Meet the New Members of the ASA Board of Directors

ASA members have elected Kathryn Applegate and Robert Geddes as members of the ASA Board of Directors for a three-year term, beginning April 1, 2023. They join Michael Everest, chair; Se Kim, vice chair; Mike Beidler, treasurer; Effat Zeidan, secretary; and Dominic Halsmer, member. We thank Bill Jordan for his five years of dedicated service, serving last year as president of the executive council, now the board of directors.

Kathryn Applegate joined the ASA as a graduate student and appreciates the focus on fellowship and mentorship within the organization. She is a former Program Director and current advisor for BioLogos, an organization founded by ASA Fellow Francis Collins to show how faith and science work hand in hand. Kathryn received her doctorate in computational cell biology from Scripps Research (La Jolla, CA) and bachelor’s degrees in biophysics (BS) and math (BA) from Centenary College (Shreveport, LA). In 2010, she joined the BioLogos staff where she focused on writing, speaking, and working with a wide variety of scholars and educators to develop new science and faith resources. Kathryn co-edited with Jim Stump the book How I Changed My Mind About Evolution (InterVarsity Press, 2016). From 2017–2022, she led the development of Integrate, a 15-unit science and faith curriculum for home educators and teachers at Christian schools.

Kathryn lives with her husband and their two children in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where she enjoys volunteering at church and at her kids’ school. As a life-long animal lover, she also enjoys tending the backyard bird feeder and doting on Teddy, the family dog. She is a native Texan.

Robert (Bob) Geddes is a retired Presbyterian pastor. He received a BSc and MSc in geology from the University of Western Ontario and worked in that field for about fifteen years, half in mineral exploration and half with the Ontario Geological Survey. He then felt the call to pastoral ministry and received an MDiv from Knox College (UToronto). He pastored at The South Gate Presbyterian Church in Hamilton, Ontario, for nearly twenty years.

Bob has been a member of the ASA/CSCA since 2002, and he served on the Executive Council of the CSCA for fourteen years, much of that time as secretary treasurer. He was the local arrangements chair for the 2014 ASA Annual Meeting at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. He has been thankful for ASA/CSCA local chapters, and he was active with the Hamilton Chapter for many years. He also appreciates being a participant with the ASA Prayer Group.

His wife Lynne, a retired physical therapist and former department head at McMaster, enjoys being part of the ASA annual meetings. Bob also lives vicariously through his children: daughter Jennifer, who is a Presbyterian minister on Vancouver Island, and son Jeff, who is on the faculty of the Department of Earth and Environment at Boston University.
Women in the American Scientific Affiliation: Past, Present, Future

Veronica Frans, Vice President, CWiS

Christian Women in Science (CWiS) hosted a CWiS Live! event, February 26 and February 28, 2023. Sunday night we had twelve attendees (10 women, 2 men); Tuesday night fourteen people (10 women, 4 men) joined us. ASA President Janel Curry and ASA Fellow and 2022 Marie Berg Awardee Dorothy (Dot) Chappell shared their findings from a rigorous review of ASA records, from the 1940s to the present, to track women’s history (involvement) in the ASA.

They found that ASA’s degree of inclusion of women closely followed the same major waves of feminism in American history, but there were also distinct moments in history where the ASA lagged behind. The presentation showed key tipping points of change that led to empowerment, inclusion, and more diversity in the ASA. Some of those tipping points were driven by key influential ASA members—both women and men.

Janel closed by saying that women’s presence in institutions is like a “canary in a coal mine”—key indicators of the health of an organization, as diversity invites new ideas, growth, and opportunities. As diversity, equity, and inclusion in the ASA is here to stay, attendees at CWiS Live! happily commented that the ASA is becoming more like Christ’s Kingdom—as it should be.

On May 21 (5:30 p.m. ET) and May 23 (7:30 p.m. ET), CWiS Live! will host its next event. All are invited to join as Janet Kellogg Ray shares with us about her book, Baby Dinosaurs on the Ark? The Bible and Modern Science and the Trouble of Making It All Fit, and her personal experiences about writing and publishing as a Christian woman in science. The study guide for this book is set to release in March. Be sure to get a copy and join us for an enlightening conversation.
ASA/CSCA Newsletter
Vol. 65, No. 1, 2023 • 3

CSCA: Celebrating 50 Years
Arnold Sikkema, CSCA President

This is the first ASA/CSCA newsletter for 2023, our fiftieth anniversary year! Our celebration committee has been actively delivering on our goals to promote the CSCA, encourage our members, learn about our members, celebrate our past, and discuss our future.

In January, our Vancouver chapter hosted former CSCA president Robert Mann as the first in our past president lecture series, which are taking place in various chapters in the first half of the year. He spoke at events co-hosted by Trinity Western University as well as The Scriptorium at UBC, the only Canadian member of the Consortium of Christian Study Centers, in a day-long series of events including a watch party of the ASA Winter Symposium. (See related article on p. 5.) Gary Partlow spoke in February at Renison College to the Waterloo chapter in the second of this series, to be followed by Arnold Sikkema visiting the Edmonton chapter and James Peterson speaking for the Hamilton chapter.

We have prepared a 50th anniversary newsletter containing a wonderful summary of the history of the CSCA by Judy Toronchuk and reflections from a number of perspectives. The newsletter includes a Truly Canadian Scavenger Hunt for which prizes will be awarded at the July conference. This special newsletter can be found at our 50th anniversary website csca.ca/50 where you can also find information about the past president’s lecture series, Q&A with 50 CSCA members (one per week), historical exhibits, etc.

Recognizing that celebrations bring additional expenses, we are encouraging donations toward our anniversary fund via csca.ca/support. Our legacy fund, running in parallel with the ASA campaign, is also worthy of significant support as we look to the future.

Thank you for joining our celebrations!

ASA 2023 Winter Symposium
Becky English

On January 28, 2023, the ASA hosted the 2023 Winter Symposium entitled “Scientists and the Church,” featuring Walter Kim, President of the National Association of Evangelicals, and Jessica Moerman, Vice President of Science and Policy at the Evangelical Environmental Network.

The event had over 400 registrants from 15 countries and included watch parties and discussion groups across North America participating in this important dialogue between scientists and the church. (See related articles and photos on pp. 4 and 5.)

The presentation was an encouragement to all of us, presenting ways that we can be of better mutual service to one another and calling us to humility as we engage across our differences. A recording of the event can be found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKUsSxckQ5I.

We were also fortunate to have ASA member Ciara Reyes-Ton join us to perform her new song, “To Become Human.” You can listen to this song on Spotify and Apple Music.

Watch for news on the 2024 Winter Symposium. We have invited Elaine Howard Ecklund, the Herbert S. Autrey Chair in Social Sciences, Professor of Sociology, and director of the Boniuk Institute at Rice University, to be our guest speaker.

Help Us Reach Our Annual Fund Goal of $265,000.

Our fiscal year ends March 31, 2023.

FY23 Annual Fund
$265,000
$299,000

Reminder:

Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith is now published three times a year: March, September, and December.
A Time to Gather in Fellowship at the 2023 Winter Symposium

Dana Oleskiewicz

One of the greatest additions to the ASA outreach effort toward our mission is the ability to connect virtually around the world. The 2023 Winter Symposium was a huge success in doing so. We invited all ASA and CSCA chapters to participate locally in conjunction with this annual event. The idea was to collectively be in fellowship at locations throughout the USA and Canada during the broadcast that featured Walter Kim (National Association of Evangelicals) and Jessica Moerman (Evangelical Environmental Network).

Local chapter watch parties for the symposium as in-person gatherings were held on January 28 at King’s University, Trinity Western University, Gordon College, Colorado Christian University, Wheaton College, City of Refuge Church (Houston, TX), Anselm House (Minneapolis, MN), New Life Presbyterian Church (Philadelphia, PA), Salem Church (Moorhead, MN), and at the home of Mike Beidler, ASA Board Member (Fairfax, VA).

In addition, some chapters and affiliates held virtual meetings as a complement to the general discussion meeting that followed facilitated by Hannah Eagleson. The Red River Valley and Rocky Mountain Chapters joined online after the session to discuss the information that was shared during the symposium. The Affiliation of Christian Biologists and the Affiliation of Ministers, Philosophers, Historians, and Theologians were also inspired to hold a meeting to further the conversation. This was an opportunity for a re-energized ASA affiliation and a brand new one, respectively, to strengthen their group.

In total, over 250 people participated in the follow-up virtual and in-person discussions that spanned great distances, connecting us in fellowship as brothers and sisters in Christ. We are blessed with the technological ability to do so and by the continual enthusiasm of our members to be in community with the ASA.
Scientists and the Church All-Day Event
Arnold Sikkema

CSCA Vancouver, the Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences at Trinity Western University (TWU), and The Scriptorium at the University of British Columbia (UBC) held a set of events on January 28, 2023, featuring the ASA Winter Symposium and the CSCA Past Presidents' Lecture Tour.

The day began at 8:00 a.m. with an intimate pastors/leaders breakfast at a restaurant. Others joined us at 10:00 a.m. for the livestream of the ASA Winter Symposium followed by lunch at TWU. At 1:00 p.m., about 35 people came to hear CSCA Past President Robert Mann speak on “To Infinity and Beyond: 50 Years of Exploring Science and Faith.” Talk video is at: https://youtu.be/b0svzxJJNVg.

At 5:30 p.m., about 20 came to UBC for dinner. Fifty people attended the 7:30 p.m. talk “Time and Eternity,” by Robert Mann. Talk video is at: https://youtu.be/CJzklgkMI3I.

ASA Members Host a Watch Party
Carol Kankelborg

Charles and I hosted a watch party for the Winter Symposium at our home in Boseman, Montana. We had 10 people total, including 60% of Montana ASA members. Guests included our daughter who hopes to be in grad school for clinical psychology in the fall; two graduates from Hillsdale College with an interest in faith/science topics; a former pastor and current staff member of International Students Incorporated who works with international students on campus, many of whom are in the sciences; an early-career marine biologist; a new grad student in electrical engineering at Montana State University from Korea; and a first-year physics grad student who knew about ASA before coming here. (See photo, p. 4.)

A few others were interested but couldn’t make it due to other commitments or icy road conditions following the previous day’s storm.

We had a great discussion after the event.

ASA Gordon College Student Chapter Hosts Fire from Heaven: Michael Faraday and the Dawn of the Electrical Age
Sean Grimes, Vice President, ASA Gordon College Student Chapter

On February 21, 2023, Gordon College (GC) hosted Murray Watts’s latest play, Fire from Heaven: Michael Faraday and the Dawn of the Electrical Age. A rapt audience of ~225 people attended. Audience members included GC students, faculty, and staff; ASA Boston Chapter members; members from local churches; and members of the community. The event was so well attended that the line to get into the auditorium stretched down the Ken Olsen Science Center loggia and around the corner past the first-floor classrooms.

Isabelle Matthews, current president of the ASA GC student chapter, briefly welcomed the audience, and immediately after, actor Andrew Harrison brought us into the world of Michael Faraday. The actor gave a brilliant and awe-inspiring performance, utilizing an array of accents from Great Britain. With the most subtle transition of facial muscles and inflection, Harrison took on the guise of completely new characters, all with only six props at his disposal. The audience became deeply enthralled by Faraday’s life story. You could hear “ooo’s,” “awww’s,” and laughter as the audience journeyed with Faraday through the ups and downs of hardship, disappointment, and suffering, then joy, excitement, and the thrill of discovery.

After the performance, Harrison exited stage left, and ASA GC Student Chapter Leader Jacklyn Kuznicki introduced the three esteemed panelists: Murray Watts, playwright; Kristen Siaw, Gordon College physics professor; and Ian Hutchinson, recently retired MIT professor of nuclear science and engineering. Questions from the audience revolved primarily around Faraday’s life, how he blended faith and science, if he had met specific contemporaries, and how the panelists might handle particular situations. The panel discussion lasted 15 to 20 minutes. ASA GC Student Chapter Vice President Sean Grimes thanked the panelists, then informed the audience of its next scheduled event: a roundtable casual dinner, lecture and discussion with Scott Flaig on the topic of miracles, on Friday, March 24, 2023, in the Ken Olsen Science Center, Room 127.

After the play and panel discussion, four audience members were thrilled to win physics-themed T-shirts in honor of Michael Faraday. A light reception followed in the loggia.

Overall, it was a fantastic event, enjoyed by all. We hope that other ASA members can see this play as it travels around the country!
In early January, Vicki Best and I traveled to visit with numerous ASA members and chapters in Arizona and Florida. Daisy Savarirajan, leader of the Grand Canyon University chapter, organized a gathering of faculty and administrators for a discussion about ASA. We also toured their science facilities.

Later, we attended a dinner gathering at the Campus Christian Center for the Arizona State University chapter, the only ASA chapter associated with a state university. This gathering was organized by ASA member Ben Sanders, Executive Director of the Arizona Center for Christian Studies.

While in Arizona, Vicki and I also visited Thresa Hickernell, widow of longtime ASA Fellow Fred S. Hickernell, and mother of present ASA Fellow, Fred J. Hickernell.

We finished our time off in Phoenix with a long hike in the Phoenix Mountains and dinner with my brother, Steve Curry, a medical toxicologist who had just been reading a book by ASA Fellow Josh Swamidass.

Vicki then travelled to Florida where she met with a group of science faculty at Palm Beach Atlantic University, where ASA Fellow Debra Schwinn serves as president. She also visited with early career members Joel Alvarez and Marylin Landrau and longtime members Martin and Bonnie Price, Ed Allen, and David and Meg Singer.
Wesley G Bentrude
(1935-2022), Chemistry

Wesley George Bentrude, age 87, of Sandy, Utah, passed away in October 2022. He was born on March 13, 1935, in Waterloo, Iowa. He received his Bachelor of Science at Iowa State University in 1957 and his Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, in 1961.

He served as research chemist at Celanese Chemical, Clarkwood, Texas, from 1961–1963 and a postdoc at U. Pittsburgh from 1963–1964. He then accepted a faculty position in chemistry at the University of Utah where he spent the rest of his career. Wes had 233 technical publications in chemistry. He was Humboldt fellow, Braunschweig, Germany, 1977, 1981 and visiting professor at U. Aix-Marseille, France, 1983. He was a Fellow of the AAAS and a member of the ACS and Inter-American Photochem.

In the early 1980s, Wes served on a committee charged with designing a high school curriculum for Intermountain Christian School. He wrote to ASA requesting resources of non-recent creation material and the request was published in the May 1984 ASA Newsletter. Wesley joined the ASA in May 2017 when he became aware of the ASA Annual Meeting in Colorado that year. He attended the meeting and continued his ASA membership until his death.

James Runyon
(1949-2022), Chemistry, Computer Science

James Philip Runyon, age 73, of Noblesville, Indiana (formerly of Wheaton, Illinois), passed away November 26, 2022, surrounded by his family at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Jim was born October 25, 1949, in Alma, Michigan, to Lawrence and Leilah (Hartgerink) Runyon. He graduated from Bronson High School in Bronson, Michigan. He also graduated from Taylor University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry Education, and later a Masters in Education and Masters of Science degree in Computer Science.

Jim taught high school chemistry for 7 years and later retired from Nokia Bell Labs where had a 32-year career. He married Merrilee Church on June 20, 1981, at Pleasant Hill Church in Bronson, Michigan, and loved her deeply. Together, they had 4 kids and 4 grandchildren. Jim was a devoted husband and a faithful father who studied his kids, and learned and encouraged each of their unique interests alongside them. After seeing his sons show an interest in endurance racing, Jim became a dedicated athlete—running several triathlons with his sons and even running the Chicago Marathon.

Jim and Merrilee were faithful members of Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington, Illinois, and Jim was actively involved in Reasons to Believe, a science/faith-based organization exploring the connections between science and faith. Jim joined the American Scientific Affiliation in 2011 when he attended the ASA Wheaton Chapter meeting which preceded the ASA Annual Meeting at North Central College that year. At that time he befriended Randy Isaac and introduced his friend Perry Marshall to Randy. Later, Jim maintained his membership in the ASA and participated in the ASA Wheaton Chapter meetings.

ASA New Members
October–December 2022
Please join us in welcoming these new members!

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Eunice Adjei</td>
<td>Waltham, MA</td>
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<td>Kalkidan Antonios</td>
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<td>Yael Antonios</td>
<td>Wenham, MA</td>
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<td>Scott Bessenecker</td>
<td>Madison, WI</td>
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<td>Anna Botha</td>
<td>Randburg, South Africa</td>
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<td>Louisa Borson</td>
<td>Burr Ridge, IL</td>
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<td>Kaye Cook</td>
<td>Wenham, MA</td>
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<td>Richard Crowson</td>
<td>Titusville, FL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paulo de Oliveira Cantanhêde</td>
<td>Berrien Springs, MI</td>
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<td>Kathryn Dean</td>
<td>Pearl River, LA</td>
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<td>Andrew DeJong</td>
<td>Grand Rapids, MI</td>
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<td>Thang Dong</td>
<td>Dagon Seikkan Township, Myanmar</td>
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<td>Jacob Film</td>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hannah Go</td>
<td>Valencia, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Micah Green</td>
<td>College Station, TX</td>
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Logan Grove – Pawling, NY
Peter Hekman – Grand Rapids, MI
Chevon Jordan – Thousand Palms, CA
Ellie Klotz – Warsaw, IN
Ken Kupisz – Toronto, ON
Jeremy Lanier – Santa Rosa, CA
Jenn Feng Lau – Grand Rapids, MI
Lucas Lopez – Atlanta, GA
Michael Odwallo – Nairobi, Kenya
Janet Ray – Lewisville, TX
Diana Saad – San Dimas, CA
Shainel Selles – Stony Plain, AB
Carolyn Sparks – Zeeland, MI
Gretchen Stokes – Gainesville, FL
Jonathan Thiessen – Kitchener, AB
Ogonyana Uma – Abuja, Nigeria
William Whitney – Azusa, CA

The Newsletter of the ASA and CSCA is published quarterly for its membership by the American Scientific Affiliation. Please send Newsletter information to Rebecca English, becky@asa3.org. Kindly send Canadian matters to CSCA, PO Box 63082, University Plaza, Dundas, ON L9H 4H0. Send address changes and other business items to The American Scientific Affiliation, 218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield, MA 01983-2210. Phone: (978) 887-8633; E-mail: asa@asa3.org; Website: www.asa3.org. ©2023 American Scientific Affiliation (except previously published material). All rights reserved.
Moving Forward Together
Robert Mann and Janet Warren, ASA 2023 Program Chairs

We are looking forward to the ASA/CSCA Annual Meeting this coming July 28–31 at the University of Toronto in Mississauga. This meeting will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the CSCA, and it will include visitors from Christians in Science in the UK and ISCAST in Australia.

We have an exciting lineup of five plenary speakers, covering the full range of the sciences, and over 60 parallel session presentations and a poster session.

Pre-meeting optional excursions to various places of interest in the southern Ontario region, including the Royal Botanical Gardens and the Royal Ontario Museum, are being planned by 2023 Local Arrangements Chair Vlad Paserin and his assistant Bob Geddes. In addition, there will be pre-meeting optional workshops on artificial intelligence, developing a life of scholarship, and an introduction to the science/faith dialogue.

We look forward to seeing old friends, meeting new ones, and finding out what God has in store for “The Future of Science and Faith.” Check our website for the latest details.