ASA 2022
What Is a Human? Flourishing as a Person
Tom Ferko and Louise Huang

Greetings from Southern California!

After a very long three-year wait to meet again in person, the American Scientific Affiliation invites you to attend the upcoming 2022 ASA Annual Meeting at Point Loma Nazarene University, July 29–August 1, 2022, in San Diego, California. Both longtime ASA members and newer attendees will find it to be a spectacular setting to engage in the science and faith conversation!

Our plenary speakers will offer meeting participants a window into historical and current theological thinking on the theme of “What Is a Human? Flourishing as a Person” with applications to issues of science and culture.

A wide range of contributed papers will fill six sessions, each with three concurrent presentations. Posters will be open for viewing with a designated time for meeting and conversing with the author. In addition, we will have meetups at meals for designated groups, volleyball and softball games, morning walks, and times for socializing at the mixer, during beverage and refreshment breaks, and at the ice cream social.

A special event this year is our gala, featuring a catered dinner at Liberty Station. Hal Poe will be the keynote speaker and his presentation is titled “Celebrating the Legacy of the ASA.”

For those unable to attend in person, we are delighted to announce that we will be live-streaming all of the plenary sessions, the gala, the worship service, the state of the ASA, and the parallel sessions that are held in Crill auditorium. Details to access the live-streaming sessions will be posted on our website.

PLENARY SPEAKERS

Erica W. Carlson
Professor of Physics
Purdue University

S. Joshua Swamidass
Physician, scientist, and professor
Washington University in St. Louis
Founder of Peaceful Science

Francis Su
Benediktsson-Karwa
Professor of Mathematics
Harvey Mudd College

Jessica Moerman
Climate and environmental scientist, pastor, educator, advocate
Evangelical Environmental Network
Dear Friends,

The search is on!

We are now seeking a new Executive Director who will join the ASA leadership team in these dynamic and challenging times. The search committee chair, ASA Executive Council President Bill Jordan has just announced a June 30, 2022, deadline. We are seeking a visionary leader, a communicator, with a servant-leader’s heart to join a gifted managerial executive team.

Please mention this opening to qualified individuals who you may know. And keep the search committee in prayer as they discern among the candidates to make a recommendation to the ASA Executive Council for appointment.

Who are we?
The ASA is explicitly a Christian professional and scholarly society. We stand out for this reason among vocationally based associations. Our members come from different careers, workplaces, and church experiences. Sometimes it can be challenging to find a shared center among such a diverse group of individuals. We do so, not by agreement on issues or positions per se, but in our shared commitment to our gospel unity. Membership in the ASA is an expression of commitment to the great credal statements of the church. This is the firm platform for a rich interdisciplinary dialogue and fellowship that we have enjoyed over eight decades.

Maintaining our mission.
These are disruptive times for any nonprofit organization, and especially so for membership-based ones. Transforming the ASA into a twenty-first-century professional and scholarly institution, serving Christians across North America and around the world, takes more than courage and imagination. It takes generous contributions of time, talent, and leadership from all our members. To help us thrive, the ASA Leadership Team has been implementing new member services. Adding new student chapters and increasing early-career and focused-affiliate activities is helping develop the next generation of leaders.

Today the ASA Executive Council is intent on our historic mission, on good governance, and on securing our future and legacy. We are continuing to engage, interpret, and communicate discoveries of science together with the insights of scripture. Our goal is to support our members in expressing their calling in service to the church, society, and science.

Christians in every generation have navigated polarizing questions, where danger, ignorance, knowledge, and faith are equally mixed. COVID has been our challenge today, and while we know so much more scientifically than earlier generations, our knowledge is far from complete. Intellectual humility is as essential now as it was then, and this is a central challenge for the ASA. In the past, we could rely on a certain commonality of experience and shared vocabulary for our views. This is no longer true. To help us, the council is working on a member code of practice.

Building our community.
The heart of the ASA experience is joining a community of like-minded individuals. As we listen together in respectful conversation, we are contributing to the common good. In the past, our focus was on what the ASA could contribute to the faith-science dialogue. How could the ASA foster a better conversation? Our action was centered on the question “What can the ASA do?” Today, we realize that the ASA does not reach science. The ASA does not reach the church. But our members do! The question now is how can we, in the ASA, assist you in expressing your calling in service to the church, society, science, and one another? We are here to help you grow as a scientist, a professional, and most importantly, as a Christian.

Now, after two long years, we are looking forward to our first in-person meeting. Excitement is building. As someone said, “It’s been almost like C.S. Lewis’s Narnia. Always winter, but never Christmas!” But the grip of the White Witch is over, and we are anticipating a wonderful meeting by the sea.

See you in San Diego!

John
ASA Is Revitalizing Its Affiliations

Dana Oleskiewicz

The ASA team has dedicated considerable time this last year discussing affiliations. ASA affiliations are organized according to discipline or interest areas, such as geology, biology, and engineering. We have been exploring how best to structure the affinity groups and offer support services toward their activity. Through that conversation, we have been able to energize existing affiliations and create new ones.

The Affiliation of Christian Biologists (ACB) held an exploratory meeting in April. There were fifteen attendees and several more who expressed an interest to be actively involved. The group discussed the overall objective to being an ASA affiliation and possible outreach events. Dana Oleskiewicz, Carlos Pinkham, and Brian Greuel have agreed to serve as leaders, and they are looking for one or two more officers. The meeting ended with the intent to gather again at ASA 2022 in San Diego, CA, to plan a fall launch event. Contact dana@asa3.org, if you have questions or wish to join us.

A theologian/clergy group is emerging as a brand, new affiliation. This was prompted with the realization that pastors and seminary professors often engage in the scholarly works of ASA, but they don’t have a formal structure to participate as do the science disciplines. Last fall, we held the first meeting and again hosted a conversation during the ASA Winter Symposium in January. Walter Rogero has agreed to take the lead. Further conversation is expected in early summer as we lead up to the annual meeting. We are hopeful that with continued dialogue a formal affiliation will be launched by this fall allowing members as theologians and clergy to have a place to call home within ASA.

If you will be joining us in San Diego, CA, July 29–August 1, don’t miss out on the opportunity to gather in person with fellow affiliate guests! These special meetups will be a chance to be in fellowship with colleagues from your discipline. Christian Women in Science will hold a dinner on Thursday, July 28, and meet for breakfast on Monday, Aug. 1. At breakfast on Saturday, July 30, the biologists and the geologists will dine in designated areas, while the engineers and the theologians/clergy will gather for breakfast on Sunday morning, July 31. We hope to see you there!
Visits with ASA Stalwarts

Vicki Best

While John was at the ASA home office recently, he and Vicki had the opportunity to visit with several longstanding ASA stalwarts in their homes in the Boston area.

Ann Haas lives in Hamilton, MA, where she and her late husband Jack served as chemistry professors at nearby Gordon College. Sharp as a tack, Ann told many funny stories of Jack’s days serving the ASA in several capacities, including as webmaster and PSCF editor. Over the years, many ASA members have benefited from their gift of hospitality.

Owen and Miriam Gingerich have lived in their Cambridge, MA, home for 60 years. Owen serves as professor emeritus of astronomy at Harvard University and has been a member of the ASA since 1983. He and Miriam have traveled the world extensively and have had the privilege of witnessing thirteen total eclipses in their lifetime. Owen has had an illustrious career and he has participated in many ASA activities over the years including most recently at ASA 2018 at Gordon College.

Betty Herrmann resides in Peabody, MA, just a few miles from the ASA office. Her late husband, Bob, served as Executive Director of the ASA from 1981 to 1994. Betty and her children have been longstanding friends of the ASA and still participate in the Herrmann Lectures at Gordon College. Betty has an amazing sense of humor, and she enthusiastically shared about their friendship with Sir John Templeton and worldwide travels with him and Owen Gingerich.

The ASA’s rich history is built on the legacy of many who have invested their time, talent, and treasure over many years. It was a joy to connect and fellowship with these key individuals who have helped make the ASA what it is today!

On the Road in the DC Area

Janel Curry

Vicki Best and Janel Curry, ASA Executive Council member, spent several days connecting with ASA members and partner organizations in the Washington, DC, area early April. They visited with Katy Hinman, Associate Director of the AAAS program, Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion (DoSER). They enjoyed visiting the offices of the AAAS, one of the first weeks the building was open since the start of the pandemic.

Vicki and Janel also visited long-time ASA members Bob and Carol Fay and had a wonderful lunch with them in the complex where they live that overlooks the woods.

Mike Beidler and his wife Christal hosted an ASA chapter event at their home where we gathered for dinner. Vicki and Janel enjoyed the wonderful time of food and fellowship, while we shared what has been going on in the ASA. ASA members and friends came from as far as two hours away. Everyone left with hearts and minds filled with joy at seeing people in person and participating in the rich discussion around faith and science.

Left to right: Carol Moyer, Tom Moyer, Carla Rynerson, David Rynerson, Scott Steward, Suzanne Steward

Facing camera: Vicki Best, Tom Larry, Suzanne Larry
Back to camera: Carol McFadden (partially hidden), Christal Beidler, Kathy Arveson

Left to right: Janel Curry, Ruth Correll, Jennifer Wiseman (back), Paul Arveson, Sy Garte, Aniko Albert
The ASA Executive Council welcomed Michael Beidler to its first meeting of the fiscal year on April 30, 2022. Mike was elected by the ASA membership in 2022 to serve the three-year term from April 1, 2022, through March 31, 2025.

As someone who has spent 30 years either in the military or working in military organizations in a civilian capacity, Mike contributes his extensive experience in strategic thinking and long-term vision-casting. As a former military diplomat, he brings his experience in strategic communications and public relations. As a social scientist, he provides a perspective grounded in the humanities. As someone whose religious upbringing mirrors his, Lastly, as a Christ-follower, all of his work for the ASA Executive Council will be done “with enthusiasm, as to the Lord and not for people” (Col 3:23b, NET).

Mike holds a BA in Political Science (University of Michigan), an MS in Global Leadership (University of San Diego), and an AA in Persian-Farsi (US Army’s Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center). Mike—a registered tribal citizen of Cherokee Nation—is president of the Washington, DC, chapter of the ASA, a lifetime member of the National Center for Science Education (NCSE), a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and a Fellow of the C. S. Lewis Institute.

News from the CSCA
Bob Geddes, CSCA Secretary

CSCA, along with the Christian Medical and Dental Association, Apologetics Canada, Christ Church Toronto, and Physicians for Life, sponsored Wycliffe College’s Toronto conference in early June, “What Does It Mean to be Human? Scientific, Theological, and Moral Dimensions.”

After the academic year wrapped up, the Vancouver chapter co-sponsored a talk at Trinity Western University by UK philosopher Ray Tallis, who came to Vancouver to speak there as well as at Regent College. The Montreal chapter held Zoom events with Erica Carlson and Chris Barrigar.

The CSCA is pleased to share some detailed updates on plans for the 2023 ASA annual meeting, as well as activities throughout that year to commemorate and celebrate the CSCA’s 50th Anniversary. It will be the CSCA’s privilege to host the annual meeting, slated for July 28 to 31, 2023. The proposed venue is the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM). It is a lovely medium-sized and walkable campus located within the provincially designated greenbelt, along the Credit River valley. UTM is the former Erindale College, has an enrollment of 15,000 students, and is 33 kilometres west of the main University of Toronto campus. It is only 20 minutes by car or one hour by public transit from Pearson International Airport (Canada’s busiest), and is easily accessed by four-lane highways. We were fortunate to have ASA Interim Executive Director John Wood join us on a preliminary campus tour on May 6, and a follow-up tour will be undertaken in June as well.

The theme for the meeting is “Moving Forward Together: The Future of Science and Faith.” The theme text is Philippians 3:12:

“Not that I have already obtained all of this or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that which Jesus Christ took hold of me.” The program cochairs are Robert Mann and Janet Warren, and the local arrangements chair is Vlad Paserin.

While it is too early to confirm plenary speakers, a number are close to that stage, including a recent Nobel Prize winner who is a Canadian physicist and Christian. Field trip possibilities include a guided tour of some of the Royal Botanical Gardens in the Burlington–Hamilton area, a visit to A Rocha Ontario’s Cedar Haven site, a field trip to examine glacial landforms, and sustainable food projects at the national retreat center of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and an arranged tour of the Royal Ontario Museum with its new “Dawn of Life” exhibit (adjacent to its famous dinosaur exhibit). The Dawn of Life exhibit houses the world’s largest collection and display of Burgess Shale fossils. We are also working on the possibilities of a relevant art display to be installed at a prominent location for the duration of the meeting.

One of the themes of the meeting itself will include a focus on the 50th anniversary of the CSCA. An anniversary committee has been established, and is convened by Judy Toronchuk and Rebecca Dielschneider. They and the committee are contemplating a variety of year-long activities, including a speakers’ tour of former CSCA presidents, and weekly profiles of CSCA members, perhaps sharing their favorite scripture passage and significant influences of their science and faith ethos. The committee is open to input on other ideas for a meaningful celebration, designed to strengthen both the ASA and CSCA.

The CSCA will be sharing a presentation at this year’s ASA meeting at Point Loma Nazarene University which will promote the 2023 meeting and some of the anniversary activities. Please be attentive to further news and announcements.
CWiS Hosts Technology Discussion

Dana Oleskiewicz

The ASA Christian Women in Science (CWiS) affiliate was pleased to partner with InterVarsity’s Emerging Scholar Network (ESN) to offer a program on technology with guest speaker and ASA Fellow Derek Schuurman. On April 22, 2022, Bob Trube with ESN guided a conversation about the recently published book, *A Christian Field Guide to Technology for Engineers and Designers* written by Derek, along with Ethan Brue and Steven Vanderleest.

Technology shapes the way that we live, interact, work, play, and even worship, requiring wisdom as we discern its use. The question-and-answer format allowed for greater audience participation. Smaller group discussion followed the main event, with women audience members being facilitated by Andrea Bridges from Women in the Academy and Professions and Hannah Eagleson with ESN.

North Star Chapter Observes and Learns about Nature in the Park

Kristine Johnson

At the North Star Chapter spring meeting on Saturday, May 7, twelve gathered on a gorgeous morning with perfect weather to observe nature and fellowship together. On our walk through the park, we saw grackles, Canadian geese, a goldfinch, a blue jay, cardinals, black-capped chickadees, a white-breasted nuthatch, a snake, and a snail, and heard a brown-headed cowbird, singing sparrow, and sora (marsh bird). Dale Gentry led the excursion and identified many birds by sight or song.

Amy Dykstra taught us how moss reproduces, even pointing out the sporophytes on the moss. We had hoped to see many wildflowers and migrating birds but we had such cold weather in April that the trees were barely budding and no flowers were out yet.

Our group included a couple of retired professors, a couple of chemistry professors, a couple of ecologists, an aerospace engineer, a couple of biology professors, and a few friends and family. Following our nature hike, we enjoyed snacks and visiting together before heading our separate ways.
Members in Glory

Stanley Wayne Moore
(1937–2022), Political scientist

Stanley Wayne Moore, age 84, of Pasadena, California, passed away on Wednesday, January 5, 2022. Stanley was born February 11, 1937, in New Jersey. He was a member of the Political Science faculty of Pepperdine University.

Stan joined the ASA in 1973. He and his wife, Nancy who was a Presbyterian minister, faithfully and enthusiastically supported the ASA for the rest of his life. They attended many annual meetings, most recently the 2012 and the 2016 meetings at Point Loma and Azusa Pacific, respectively.

Stan was the program chair for the ASA annual meeting at Pepperdine in 1988. That meeting included Richard Bube as a plenary speaker. Stan was the local arrangements chair when the ASA annual meeting was once more held at Pepperdine in 2002.

Jerry Bruemmer
(1936–2022), Geologist; Systems Engineer

Jerry Lee Bruemmer, of Rockville, Maryland, entered the presence of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ at his home on March 15, 2022. Jerry was born on January 10, 1936, in Stephenson, Michigan. He graduated from Menominee High School in 1954 and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Geology with a minor in history from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. He did post baccalaureate studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

In his sophomore year at Michigan, he entered the NROTC regular program. In August 1959, he was commissioned Ensign, USN in Ann Arbor. He served three years active duty in the Pacific Fleet on the USS Estes (AGC 12) and the afloat staff of Commander Amphibious Squadron Five.

In August 1962, he married Carolyn Elizabeth Anderson in Portland, Oregon. He entered graduate school at the University of Oregon, Eugene, OR, and was awarded the Master of Arts in Geology and Geophysics in 1964. He worked for Humble Oil in Midland, Texas. In 1965, he joined IBM in Kinston, New York, in airline reservation systems programming. He joined Technical Resources Corporation in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1968, and rejoined IBM in 1970 in Denver, Colorado. His moves with IBM were to Kansas City, Missouri; Portland, Oregon; and Walnut Creek, California. His area of specialization included software systems architecture of complex real-time systems, including credit card systems and telephony.

Jerry enjoyed time with his family, reading, Bible study, travel, and music. He was active in the Navy for 28 years; he retired as Captain, USN, in 1984. He retired from IBM as Senior Systems Engineer in May 1997 with thirty years of service. He traveled to twenty-one countries in his careers with IBM and the US Navy.

Jerry joined the ASA in 2000 and was a faithful supporter throughout the rest of his life. He recalls attending various ASA local chapters and particularly enjoyed hearing Richard Bube speak.

In March 2009, Jerry and Carolyn moved to Rockville, Maryland. His beloved Carolyn died in April 2013 from the effects of Alzheimer’s disease. Jerry married Breegan (Bree) Baldwin in December 2014, at St. John’s Episcopal Church, Olney, Maryland.

ASA New Members January–March 2022

Please join us in welcoming these new members!

Steffanie Abbey – Haymarket, VA
Crystal Auz – Ewa Beach, HI
Susan Aycock – Tupelo, MS
Jung Won Bae – Daejeon, South Korea
Ellane Barcelon – Seoul, South Korea
Talila Baskaran – Pewaukee, WI
Salma Benani – Casablanca, Morocco
Eliza Blount – Barrington, RI
Allison Blue – Hugo, MN
Andrew Wiebe – Toronto, ON

Changru Gong – Sugar Land, TX
Holly Hamilton – Nicholasville, KY
Sundar Isukapati – Albany, NY
Byeongsu Jeong – Wenham, MA
Elijah Johnson – Windsor, CO
Tiffany Laterra – Wenham, MA
Kyle Knaffla – Milaca, MN
Gavin Knudson – Blaine, MN
Peyton Lame – St. Paul, MN
Annalise Libbon – Duluth, MN
Aubrey Lynch – Roanoke, VA
Erica MacIntyre – Burlington, ON
Abigail Maxwell – Wenham, MA
Lucimar Milagres – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Stephen Mitchell – Spring, TX
Felicia Rivera – DKI Jakarta, Indonesia
Karenna Nelson – Oak View, CA
Ineke Neutel – Ottawa, ON
Kim Oppertshauser – Caledonia, ON
Donald Owens – Fort Worth, TX
Joshua Price – Seattle, WA
Jarvin Ramirez – Alpharetta, GA
Felicia Rivera – DKI Jakarta, Indonesia
Serenity Schaefer – Lindstrom, MN
Jaffrey Morgan – Wheaton, IL
Caitlynd Myburgh – Edmonton, AB
Caleb Nelson – Arden Hills, MN
Caitlynd Myburgh – Edmonton, AB
Caleb Nelson – Arden Hills, MN
Thank you!

By God’s grace and your generous support, we reached our ambitious goal of raising $260,000 by March 31, 2022, to end our fiscal year in the black.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

With deep gratitude,
Vicki Best