ASA 2023 Meets in Canada to Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the CSCA

Robert Mann and Janet Warren, ASA 2023 Program Chairs

The 77th annual meeting of the ASA has come and gone and by all measures it was a very successful time of learning, fellowship, and worship. We met at the University of Toronto Mississauga in Ontario, Canada, from July 28 to July 31, 2023. The meeting marked the 50th anniversary of the CSCA, and its theme—Moving Forward Together: The Future of Science and Faith—covered the entire range of the sciences.

We heard from Nobel laureate Donna Strickland not only on how her work boosted the power of lasers by more than a million times, but also about a new initiative she is working on to restore public trust in the scientific community. Joanna Ng gave an inspiring presentation reminding us that divine wisdom is always greater than artificial intelligence, and how that wisdom can guide Christians in navigating the future of AI.

Dennis Alexander spoke on the relationship between how our genetic makeup does and does not determine who we are as children of God.

Megan DeFranza gave a challenging talk on the biology of intersex and its implications for understanding gender, and provided a biblical road map for addressing these issues.

And Victoria Lorrimer presented a theological perspective on transhumanism, providing much reflection on what it means to be a people of hope made in the image of God.

The meeting was preceded by three professional development workshops—developing an intentional plan for your scholarly life, Christians in artificial intelligence, and an introduction to the science-faith dialogue—as well as three field trips to local points of interest. Special thanks to Bob Geddes, Vlad Paserin, and Valerie Sikkema for leading excursions to the escarpment geological formations, the Royal Ontario Museum, and the Royal Botanical Gardens that were enjoyed by all who attended.

There were sixty contributed talks on technology, environmental sciences, psychology, biology, science communication, and physics plus three tracks were dedicated to special interests: students and early career attendees, chapter and affiliate groups, and a viewing of the AAAS DoSER film, “Science as Mastery: A Story about Race and Power.” Sixteen posters made for an engaging poster session, and the coffee breaks and meal times provided ample opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones, as well as continuing deep discussions on science-faith issues.

The times of worship and devotion served to bring us together as a Christian community. Music was expertly led by Glen Solderholm, with inspiring morning devotions delivered by Nyasha Gondora (Saturday) and Judy Toronchuk (Monday). The highlight of our worship was on Sunday morning, when former CSCA President Patrick Franklin gave a thoughtful sermon on taking “hold of that for which Jesus Christ took hold of me” (building on the conference’s theme verse, Phil. 3:12).

The ASA Annual Meetings are an opportunity for members to reflect on how our faith as Christians is integrated into our professional lives in science, technology, and academic discourse. This meeting was no exception—indeed, according to many attendees, it exceeded expectations. It was a meeting full of ideas and inspiration, of questions and quandaries, of fun and fellowship. We were truly blessed and look forward to next year’s meeting!
Dear Friends,

The theme of this year’s annual meeting was Moving Forward Together: The Future of Science and Faith. Patrick Franklin, in his sermon on Sunday, stressed the importance of “together, we are a fellowship.”

What are the things that get in the way of our living out the fullness of our mission together? Patrick pointed to the many individual distractions that can impede our journey together if each person begins to try to define their own conception of what Christ is calling us to as a fellowship of Christians in the sciences. We can answer the question of where we are going only through developing the discipline required to live out that life together in Christ. Life together requires that we set aside our own agendas and enter a space where we can have honest disagreements. I call these “brave spaces,” spaces where we disagree but with the self-discipline and skills needed to ensure the recognition of every individual as made in the image of God. We listen to each other. We ask clarifying questions to help us understand. We struggle with challenging ideas. This space is where God’s power flourishes showing, for the world, the possibility of honesty, integrity, and reconciliation.

We can nurture this brave space, unleashing the power of the Holy Spirit, through entering into times of reflection centered in the person of Christ—an antidote to the societal forces that pull us in all directions and divide us. I find the discipline of worship as one of those practices that help maintain reflection. This is why we start each day at the annual meeting in a time of worship. We are reminded of our life together in Christ.

For me, the annual meeting itself is a place and time of reflection. We are away from our computers and silence our phones. We meet people face-to-face and hear about their spiritual and vocational journeys. We explore the beauty of the world through field trips. We worship and are challenged to understand the nature of the world. Presentations force us to face the reality of the brokenness around us, and we together yearn for a world where we experience shalom, where we are at peace with one another, with the creation, and with God. This is the goal toward which we strive—Jesus and his kingdom.

Warm greetings,

Janel

Participants Enjoy Pre-ASA 2023 Field Trips

Three field trips offered visits to the Royal Botanical Gardens (Canada’s largest botanical garden), the Dawn of Life exhibit at the Royal Ontario Museum, and the Eco-Geo Tour of the Guelph area. Here are first-hand descriptions.

Royal Botanical Gardens

Heather Prior

The tour of the Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) was led by our engaging and knowledgeable horticulturist, Valerie Sikkema. Our first stop was the Arboretum, where we visited the Synoptic Shrub Collection to admire and learn about plants from A to Z (that’s “zed” since it was in Canada), including varieties that Valerie herself had helped to develop. There were many amazing types of trees as well.

Next we drove to the RBG Centre and Hendrie Park, where we were captivated by the Rose Garden with its significantly re-designed “all natural” approach to pest management. As a result, we saw not only an incredible variety of colors and types of roses, but also dill, garlic, cone flowers, and many other plants interspersed with the roses to help them thrive. We even had a chance to see two flourishing ash trees, perhaps the genetic forebear to a line of emerald ash borer beetle-resistant future trees. The time flew by (and the day grew hotter) and all too soon we walked back through the beautiful gift shop to the bus for our return ride to campus.

Royal Ontario Museum

Lynn Billman and Seth Hart

The visit to the Royal Ontario Museum featured the first gallery of its kind in North America, the Dawn of Life, and was led by local arrangements chair Vlad Paserin. It was a whirlwind journey through nearly 300 million years of life’s history.

On our guided tour, we witnessed some of the exquisitely preserved fossils from the Burgess Shale Formation in Canada. Our museum guide, a specialist on these fossils, turned out to be the perfect recipient for our myriad of questions.

Our journey continued from these Cambrian fossils and ended with the Permian extinction. The exhibit itself was excellent, emphasizing the story of microscopic things in the fossil record. It covered a lot of geologic time, working up into larger
creatures than the microbes and bacteria, and used some very creative models to convey the realism of these creatures. From there, we were free to explore the other exhibits individually, such as the many dinosaur skeletons and the collections of objects from diverse people groups from around the globe. I (Seth) found the Ice Age fossils to be a personal favorite, though the encyclopedic knowledge of our guide made for an unforgettable experience.

In all, the museum was an experience many of us thoroughly enjoyed, though I (Lynn) think we were all of the opinion that we would need another full day to really see all its various displays. A lovely trip!

**Eco-Geo Field Trip**

**Joanne Moyer**

The tour of the Guelph geological region was led by our engaging and knowledgeable geologist pastor, Bob Geddes. Our first stop on the Eco-Geo Field Trip was Crawford Lake, which has been proposed as the golden spike candidate to demark the start of the Anthropocene Epoch.

We didn’t have time to enter the park, but people took pictures by the sign. Then we visited A Rocha Canada’s Cedar Haven Eco Centre, where we walked around the property and learned about their conservation projects in a Christian context.

We had lunch at Crieff Hills Community Conference and Retreat Centre (belonging to the Presbyterian Church of Canada) and learned about their work providing space for people to practice and experience sabbath. We also met their herd of rare soay sheep, which are helping to clear the property of invasive buckthorn.

Our final stop was the Westover Drumlin, which we climbed and from which we could view other glacial features across the landscape. Despite the hot day, it was wonderful to spend time outside learning about these interesting and inspiring initiatives. I especially liked the sheep!

**ASA Fellows Meet**

**Christine Menzel**

A great time was had by all who attended the Fellows’ dinner Thursday evening before ASA 2023, our annual meeting at the University of Toronto-Mississauga.

According to the ASA website, to be a Fellow in the ASA you must be active in the ASA with publications, talks, and meeting attendance as well as be a member for five cumulative years. Other activities include serving on ASA committees. Historically, Fellows have made significant contributions to the ASA. It has become an annual tradition to gather the Fellows at the annual meeting.

In Toronto this year, the Fellows and their guests met at the restaurant Culinaria. To help defray the cost of this event, the Fellows and their guests made an additional payment for the dinners. It was well worth it. There was such a joyful reunion seeing friends that hadn’t been seen in some time.

Executive Vice President Vicki Best provided an update on the past year. ASA President Janel Curry was introduced, and she warmly expressed her appreciation to the organization for giving her this new role.

Finally, it was impressive to hear each Fellow give a few words of introduction explaining their current contributions. Vicki was most kind in giving additional information about these members, for example, congratulating Ann Hunt for her more than 50 years of service to the ASA.
Pre-ASA 2023 Workshops

Janel Curry

The ASA had three pre-meeting workshops this year in Toronto, all focused on aspects of professional development. ASA Fellows Michael Everest and Stephen Contakes led a workshop that gave an introduction to the faith/science landscape in order to prepare first-time attendees for the variety of perspectives they might encounter at the conference. Attendees were treated to an overview of past and present movements that continue to shape science-faith conversations today and learned about the history and culture of the ASA. The session concluded with a discussion of how the ASA’s stance in not taking a position on controversial issues plays out in venues such as at ASA annual meetings and in various ASA publications.

ASA President Janel Curry and Helen Sterk led a workshop to aid individuals at various stages in their careers in making an intentional plan for their scholarly life. The workshop covered topics such as identifying and articulating a scholarly program of passion and focus, developing a concrete plan of research with a timeline, networking, time management, grant writing, and publishing books and articles. The group had lunch with PSCF editor Jim Peterson, who shared his perspectives on what a publisher looks for in a submission to a journal.

A workshop on artificial intelligence and Christianity organized by Hannah Eagleson (ASA), Derek Schuurman (Calvin), Sherol Chen (AI scholar), and Richard Zhang (Google) gave AI researchers the opportunity to gather across fields and career points. The innovative format maximized conversations through a series of 10-minute lightning talks from researchers in the field, a panel discussion of all presenters, and small group conversations to explore further. The panel discussion was hosted by Hannah. Panelists were J. Nathan Matias (Cornell), Joanna Ng (keynote speaker and Devarim Design), Juan Rojas (Lipscomb), Ken Arnold (Calvin), and Calvin students Saron Melesse, Noelle Haviland, and Ray Flanagan.

God at Work at ASA 2023

John Van Sloten

When ASA member Julie Reynolds nudged me to submit an abstract for ASA 2023, I had no idea what I was in for. While the process of creating a poster (capturing the thesis of my book God Speaks Science) was deeply rewarding, what happened on day two of the conference shook me.

That morning I had prayed that I’d be open to engaging the people to whom God would have me talk, and not just people whom I would seek out or strategically want to connect with.

Later that day, I met a woman in the conference lobby who taught at a nearby university; she was not part of the conference and was planning to work on campus. Noticing my name tag, she asked what the conference was about. After I told her about the faith and science nature of the event, she said, “Well, that’s me!” She then told me that she teaches science communication and is a person of faith.

She mentioned a recent assignment she had given her students. Her atheist students did it readily, but her Christian faith-based students struggled. She said she was looking for a resource to help those faith-based students find a way to communicate about faith and science in a more relevant way.

And then, surprisingly, she said she had just heard a commercial on the car radio about a book called, God Speaks Science. She made a mental note to look the book up, parked her car, and then walked into the foyer where my poster and stack of free books were.

Needless to say, we were both shocked! And after a wonderful conversation, I gave her three copies of the book. She went on to connect with people at the CSCA/ASA table and stayed for the rest of the day’s events.
ASA Student Testimonial

Chloe Liu

At ASA 2023, God opened my eyes to see his presence in the community and in my life. One of the most impactful moments was worshipping Jesus with songs, highlighting the faithful relationship God has with his creation, in a room full of scientists. How beautiful it is when science points us not to self-pride but to God!

Seeing women of color being represented on the panel of confident and knowledgeable plenary speakers was very encouraging to me. I did not expect that my racial and gender identity would play a prominent role in my experience at the conference, but God met me where I was and enlightened me.

2023 Student/Early Career Engagement at Annual Meeting

Hannah Eagleson

This year, Nobel laureate Donna Strickland had lunch with student/early career members at ASA 2023. In an interview by ASA graduate student member Veronica Frans, Donna modelled humility and joy as she talked about how much she loves her scientific work. It was an amazing highlight in a year of great developments.

Our partnership with InterVarsity’s Emerging Scholars Network (ESN) continues to grow, with 40 student/early career members attending the conference. It was amazing to hear the reflections of panel participants in the ASA/ESN Student/Early Career Track. Matthew Solt, Veronica Frans, and Matthew Ravichandran shared early career perspectives on faith and science. Dwight Schwartz of InterVarsity Grad/Faculty Ministries and Louise Huang of Azusa Pacific shared wisdom from their scientific and mentoring experience.

We were also delighted to welcome a number of campus ministers and student groups from different campuses. We’re in conversation about how the summer activities can help launch fall collaborations with campus ministry groups, including Christian study centers and residential spaces at universities, InterVarsity faith and work initiatives in Canada, and InterVarsity grad and faculty chapters at Berkeley, University of Texas at Austin, and campuses in New York state.

At the State of the ASA, we presented our third annual Early Career Scientist and Campus Ministry Awards. We were delighted to honor Nyasha Gondora with the Early Career Scientist Award for her work in academia and now at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and for her deep contributions to the Canadian Scientific and Christian Affiliation. We also celebrated Dwight Schwartz with the Campus Ministry Award for his 20 years of mentoring as a PhD in science/campus minister.

ASA/CSCA also launched a new student poster contest, with Nyasha Gondora organizing the judging and celebrating the winners at the InterVarsity Reception/Ice Cream Social. Winners were Saulo de Oliverira Cantanhêde, Kristin Kendall, and Matthew Ravichandran.

It was a year of exciting growth as we saw wider campus ministry engagement, enthusiastic participation, and interest in further collaborations. We’re especially thrilled that early career members are already planning to invite friends and colleagues to ASA 2024 in Washington DC!

ASA/CSCA Newsletter

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Frisbee was the Ultimate at ASA!

*Dominic M. Halsmer, your ASA sports junkie*

About 25 attendees came out to throw the Frisbee on a glorious Sunday afternoon at ASA 2023. The university graciously allowed us to play on their beautifully manicured soccer game field which made the competitive experience all the more scintillating!

We began by warming up our arms with some simple back and forth tosses of the discs. After a few minutes of this, and assuming that most interested player had arrived, we initiated a highly competitive ultimate frisbee game between randomly chosen teams (actually, blue shirts vs. non-blue shirts). The narrow victory attained by the blue shirts was highlighted by the multiple diving-catch-attempts made by one of our tenacious and inspiring plenary speakers (Victoria Lorrimar)!

All-in-all, a wonderful time of friendly, but high intensity, competition was had by all with only minor injuries to show for it. I was particularly impressed with the Christ-like attitude that was consistently displayed by all the participants, which was in good keeping with the “Spirit of the Game” of Ultimate. I know that God was smiling down on our feeble efforts of athleticism. I hope that we will continue to make room for such energetic and youthful activities at future ASA meetings.

ASA New Members, April–June 2023

*Please join us in welcoming these new members!*

Anthony Bao –Austin, TX  
Ellen Brideweser –Warwick, NY  
Michal Cantrell –Gilbert, AZ  
Erda Celer –Ankara, Turkey  
John Clark –Lewisville, TX  
Gary Combs –Greenwood, IN  
Lawrence Dauer –Newburgh, NY  
Jaden Dilda –Hamilton, ON  
Christina Dokter –Buford, GA  
Micah Donor –Newberg, OR  
Andrew Doppenberg –Toronto, ON  
Laura Drebuskenko –Gaithersburg, MD  
Reynald Dumaalon –Auckland CBD, New Zealand  
Trista Felker –Wheaton, IL  
Kewana Gooden –West Barnstable, MA  
Zachary Grimes –Paragould, AR  
George Haraksin II –Covina, CA  
Joshua Henry –West Palm Beach, FL  
Quin Horstman –Inwood, IA  
Miwha Jin –College Park, MD  
Abhi Kancherla –SeaTac, WA  
Matthew Keller –Knoxville, TN  
Kristin Kendall –Cumberland, ME  
Julie Kim –Clarksville, MD  
Rea Klar –Williams Lake, BC  
Macey Lam –Kokomo, IN  
Maria Lee –Ithaca, NY  
Zhuozhuo Liu –Richmond, BC  
Halimah Livingston –Orange, CA  
Raji Mamade –Boston, MA  
Charitie Martino –St. Petersburg, FL  
Saron Melesse –Grand Rapids, MI  
Sergiy Mokhov –Orlando, FL  
Marilyn Naeem –Taunton, MA  
Kehinde Osijo –Ottawa, ON  
Shyam Pahari –North Dartmouth, MA  
Finney Premkumar –Monrovia, CA  
Scott Rainwater –Silver Spring, MD  
Nathaniel Ricker –Burlington, ON  
Annabelle Vincent –Stanford, CA  
Natalie Welcome –Gilbert, AZ  
Craig Wong –Berkeley, CA
CSCA’s 50th Anniversary as Celebrated at ASA 2023
Arnold Sikkema, Rebecca Dielschneider, Joseph Vybihal, Judy Toronchuk

The Annual Meeting prominently highlighted the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Scientific and Christian Affiliation. An anniversary newsletter and a sticker of the anniversary logo were included in the welcome bags, there were free maple candies given out prior to a keynote lecture, the ASA table featured CSCA anniversary T-shirts and toques for sale, and the schedule featured a Canadian BBQ dinner on the Saturday evening.

Just before the BBQ, CSCA presented a gift to the ASA: CSCA Executive Director Arnold Sikkema passed on to ASA President Janel Curry, as a memento of the long-standing connection between CSCA and ASA, a half-metre square rug-hooking of the ASA logo made over 40 years ago by Faith Osmond, wife of prominent CSCA founding member Dan Osmond. The only “string attached” was that ASA retain the favor by gifting CSCA a similar rendition of the CSA logo either at ASA’s or CSCA’s 100th anniversary!

The Canadian BBQ meal included several burger options (beef, salmon, vegetarian, or Canadian back bacon) and salad options (Three Sisters salad, potato salad, and more). The Three Sisters salad includes corn, beans, and squash; thanks to indigenous wisdom, we know that these three plants help each other grow, which is fitting since attendees certainly spend a lot of time growing together at ASA annual meetings. Dessert options included several squares including Nanaimo bars named after Nanaimo, British Columbia. These layered squares are a Canadian classic! Once attendees filled their plates with these delicious foods, many took advantage of the beautiful summer evening (a relief after high temperatures and a rainstorm) and ate their meal on picnic tables outside. This gathering, like many others at the meeting, was a great time of fellowship.

The CSCA Executive Council wishes to thank our anniversary celebration committee for all its work in coordinating activities throughout the year and at the conference, especially co-chairs Rebecca Dielschneider and Judy Toronchuk.

CSCA Executive Director Arnold Sikkema presents a rug-hooking of the ASA logo to ASA President Janel Curry

From front left: Rebecca Dielschneider, Jay Hollman, Joseph Vybihal, Electra Rozakis, Mark Strand, Charlotte Hollman, James Hollman

CSCA *executive council members, †local chapter leaders, and ‡co-chairs (program, local arrangements, celebration committee)
Dana Oleskiewicz, CWiS President

Christian Women in Science (CWiS) Recognizes Influential ASA Women
Dana Oleskiewicz, CWiS President

During the State of the ASA, Christian Women in Science (CWiS) recognized Judy Toronchuk and Lynn Billman for their exceptional professional accomplishments and dedication to CWiS. Dot Chappell, CWiS committee member, presented them with the Marie H. Berg Award, a necklace with a pendant made from a Lake Superior agate known as a “sister rock,” handcrafted by Gina and Chris Harman, a woman- and Native American-owned business.

Judy Toronchuk became a member of ASA as an undergrad at Rutgers University. She is an ASA Fellow and has served on the executive councils of both the ASA and the CSCA. She holds an MA in zoology and PhD in psychology from McGill University, as well as an MA in theological studies from Regent College. She taught neuroscience and psychology at Trinity Western University for over 20 years. Judy was influential in the formation of the CSCA 50 years ago and has been a strong advocate for the participation of women in the sciences.

Lynn Billman earned a BS with highest honors in chemistry at the University of California at Berkeley. Her early career was in the analytical laboratories at Chevron. She moved to Colorado and worked for 27 years at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in several capacities, including strategic and capital planning, overseeing modeling of energy markets and policy options, and helping a little Kansas town rebuild “green” after a devastating tornado. In 2015, Lynn was instrumental in the formation of CWiS and served as its president for many years.

Thank you, Judy and Lynn, for your contributions to supporting women in science!
Richard W. Caster
(1938–2022), Chemical Engineer

Richard William “Dick” Caster was born in Monroe, Washington, on March 8, 1938, and passed away in Federal Way on October 4, 2022. You might find Dick Caster researching and writing for the Federal Way Historical Society, taking a trip to Ocean Shores, or learning the latest line dance. At 84 years old, Dick liked to keep active, and living at Village Green filled the bill perfectly. He really enjoyed keeping fit, so, the yoga exercise classes and walking with his miniature schnauzer, Katie, on these beautiful grounds were wonderful activities for him.

Growing up in Seattle, Dick earned a bachelor’s in chemical engineering from Seattle University and went on to get his master’s in the same field at the University of Washington. Another master’s in biblical studies at Faith Seminary in Tacoma rounded out his education. After two years in the Army, Dick was at Weyerhaeuser for 35 years where he worked with structural gluing of wood products.

As treasurer of the Village Green Resident Council, Dick contributed to the “voice” of the residents and, together, the group decided on projects to support. Dick’s other interests included biblical archaeology, history, and traveling. He visited 22 countries and counted Israel and Egypt as two of his top destinations. He was a Greek scholar and taught Bible classes. He was an avid historian; Dick co-authored a book on Federal Way’s history titled Federal Way: Images of America (2008).

Dick joined the ASA in April 1981 and remained a faithful member.

Owen J. Gingerich
(1930–2023) Astronomer

One of the greatest Christian scholars of his generation, Owen Jay Gingerich died on May 28, 2023, at age 93. Born in March 1930 to devout Mennonite parents, he grew up in Iowa, Kansas, and Indiana with an early fascination for the stars. His father Melvin, the only member of his family who finished high school, became a history teacher and later (after completing a doctorate at the University of Iowa) a college professor. As a graduate student, Melvin brought home astronomy books from the university library for his son, including one about how to build a telescope. Together they made one good enough to see Saturn’s rings from a mailing tube, eyeglass lenses, and a magnifying lens for the eyepiece. As a teenager, Owen joined his father on a trip to Poland in 1946, bringing livestock to war-torn countries on behalf of the United Nations. A Polish astronomer who learned about it invited Owen to visit Poland again, resulting in Owen’s involvement in preparations for the Copernican quinquecentennial in 1973—an experience that helped re-shape his academic career.

When Melvin accepted a faculty position at Goshen College, Owen left high school a year early to enter Goshen, from which he graduated in 1951 with a degree in chemistry. That is where he encountered physicist H. Harold Hartzler, a leading ASA member, whom Owen considered “one of my most influential undergraduate teachers.” At that time, he was pondering how a person who wanted to serve Christ could justify doing “something so useless as astronomy.” Hartzler offered this advice: “We can’t let the atheists take over any particular profession. If you feel that you have a calling to go into astronomy you should go for it.”

Following a summer job at Harvard Observatory, Owen was admitted to Harvard as a graduate student in astronomy, earning a master’s degree in 1953. He made his first appearance in the old ASA journal in September 1953, when Hartzler forwarded a six-paragraph summary of cutting-edge work on the size and age of the universe that Owen wrote. Although Hartzler credited it to Owen, the piece was published under Hartzler’s name. At the same time, he became a teaching fellow under I. Bernard Cohen, the first American to receive a PhD in history of science and a student of George Sarton, founder of the History of Science Society. Decades later, Owen became a professor in that illustrious department. The following year, Owen married fellow Goshen graduate Miriam Sensenig, a nurse. They would have three sons.

David B. MacKay
(1944–2023), Marketing and Mathematical Psychology

David Bruce MacKay was born on May 1, 1944, in Yonkers, New York. As a teenager, he spent summers working on farms in upstate New York, and one winter he learned how to collect sap from maple trees with horses and boil it down in huge iron pots to make syrup. Intending to become a farmer, he was awarded a full scholarship to Cornell University, but allergies led him into agricultural economics instead.

During his graduate studies in marketing at Northwestern University, he was active in InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. In January 1971, he started teaching at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University. A teacher with high expectations, he also loved research, publishing often in journals of other disciplines, such as mathematical psychology, such that he was part of both the psychology and geography departments in addition to marketing. A regular recipient of grants from the National Science Foundation grants, David and his colleague, psychologist Jerry Zinnes, developed the Proscal software.

A daily reader of the Bible, David was a charter member of Christ Community Church in Bloomington, where he was an elder and an adult Sunday School teacher. David learned about the ASA from Ted Davis, who joined the same church when he was a doctoral student at Indiana and attended a Bible study led by David. Together, they started an academic discussion group for Christian graduate students and faculty that met weekly in the university library and continued after Ted graduated until David’s death. David was a member of ASA for more than 43 years, consistent with his lifelong interest in apologetics.

In 1968, David married Carole Bartlett from Lafayette, California, a nursing student in Chicago whom he met on a blind date. Carole and their daughter Deborah MacKay, a clinical psychologist at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, survive him. They also had five foster girls, three from Nigeria and two from Uganda.
David L. Willis
(1927–2023), Biologist

David Lee Willis passed away from a stroke on June 4, 2023, in McMinnville, Oregon. He was born March 15, 1927, in Pasadena, California, to Olan and Ida May (Lott) Willis. All of his childhood was lived in the adjacent city of South Pasadena. His parents were separated and then divorced when he was an infant. He was raised for his first five years by his maternal grandmother while his mother supported the family. From age six, he and his mother lived independently while she worked in banking and later as city treasurer.

David met his future wife, Earline Louise Fleischman, during his senior year at Biola. They were married in 1950 in her home church in Anaheim, California. Three sons were born to them: David, Jr. (1952), Paul (1955), and Daniel (1957). In 1955, Earline contracted polio, which left her partially paralyzed. This, however, did not keep them from enjoying many travels together. When at home, David especially enjoyed working on his model railroad.

After attending Biola, he earned a BS in General Science from Wheaton College, an MA in Biology from Long Beach State College (now California State University, Long Beach), and a PhD in Radiation Biology from Oregon State University, where he then taught until his retirement in 1994.


Hawaii Volcanoes in the Sun
sponsored by the American Scientific Affiliation

The ASA is delighted to extend an invitation to you to travel with us for a once in a lifetime excursion to Hawaii from February 13–25, 2024. Get ready for warmer temperatures as you join the ASA Leadership team, Janel Curry and Vicki Best, on an expedition to Hawaii with Gerry Van Kooten, geologist and volcanic rock expert.

Made up of 132 volcanic islands, Hawaii is the world’s largest island chain. On this tour, you’ll visit three of the seven inhabited Hawaiian islands: Hawaii (also known as the Big Island), Kauai, and O’ahu. This custom-designed adventure combines volcanic exploration with not-to-miss Hawaiian sightseeing. This trip is open to ASA members, spouses, and friends but space is limited.

Tour cost is $6,895 per person from Los Angeles based on double occupancy. We have partnered with Witte expert travel consultants who can assist in travel arrangements to Los Angeles for your departure to Hawaii.

Inclusions:
- Flights from Los Angeles (other departure cities available upon request)
- Inter-island flights
- Hotel accommodations for 12 nights
- Breakfast daily, 3 lunches, and 4 dinners
- Transportation from arrival until departure
- Sightseeing and entrance fees
- Tips and taxes

Please note: This geology trip assumes the general good health of participants. There is no avoiding moderate walking as day trips to various island locations will, out of necessity, mean much walking—good exercise!

You can find the full brochure with all of the details at https://cdn.ymaws.com/network.asa3.org/resource/resmgr/images_3/asa_hawaii_trip.pdf. Any questions can be directed to Janel at janel@asa3.org or Vicki at vicki@asa3.org.

We hope you will consider joining us!