian Academy of Knoxville (TN) and Evangelical Christian Academy (Madrid, Spain).

Mel was a member of Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church since 1981, active in Sunday School classes, boys’ Stockade, choir, and refugee ministry. His hobbies include vegetable gardening, fishing, reading maps, traveling, hiking, camping, and European art appreciation. His gifts were teaching, imparting wisdom, helps, and hospitality.

Mel joined the ASA in 1967 as a chemistry student at the King’s College in NY. He served in a leadership role at the Evangelical Christian Academy in Madrid, Spain. With his chemistry background, he maintained an interest and connection to science and faith through the ASA, sharing these views with the high school students to whom he ministered.
**Introducing**

**DIVING DEEPER DISCUSSIONS**

**WHAT?**
Supporting the mission of the ASA, Diving Deeper Discussions will be a unique opportunity to engage the content from *PSCF* in a new and interactive format.

**WHY?**
We think it will provide our members a platform for meaningful, scientific, and scholarly discussion.

**WHEN?**
The second Saturday of every month at 2 pm ET / 11 am PT via Zoom, beginning January 9, 2021.

**WHO?**
Executive Director Emeritus Randy Isaac will moderate these discussions. Periodically we will have invited guest participants such as article authors and book reviewers.

**STRUCTURE**
The first month of each three-month cycle will feature an article from the latest *PSCF* journal.
The second month will feature a book review from the latest *PSCF* journal.
The third month will feature a “favorite from the past” article from the journal.

**JOIN US**
Saturday, January 9, 2021, at 2 pm EST / 11 am PST via Zoom to discuss Erin Smith’s article, “The Role of Psychology in Advancing Dialogue between Science and Christianity” (*PSCF* 72, no. 4 [2020]: 204–22).