

ICR Launches Technical Journal

ICR is excited to announce the launching of its online technical journal, to be called the *International Journal for Creation Research (IJCR)*. This will be a professional peer-reviewed technical journal hosted by ICR on its www.icr.edu website for the publication of interdisciplinary scientific research from a recent Creation/global Flood perspective within a Biblical framework.

Addressing the need to disseminate the vast fields of research conducted by creationists experts in geology, genetics, astronomy, and other disciplines of science, the *International Journal for Creation Research* will provide scientists and students the results of cutting-edge research that demonstrates the validity of the young-earth model, the global Flood, the non-evolutionary origin of the “created kinds” and other evidences that are consistent with the Biblical account of origins. The current broadened research thrust at ICR will now have a further avenue for publication and dissemination of its results.

Interested authors are invited to go to the *IJCR* web page at www.icr.edu/ijcr/index.html and download the Call the Papers, *Instructions to Authors Manual*, and *Technical Review Process Manual* pdf files for all details of requirements and procedures. Papers can be up to 10,000 words long, and color diagrams, figures, and photographs are encouraged.

Papers are welcome in any scientific, or social scientific, field, but must be from a young-earth perspective.

ICR has appointed Dr. Andrew Snelling, Professor of Geology in the Graduate School, as the *IJCR* Editor-in-Chief. Dr. Snelling was previously the founding editor of the *Creation Ex Nihilo Technical Journal*, now the *Journal of Creation*, and is currently serving as the Editor-in-Chief for the Sixth International Conference on Creationism to be held in San Diego August 4–6, 2008, co-sponsored by ICR and the Creation Science Fellowship of Pittsburgh. Interested authors should email their papers as attached files to Dr. Snelling at aasnelling@ozemail.com.au and should follow all other requirements as per the author checklist in the *Instructions to Authors Manual*.

There will be no strict publication schedule, although ICR aims to publish successfully submitted papers within six months of receipt. Each journal article will be posted on the *IJCR* webpage when fully reviewed and ready for publication.

ICR hopes that the online publication of its *International Journal for Creation Research* will encourage supporters globally with the results of the latest creationist research for use in their own spheres of research and education, and in their witnessing to the truth of God’s Word. 





The Need for ICR's Research Program

by John D. Morris

In recent years ICR has become more and more active in basic scientific research. This is not something which “just happened”; it was planned. When I became president of ICR in 1996, I insisted ICR’s mandate was twofold: research and communication. The communication included all forms of transferring information about creation. It certainly included the ICR Graduate School in the sciences, but it included children’s workshops and meetings too. And nothing in between was to be neglected. As always we continue to hold seminars for non-scientists, church meetings, conferences, etc., as well as scientific meetings.

Thankfully, we didn’t have to do it alone. Much of ICR’s success is measured by the large number of creation advocacy groups around the world. In some ways they do a better job of communication to the laymen than we do, and we welcome their partnership. Together, much is being accomplished, for polls continue to reveal that a majority of Americans reject pure naturalistic evolution. Things will never go back to the way they were.

The other prong of ICR’s work involves basic research, and it is for this we receive the most notoriety. In many ways we are alone in this work. To be sure, scientists elsewhere are doing good research, but only ICR maintains a faculty of scientists whose main responsibility is research. Most newsworthy was the RATE Initiative on radioisotope dating which discovered more than we had dreamed, for several evidences that radioisotope decay rates had changed over time were uncovered. The scientists are now in the process of both presenting

and extending this information. Some members of the inner circle of researchers were not on ICR’s full-time staff, but the research was conducted mainly under ICR’s auspices and funding came primarily from ICR’s “family” of supporters. New projects on human genomics (GENE); the nature of past climates (possible pre-Flood canopy, Flood “hypercanes,” post-Flood “Ice Age”); the origin of the universe; and flood geology (FAST) are rapidly progressing, again with the coordinated assistance of non-ICR scientists, but under ICR’s umbrella. Creationists can expect stunning advances in our understanding in the months ahead.

As revealed recently in *Acts & Facts*, ICR has accepted a leadership role in the International Conference on Creationism, the premier peer-reviewed conference on creation research held every four years. The ICR-sponsored research is always featured, but numerous projects from a growing number of scientists are on display. (The next conference will be held in the San Diego area in August 2008.) Furthermore, we have just instituted a new online technical journal. The lead article of this issue of *Acts & Facts* calls for papers to be submitted. Because of all this, the creation message, and thus creation ministry, has never been stronger.



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As you will notice in this issue of *Acts & Facts*, research is often highlighted herein, in non-technical terms, equipping Christians with new information. Many readers want to know the latest discoveries and how the new information can enhance their witness. Such thinking has been so censored by our education system that most have never heard there is an alternative to the naturalistic view. Most know intuitively that man didn't come from the animals, but mistakenly think it accepted by all scholars. Readers deserve an answer to their questions.

Some would question the large expenditures necessary to conduct basic research. In previous years research was mostly library based, critiquing and reinterpreting results of evolutionists. This was fruitful and helped the creation movement get off the ground, but it is no longer sufficient. We need to know answers to questions evolutionists won't ask. A wrong worldview often blinds evolutionists to certain obvious evidences. Creation thinking holds the key to a right understanding.

In the beginning, the Creator commissioned His Image in man as steward of the new creation. Adam was not only to manage it, but study it and extend its marvels under His watchful eye. God expects all glory for His handiwork to rightly come to Him, but graciously allows man the privilege of discovery and utilization of what He has done. Thus, as we research His creation, we are in obedience to the Creator and doing what He intended man to do. It is blessed and rewarding work, for we discover more about Him as we investigate His majestic tapestry. It furthers our ability to explain Him to those who have not yet heard.

And so, ICR will continue with the two branches of our work, research and communication, for both are necessary and complementary. Few others are doing the work of research, but they are welcome to incorporate ICR's work

into their ministries and communicate it. ICR will never neglect seminars and laymen's materials, but will continue to research and extend our knowledge, keeping the creation message fresh and current. We thank you for under girding this vital work with your prayers and financial support. I feel God is pleased, and we share His commendation and blessing. 🙏



Vallejo, California

Cornerstone Seminary ministers to active pastors seeking further training in this suburb of San Francisco. They offer a "winterim" course during the holidays and invited ICR's Dr. John Morris to teach on Biblical and scientific creationism. Under the leadership of Brian Sheely, the seminary maintains a fully creationist perspective, and a practical mindset for pastoral training.

While in Vallejo, Pastor Steve Rodriguez asked Dr. Morris to speak to his large congregation on the subject of dinosaurs and the Bible. They saw how creationist thinking impacts every area of a Christian's life.

Meridian, Idaho

The dynamic Treasure Valley Church near Boise was the site of a Sunday seminar on creation by Dr. John Morris in January. Sunday morning saw him address a combined Sunday School class on how the fossil record supports creation, followed by the morning worship service where the creationist implications of Colossians 1 were discussed.

In the evening service he addressed the topic of "Creation and the Second Coming," complementing the recent series of talks on prophecy by Pastor Rick DeMichele. 🙏

FAST Scientists Refine Research Objectives

by Larry Vardiman, Ph.D.

Dr. Steven Austin, ICR program manager for FAST (Flood Activated Sedimentation and Tectonics), convened a meeting of fifteen earth scientists and Hebrew scholars and about ten observers in St. George, Utah, November 13–14, 2006, to refine the program’s mission and receive research proposals. FAST is the ICR research program to develop a catastrophic model of earth history consistent with both Scripture and earth science. The first meeting of FAST was held in May of 2006 to organize the effort.

Dr. Austin led the meeting of researchers who specialize in sedimentology, stratigraphy, structural geology, petrology, computational fluid dynamics, and the Hebrew language. The two days were spent in the field observing rocks in and around the Virgin River Gorge and meeting to plan the research program and review proposals. The overall research effort was divided into three divisions, each headed by a separate manager, and mission statements were developed for each division.

Dr. John Baldwin will manage the *Flood Narrative* division to: “Perform a comprehensive study of the morphology, syntax, lexicography, and theological implications of Genesis 5:28–9:29 for the purpose of showing its relevance to a geological understanding of earth history.”

Dr. Steve Austin will manage the *Flood Sedimentation/Stratigraphy* division to: “Use the Grand Canyon region of the southwestern U.S. as a study area to describe the composition, texture, sequence, and distribution of sedimentary rocks and strata and to create, model, and test theories for rapid, subaqueous deposition by a global flood.”

Dr. Kurt Wise will manage the *Flood Tectonics* division to: “Use North America as a starting point to describe and interpret the stratigraphic, structural, and intrusive histories of mountains and use the histories to create, model, and test theories for rapid flood-related orogenesis.”

The meeting attendees jointly developed the three mission statements above and reviewed research proposals from many of the participants. The three division directors have considered the research proposals and have prepared a summary and budget for funding in 2007. Persons interested in receiving more details about FAST and supporting the research may contact Lvardiman@icr.edu and request plans for the research. 



FAST scientists discussing strata in the Virgin River Gorge near St. George, Utah.

2007 GENE Meeting Report

ICR's GENE program is a major new initiative which has the potential to profoundly affect the creation/evolution controversy. The GENE program held its second annual meeting at ICR January 8–11, 2007. Sixteen scientists and one selected student attended. Each meeting day focused on one of the four GENE projects. Progress reports were made for each project, and research plans for the coming year were discussed.

Day 1: The Theory Team. This team is developing compelling evidence that neo-Darwinian theory is not only wrong, but can be conclusively *demonstrated* to be wrong. At the heart of the Darwinian theory of evolution is the concept that mutations plus natural selection can create and expand genetic information. The theory team has developed a computer program which clearly proves just the opposite—mutation plus selection result in net loss of information and continuous genetic degeneration. Several researchers, including Drs. Baumgardner, Brewer, and ReMine, gave progress reports on this research. The first results of this work should become available sometime in 2007.

Day 2: The Eve Project. This team is led by Dr. Criswell and involves the analysis of the smallest human chromosome—the mitochondrial chromosome.

This chromosome is only transmitted to children through their mother, and so from a Biblical perspective, all human mitochondria in the world must trace back to the first woman—Eve. A primary objective of this project is to determine how long ago Eve lived. If we know the mutation rate (per generation) for this chromosome, and we know the total number of mutations that have accumulated in each person, we can esti-



Taking a short break between lectures.

mate how long ago the mutational process started.

Dr. Carter reported his analysis of nearly 900 human mitochondrial chromosomes. He has been able to identify the actual Eve consensus sequence and reported that on average—we each have 21 mutations relative to the Eve sequence. Dr. Criswell reported that ICR has completed the creation of its molecular genetics lab, and has initiated the actual measurement of the human mitochondrial mutation rate using mother-child pairs.

Day 3: Human Genomics. This team is studying the genome-wide patterns within the human genome. There are many levels of organization within the genome—and each level displays genome-wide patterns. Such patterns involve millions of nucleotides and could not realistically arise “one nucleotide at a time” by any type of mutation/selection scenario. Dr. Lee reported on short genomic “words” which saturate the genome. Two researchers reported on the recently discovered larger genomic words, called “pyknons.” Dr. Danam reported on the newly discovered level of genomic organization called “epigenetics.” This team’s work, God willing, will be greatly expanded in the coming year.

Day 4: Human Genetic History. This team is still being formulated. The goal of this team is to ask the question—“which model best explains the current status of the human genome within existing populations—Biblical history or

evolutionary history?" Genetic evidence is making Biblical history more and more credible, while the evolutionary history of man becomes increasingly untenable. Dr. Carter reported a summary of published genetic evidences supporting Biblical genetic history. Mark Armitage reported on some of the problems with current dating methods for human bones and tools. Dr. Criswell showed that the recent reports that Neanderthal mitochondrial sequences are different from modern man, derive mostly from post-mortem DNA damage and PCR artifacts. Dr. Anderson reported on the nature of certain human mutations in modern populations and how they arose. Dr. Kim reported on the origin of human viruses. Future plans for this team include the examination of pedigree records within various cultures which go back to Adam and Eve.

This program only receives financial support from those donations which are specifically designated for this research. The GENE meetings were characterized by great excitement and great spiritual unity. Praise God! 🙏

ICR Online Distance Education
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pnason@icr.edu



This month on “Science, Scripture, & Salvation”:

Weekend of: _____ **Title/Topic:** _____

March 3 Space

In our busy day-to-day lives it’s hard to realize our planet as a *tiny* part of an enormous universe. But, what exactly is the universe and how was it formed? Join us as we discuss space, the vast frontier.

March 10 Underwater World

The oceans are filled with a diversity of strange life, and undiscovered treasures of knowledge. Yet, as alien as the underwater world may seem, in some ways, it parallels life here on land. How so? Listen in to this fascinating discussion!

March 17 Animal Invaders

Animals are a wonderful part of creation, from wild and exotic, to cute and cuddly. But then there are those that invade and destroy other creatures. Why do we see this? Tune in!

March 24 Diamonds

Diamonds glitter and sparkle in all types of jewelry. To some they represent power, status, pride, and wealth, and to others, commitment. But where do they come from? Why are they so rare? And did the Creator carve out a message for us with these stones? To learn answers to these questions—join us!

March 31 The Quaking Earth

The devastating impact of large earthquakes in different parts of the world is something we’ve seen far too often. Earthquakes are an unfortunate part of the world in which we live, but why do we have them? Tune in for this interesting discussion!

To find out where you can hear ICR broadcasts, e-mail radio@icr.org with your name and address. We will gladly send you a radio station listing for your state. 🙏



The 12th Imam

“. . . if any man shall say to you, Lo, here is Christ; or, lo, He is there; believe him not: For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall show signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect” (Mark 13:21–22).

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran closed his address to the United Nations in October 2005 with a prayer imploring Allah to hasten the return of the 12th Imam. Since then, he has become openly vitriolic toward the “infidels” (Christians and Jews), threatening to destroy the people of Israel and the power of America.

A raving madman or a glimpse at a demonic plan to attack Judeo-Christian peoples? Serious Bible students will be cautious about jumping to conclusions, but the enemy has not been stirring the Islamic pot for amusement!

An Islamic Messiah?

Islam has its own “end times” that interestingly parallel certain Biblical teachings about our Messiah. Some titles of the 12th Imam include: Sahib az Zaman (Master of the Age), Sahib al Amr (Master of Command), and al Qa’im (the One to Arise).

Satan, the great deceiver of “the whole world” (Revelation 12:9), often mimics truth (II Corinthians 11:14) in order to take “captive” (II Timothy 2:26) the nations of the world (II Thessalonians 2:9).

The Power of a Creationist Witness

ICR is driven in its research and educational efforts because foundational to every Biblical “answer” (I Peter 3:15) and all spiritual battles against the “strongholds” (II Corinthians 10:4), is the clear witness of *who* the Messiah really is (Colossians 2:9)—and that requires the “everlasting gospel” (Revelation 14:6–7) of the great Creator-Redeemer (Romans 1:20).

False christs and false prophets will rise until the Lord returns. There is little one can do individually to prevent the “many” from swarming down the “broad way” that leads to destruction. Yet our witness can and must be bold and clear as the Holy Spirit enables us to proclaim “all the counsel of God” (Acts 20:27).



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