The year of my presidency, 2003 was another good year for ASA. It was an honor and distinct pleasure to work with the staff of ASA, the Council members and the membership at large. The executive council met twice in 2003 and wrestled with several important issues. These included ASA’s continuing efforts to attract and retain early career scientists; the need for ethical affirmation for Christians in scientific work; promotional for the Lay Education Project; a more efficient way to nominate people for the Executive Council; limiting book reviewers for the *PSCF* to those who have expertise in the field they are reviewing, and finally, the formation of a search team to look for a new Executive Director for ASA in 2004. The Council agreed to raise the salary of the new Director and allow for possible re-location of the ASA office. The Council took special note of Don Munro’s faithful and diligent service to ASA for the past ten years, as Executive Director. The Council and staff wish Don and Joyce God’s blessing on the next chapter of their lives.

The highlight of 2003 was the annual meeting at Colorado Christian University in Denver, under the superb leadership of Jennifer Wiseman. Attendance was a near record and the plenary sessions received accolades from all the attendees. The major disappointment of the year was the unsuccessful application of ASA, to the Templeton Foundation for a large grant to allow ASA to start affiliates in Eastern Europe and countries of the Former Soviet Union.

In my humble opinion, ASA is ready to expand its vision for the 21st century beyond debates and discussions on issues of science and faith and instead direct sustained attention to studying critical issues that are facing the world as a global village. In my presidential address, I listed a number of these challenges, such as impending global energy and water crises, poverty, pandemics, terrorism and frontal attacks on evangelicals. Roman Miller, editor of *PSCF*, has graciously agreed to publish these comments in the June issue of the *PSCF*. I would like to include two of the more important remarks I made in the presidential report.

1. Identify the special expertise of ASA members.
   a. As an organization with a broad spectrum of specialties, ASA can and often does provide experts who can address every one of the problems mentioned above. At present, there is no easy way to identify who these members are (see below).
   b. In addition to individual contributions, ASA can provide collective strength to address the above challenges through its three Affiliations (CEST, Biology and Geology) and eight Commissions, which are Bioethics, Communications, Creation, Global Resources and Environment, Science Education, Social Sciences, Physical Sciences, and History & Philosophy of Science. Some of these Affiliations/Commissions are active, others are not.
   c. ASA has established a communication infrastructure that consists of a bi-monthly Newsletter and the refereed quarterly journal (*PSCF*). The ASA web site, still under development, is being modernized to provide: (i) an online directory for members to identify and contact other members on geographic location and topic of interest; (ii) a moderated, low-volume, opt-out announcement e-mail list that would include alerts, critical information and regular feature articles, and (iii) a strategy of referral marketing for attracting new members, specially those with expertise in the new technical fields of biotechnology, nanotechnology and robotics.

2. How to Better Utilize ASA Resources
   In the past, ASA members have placed emphasis on position papers, monographs, presentations, and special symposia conducted by various active commissions, at annual meetings. All these are commendable efforts and should continue, but ASA has ways and means of directing sustained attention to studying big issues, it can marshal a greater breadth of expertise that normally comes together in other venues, and provide helpful contribution of attention to ethical issues. Here are some practical venues:
a. ASA Commissions can develop supplementary texts or booklets for high school and college students, and use the website to add the ingredients of the real world, missing in secular texts, regarding the kingdom of God in human affairs. These supplementary materials could counter the sweeping tide of scientific materialism. One such effort is the Lay Education Committee project preparing the book and video with the working title: “Knowing Creation: What Science and the Bible Reveal about the Heavens and the Earth,” for use in high schools.

b. Greater member participation can be gained through the use of the new on-line directory in the Commissions and more proactive involvement in the above issues. For example, expanding the mission of the Bioethics Commission to include biomedical ethics, environmental ethics, and professional/research ethics. Recent highly publicized episodes of misconduct and fraud in physics, such as the creation of element 116 at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory have prompted the American Physical Society to update and expand its professional ethics guidelines. The list of ethical issues in biomedical and environmental fields is long: the gene pool as resource for future economic activity; genetically engineered organs; fusion of computational electronic and genetic technologies; global reseeding of the biosphere with laboratory conceived transgenic plants, and finally legitimating the framework for the biotech century. All these may be tools to enhance life and produce liberation, but if history is our guide, they will also engender unanticipated consequences and be used to further tyranny.

c. The CEST Affiliation (Christian Engineers and Scientists in Technology) of ASA provides a forum for establishing ethical standards in engineering. The most difficult question for engineers, scientists and businessmen is whether there should be limits set on technological growth. For example, robust growth in nanotechnology will lead to nano-electronics to revolutionize computers and sensors, nano-electronic based robotics with AI, and cyborg technology. Some of these advances will enable construction and maintenance in space, creation of new materials that are defect free and low cost for myriad applications, and provide access to vast information; but how will mankind make wise use of these advances for the physical and spiritual welfare of all peoples?

d. Active participation in decision-making bodies at the county level, city, state and on federal commissions, will place the ASA members in strategic positions to influence new policies.

e. Senior members should actively recruit and mentor (i) graduate students, to offer them guidance in their selection of majors and (ii) early career scientists to encourage them to seek employment in the private and/or public sector that are addressing one or more of those critical issues.

f. Finally, ASA can have a global outreach by exporting the ASA concept abroad, beyond Canada (CSCA) and England (CiS) to other countries in Europe, Former Soviet Union countries, Asian, African, and Latin American countries, creating international affiliates that would adapt the ASA concept to their local cultures and values.

The challenges for ASA in the 21st century are daunting. However, as Apostle Paul encourages the church in Ephesus, no challenge is too great for those who “may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God,” specially if we take to heart the conviction that “He is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine according to His power that is at work within us” Eph 3:19, 20.

CSCA President’s Report
Robert Mann

Our nation-wide lecture series, originally entitled “Science and Faith in the New Millennium,” we retitled “Science and Faith in the 21st Century,” since the turn of the millennium is now three years old. However, the purpose of this public lecture series remains the same: to present current issues in the ongoing science/religion dialogue from a Christian perspective.

In the early part of 2003, South African cosmologist George Ellis made a cross-Canada tour, appearing in Edmonton, Vancouver, Victoria, Waterloo, Hamilton, Halifax, Fredericton and Montreal. His general theme was on “Science, the Natures of Existence, and the Grounds of True Morality.” His lectures
were well-attended in every part of Canada where he spoke, with over 700 people attending the presentation he gave in Edmonton. Our local CSCA chapter in Edmonton had a very active day that day!

Renowned psychologist Malcolm Jeeves of the United Kingdom also participated in our series, making several appearances in the Vancouver region in the winter of 2003. He addressed the ongoing dialogue between faith and psychology in his lectures, and dealt with the question as to whether or not modern neuroscience has a place for the soul.

In the fall of 2003 Denis Lamoureux—Canada’s first and only professor of Science and Religion—appeared in the southern Ontario region, speaking in Toronto, Hamilton and St. Catherines on the topic “Evolutionary Creation: An Evangelical Approach to Evolution.” Denis also made two appearances on the television program “Test of Faith.” In one of these he was part of a panel dealing with Intelligent Design whose participants included Michael Behe and Mike Ruse. In the second appearance he and several others debated John Spong on the resurrection and historicity of Jesus.

Toward the end of November, astronomer Owen Gingerich participated in our series, giving a series of lectures in Wolfville, Halifax and Fredericton. His topics —“Dare a Scientist believe in Design?” and “Truth in Science: Proof, Persuasion, and the Galileo Affair” were very well received and brought out quite a number of people who had never heard of CSCA.

The lecture series committee in 2003 was Paul Heintzman, Don McNally, Robert Mann (chair), Judy Toronchuk, Tony Whitehead and John Wood. In the fall of 2003 Denis Lamoureux took over from John Wood, and Mike Robertson took over for Paul Heintzman. All deserve a round of thanks for their hard work in making the series possible.

The series continues to be supported by grants from the Priscilla and Stanford Reid Trust and the Local Societies Initiative, along with private donations from CSCA members and friends. These grants and donations are essential for the ongoing work of the CSCA in delivering this series. The series received an award from the Sigma-Xi Society for its sponsorship (joint with the Montreal chapter of Sigma-Xi) of lectures by Anne Foerst in late 2002. Entitled “Seeking a Silicon Soul,” these talks addressed some of the theological implications of artificial intelligence. News articles about the series appeared in several regions of the country, including Alberta, B.C. and Nova Scotia. The lecture series has given us new opportunities to articulate the gospel of Jesus Christ in ways and places that otherwise would not be available. We contend that our society will benefit from the participation of a biblically grounded prophetic voice in the ongoing public discussion concerning the role and usage of science. May the Holy Spirit continue to lead us in this task.

Membership remains an important issue. Our numbers have slightly increased—from 86 people in 2002 to 98 in 2003—but is still considerably lower than it was in the 1980s. The higher membership fees introduced last year do not appear to be a deterrent to continuing members, but they appear to present a significant barrier to people considering joining the CSCA. To address these and other concerns, a survey was sent to our membership in the summer of 2003. Members were presented with four key questions on services, the lecture series, the website and possible e-transmission of the journal. The response rate was 33% of our membership. Members indicated that receipt of the journal, Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith was their most-valued service, followed closely by receipt of the bimonthly ASA/CSCA Newsletter and the biannual CSCA Newsletter, Observations. Members indicated that the lecture series had made a strong positive impact, but were more hesitant about the value and utility of the CSCA website and e-communication. Members were evenly split on whether or not they would prefer receiving the journal in electronic form only.

To attract new members, CSCA will be offering in 2004 a new entry-level membership category. Priced at $30/year, members joining in this capacity receive all benefits of membership except for a subscription to Perspectives. This category of membership is available only to people who have never belonged to CSCA, or whose membership has lapsed for more than two years. A person can be an entry-level member for only two years, after which time they are expected to move into one of the regular membership categories.

Our major event of 2004 will be the annual meeting at Trinity Western University in July. Held jointly with ASA and CiS, and coordinated by local organizer Judy Toronchuk, the theme of the meeting is about Neuroscience and the Image of God. It features invited speakers David Cechetto, Heather Looy, Warren Brown and Malcolm Jeeves, and promises to be a very stimulating meeting. We hope to meet many of our
fellow brothers and sisters in Christ from ASA and CiS, as well as to attract newcomers. 
And finally, we continue to pray for God’s guidance and leadership, always mindful to trust for great things through the Holy Spirit.

Executive Director’s Annual Report for 2003
Donald W. Munro

First, a hearty thanks to the membership for their prayers, financial support, and recruitment of new members for the ASA. These last nine and one-half years have been a joy to serve you because of your enthusiastic responses and willingness to help in various matters. God has been so good to us as an organization and we need to take time to thank him.

The year started off with our annual ASA booth at Congress 2003 where Jack Haas and I spent time talking with Christians from all sorts of backgrounds—mostly Christians without an extensive science background. Many were glad to see us there and stated how such interactions are critical. Some shuttled back and forth between our booth and one from the Creation Research Society where ASAer Wayne Frair was tending the booth. That shows the diversity within our organization. ASA was also part of the ecumenical table at the AAAS meeting in Denver, CO, February 13–18, 2003.

Another well-attended meeting (ASA’s 58th annual meeting with 234 registrants) occurred at Colorado Christian University, Lakewood, CO on July 25–28. Five plenary speakers addressed the topic The Heavens Declare the Glory of God. They were: Dr. Dennis Danielson, University of British Columbia; Dr. Haarsma, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Calvin College; Dr. William Keel, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Alabama; Dr. Alan Stockton, Institute of Astronomy, University of Hawaii; and Dr. Eilene Theilig, Galileo Millennium Mission, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Twenty student and early career scientists presented papers or posters and fifty-six other scientists either participated in a symposium, gave a paper, or presented a poster. There were five interesting field trips. All eight commissions and the three affiliations met. There were meetings at meals for groups such as the Fellows, student and early career scientists, and women in science/technology as well as a fellowship time for attendees from the same geographic area. The weekend was full. High praise and thanks go to Jennifer Wiseman who organized and directed the program and to David Oakley who planned the local arrangements.

This year we welcomed Hessel Bouma III onto the ASA Council while Dorothy Chappell finished her five-year term at the end of 2003. Dorothy again hosted the fall Council meeting at Wheaton College. We thank her for that. We give her special thanks for her time on Council and her valuable input and genuine concern for the affiliation. She will be missed. Kennell Touryan, our 2003 president, worked closely with me, and I appreciate his help and dedication to the ASA. Thanks also to Martin Price who served as vice-president and Marilyne Flora who filled the office of secretary/treasurer. At the end of the year, it was announced that Ruth Miller was elected to join the Council in 2004.

The John Templeton Foundation kindly supported our annual meeting with a gift of $10,000 and continued to support the Templeton/ASA Lecture Series through a two-year grant. The publicity received for the affiliation through these talks is invaluable. In 2003 there were at least fifty-seven lectures in twenty-one states, three Canadian provinces, and Ireland. The speakers are a veritable who’s who in science and religion. One year is left for this grant.

The commissions and affiliations progressed at different levels. Some continued to publish their own newsletters; some contributed good advice to the affiliation. The Communication Commission began developing important future plans for our web site and other means of contact. There are a few active local ASA groups who meet to examine the interfaces of science and religion, and others who meet to discuss the articles in ASA’s most recent journal. It would be nice to see more of these pop up.
One dilemma I have faced is to try to set up a workable mentoring system. Many methods have been tried but compatibility, time, and our great variety of backgrounds seem to mitigate against it. I am convinced that the best possible way to do this is through a secure site on the ASA web site where people can interact at will.

My very special thanks goes to the ASA staff consisting of Carol Aiken, executive assistant, who has been with ASA for thirteen years; Lyn Berg, managing editor, came over nine years ago; and Laurie Grover, financial and membership manager, who has been here for three years. They all do superb work and are so helpful to me and the ASA. Then there is Roman Miller, our hardworking journal editor who strives for excellence in each journal. This was the first full year for our co-editors of the ASA/CSCA newsletter, David Fisher and Margaret Towne. Together they continue to shape the newsletter into a very readable publication. Richard Ruble is our faithful and diligent book review editor. Terry Gray and Jack Haas work long hours maintaining, editing, and updating the ASA web site. Thank you all.

This was the year when I managed to rip my quadriceps tendon off my knee by just walking down a path. That injury caused me to work at home for November and December and did not allow me to attend the fall Council meeting except by speaker phone. The Lord provided healing through an excellent operation and physical therapy. It was great to return to the office and to be able to climb the long flight of stairs. Thanks for your prayers and well wishes.

We continue to seek your prayers and generous gifts in 2004. Laurie Grover announced late in 2003 that she would be unable to continue in her position past March 2004 so we will miss her. Please pray for the annual meeting, the staff, and the affiliation. We cherish your ideas, both those that can save the affiliation money and those that suggest expansions. May each of us continue to help those in both the scientific community and the Church to carefully integrate science and faith.

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_Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith ~ Editor's Report for 2003_

Roman J. Miller
millerrj@rica.net

During the 2003 calendar year, _PSCF_ was published as four quarterly issues, containing a total of 288 pages. Manuscripts, consisting of the four categories (Regular Articles, Communications, News & Views and Early Career & Student Articles), made up 69% of the journal pages, 17.5% of the pages contained Book Reviews, 8% of the pages were filled with Letters, Discussions, or Editorials, and 5.5% of the pages were used for general information sharing and advertising.

Within the journal, 21 Regular Articles were published (178 pages), 1 Communications (5 pages), 2 Early Career & Student Articles (8 pages), and 0 News & Views Articles. The major topics discussed in these articles and the number of journal pages used for each topic were: Natural Science (46), Bible or Faith & Science (45 pages), Cosmology & Origins (41.5), Theology & Philosophy (21), History of Science (20), Math & Engineering (15.8), Social Science (8), and Ethics & Environment (0). (For page percentages, see Figure 1: Topic Categories of Peer Reviewed Papers Published in 2003.) The editor wishes to continue promoting a diversity of journal articles. Since manuscripts in the areas of engineering, applied science and technology, and social science are either scarce or lacking in our journal, persons with expertise in these areas are especially invited to submit manuscripts for publication.

In the 2003 calendar year, the editor received 37 manuscripts submitted for publication as Regular Articles, 14 submitted as Communications, one submitted as an Early Career & Student Article, and one submitted as a News & Views Article. All submitted manuscripts were reviewed by a minimum of two anonymous peer reviewers. Three persons reviewed about half of the manuscripts and four persons reviewed several manuscripts. (For an overview of manuscript submissions, see Figure 2: Summary of Manuscripts Submitted: 2001-2003). An average of 43% of the 2003 submitted manuscripts were accepted for publication. (For an overview of manuscript acceptance rates, see Figure 3: Acceptance Rates of Peer Reviewed Manuscripts: 2001-2003). The editor solicits more submissions in the Early Career & Student Category in order to make that section a stronger component of our journal. Undergraduate & graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and young academicians and researchers (under the age of 35) are urged to submit...
manuscripts that reflect their experiences in blending science with faith.
The editor greatly appreciated the service of the 99 peer reviewers who participated during the past year in critiquing manuscripts. The Editorial Board members, for the most part, have helpfully participated in reviewing manuscripts and providing needed advice for the editor. Most of the peer review correspondence work is done via email with documents transmitted as attachments. More peer reviewers are needed. Interested persons should contact the editor.

The June 2003 issue contained a dialogue section entitled “Interpreting the Book of Nature” by Angus Menuge with Walter Thorson serving as the respondent. Two journal issues, June 2003 and September 2003, contained presentations by four plenary speakers from the 2002 ASA Annual Meeting. Two new features are in place for the 2004 journal issues. (1) Due to the generosity of an anonymous donor (May his “tribe increase”!), we will be publishing an additional set of eight pages in each issue of the journal. (2) A new section, “Art Eyes Science” is proposed for the journal. Readers are encouraged to submit original art pieces that illuminate the connection or integration of Christian faith with science.

The excellent work and attention given to the journal by Lyn Berg (Managing Editor), Richard Ruble (Book Editor), and the efforts of Kelly Story (Copy Editor) and Robert Greenhow (Book Review Expert Reader) continue to enhance our publication. I’m privilege to work with such a team! As readers and members of ASA, your responses and suggestions to the journal are always welcomed and appreciated.

Newsletter Editors
David Fisher and Margaret Towne

Priorities and Emphases:
Our goal continues to be to promote a sense of community among our members and encourage, inform, stimulate, and edify them. We still seek to emphasize people in the newsletter.

We have observed that readers don’t get to know some members until we publish their obituaries.
We have implemented an effort to spotlight exemplary members while they are still alive and can be seen as models, and are able to interact with younger members who can learn from them. We have featured some biographical sketches of some of the board members and are trying to do more of the Early Career Scientists in 2004.

We are always interested in members’ insights, significant work, whether it be publishing, researching, going on missions, sponsoring lectures, or many other accomplishments.

We feel it is important to include as much information about the dialogue between science and Christianity as we can. Lecture summaries, items of interest found in newspapers and magazines, dates and places of events are always welcome.

We try to use photos as often as we can in the newsletter. Dave has contributed a lot to this goal.

We continue to encourage members to send us information of interest or letters of response. This is a major area which needs to be expanded. It would be helpful if members of council would write at least one article a year on their perspectives or suggestions for ASA’s well being.

Our Appreciation:
We continue to appreciate working with Lyn Berg. Her skills and insights are greatly valued. We also thank Don Munro for his support and suggestions and wish him the very best as he moves on. We will miss him!

We would be pleased to have council and headquarters staff pass on all comments, both pro and con, which come from our readers. We also welcome suggestions from the council and staff. We are on a journey and always open to suggestions.

Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith ~ Book Review Editor
Richard Ruble

Most of the books reviewed in PSCF are located via Books in Print, a service of OCLC First Search which is available on the internet (a service John Brown University provides at no cost). Books in Print is a very helpful research tool, because it lists books scheduled for publication as well as those already available.

Publishers have limited numbers of books available for review, but most of the books requested for PSCF review have been received. An important goal is to review current books. This means searching for just released titles or books scheduled to be published soon. Books in Print is extremely helpful in this regard since it contains all the relevant information about a book including publisher, publication dates, and postal and e-mail addresses.

Books chosen for review should be timely with subject matter potentially theologically and scientifically relevant to PSCF readers. Books authored by ASA members are especially welcomed for review. There are many excellent books published which are not reviewed in PSCF. The book review editor welcomes suggestions for current books which might be considered for a book review for PSCF.

Reviewers request books for review via personal contact, e-mail, phone, or through listings in the quarterly PSCF. When a reviewer agrees to review a book, it is sent along with guidelines. The reviewer keeps the book if a review is submitted, or is asked to return it if a review is not forthcoming. The invitation is extended to ASA members to volunteer to review books. They can request a list of books available for review through ruble@tcainternet.com

In the year, 2003 PSCF published 87 book reviews in its four issues, down from the 112 book reviews published in 2002. This averages to 22 book reviews per issue. Over the years, each issue of PSCF averages about 25 book reviews. Expenses for postage totaled $171.41. The Editor of PSCF seeks a balance in each issue between book reviews and other features, and he attempts to allow a certain percentage of pages to reviews.

It is my pleasure to serve as the Book Review Editor. The entire process of selecting books, contacting reviewers, editing reviews, and seeing the result displayed in PSCF is rewarding. May the Lord continue to bless ASA and its quarterly publication PSCF as they seek to contribute to an understanding of science from a Christian perspective.
Webmaster's Report
Terry M. Gray

The ASA web site is managed by Terry M. Gray, Computer Support Scientist in the Chemistry Department at Colorado State University (grayt@lamar.colostate.edu) and Jack Haas, ASA Web Editor (haas.john@comcast.net). The web site is primarily served from a Power Macintosh G4/400 (1.12 GB RAM, 20 GB HD, 60 GB HD, Mac OS X (10.2.6)) running Starnine WebSTAR Server Suite 5.2. The server is physically located in the Chemistry Building at Colorado State University and is connected to the Internet via a 100 Mbps connection through the Colorado State University backbone. A Chemistry Department Power Macintosh G4/450 (256 MB RAM, 20 GB HD, Mac OS X (10.1.5) running FileMaker Pro Unlimited 5.5 serves several ASA databases to the web. Craig Rusbult manages a science education sub-site under the auspices of the ASA Education Commission at http://www.asa3.org/ASA/education/. Our web site is primarily known as www.asa3.org but is aliased by DNS servers at Colorado State University and Calvin College as asa.calvin.edu, asa.calvin.edu, chemistry.calvin.edu, mcgraytx.calvin.edu, and asa.chomp.colostate.edu. Maintaining these aliases has been important in preserving the continuity of various links to our site as we have changed ISP’s and server’s over the years. The Calvin College addresses are re-directed in such a way that the recipients, especially search engines, get the up-to-date URL.

The top 500 web pages that were served by the ASA web server during the twelve months of 2003 are listed at http://www.asa3.org/Statistics/2003/Pages.html. As we have noted for some time now, the pages and articles that have been around since the inception of the ASA web site continue to get the most hits. Here is a quick summary of the most frequently requested articles: the ASA Home Page (61,112), Roger Wiens article on radiometric dating (HTML version—29,008; PDF version—16,978), the Evolution topics page (11,574), the Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith Home page (10,489), J. Raymond Zimmer’s article on evolutionary psychology (8449), Keith Miller’s article on transitional forms (8265), and Ted Davis’ article on Jonah’s whale (6772). The article by Carol Hill on the Garden of Eden was the new addition to the list of top articles (3629). The Topics pages continue to be popular. These are edited by Jack Haas and he is currently working on a major revision of them all. Here is a list of current Topics pages with the number of requests during 2003:

- About Science (2057)
- Apologetics (3001)
- Astronomy-Cosmology (2687)
- Bible & Science (4171)
- Creation-Evolution (11,574)
- Dialogues (1525)
- Education (1053)
- Environment (1824)
- Essay Reviews (1689)
- Ethics (3270)
- Historical Studies (2847)
- Mathematics (1838)
- Origin of Life (4529)
- Philosophy (1775)
- Physical Science (1638)
- Psychology-Neuroscience (2421)
- Science and Technology Ministry (1959)
- Science Faith News (4868)
- Teaching and Research (1316)
- Worldview (1683)
- Youth Page (1551)

721 copies of the membership application form were downloaded from the web site during 2003.

Overall statistics for the year can be found at http://www.asa3.org/Statistics/2003/. In comparing the web server statistics from 2003 with those from 2002 the following observations can be made (see the table below for a three year comparison). This year there were 5,776,713 (15,837/day) document requests compared to 3,668,800 (10,052/day) last year. The average number of visitors/hour were 52.14 this year and 31.08 last year. There were 1251 unique visitors per day this year compared with 746 last year. There were an average of 217 repeat visitors per day this year compared with 118 last year. In terms of the amount of data transferred, this year we served 78.7 Gigabytes compared with 54.7 Gigabytes last year. These statistics all indicate an approximately 50% increase in our traffic. Requests this year came from 170 different countries with Canada, Netherlands, UK, Australia and the Philippines being the most frequently served countries after the US. This compares to 162 last year with Canada, Australia, UK, Japan and Poland being the most
frequently served after the US. 1,396,625 (24%) document requests come from search engine spiders and robots compared to 861,049 (23%) last year.

**www.asa3.org** WEB SERVER STATISTICS FOR 2001-2003

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We track on a monthly basis three items: total number of requests of all types, the requests for Wiens article on radiometric dating (the blue line is the HTML version, the magenta line is the PDF version), and the requests for the creation-evolution topics page. Graphs for these three items are shown below:
We continue to add *Journal of the ASA/Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith* content to the web site. Jack Haas and I continue to work on the very tedious process of scanning old journals and converting them to HTML for the web. For the most part the journal from 1969 to 2002 is available on the web. (We have adopted a policy of an 18 month delay between print publication and web publication.) Articles published after September 2001 are only accessible in PDF format. The PSCF home page at http://www.asa3.org/ASA/PSCF.html has links to Table of Contents pages for the entire run of the journal since 1949. If an article is available on-line, there is a link to the article from the Table of Contents pages. From this site you can also find a dynamically produced listing of all journal articles available on the web in addition other indices and ways to access the journal content. It is our long term goal to have all of the JASA/PSCF content available on the web. At the current rate this will take 2 or 3 more years.

There are now several ASA related databases. Some of these simply produce content on demand based on some search criteria; others involve forms that allow users to add content. We have a JASA/PSCF journal database, a members and friends web site listing, and an annual meeting abstract submission database. We are also working toward a membership application database, a membership directory database, and an annual meeting registration database. Of these three the first two are more or less ready to use—since they involve some privacy issues and payments, we are still sorting out how to best handle these details. We hope to make the on-line membership directory available very soon.

A new feature to the website this year is the ASA Forums. Responding to some discussions among ASA Communications Commission members we have implemented, phpBB, an open-source bulletin-board program that utilizes the database MySQL, a web-based scripting language PHP, and a web-server. We have implemented a version of this on our web site at http://www.asa3.org/phpBB2/index.php. Currently, there exist forums for Announcements, the Communications Commission, the Students and Early Career Network, and a Faith-Science Discussion. Forums can be set up with varying degrees of privacy depending on the purpose of the particular forum. For example, the Communications Commission and Students and Early Career Network forums are designed for the use of those groups and are only open to members of those groups. The Announcements forum is read-only but is open to everyone. The Faith-Science Discussion forum is readable by everyone, but only registered users of the forum can post responses. We are eager to experiment with this system, so register and begin to participate. We hope these forums contribute to building some community among ASA members.

**Web Editor’s Report**

Jack Haas, Web Editor

My work involves daily posting of material on the faith-science news page, updating the articles and arrangement of the topics sections, posting meeting and job announcements, and preparation of *JASA/PSCF* articles for addition to our on-line collection. The goal of finishing the latter task in my lifetime seems possible. We are currently finishing the 70's. The smaller font of the earlier issues greatly increases the editorial time per page. This is somewhat offset by the smaller size of each issue.

Your ideas and suggestions of articles from other publications is encouraged. I thank webmaster Terry Gray for his encouraging support over this year.

**AFFILIATIONS**

**Affiliation of Christian Engineers and Scientists in Technology**

L. William Yoder

The Affiliation of Christian Engineers and Scientists in Technology (CEST) met at the ASA Annual Meeting at Colorado Christian University on July 26, 2003. CEST held a special session on teaching ethics to
engineering students. Officers were chosen for the coming year, and CEST agreed to co-sponsor a special session with the Global Resources and Environment Commission at the 2004 annual meeting at Trinity Western University in Langley, British Columbia.

Two list-serves are maintained for the group by Steve VanderLeest. One, ces-announce@calvin.edu, is for those who wish to receive only important announcements. Announcement submissions require approval by the administrator. The other, ces@calvin.edu, with a somewhat more limited membership, is for discussion of topics of broad interest; those listed also receive announcements sent to ces-announce. We encourage everyone to make use of these list-serves. At the same time because these list-serves serve the membership of CEST and another group, Christian Engineers in Science, we are looking into ways to be able to send announcements to just CEST members.

CEST is particularly interested in the planned 2005 annual meeting because the program theme, Renewable Energy, Conservation, and Resources, is of particular interest to CEST members. We hope to interest members to present papers on such topics as: What is a Biblical view of fossil energy use? What would Jesus drive? Is sustainability a Biblical mandate? Is conservation a biblical mandate? Energy, environment, economics: the triangle; Renewable energy and simple living; Renewable energy and energy security; Social and theological impacts of technology; Toward a theology of technology.

**Affiliation of Christian Geologists (ACG)**
Ward Sanford

There are 4 items I will mention here. Not all of them were “activities.”

1. The annual meeting of the Affiliation of Christian Geologists (ACG) took place on November 4th in Seattle, WA at the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America (GSA) Meeting.

2. The ACG provided impetus for sponsoring a session on November 5th at the GSA Meeting in Seattle entitled “History and Future of the Relationship between the Geosciences and Religion: Litigation, Education, Reconciliation?” Many ACG members gave talks during the session.

3. One of the ACG’s current officers, Keith Miller, edited a new book entitled “Perspectives on an Evolving Creation”, which currently has a review rating of 4.5 stars on Amazon.com.

4. We continue to get a lot of exposure through our website at <www.wheaton.edu/ACG>, which we encourage those who are interested in our group or topics to visit.

**COMMISSIONS**

**Bioethics Commission**
Hessel Bouma

The ASA Bioethics Commission continues to be active on several fronts while seeking additional means of serving both the American Scientific Affiliation and the Canadian Scientific & Christian Affiliation. The fall 2003 issue of the semi-annual ASA Bioethics Commission newsletter featured a report on the 2003 Bioethics Symposium, a call for abstracts for the 2004 symposium, a distinctively Christian perspective on intersexuality, and an article on the new contraceptive, Seasonale®. The spring 2004 issue is in the works. We continue to work on creating a Bioethics Commission page as part of the ASA web site from which copies of the commission’s newsletters will be available in several formats. The Bioethics Commission board also continues to look for ways to expand its membership for greater diversity and expertise.

At the 2003 Annual Meeting at Colorado Christian University, the Bioethics Commission and the Global Resources and Stewardship Commission jointly conducted a symposium on “Human Populations &
Global Climate Change.” The half-day symposium featured six speakers who drew an attentive and appreciative audience ranging from 45-70 people. Presentations examined the earth under human domination, religious and ethical challenges of human population growth and control, global climate change as a defining issue for the 21st century, ethical issues involving the use of biotechnology to improve food security, and a vision of Christian stewardship for the environment. At the coming 2004 Annual Meeting at Trinity Western University, the Bioethics Commission will be jointly hosting a symposium on “Medical Ethics,” particularly as related to the main theme of the conference, “Neuroscience and the Image of God.” Preliminary interest in this symposium is high. The ASA Bioethics Commission welcomes suggestions for additional symposia or workshops to consider arranging for future annual meetings.

At each annual meeting, the ASA Bioethics Commission gathers to discuss ways in which the commission can serve the members of the organization and Christian community better. Please join us at the next annual meeting or send your suggestions for further work by the commission to any one of the Bioethics Commission board members. The ASA Bioethics Commission continues to be blessed to be guided by a very competent board consisting of Rebecca Flietstra (Point Loma Nazarene University), Brian Greuel (John Brown University), Donald Munro (ASA Executive Director), and James Peterson (McMaster University Divinity College), in addition to the chair.

Communications Commission
Paul Arveson, Chairman

At the 2003 Annual Meeting, the Commission decided to develop an initiative to enhance and develop new channels of communication to help ASA members share and build communities of interest.

A Strategic Plan for the Student and Early Career Network (SECN) was written by Johnny Lin and Susan Daniels in August, 2003. Among other things, it called for information technology support from the Communications Commission.

A draft proposal for new communication initiatives was written by Ernie Prabhakar in November. The technology we have in mind includes an enhanced email announcement list of members, an online database of members, and web-based discussion forums to support existing and new groups.

Johnny Lin, Terry Gray and I reviewed the proposal, and it was submitted to the Council. The Council responded with a series of questions regarding details of the process, its policies, who would do the work to support it, and what would it cost.

Terry Gray replied to the Council’s questions in February, 2004. Terry also set up discussion forums for the Communication Commission and the Student and Early Career Network (SECN). These are considered prototypes for the future use of ASA members generally, once policies are fully drafted and approved. If you wish to participate in the work on policies, please contact Terry Gray at grayt@lamar.colostate.edu and ask for a password and URL to access the discussion forum.

At the 2004 Annual Meeting, the Commission hopes to have completed its policy statement for use of the discussion forums and email lists. This will be submitted to the Council for final approval, after which the membership will be notified via email of the existence of these new resources.

I am grateful for the energy and enthusiasm of the aforementioned people in raising the bar for communications in ASA. I am especially appreciative of the work of Terry Gray in maintaining the web site.

We had approximately a 50% increase in web traffic this year, with an average of 1251 unique visitors per day, from 170 countries. Details are posted on the web site at http://www.asa3.org/Statistics/2003/Pages.html

I am also very appreciative of the ongoing, untiring efforts of Jack Haas in converting the paper articles of Perspectives into an online format. This requires a lot of patient manual editing, and Jack is talented at it. The payoff is that the past articles in Perspectives—including many classic and relatively timeless contributions will continue to find new readers well into the future.
How does God interact with nature? This was the question addressed by eight speakers (with some lively audience participation) at the symposium sponsored by the ASA Creation Commission and presented at the ASA national meeting at Colorado Christian University. Perry Phillips and Bob Newman moderated the two sessions.

Craig Rusbult of the University of Wisconsin led off with a paper “Two Modes of Divine Action in History,” noting that the Bible pictures God as acting both in providential and miraculous ways. He suggested that it is reasonable to think that God still uses both modes today, and that He did so in creation also, unless there is strong evidence to the contrary. Christians should not view natural phenomena as events that occur without God.

Terry Gray of Colorado State University followed with the provocative title “Give Me Some of That Old-Time Theology.” Terry suggested that some of the problems raised by Howard Van Till against traditional views of creation and providence are well-discussed in the 19th century systematic theology of Charles Hodge, and that Van Till’s idea of functional integrity of the created world need not appeal to process theology.

Frank Roberts of Montgomery County (PA) Community College was unable to present his paper, but Bob Newman read a summary. In “A Geometric Basis for Divine Action in the World,” Frank suggests that the problem which some see in God (an invisible spirit being) producing real effects in our world may be solved by picturing God as acting into our three-dimensional world from a surrounding space of four or more dimensions in such a way that He is undetectable except when actually “touching” our three dimensions.

Dave Wilcox of Eastern University, in “Fine Tuning in the Universe,” comes at this problem from a different direction. He suggests that we might think of God as acting from another temporal dimension rather than another spatial one. Thus God is outside our time not in the sense of being timeless, but in the sense of continually acting to make real at each moment a particular one of many possible outcomes.

Bob Newman of Biblical Theological Seminary discussed where the angels and other spiritual beings fit into the question of divine action in nature. He noted that the Biblical accounts indicate angels, demons and Satan actually do interact with our physical world. He suggested that their interaction may be similar to ours—sporadic and operating upon a playing field of matter, energy and the physical laws. The activity of such beings might be studied scientifically by detecting the effects of their actions. These might be distinguished from God’s actions by being malevolent or imperfect. Two possible instances were suggested, the panda’s thumb and the ichneumon wasp.

Peter Payne of the University of Michigan presented “The Order of Nature, Human History, and Natural History.” Peter notes that the order of nature might be gapless, but still have miracles in history (whether human or natural history), using a concept of order of nature somewhat like Newman’s “playing field” analogy. He pointed out that a plausible model for God’s interaction must account for both similarities and differences in the data.

Larry Olsen of Asbury College spoke on “Divine Action in Nature: Visible Only through Faith.” He noted that nature speaks to us in various ways, revealing God’s attributes in its character, speaking metaphorically about purity, majesty and beauty, and pointing to God’s divinity and presence in its structure and its interaction with us as persons. Yet God does not beat us over the head with his existence; instead, we understand through faith and the work of the Holy Spirit.

Peter Rüst, a retired Swiss biochemist, presented “Dimensions of the Human Being and Divine Action.” He distinguished humans as simultaneously being (1) living biochemical entities (whose behavior is controlled by regulatory loops), as (2) higher animals (guided by internal supervisory systems) and as (3) spirits (having self-consciousness, conscience, and guided by emotional and spiritual goals). God’s activity need not be modeled as interventions overpowering natural processes, but as selecting the outcomes of quantum events or other alternatives not physically specified, which science describes as random events.

Tapes were made of all the ASA presentations.
Besides sponsoring this symposium, the Creation Commission (CC) met once this past year, at the national ASA meeting at Colorado Christian University, Lakewood, CO, the evening of July 27. This was a joint meeting with the Science Education Commission (SEC), in agreement with a request from the SEC last year.

The meeting was convened at 9:12 pm, with SEC chair Craig Rusbult presiding. CC chair Bob Newman took notes. Though some attendees drifted in and out, the maximum number in attendance at any one point in the meeting was 26.

An invitation was made to those present (and those who read these minutes) for anyone who would like to volunteer to serve as newsletter editor for either of the commissions. Bob Newman is currently handling this task for the CC (but would be glad to hand over the responsibility), and there is none for the SEC. There were no takers at the meeting, though anyone interested is invited to contact the relevant commission chair. It was suggested that commission newsletters might be more efficiently distributed by e-mail, or perhaps even better, by e-mail notice that the newsletter is posted on the ASA site. This would save considerable printing and mailing expense.

The ASA Newsletter editors are looking for news items. A copy of these minutes will be sent to them as well as to ASA Director Don Munro and SEC chair Craig Rusbult. Bob Newman will also send a brief report on this year’s CC symposium “Divine Action in Nature” to the ASAN. The Creation Commission, having sponsored a symposium this year, will not plan to do another before 2005 or later.

The main reason for having a joint meeting of the SEC and CC this year was to discuss input for the ASA website in the section sponsored by the SEC (www.asa3.org/asa/education). SEC chair Craig Rusbult is starting to put up materials re/ science education for the website. Bob Newman, as Director of the Interdisciplinary Biblical Research Institute (IBRI), suggested that the SEC should feel free to borrow or make links to any of the items on the IBRI website (www.ibri.org). Carl Resler also has a good bit of relevant material on his website at www.macrodevelopment.org.

Some discussion followed on what ASA members are already doing that would be relevant to science education. The ASA Lay Education Project was mentioned, as well as the CC statement on creation. There are already a number of items on the main ASA website (www.asa3.org). Some of the materials presented in the video “Unlocking the Mystery of Life” might also be helpful.

Craig noted that the Creation/Evolution issue continues to be one of high interest, even though the SEC would not want to limit their materials to this topic. On this topic, Craig suggested the SEC web section would like to present the variety of positions out there, with links to the best websites espousing each view. Some discussion followed on the amount of space to give to young-earth views, with the conclusion that probably only one site should be listed, but one which YEC proponents think is best.

Some other topics to be included in the SEC section of the ASA website would be a section on worldviews, on the science, theology and teaching of origins, on the nature of science, and on various educational matters.

Some discussion followed on how we could get more hits on the ASA website. Besides trying to get links for other websites, the addition of meta-labels (giving key words) has proved helpful on a number of other websites.

Craig presented the need to tap creative people to contribute to the website.

There was a time of discussion on how the commissions could aid in recruiting new ASA members. The consensus seemed to be that this was not particularly a commission item, but that more would likely happen if individual members and the affiliation as a whole took various actions. It was suggested that (1) ASA seek to reach out to HS science teachers and educators; that (2) the ASA prepare a poster ad for ASA that could be put up on the website in Adobe Acrobat, which ASA members (particularly college faculty) could then print out on their own computers and post at their schools; that (3) the ASA consider granting free first year memberships to college students or even free trial memberships to anyone interested.

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 pm.
Global Resources and Environment Commission
John R. Wood, Chair

One of the highlights of the annual meetings over the past few years has been the symposium jointly sponsored by the GR&E and the Bioethics Commissions. Last summer we held another at the Annual Meeting in Colorado. The symposium called *Bioethics & Stewardship: Human Population & Global Climate Change* featured a number of high quality papers by leaders in the field. In a special symposium like this, the Commissions can explore new topics beyond the main conference theme. This enriches the annual meeting and brings the diversity necessary for a true affiliation of Christians across the sciences.

This summer the GR&E Commission will join the CEST Affiliation in sponsoring a symposium on human agency and the environment. Eleven excellent papers are planned for the session called *Christian Environmentalism: Technology, Theology and Social Organization*. Financial support for this work has been received from the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities program – Initiative Grants to Network Christian Scholars. A selection of the papers will be published in the December issue of *Perspectives*.

In mid-February, 2004, Hessel Bouma and I meet with five other ASA members on the Calvin College campus for a planning session for the 2005 and 2006 ASA Annual Meetings. The coming themes (Alternative Energy Resources, Conservation and the Environment, and Science, Technology and Ethics) fit neatly at the interface of the Bioethics and GR&E Commissions. The social context of science, engineering and architecture, climate change and public policy were all discussed as possible symposium topics. Let us know if you have suggestions for these meetings.

The commission report last year inadvertently was not printed, so one event of note has not been reported. In June, 2002, several commission members helped produce the third International Conference for Christian Environmental Practitioners held at Redeemer University College, Ancaster, Ontario. This biennial series of conferences was first suggested by members of the GR&E Commission in 1998 and initially funded by a grant from the ASA. Keynote speakers at the 2002 conference included Drs. Fred Van Dyke (Wheaton College), Jim Ball (Evangelical Environmental Network), and Sheila Forsyth (Forsyth Consulting). The conference web page has been maintained and is periodically updated at: www.caringforcreation.ca

Developing a commission newsletter remains at the top of the wish list. A number of members have expressed the desire for more timely information from this commission. We do hope to have a newsletter out in the near future.

Finally, last year Executive Director, Don Munro and ecologist/author, Richard Wright distributed a questionnaire on the environment at the Christian Congress 2003 in Boston. Don has reported the results in his newsletter column.

History & Philosophy of Science Commission
Edward B. Davis

This past year (2003) was a quiet one for the commission, as we recovered from our responsibility for the program at the Pepperdine meeting. We did issue the seventh newsletter in the late winter, however. Since the commission chair is also the local arrangements chair for the 2005 meeting at Messiah, this next year will also be relatively quiet.

The eight newsletter will go out in a few weeks. More than ever, the editor (Edward Davis) needs help from qualified persons to write material for future issues. Messiah College has just launched a new organization, the Central Pennsylvania Forum for Religion and Science, and the added responsibilities may make it necessary for him to resign as chair of the commission and editor of the newsletter.

Members of this commission are urged to contact the Ipswich office if they are interested in taking over this responsibility.
Reading recent annual reports has reinforced a conclusion from last year: “This commission is only one part of the overall educational mission of ASA.” Members are working productively, as individuals and in other commissions and affiliates, in a variety of ways. Much of the work is in colleges, but some is at the K-12 level in public, private, and home schools, and outside schools in the Christian community and in society as a whole. In his Presidential Report for 2000, Jay Hollman described some of the many “possibilities open to ASA” and challenged us to invest the time and effort needed to fulfill “the vision of what ASA could be if...” And last summer in Colorado, Keith Miller urged us to be good “stewards of knowledge” by wisely using the abilities, experiences, and opportunities given to us by God.

Although the Science Education Commission is open to new ideas and activities, currently our main project is a website that will help teachers motivate students, improve their knowledge and thinking skills, and provide Christian perspectives on science and nature. It has seven areas: Teaching Methods, Teaching Activities, World Views, Origins Questions, Learning Skills, Thinking Skills, and Nature of Science. The area that is most likely to be noticed, and to make a positive impact in the Christian and educational communities, is Origins Questions, which will be the main focus for development in the near future.

At the Annual Meeting in 2003, there was a joint session of the Creation and Science Education commissions. It was well attended, with lively discussion, especially regarding the ASA Science Ed website and its “multiple positions” approach that will “reflect the diversity of views within our organization and in the Christian community … Instead of claiming to provide the Origins Answer, we’ll explore interesting Origins Questions … We’ll try to handle our differences in a productive way, with accurate portrayal of all views, rigorous critical thinking, and respectful attitudes … Our goal is to help you understand the wide range of views about theology and science.” A few people expressed concern over letting scientific defenses of some views (about the age of the universe) be in an ASA website, but the majority thought that since all views will be open to criticism, this open discussion will encourage a well-informed evaluation of each view based on its scientific and theological merits.

During 2004 there will be two origins areas: one with links from the rest of the website, and another (www.asa3.org/ASA/education/origins/index202.htm) without links but with extra content that is being submitted for feedback. Gradually, content will be moved from the developmental area into the publicly available area. If you have any ideas that might help ASA fulfill its educational mission, please let me know (craig@chem.wisc.edu) or join our discussion at the meeting in British Columbia. A newsletter written by Gerry Clarkson will be mailed in late May and will be posted on the web, with a link in the commission's homepage at www.asa3.org/ASA/education/asascied.htm

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Reference Archivist
David Osielski

Accessions
8 vols. Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith, vol. 55, nos. 1-4 (2 c. of each)
6 vols. Newsletter of the ASA and CS & CA, vol. 45, nos. 1-6

Processing
Materials received are being added into the collection.
Collection volume
Collection volume measures approx. 53’ linear feet

An archives finding aid and inventory is currently accessible online:
http://www.wheaton.edu/learnres/arcsc/collects/sc26/

The Special Collections is located in Buswell Memorial Library on the campus of Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL. The Reading Room is open Monday through Friday from 9am to 12noon, 1pm to 5pm and Saturdays from 9am to 2pm. Appointments for research are appreciated and research times can be negotiated.