

## Vol. 32 No. 12 December 2003

## ICR'S FACULTY EXPANDS AS THE MINISTRY GROWS!

A longstanding need in the ICR faculty has just been filled. God has answered our prayers for colleagues to join in the ministry, and it is with great anticipation that we welcome a new addition to the faculty.

Dr. Patti Nason, currently on the faculty of Steven F. Austin University in Texas, has accepted the position of Chairman of the Science Education Department at ICR. This position has been

vacant since the untimely homegoing of Dr. Richard Bliss in 1994.

Dr. Nason has taught in the ICR Graduate School for the past three summers and has become a real favorite with the staff and students. Her expertise is in distance education, and she will head the ICR effort to offer a full M.A. degree in creation studies, as well as individual courses applicable to the other M.S. programs. She has a deep and evangelistic burden for students trapped in wrong thinking and will use her expertise in distance education and curriculum. She will join the faculty fulltime, on January 1, 2004.



The fledgling degree in creation studies will be offered almost completely over the internet. Already, several courses are "in the can," with several more yet to be filmed. Dr. Nason will oversee this program as a function of the Science Education Department, often with student projects contributing to the goal. It will include

courses in creation-related geology, biology, and physics, in addition to training in logic, presentation, and Biblical apologetics.

A growing interest in creation ministry over the years has led her to pursue a second as yet unfinished Ph.D., this one in biology, and it is in the field of biological education that she will focus her energies. Already she is working on several ICR writing projects for biology students and teachers.

Join us in welcoming her to the faculty, and in praying for her great success in creation research and communication.





Some of the dedicated staff and faculty which has come alongside Dr. Morris to share in the message of creation evangelism.

## DR. HENRY MORRIS CELEBRATES 85TH BIRTHDAY

The faculty and staff of ICR joined for a luncheon celebration of the 85th birthday of its founder and spiritual heart, Dr. Henry Morris. Many were the memories shared as those who know him best gathered to express their appreciation for his unswerving stand on God's Word and visionary leadership at ICR.

He founded ICR in 1970 as a solution to a great need. It started small, but has grown to enjoy a world-wide impact, and can count numerous "daughter" ministries to carry the message further. Over the years he has authored scores of books—some scientific, some apologetic, but most of all Biblical—effectively laying a strong foundation for those who follow.

He still comes in to work or works at home nearly every day, writing articles for *Acts & Facts* and *Days of Praise*, researching for new books, or corresponding with many. God has given him good health through the years, although the Second Law of Thermodynamics acts upon us all! At the luncheon he characteristically deflected all the credit which was expressed to the One to whom it rightly belongs. "God truly has done great things," he said, "and all the praise and glory go to Him. I'm just thankful that He included me in His plans."

Lord, we ask that You would grant him continued good health and strength in the days ahead, and a fruitful ministry until Christ returns.

## Acts & Facts

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To disseminate articles and information of current interest dealing with creation, evolution, and related topics. Sent free upon request.

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## THE DEBATE'S NOT OVER

Creation/evolution debates on University campuses have been an ICR mainstay over the years. Especially early in ICR's history, this was a vehicle to take the creation message into areas normally closed to it. Often the debate sponsors and opponents considered creation a joke and expected an easy victory. Much to their surprise, and the delight of many in the audience, the case for creation is at least as scientific as evolution. Furthermore, evolution was exposed as at least as religious as creation. Much ground was gained in these forums.

All the scientists on ICR's staff, both past and present have participated in these debates. Each has his own style and lecture content, but the facts are on our side, and the debates almost always result in a resounding victory. Dr. Duane Gish has, in particular, made a career of debating. His winsome style, logical answers, and gentlemanly demeanor have carried the day.

For several years it was hard to find an evolution debater, but now they're more frequent. Unfortunately, the tenor of evolutionist's presentations often has changed from the evidence for evolution to debate tricks to cloud the issue and keep the creationist off balance—anything to avoid evolution being exposed as scientifically bankrupt.

Recently Dr. Gish held debate workshops for creation advocates, giving tips on how to prepare lectures, answer questions, and avoid the traps set by modern evolution proponents. (Videotapes of these sessions, *Winning the Creation Debate*, are available from ICR for \$60.00 along with a printed guide.)

Two of his protégés are now conducting debates with great effectiveness, and I would like to introduce them to you. Dr. Mark Eastman was a diehard atheist and evolutionist through his medical training at U.C. San Diego, but met Christ as his Savior and Creator several years later. A dynamic speaker, his de-



bate lectures focus on origins of life issues, showing the absolute impossibility of natural origins for life's complexities. He has authored several books, in both scientific creationism, and Christian apologetics and his medical practice is located in southern California.

Dr. Randy Guliuzza started out as a Navy engineer from South Dakota School of Mines, and received his M.S. in Public Health from Harvard as his interests began to change. When he asked Dr.



Gish how he could be of help in creation ministry, he was sent back to school for a doctorate which he achieved from the University of Minnesota. He's in the Air Force now stationed in San Antonio researching the effects of high altitude stress on pilots. His typical debate lecture follows Dr. Gish's big-issue format, stressing the lack of transitional forms in the fossil record, the laws of thermodynamics, and the impossibility of a naturalistic origin of life.

ICR regularly schedules each without reservation as invitations and schedules dictate. The point is—the debate's not over.



## **A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY**

Grand Canyon National Park invited Dr. Steve Austin, ICR geologist, to speak to rangers about his discovery of an extraordinary fossil deposit within Grand Canvon. The talk to uniformed rangers and science research coordinators occurred on the south rim of Grand Canvon.

Dr. Austin illustrated the mass kill and burial bed containing billions of large nautiloid fossils within the Redwall Limestone. Discussion followed about how limestone strata could be deposited in minutes. The rangers expressed interest in improving geologic lectures to the public and changing signs which consider only uniform sedimentary process operating over millions of years and wanted to explore other creationist thinking on Grand Canyon. 🌆

## **CHARTER SCHOOL ENCOUNTERS CREATION**

Visitors come to the ICR Museum from all walks of life, and a recent charter school tour proved very exciting! Questions began as soon as the tour started: "Who is God?" "Where did God come from?" "When did time start?" Some might be surprised that students would ask Biblical questions, but this is the rule rather than the exception on secular tours. The students challenged the evidence at every turn as they journeyed through the Museum. The teacher's purpose in bringing the students to ICR was to introduce the students to real "views" out in the world.

The students returned to the ICR's Museum of Creation and Earth History a second time to prepare for a classroom debate. Dr. Steve Austin was kind enough to spend some time with some of the more inquisitive students discussing the RATE project and Flood geology. Some of the debate topics will include the origin of life and the age of the Earth. We applaud the academic farsightedness of teachers who introduce their students to a variety of worldviews. 🌆

# Radio Log

This month on "Science, Scripture, & Salvation":

#### Weekend of: **Title/Topic:**

Dec. 6 RATE The argument over the age of the earth still rages on between creationists and evolutionists. Recently, scientists at the Institute for Creation Research have discovered new evidence for a young earth. What is it? Tune in to find out! Dec. 13 Snowflakes Soft, white flakes float down to the ground, creating a beautiful winter scene. Whether you live where it snows, or just long for a white Christmas, you'll be surprised by the complexity of snowflakes.

Tune in!

#### Dec. 20 The Star of Bethlehem

The first Christmas was filled with miracles! The Virgin Birth, the angelic chorus, and the Star of Bethlehem. Have you ever wondered what that special star really was and how the wise men could have followed it?

#### Dec. 27 Human Emotions

Emotions Emotions? Emotions! They're a wonderful thing given to us by our Creator God. Love, joy, and peace make us happy, but fear and stress can actually make us sick! Are emotions something that can be controlled? Stay tuned! 🦣







## WE WELCOME THEM INTO THE FOLD



In 1996 a blockbuster book was published by Touchstone Books entitled, *Darwin's Black Box*. Author and biochemist, Michael Behe, spoke engagingly regarding the "irreducible complexity" of the cell and the numerous systems within it. Furthermore, Behe saw this as evidence for intelligent design which gave great support for the now-popular ID movement.

As one would imagine, all of this has not set well with the Darwinian community that insists everything is strictly the result of chance, time, and natural processes (such as genetic mistakes). Indeed, when confronted with structures having painfully obvious design features, atheist Francis Crick states, "Biologists must constantly keep in mind that what they see was not designed, but rather evolved."<sup>1</sup>

Crick unknowingly confirmed what the apostle Paul clearly stated in Romans 1:20, *"For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made...."* 

This column recently discussed the origin of complex biological catalysts called enzymes (Origins Issues, August, 2003 *Acts & Facts*). Since that time the 2003 issue of the *Annual Review of Biochemistry* has been released—always a source of good scientific arguments for creation. In this 850 page volume, only a few articles even addressed evolution, and these only indirectly. In one article entitled "Challenges in enzyme mechanism and energetics"<sup>2</sup> three Stanford evolutionists concluded,

[The study of enzymes] now lies poised at the interstices of chemistry, physics, and biology. From this new perspective and with tools of unprecedented power available, we have the capacity to ask still more probing questions and to apply novel and more powerful approaches. But even with this enormous power at our hands, we cannot expect breakthroughs to come easily. *The systems are complex and irreducible to independent component parts* . . . (my emphasis).

Incredibly, the pages of this article were listed under "evolution" in the index! But such irreducible complexity clearly points to an all-wise Creator by whom "all things consist" (Colossians 1:17). Could evolutionist Neil Sharpe be urging people to study the Bible when he says, "Any book that purports to answer fundamental questions such as 'what is the meaning of life?' and 'why are we here?' deserves close attention."<sup>3</sup>?

ICR would like to welcome the three Stanford evolutionists into the fold of the growing number of scientists who see life as *complex and irreducible*. They are obviously not joining our creationist fraternity, but their "creationist" conclusion as secular scientists must nonetheless be noted.

- 1. Crick, F. What Mad Pursuit: A Personal View of Scientific Discovery, Penguin Books, London, 1990, p. 138.
- 2. Kraut, D. A., Carroll, K. S. and Herschlag, D., Annual Review of Biochemistry, 72:517–571, 2003.
- 3. Sharpe, N., The Quarterly Review of Biology, September 2002, p. 320.

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN (STILL)

Over the past few months, Dr. Duane T. Gish continued with his many lectures, debates, and travels. About 4,000 were in attendance at the debate he had with Dr. Peter Sherman at the McKale Center of the University of Arizona in Tucson. Sherman was the only professor in the area willing to debate a creation scientist.

Traveling to Santa Cruz, Bolivia, Dr. Gish was the main speaker at a creation science seminar arranged by Tim Nyquist. Those present included attendees from Peru, Mexico, and Venezuela. After speaking in two churches in Buenos Aires, Argentina, he continued on to Trelew in Patagonia in the far south of Argentina for a four-day seminar.

Returning to the States, he, along with several others, was honored for his 50 years as a member of the American Chemical Society at a luncheon at the Faculty Club of the University of California at San Diego. Dr. Gish had an opportunity to state briefly his conviction as a creation scientist.

Soon after, he lectured to two groups of students at the Summit Ministries, Manitou Springs, Colorado (Dr. David Nobel, Director). In September Dr. Gish traveled to Harrisonburg, Virginia, to debate Dr. Vincent Sarich, of the University of California. While there he lectured to homeschoolers, he presented a creation science lecture at the Blue Ridge Community College of Bridgewater, and spoke at the Harrisonburg Church of Christ arranged by John Doughty.

Then he debated Dr. Sarich again in Carson City, Nevada, before traveling to Redding, California, to lecture at the Shasta Bible College and two area churches.

We praise God for Dr. Gish's amazing stamina and desire to further creation understanding, but his real lasting impact is in the hundreds of thousands of lives changed for eternity. We thank God for this eternal fruit.



## San Rafael, California

October 17–18 saw ICR's Dr. John Morris and Mike Riddle journey to this beautiful central California area for a "Case for Creation" seminar.

Situated on the northern end of the Golden Gate Bridge, this area is infamous for its secular, fully anti-Christian stance. The sponsoring church, Valley Baptist Church, is one of the largest conservative churches in the county, saw its normal attendance of 250 almost equaled by attendance at the seminar. Pastor Chris Losey regularly hosts creation events in the church, insisting that the creation message is one of the most effective tools to reach the secular mind. We join him in prayer that the contacts made will bear lasting fruit from his efforts.



### From a grateful seminar attendee

Financially, I am not a wealthy young person, but I possess another immeasurable wealth—that of knowing God's Word is infallible and true.

Over the past months, I have experienced much sharp temptation to doubt God and His Word. When all has been a fog about me, I could look out at God's creation and say, I *know* God created this; therefore the rest of His revelation must be true. Training and information I had received at ICR's seminars greatly strengthened me in doubting times. How grateful I am to the Lord!



STEWARDSHIP

## **Sowing and Reaping Bountifully**

"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully" (II Corinthians 9:6).

Here are two ways that we can give "bountifully," simultaneously reaping a greater present participation in Kingdom ministries-while realizing present "bounty" in our own finances.

## **Gifts of Appreciated Stock**

Now that the stock market has rebounded somewhat, there may be some shares that have been held more than one year which have appreciated significantly. Gifting shares of stock directly to a federally qualified charitable organization (like ICR) can provide a significant tax savings. The full market value of the stock is deductible, and gifting the stock avoids any capital gains tax; a double "bounty."

## The Charitable Gift Annuity

Assets that are not producing an adequate income (stock, property, cash, CD's, bonds, mutual funds, etc.) can be turned into a Charitable Gift Annuity from ICR that will provide a guaranteed income from the value of those assets, a present tax deduction, and a tax-free portion of the income stream. Another "bounty."

ICR is deeply appreciative of all those who co-labor with us in our work. We simply could not function without your help. We are especially pleased when our partners in ministry are able to "reap" a "bounty" with their gifts as well. Let us know how we can assist you or provide information for your consideration.



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