

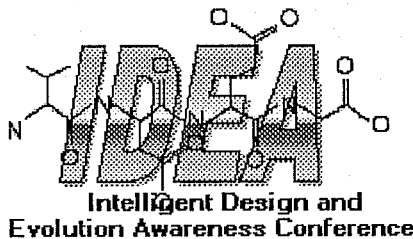
**Proceedings of the
Intelligent Design and Evolution Awareness
(IDEA) Conference 2002
University of San Francisco
September 27-28, 2002**

Co-sponsored by:



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www.usfca.edu**

and



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IDEA 2002 Conference Schedule

Friday:

5:00 PM Registration Begins at USF McLaren Complex

5:45 PM Welcome

6:00 PM **Plenary Session I:** Unlocking the Mystery of Life Video -- An Introduction to Intelligent Design

7:10 PM **Plenary Session II:** "Can Design Become A Pathway to Discovery?" by *Paul Nelson*

8:10 PM Break

8:25 PM **Plenary Session III:** "Apologetic Value of Intelligent Design" by *Jay Wesley Richards*

9:25 PM Friday Evening Ends

Saturday:

8:45 AM Welcome

9:00 AM **Plenary Session IV:** "Cosmic Design" by *Jay Wesley Richards*

10:15 AM Break

10:30 AM **Concurrent Session I:** (Participants may attend any session.)

1. McLaren – "Ontogenetic Depth as a Complexity Metric for the Cambrian Explosion" by *Paul Nelson*
2. Harney 232 - "One Long Argument: The religion behind the scientific arguments for evolution " by *Cornelius George Hunter*
3. Harney 127 - "Biological Complexity: Invention or Evolution? Biological Insights from Russian patents and the Theory of Inventive Problem-Solving" by *John Bracht*
4. Harney 51X - "The Philosophical Implications of Intelligent Design and Neo-Darwinism: Bioethics and Personhood" by *Eddie Colanter*
5. Harney 51X - "Promoting Design on a College Campus: How to start an 'IDEA Club'" by *Casey Luskin*
6. Harney 51X – "Icons of Evolution" video
7. Harney 51X – "Unlocking the Mystery of Life Video (replay)

11:30 AM Break

11:45 AM **Plenary Session V:** "Intelligent Design and the Origin of Life" by *Edward Peltzer*

1:00 – 2:00 PM Lunch

2:15 PM **Plenary Session VI:** "Intelligent Design and the Origin of Animal Phyla" by *Paul Chien*

3:30 PM Break

3:45 PM **Concurrent Session II:** (Participants may attend any session.)

1. McLaren – "Ontogenetic Depth as a Complexity Metric for the Cambrian Explosion" by *Paul Nelson*
2. Harney 232 - "Darwinism: Apologetics, natural theology and the religion in evolution (1600-present)" by *Cornelius George Hunter*
3. Harney 127 - "Biological Complexity: Invention or Evolution? Biological Insights from Russian patents and the Theory of Inventive Problem-Solving" by *John Bracht*
4. Harney 51X - "The Philosophical Implications of Intelligent Design and Neo-Darwinism: Bioethics and Personhood" by *Eddie Colanter*
5. Harney 51X - "Promoting Design on a College Campus: How to start an 'IDEA Club'" by *Casey Luskin*
6. Harney 51X – "Icons of Evolution" video
7. Harney 51X – "Unlocking the Mystery of Life Video (replay)

4:45 PM Break

5:00 PM **Plenary Session VII:** Irreducible Complexity and Biological Design by *Michael Behe*

6:15 PM Panel Discussion

6:45 PM Final word of thanks -- Conference Officially Complete

IDEA Conference Speaker Information



- Michael Behe, Ph.D.
Research biochemist at Lehigh University and author of *Darwin's Black Box*.

Conference Talk: Plenary Session VII: *Irreducible Complexity and Biological Design*



- John Bracht, B.S. (Ph.D. in progress)
Doctoral student in biology at UC San Diego and Managing Editor for the International Society for Complexity, Information, and Design's journal, "Progress in Complexity, Information, and Design".

Conference Talks: Concurrent Session I: *Biological Complexity: Invention or Evolution? Biological Insights from Russian patents and the Theory of Inventive Problem-Solving*, Concurrent Session II: (Same as Session I)



- Paul Chien, Ph.D.
Biologist and expert in the "Cambrian Explosion," as well as faculty member of the Department of Biology at USF.

Conference Talk: Plenary VI: *Intelligent Design and the Origin of Animal Phyla*



- Eddie Colanter, M.A. (Ph.D. in progress)
Doctoral student of theology, ethics and culture at Claremont Graduate University, assistant professor at Faith Seminary, director of bioethics for the Newport Institute, and co-president of the IDEA Center.

Conference Talks: Concurrent Session I: *The Philosophical Implications of Intelligent Design and Neo-Darwinism: Bioethics and Personhood*, Concurrent Session II: (Same as Session I)



- Cornelius George Hunter, Ph.D.
Graduate of University of Illinois Center for Biophysics and Computational Biology, former technology company executive, and author of *Darwin's God: Evolution and the Problem of Evil*.

Conference Talks: Concurrent Session I: *One Long Argument: the religion behind the scientific arguments for evolution*, Concurrent Session II: *Darwinism: Apologetics, natural theology and the religion of evolution (1600-present)*



- Casey Luskin, M.S. (J.D. in progress)

Law student (incoming fall, 2002) at the University of San Diego, former geological researcher, lecturer of intelligent design at Faith Seminary, and co-president of the IDEA Center.

Conference Talks: Concurrent Session I: *Promoting Design on a College Campus: How to start an "IDEA Club"*, Concurrent Session II: (Same as Session I)



- Paul Nelson, Ph.D.

Doctorate in Philosophy of Biology from University of Chicago Department of Philosophy, and author of the forthcoming, *On Common Descent*, and editor of Access Research Network's journal *Origins and Design*.

Conference Talks: Plenary Session I: *Can Design Become A Pathway to Discovery?*
Concurrent Session I: *Ontogenetic Depth as a Complexity Metric for the Cambrian Explosion*, Concurrent Session II: (Same as Session I)



- Edward Peltzer, Ph.D.

Senior researcher at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, and expert in the origins of life who studied under experts such as Stanley Miller and Jeffrey Bada.

Conference Talk: Plenary Session V: *Intelligent Design and the Origin of Life*



- Jay Wesley Richards, Ph.D.

Program director at the Center for the Renewal of Science and Culture and co-author of *Unapologetic Apologetics* and of the forthcoming, *The Privileged Planet*.

Conference Talks: Plenary Session III: *The Apologetic Value of Intelligent Design*, Plenary Session IV: *Cosmic Design*

One Long Argument: The religion behind the scientific arguments for evolution

By Cornelius G. Hunter

Overview of Lectures

- One Long Argument: The religion behind the scientific arguments for evolution
 - Weak scientific evidence
 - Strong metaphysical claims
- Darwinism: Apologetics, natural theology and the religion in evolution (1600-present)
 - Pre Darwinian thought on God's role in natural history
 - Reactions to natural theology and apologetics
 - The Darwinian Turn
 - Today's belief categories around evolution
- "Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution."
 - Theodosius Dobzhansky, 1973

One Long Argument: The Scientific Arguments and Evidence for/against Evolution and the religion behind the science

- Comparative anatomy
- Small scale evolution
- The fossil record
- The negative evidence

First Category

- Comparative anatomy
 - Similarities between species
 - Hierarchical classification
 - Vestigial organs
 - Molecular comparisons
- Small scale evolution
- The fossil record
- The negative evidence

Marsupials vs Placentals



Sugar glider



Flying squirrel



Wombat



Ground hog



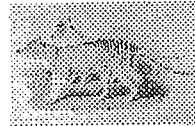
Thylacosmilus



Smilodon



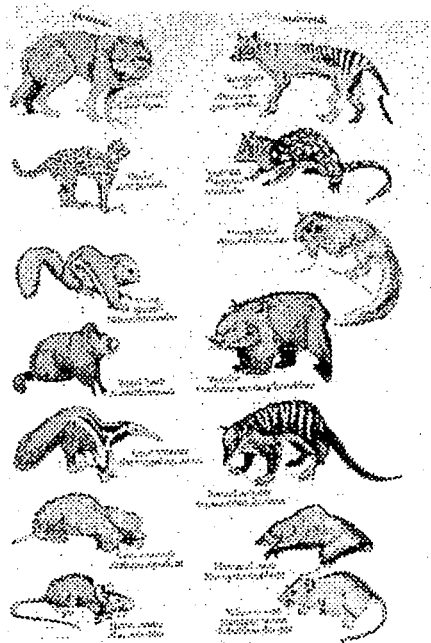
Tasmanian wolf



Wolf

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/coloring/nocturnals.html>
<http://ib.berkeley.edu/courses/ib173/lab/marsupials%20lecture-1.html>

Marsupials vs Placentals



<http://www.flash.net/~mmken/circum2.gif>

Glossary

Enzymes: Proteins that speed up chemical reactions.

Proteins: Macromolecules comprised of a linear chain of amino acids.

Phylogeny: An evolutionary tree.

Homology: Inherited design feature which did not evolve independently in different species. (This is the evolutionary definition).

Analogy: Design feature which did evolve independently in different species via convergent evolution. (This is the evolutionary definition).

Vestigial organs: Organ that, via evolution, has reduced functionality or has lost functionality completely. (This is the evolutionary definition).

Pentadactyl pattern: Having 5 digits at the end of the limb.

Cosmogony: Hypothesis of how the world was formed.

Divine sanction: Justification of a theory of creation by claiming that a greater God is mandated by the theory.

Intellectual necessity: The claim that science is restricted to ideas that are fully investigatable.

Gnosticism: Ancient heresy that holds that God did not create, nor does He interact, with the world directly, but is separated from creation by a series of intermediaries.

Theodicy: A solution to the problem of evil.

Deism: Idea that religious truth should be accessible to all people at all times via creation (general revelation) rather than spread through God's Word (special revelation).

Plastic Nature: A gnostic-like concept of an intermediary between God and the world.

Process theology: Belief that the world is an on-going process that God does not fully control.

Further Reading

- 1) Paul Nelson, "Jettison the Arguments, or the Rule? The Place of Darwinian Theological Themata in Evolutionary Reasoning," http://www.arn.org/docs/nelson/pn_jettison.htm
- 2) Gertrude Himmelfarb, *Darwin and the Darwinian Revolution*, W. W. Norton, 1959.
- 3) Anthony Baker, "Theology and the Crisis in Darwinism," *Modern Theology*, 18:2, pp.183-215, 2002.
- 4) John Brooke, *Science and Religion*, Cambridge University Press, 1991.
- 5) Cornelius Hunter, *Darwin's God: Evolution and the Problem of Evil*, Brazos Press, 2001.
- 6) Cornelius Hunter, *Darwin's Proof: The Triumph of Religion over Science*, Brazos Press, 2003.

Questions for Discussion

- 1) Was Darwin an intellectual revolutionary?
- 2) Did Christians indirectly contribute to evolution?
- 3) Does modern science rely on religious assumptions?
- 4) Is it wrong for evolutionists to critique creationism?
- 5) Are all those scientific journal articles about evolution wrong?
- 6) How can evolution be so heavily influenced by religion if religion is not presented in biology class when evolution is taught?
- 7) Isn't methodological naturalism the basis for all science?
- 8) Doesn't ID require an infinite regress? If the existence of complexity requires a designer, then doesn't the designer require yet another designer?

Darwinism: Apologetics, natural theology and the religion in evolution (1600-present)

By Cornelius G. Hunter

Outline

- Pre Darwinian thought on God's role in natural history
- Reactions to natural theology and apologetics
- The Darwinian Turn
- Today's belief categories around evolution

Pre Darwinian thought on God's role in natural history

Pre Darwinian Cosmogonies

- The world created by natural processes
- Rene Descartes (1596–1650)
 - Universe formed from vortices
- Many other theories involving comets, etc.
 - Thomas Burnet (1635–1715)
 - *The Sacred Theory of the Earth*, 1681
 - Edmund Halley (1656–1742)
 - Renown astronomer
 - William Whiston (1667–1752)
 - Isaac Newton's successor at Cambridge

Pre Darwinian Cosmogonies

- Not an example of empiricism
 - Little scientific evidence involved
- Not an example of Bacon's utilitarianism
 - Where science was to seek practical solutions for humanity
- An example of natural explanations outside the realm of empiricism and practical value
 - Natural explanations replacing God's creative acts
 - Thomas Huxley acknowledged evolution's debt to the Cartesian worldview
 - Why? ...

Common Threads Between PT and Neo-Gnosticism

- God separated from the world and its evils
- Religion and science should be disjoint
 - The “God hypothesis” need not be considered in evolutionary studies
- Low view of doctrines of creation and providence

Evolution vs Design

- Evolution
 - Provides a framework for explaining evil but fails to explain complexity
- Design
 - Explains complexity but fails to explain evil
- What about an explanation for all the data
 - How can we explain complexity and evil?
 - Eg, the human brain

A Scriptural Warning

- Isaiah 45:9-12
 - “Woe to him who quarrels with his Maker, to him who is but a potsherd among the potsherds on the ground. Does the clay say to the potter, ‘What are you making?’ Does your work say, ‘He has no hands’?”
 - “Woe to him who says to his father, ‘What have you begotten?’ or to his mother, ‘What have you brought to birth?’
 - “This is what the Lord says—the Holy One of Israel, and its Maker:
Concerning things to come,
do you question me about my children,
or give me orders about the work of my hands?
It is I who made the earth
and created mankind upon it.
My own hands stretched out the heavens;
I marshaled their starry hosts”

A Scriptural Answer

- Creation is complex and wonderful
 - God's wisdom and glory
- Creation's quandaries and calamities
 - God's sovereignty
 - The Fall
 - Creation as part of revelation
- Humanity rejects God
 - "Gives God orders"
 - Seeks materialistic solutions