



CELEBRATING

77 YEARS

OF GOD'S
FAITHFULNESS

2019 IMPACT REPORT
OF THE AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC AFFILIATION

MISSION AND VISION OF THE AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC AFFILIATION

Mission: The mission of the ASA is to encourage the Christian church and the scientific community to discuss and share discoveries and perspectives about science and Christian faith, while providing a community of fellowship for Christians involved in science and related fields.

This mission is expressed in the following ways:

- Encourage the Christian community to reflect seriously and deeply about the natural world as revealed by science, and consider these perspectives in light of Christian theology and their practical application to real world concerns and stewardship responsibilities.
- Be a bridge, modeling understanding and dialogue among the public, the scientific community, and the church.
- Support Christians in working out their personal vocations in the STEM fields (natural and social science, medicine, technology, engineering, and mathematics).

Vision: When our mission is fulfilled:

- The work of the ASA is recognized within the church, marketplace, educational institutions, and media, providing biblically sound, scientifically thoughtful, and faith-building insight regarding difficult faith-science issues.
- The ASA's membership and leadership are diverse in age, ethnicity, and gender.
- ASA provides value to members by supporting their vocational ministry, faith-science integration, and outreach to their churches and scientific colleagues.
- Through the ASA, students and early career scientists find practical resources, networking and mentoring opportunities, and a supportive community.
- The ASA website, publications, and members are valuable resources for pastors, Christian youth leaders, and campus ministry staff.
- ASA leaders and members are sought out as respected voices and peacemakers, in areas of perceived conflict.
- The professional scientific community will increasingly see the ASA as a partner rather than an opponent in advancing public science literacy.
- ASA is fiscally stable and financially sustainable.

Enter the Lord's gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name for the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations
Psalm 100:4-5, ESV

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Leslie Wickman, Executive Director
Vicki Best, Director of Operations & Development
Lyn Berg, Managing Editor
Chelsea Church, Membership & Outreach Manager
Dana Oleskiewicz, Local Chapter Coordinator

PUBLICATIONS TEAM

James C. Peterson, *PSCF* Editor-in-Chief
Sy Garte, *God & Nature* Editor-in-Chief
Esther Martin, *PSCF* Manuscript Editor
Patrick Franklin, Book Review Editor
Arie Leegwater, Book Review Editor
Derek Schuurman, Book Review Editor
Sara Sybesma Tolsma, Book Review Editor
Chong Ho Yu, Book Review Editor

COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Jack Hass, Social Media Coordinator
Hannah Eagleson, ESN Liaison
Terry Gray, Website Resource Coordinator
David Fisher, Events Calendar Coordinator
Randy Isaac, Director Emeritus, IT Consultant

ASA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

John Wood, President
Terry Gray, Vice President
Judy Toronchuk, Secretary/Treasurer
William Jordan, Member
Michael Everest, Member

CSCA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND TEAM

Arnold Sikkema, Executive Director
Janet Warren, President
Patrick Franklin, Vice President
Bob Geddes, Secretary
Michael Werth, Treasurer
Tim Opperman, Early Career Representative

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends, members, and supporters –



We are happy to present you with the 2019 ASA Impact Report.

With your support, Vicki and I have extended our busy travel schedules, traversing the globe to meet with new audiences at churches, schools, universities, and other venues. We are doing our best to expand the reach of the ASA, helping scientists and lay audiences alike to have winsome conversations about the compatibility of science and the Christian faith.

Our Annual Meetings have steadily grown in attendance over the last several years, and our Local Chapters include 34 across the US and Canada at last count. ASA members are becoming more active and engaged, and that is both encouraging and exciting for all of us.

Our monthly “Science & Faith” radio show on the third Saturday of each month on KKL.com continues to attract both live and podcast listeners. Our guests have included Denis Lamoureux on evolutionary creation, Robert Mann on theoretical physics, Jim Peterson on biotechnology and ethics, and Ken Wolgemuth on the geology of the Grand Canyon. Look for these and other podcasts archived on the ASA website.

We have a brand new initiative underway to engage more professionals in the humanities and social sciences in the ASA. Our focus area of science and faith necessarily involves a contextual component that is more fully informed by disciplines such as psychology, sociology, philosophy, and theology. Thus, we are seeking to enhance our corporate understanding of these fields by encouraging broader cross-disciplinary conversations and collaborations within our organization.

If you are anything like me (and when it comes to geeking out on numbers, I daresay many of you are), you will enjoy perusing the various statistics included in this report.

I hope to see you during our upcoming travels somewhere, sometime soon!

With gratitude for the important role you play in the mission of the ASA,

Leslie Wickman



WHY DO WE DO WHAT WE DO?

VICKI L. BEST, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT



STORY OF RELATIONSHIP

I think a lot about the ASA and often wake up in the middle of the night doing so. When we hear of organizations such as ours struggling with financial challenges, it sometimes feels like a test in perseverance and patience. Can we stand the test of time? Can we survive for the long haul?

Then our great God always seems to provide an encouraging, heartwarming, and even profound reminder of why we do what we do. And why our entire team does what we do, at and for the ASA.

Sometimes these reminders come from folks whom we least expect. By example, I had the joy and privilege of getting to know and becoming friends with Walt and Ginny Hearn prior to their deaths last year. Let me share an encouraging and heartwarming story reminding me (and hopefully you!) of why we do what we do.

When I arrived at the ASA seven years ago, I remember hearing about this legendary character named Walt Hearn. Then I asked Walt to write one of our annual fund appeal communications; I was completely impressed not only with his writing style but also with his ability to intertwine humor and creativity into an amazingly compelling story. But what impressed me more was his passion, dedication, and loyalty to the ASA. After I read his narrative, I thought to myself, "This is a guy that I want to get to know personally." So, I planned a trip to northern California for the purpose of visiting them at their home in Berkeley.



On that trip, Randy Isaac joined me and we had the privilege of visiting with the Hearn, Swarengens, Olsons, and Irvines, all longstanding, faithful ASA members. As the unknown newcomer, I immediately felt warmly welcomed, and Walt very quickly engaged me in the conversation with this prestigious group. I left the meeting that January afternoon thinking, "If these people are any indication of what ASA members are like, this is an organization that I want to be involved with and where I'd like to invest my time." While in their eclectic, unique home (called the Troll House), Walt informed Randy and me that he and Ginny intended to include the ASA in their estate planning. We were deeply humbled and of course, very encouraged. It was a wonderful afternoon that will forever be etched in my mind.

For many years, Walt and Ginny gave of their time, talent, and treasure to the ASA. In addition to serving as the editor of the newsletter for 25 years, they were faithfully sending us a quarterly donation like clockwork – and always with an encouraging note providing accolades, votes of confidence and positive words of support—customarily with humor incorporated in—to me and to my colleagues in the ASA office. He routinely called us the Topsfield Toilers! After this particular visit, they generously increased their quarterly giving by 50%. Again, I was humbled and encouraged.

In the wake of that first meeting, I visited them in their home several times and communicated regularly with Walt. He and Ginny were salt-of-the-earth kind of people, blessed with the gifts of hospitality, encouragement, and leadership—knowing how to engage people in the ASA and Christian community—which is a rare gift. In addition, Walt was witty, insightful, and humorous and a glorious eccentric whom I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know.



ASA's 75th ANNIVERSARY

It was a deep honor to have Walt, escorted by his daughter Christine, at ASA 2016, our 75th anniversary annual meeting at Azusa Pacific University. Traveling to southern California from Berkeley at the age of 90 years old was no small undertaking particularly in light of the fact that he was recovering from a recent battle with cancer and leaving his beloved Ginny behind. In addition to giving his personal testimony at the anniversary dinner, he participated in the VIP (40+ year members) panel and was honored at a special symposium and in the Festschrift issue of God and Nature. With his ubiquitous presence at the meeting (still a hippy sporting a pony tail!), many ASA members were thrilled to see and interact with him.

This annual meeting ended up being his last hurrah which I had suspected would be the case. While having lunch with him at APU, he informed me that their intended estate gift may be not be as much as he had hoped due to care needed for Ginny who was in failing health. Telling him that I completely understood, I was again deeply humbled by his care for Ginny but also his concern for the ASA.

In the wake of the APU meeting, we were also blessed to have both Ginny and Walt in attendance at another 75th anniversary celebration at their church, First Presbyterian of Berkeley. At this special dessert reception, I walked them to their door of the Troll House. I will never forget that evening as it was the last time that I saw Walt.

The last communication we received from him was on January 12, 2017, in the wake of the staff Christmas photo/card that we had sent to the ASA members. In his lengthy and thoughtful email, he went person by person down the list, in his intelligent, witty way and cleverly provided words of wisdom, advice, and encouragement to each and every one of us. It was Hannah the Ace, Vicki the Best, Leslie the Boss, Sharon the Mysterious One, Jack the Ripper, Randy the Tall One and Lyn the Guardian of the English Language. His notes were always so clever, humorous, positive, inspirational, and encouraging, and I always looked forward to and sincerely appreciated them.

Three months later, I had the privilege of attending his memorial service in Berkeley and giving a tribute on behalf of the ASA. It was an absolutely beautiful service celebrating Walt's outstanding life. After the well-attended reception, I was invited back to Ginny's house for a small, intimate gathering with Christine and their close friends. I will never forget that special day as it was last time I saw Ginny.

Walt was one of the most active and prolific advocates as well as a faithful donor to the ASA for 66 years, urging everyone he knew to consider joining the organization that meant so much to him. Walt not only ministered to people through writings and personal interactions but also by example. He made the transition to a basic lifestyle that emphasized thrift and ecological sustainability and giving to others. His famous talks on "dumpster diving" opened many eyes to the waste that permeates our society.

HUMBLED AND GRATEFUL

This past November, I came into my office one early morning and I was surprised to find an envelope from Christine Hearn on my desk. When I opened the nice letter, a sizable check dropped out and my jaw dropped. It was a gift from Walt and Ginny's estate that was designated for the ASA endowment fund because they wanted to ensure the legacy of the organization they held so dearly. As I broke down into tears, I stood there thanking God for this family, their generosity, and their unwavering commitment to the ASA – humble lives lived making a difference for the sake of the Kingdom. Once again, I was deeply humbled and forever grateful.

If we are to do our jobs well in the area of development, we absolutely need to have these conversations and ask ourselves these questions regularly. Interestingly enough, the first question "Why do we do what we do?" leads to the next question "Why would anyone support a faith/science organization like the ASA?" A possible answer could be that donors share our vision of ensuring ASA recognition by providing biblically sound, scientifically thoughtful, and faith-building insight regarding faith-science issues. It could also be that people support the ASA because of our many years of faithful stewardship of the resources that God has entrusted to us. We certainly understand that and desire to live up to the high standard of those who came before us.

If these are the two more obvious answers, I hope that the story I have shared goes a step further, putting a face on the who we are endeavoring to live out our mission for – the likes of Walt and Ginny Hearn.

THANK YOU

I cannot emphasize enough that you, our donors, are co-laborers in the Kingdom work we do. We are deeply grateful for the hundreds of generous partners who give of their time, talent, and treasure to the ASA. Perhaps the most basic answer to the "Why would anyone support an organization like the ASA?" might be, frankly, because someone asked them to. If you are not already one of our faithful partners, would you prayerfully consider supporting the ASA and playing a part in our Kingdom advancement story? I am happy to follow up questions, so consider yourself asked.

Ultimately, we do development work so that our organization can do this vital, absolutely critical and serious work of encouraging the Christian church and scientific community to discuss and share discoveries and perspectives about science and Christian faith, while providing a community of fellowship for Christians involved in science and related fields – all to the glory of God!

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

BY JOHN WOOD, PRESIDENT



The ASA is a wonder. It always has been. Our focus on bridging science-faith conversations is as vital today as it was 77 years ago. We thrive on the intellectual turmoil of uncertainty and discovery. We accept the richness of the Christian faith expressed in the historic creeds of the church. We rely on the gifts and grace of our Triune God. Yet, achieving our unique mission requires transition and change.

Today the pace of discovery and the challenges at the science-faith interface are perhaps greater than ever. Our organization is changing to meet the opportunities opening before us. The ASA has a talented leadership team managing the transition to this environment.

Over the past three years, we have reorganized significantly to a distributed model of operations. The administrative center remains anchored at the Massachusetts office. The Topsfield team—Vicki Best, Lyn Berg, Randy Isaac, and Jack Haas—has been joined by Chelsea Church. Chelsea is focused on membership and designing communications and outreach strategies.

Our executive director, Leslie Wickman, is in Southern California. She gives the ASA a new presence both on radio and in person on the west coast. Leslie's work on the local chapter revitalization initiative is providing students and our members with increased opportunities for dialogue and networking. As part of a strategic move to engage new members, the local chapters are now coordinated by Dana Oleskiewicz, one of the newest members of the team.

Today the nonprofit world is rapidly changing and the executive council is seeking to apply the best practices among Christian nonprofits. To achieve this, the ASA membership adopted the revised ASA Constitution and Bylaws (C&BL) on April 18, 2019. The executive council wants to thank the C&BL committee members—Kathryn Applegate, Dorothy Boorse, Steven Hall, Ruth Douglas Miller, Keith Miller, Faith Stults, and especially the committee chair and out-going ASA President Stephen Moshier—for their diligent work.

The executive council is changing too. We are using digital technology to reduce face-to-face meetings. This year the council is expanding to seven members and a three-year term limit under the updated C&BL. The additional members and the shorter terms give us the diversity and flexibility we need.

The ASA is a member-driven organization with a long oral history and traditions. Besides our membership, the ASA regularly reports to the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA). In addition to financial accountability, the ECFA standards importantly include "organizational governance." The council is currently developing a board policy manual and orientation process to meet the dynamics of increasing board size and turnover.

The creation is God's good gift to us, the object of our study, to his glory. I was reminded of this on hearing of the death of Richard Bube. "Creation," he said, "is not a controversial question." These were important words for an undergraduate biology student in 1971. They reveal the heart of our fellowship and I was hooked. Later, while in graduate school, Walter Hearn, another giant in the history of the ASA, gave me some advice. "John," he said, "give your students room to go on the journey that you have taken." Walt was a gracious, wise mentor and guide extraordinaire. Together, across seven decades, these faithful servants have gifted us all. Now we are transitioning to the next generation of leadership. There will be new words of wisdom given to inspire and guide our thoughts. Lord, we pray that you will richly bless their memory and increase their tribe among us.

A long-term goal of any successful organization is renewal and succession. Today the ASA is in the midst of a significant generational shift. We are moving to a younger demographic in our meetings, in our leadership, and in our publications. Like a relay race, the hand-off zone presents great risk to the runners, but also the finest opportunity for renewal. The future of the ASA rests with the efforts of our committed and gifted membership. Lynn Billman said it best in our 75th Anniversary Impact Report: "The ASA is fueled by three vital resources: God's grace, the faithful support of our members, and the sustaining contributions of our donors." Our cup is overflowing, and we are grateful for God's good gift—the ASA.

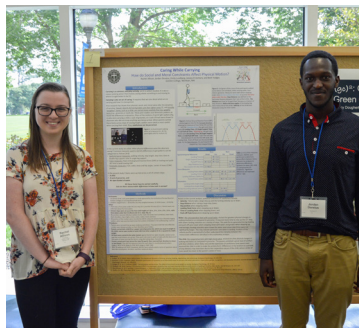
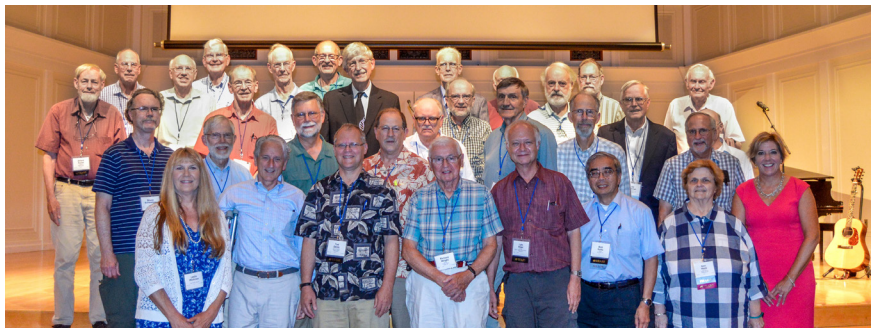
ASA HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2017 AND 2018

- Executed successful Annual Meetings at Colorado School of Mines (2017) and at Gordon College (2018). Record-breaking attendance of 350+ participants, including 30+ VIP's (40 plus-year members) and 70+ students. In addition, we used the opportunity afforded by the 2017 meeting to host a banquet featuring Phillip Yancey, attracting an audience of 375 and the 2018 meeting to host a public lecture featuring Francis Collins, attracting an audience of 625 attendees.
- Continued our strategic Local Chapters Campaign, bringing the total number of chapters to 34 across the US (23) and Canada (11), and engaging more members at the local level throughout the year.
- Continued our outreach to and partnering with faith-based organizations and churches, including frequent local chapter visits, church presentations, university and high school visits, conference participation, para-church organization meetings, and a monthly Science & Faith radio show/podcast.
- Developed branding guide for consistency and "brand recognition" in print and online designs.
- Finished major re-design of ASA website.
- Completed a two-year process of updating our Constitution and Bylaws.
- Brought on three new staff members: Chelsea Church as Membership and Outreach Manager; Dana Oleskiewicz as Local Chapter Coordinator, and Sy Garte as Editor-In-Chief of *God and Nature*.
- Enhanced the organization's financial sustainability through ongoing development efforts, including new initiatives for donor cultivation, endowment funding, and grant-writing.
- Successfully completed our \$150,000 Capital Campaign for the purchase of our two office condominiums.



ASA 2018 - THE 73RD ANNUAL MEETING

AT GORDON COLLEGE



HIGHLIGHT: FRANCIS COLLINS EVENT & STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

BY HANNAH EAGLESON, EMERGING SCHOLARS NETWORK LIAISON



"Attending the 2018 ASA meeting allowed me to joyfully reconnect with friends I made from last year's meeting, and also to establish tight bonds with newly found friends all within a four-day span. Such community is scarce and therefore highly valuable to my growth. Most importantly, I was not only able to get advice from professors about work/life balance, but also gain advice about becoming a better teacher to students, by following the servant leadership model that Christ provides for us." –Mrinalini Ramanan, early career scientist who attended the ASA Annual Meeting in 2017 and in 2018

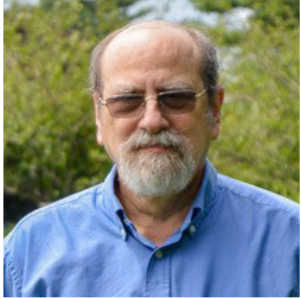
When I met Vicki Best and Randy Isaac for lunch one day in 2015 as part of my work with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, I had no idea what to expect. I certainly did not know that we would launch a new early career track for the ASA Annual Meeting together, or that it would have such important impact for graduate students like Mrinalini. As I reflect on the last few years (with record-breaking student attendance at the last three annual meetings), I am especially amazed to see how God has provided new opportunities as we collaborate to serve early career scientists together. We are launching our third year of an early career track at the Annual Meeting and seeing our collaboration expand to local groups, I am so thankful to partner with ASA to support emerging scientists as they live out their faith and their scientific vocation for the common good.

One major highlight of working with the ASA was supporting early career scientists to hear Francis Collins speak at the 2018 Annual Meeting. ASA planned a wonderful evening, starting with a classic New England clambake outside on the quad at Gordon College. Francis Collins gave a compelling lecture, "The Joyful Complementarity of Science and Faith," to an enthusiastic audience of over 600 people. BioLogos generously hosted a reception afterward, where Francis Collins and several others entertained us on guitar and vocals with classics from Bob Dylan songs to "Amazing Grace."

We wanted as many early career scientists as possible to have access to this great opportunity, so the ASA provided generous travel and meal scholarships. Since many students in the Boston/Cambridge area do not have cars, we pioneered a new one-day package for local students, including transportation. Wonderfully, we had the largest student attendance ever for the Annual Meeting in 2018. ASA members remarked to me afterward how encouraged they were by the many thoughtful questions early career scientists asked Francis Collins during the question and answer session after the lecture. I will always remember the whole crowd singing "Amazing Grace" together at the end of the reception that evening. As we sang "When we've been there ten thousand years," I felt that we were receiving a hint of what it will be like to celebrate God's creativity together in the new heavens and new earth.

Another wonderful highlight coming out of the 2018 Annual Meeting has been increased partnership between the Boston ASA chapter and InterVarsity graduate ministries in the Boston area. When ASA provided transportation for local grad students to attend ASA 2019, it opened the door for a collaboration between the Harvard InterVarsity graduate fellowship and the ASA Boston chapter. This spring they had several joint meetings and are planning more next fall.

Looking to the future, I cannot wait to see how these collaborations grow. Maybe the next Francis Collins will be one of the early career scientists connecting with the ASA right now.



REPORT FROM GOD AND NATURE

BY SY GARTE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As an ASA member, I have long admired the online magazine *God and Nature* and published a number of essays in it. I was therefore quite thrilled to take on the position of Editor-in-Chief in the spring of 2018, following the resignation of founding editor Emily Ruppel Herrington.

I have made a few minor changes in the past year, including the addition of a set of guidelines for authors, the insertion of callouts and photos for each article, a slightly revised look for the cover page, some improvements to the submission form, and the inauguration of a small panel of advisors that I can reach out to for guidance and suggestions. Each issue now includes essays on focus topics (like the former special themes) and on more general subjects. Focus topics for the past several issues included "Chance and Design," "Education and Outreach," and "Creation Care and the Environment." The current issue is on "Philosophy of Science and Faith."

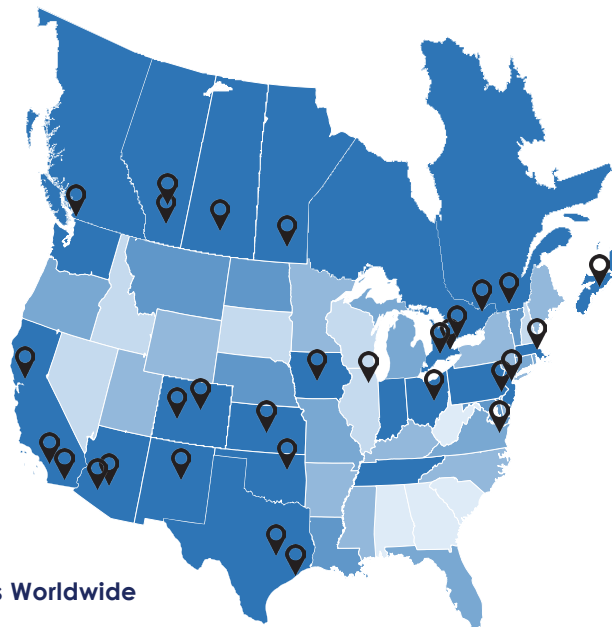
The magazine generally gets over 6,000 views per week, spiking to over 10,000 when a new issue is released. We have been building up the magazine's Twitter account, and a strong social media presence will be a priority for the future. Several ASA Fellows and prominent scholars have been among our contributors. We have regularly included student authors and will continue recruiting younger and more diverse writers. Poetry, artwork (including photoessays), and regular columns appear in every issue.

My vision for the future is to maintain and improve (where possible) the high quality and entertainment value of *God and Nature*, and to increase readership both within and outside the ASA.

U.S. LOCAL/STUDENT CHAPTERS

Arizona State University, AZ
 Baylor University, TX
 Boston, MA
 California Baptist University, CA
 Colorado Christian University Student, CO
 Gordon College Student, MA
 Grand Canyon University, AZ
 Grand Canyon University Student, AZ
 Washington, DC
 Kansas, KS
 Houston, TX
 Nashville, TN
 New Mexico, NM
 Northern California, CA
 Ohio, OH
 Oral Roberts, OK
 Philadelphia, PA
 Prairie, IA
 Princeton, NJ
 Rocky Mountain, CO
 Silicon Valley, CA
 Southern California, CA
 Wheaton, IL

LOCAL CHAPTERS MAP AND ACTIVE MEMBERS



ASA Members Worldwide

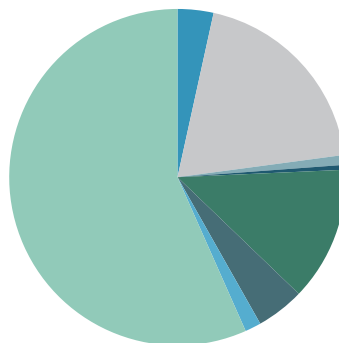
USA: 1,577
 Canada: 250
 International: 151

Total: 1,978

CANADIAN LOCAL CHAPTERS

Calgary, AB
 Edmonton, AB
 Hamilton, ON
 Montréal, QC
 Nova Scotia
 Ottawa, ON
 Saskatchewan
 Toronto, ON
 Vancouver, BC
 Waterloo, ON
 Winnipeg, MB

ACTIVE MEMBERS



Member Type

- Fellow: 176
- Regular: 992
- Associate: 48
- Friend: 24
- Student: 659
- Subscriber: 236
- Supporter: 79
- Follower: 2,891

Total Active Members: 5,105

VALUABLE SCHOLARSHIP OF THE ASA

BY HARRY LEE POE, ASA FELLOW



I first became aware of the ASA twenty years ago when Jimmy Davis and I won a Templeton Course Award. The ASA wrote a grant to support guest lectures for the Templeton Course winners. We both joined the ASA once we understood how the organization supports the scholarship of the intersection of science and faith. As a theologian, I found the organization particularly helpful since most theologians in the twentieth century, whether liberal or conservative, tended to avoid any contact with science.

My first semester as a seminary student, I studied science and religion with Eric Rust, a former Oxford physicist who entered the ministry as a military chaplain during World War II and afterwards switched his field of interest to Old Testament theology and philosophy. From him I learned the fascinating history of the development of science and the extraordinary relationship between quantum mechanics and the logic of the Trinity. I learned the difference between a Hebrew understanding of time and a Greek understanding of time. With that introduction, I quickly realized that most American theologians still live in the universe of Newton! Such questions as the knowledge of God or divine action tend to be framed in terms of an eighteenth-century mechanical model of the universe governed by Aristotle's concept of absolute time.

The ASA has provided me with a touchstone over the last twenty years. Every summer, I know I will have stimulating conversations over meals and between sessions with people who have vast experience in particular sciences, but who also grapple with faith questions. I know that I will be with people who hold a variety of views on current questions. I know that the interactions will sharpen my thoughts, reinforce some, and cause me to reconsider others.

Over the past twenty years of our involvement in the ASA, Jimmy Davis and I have published four books that grapple with some of the critical issues that have concerned us. All of these books began with conversations we have had with others dealing with the same questions. Sometimes our thoughts have developed because we disagreed with the conclusions drawn by colleagues in their papers and talks. In all cases, the interaction with colleagues has stimulated our intellects and our imaginations.

The idea of peer review aims at raising the level of scholarship, and our journal has done an excellent job under its editors the last twenty years to raise our expectations of one another. But peer review also works informally through our annual meetings, the times when we gather to hear one another's research and to prod one another in our conversations. Much of what we do in our research and scholarship happens in solitude, but just as often, we have that breakthrough moment when we see something clearly for the first time as we talk, debate, converse, and argue with colleagues that we see only once every year or two.

The ASA provides me with invaluable resources to stimulate, encourage, challenge, and improve my scholarship on science and faith through its formal structures of the annual meeting and *PSCF*, but also through the informality of the association of colleagues who would never have the opportunity for such interactions otherwise.



PERSPECTIVES ON SCIENCE AND CHRISTIAN FAITH

BY JAMES C. PETERSON, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

At Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith, our contributors and primary audience are thought leaders in the interaction between the best of the sciences and Christian faith.

Most of our writers are full-time professors, though quite importantly, many also serve in research, government, and the professions. Looking at the authors of *PSCF* articles since the last impact report, one might expect the requisite development of expertise to be reflected in academic rank of associate, full, and emeritus professors, and there were, indeed, twenty-two so accomplished. It is a sign of a promising future that, through encouragement and the double-blind peer-review process, sixteen of our authors the last two years held posts as assistant and adjunct professors, and strikingly, a few of them were graduate students.

As to breadth of specific expertise, authors the last two years have had their primary training in astrophysics, biology, computation, engineering, environmental studies, exegesis, genetics, geology, math, neurology, paleontology, pharmaceuticals, philosophy, physics, psychology, social policy, social work, theology, and even the classics. Home institutions the last two years have included 16 CCCU colleges and universities, 17 state universities, 7 private universities, and one seminary.

PSCF is also a continental and international effort. From our North American base, we published articles written by six Canadians and by authors from 17 of the 50 United States. Scholars from across the seas included three from Brazil, two from Ireland, two from the UK, and one author each of Hong Kong, Spain, and Switzerland.

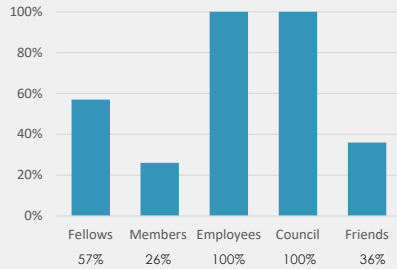
Science is a growing power in the world and the Christian tradition is arguably the most widespread and influential global movement today. Where the two meet is the insightful and strategic place of our service at *PSCF*.

YOUR IMPACT IN 2019 BY THE NUMBERS

Thanks to your generosity, 2019 was a year of continued blessings

TOTAL DONORS:

476 DONORS GAVE \$211,871 IN GIFTS



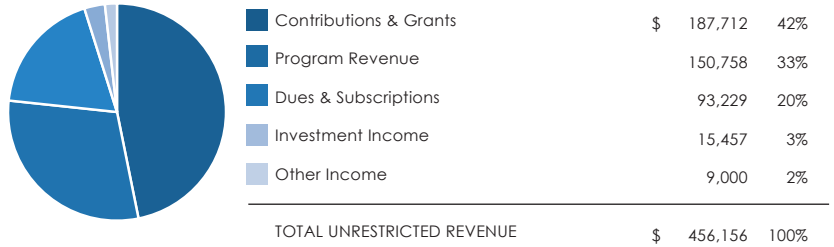
GIVING BY DOLLARS

Annual Fund	\$ 148,393
Student Scholarships	5,153
Capital Fund	5,754
Memorial Fund	1,450
Endowment Fund	48,750
CSCA	2,371
Total Giving	\$ 211,871

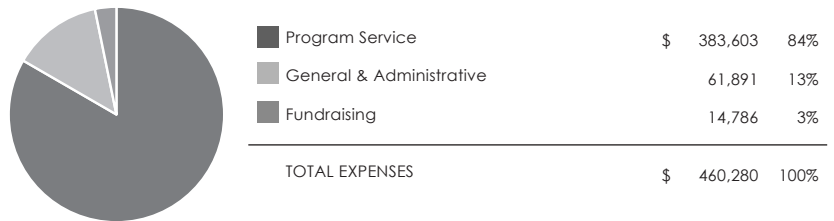
THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT!



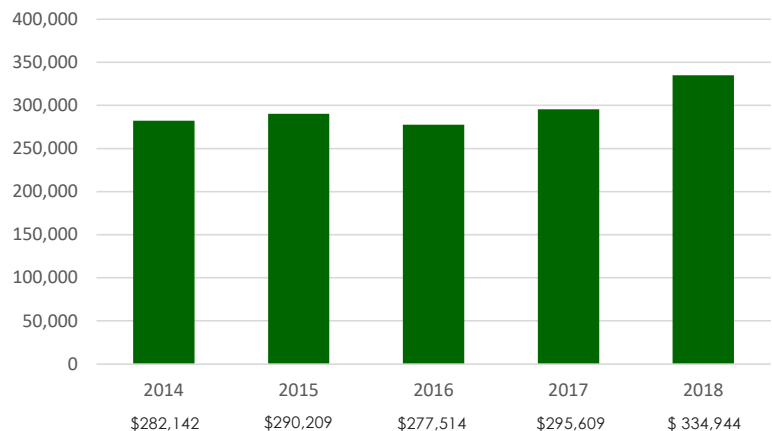
FY19 UNRESTRICTED REVENUES BY MAJOR SOURCE



FY19 EXPENSES: HOW FUNDS WERE ALLOCATED



ENDOWMENT FUNDS



THANKFUL FOR A WELCOMING NETWORK OF CHRISTIANS IN THE SCIENCES

BY MATTHEW SOLT, SILICON VALLEY CHAPTER LEADER

As a graduate student in experimental particle physics, I have the privilege of exploring God's creation at the most fundamental level that technology currently allows. My current research is in the "dark sector,"

However, despite my current research interests, I also grew up in a stereotypical Christian community that, though positive and well intentioned, ultimately struggled to effectively communicate science and how it related to my faith. This, of course, created confusion as I began to pursue physics as a student.

I first began to personally search for compatibility of my scientific work and my faith at the beginning of my graduate studies at Stanford University. Through this search, I first heard of the ASA in a footnote of Francis Collins's inspirational book, *The Language of God*. After exploring the ASA's resources, I was impressed with the academic rigor of their journals and articles that addressed many of my theological questions, and I immediately became a student member. However, after some time, I realized that an academic approach to the Christian faith is not sufficient, and being simultaneously a Christian student in fundamental physics and a science student in the church, I found it difficult for the people around me to understand both my questions and my experiences on the issues of science and faith.

Interested in finding a science and faith community to address my loneliness, I took a leap of faith and attended the ASA's annual meeting in Golden, CO, despite knowing absolutely no one. Upon arrival at the annual meeting, I felt an immediate connection with nearly everyone I interacted with. Certainly the scientific and theological talks and discussions were interesting, but I also found what I most wanted — a community of people who had wrestled with issues of science and faith in their scientific work, church communities, and personal lives in a similar way I had. In addition to this—perhaps what I am most impressed with—the ASA is a strong community despite disagreements on a variety of hot topics.

One of the best aspects of the ASA is that there is virtually no barrier between the "big wigs" and other members, especially students. At the annual meeting in Golden, I immediately became friends with many of those in charge of the ASA, famous authors, and plenary speakers, and at the ASA annual meeting in Boston, I even met Francis Collins and thanked him for mentioning the ASA in his book.

Inspired by the community at the ASA annual meetings, I wondered if a similar community was needed and could be established in Silicon Valley—one of the most well-known science and technological areas in the world. With the support of Leslie and Vicki, and the commitment of the Bay Area ASA members, we launched a Silicon Valley chapter. Overall, the ASA has enabled me to address my personal theological concerns, has helped me establish a much-needed community, and has empowered me to address science and faith issues with people around me, and for that I am thankful.



TWO LEGENDARY ASA MEMBERS

BY RANDY ISAAC, DIRECTOR EMERITUS

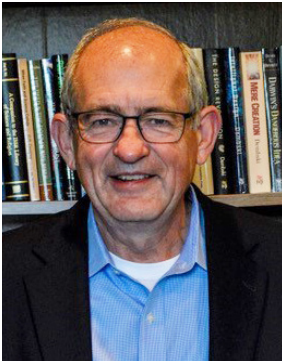
Each organization can point to luminary figures that were influential in shaping its success. For ASA, two of those people were Richard Bube and Walter Hearn. Dick edited the *Journal of the ASA* for 15 years and Walt edited the *Newsletter of the ASA and CSCA* for 25 years, both starting in 1969. They have had an extraordinary impact on the ASA and on countless individuals.

Dick Bube joined the ASA in 1951. He founded the Bay area chapter of the ASA in his home in 1963. His first publication in the *Journal of the ASA* was in 1956. He continued his prolific writing as an editor of that journal and submitted his final publication in 1998 after publishing 125 articles, reviews, comments, and notes. Many of these articles were collected in his highly regarded books. All of his work for the ASA was done while he was a respected leader in materials science at Stanford, serving as chairman of that department for some time. Specific information about his life and his books is available in the ASA Members in Glory page at <https://www.asa3.org/obit/Obits/obit.html#Bube>.

Dick deserves a large portion of the credit for building the quality and the reputation of the *Journal of the ASA*. His own writings not only brought deep insight into the major issues of science and faith but set the standard of excellence for the journal. His style was to focus more on the articulation of the core issues of science and Christianity rather than on personal interactions and public lectures. I had the privilege of meeting Dick in person but only once. It was in the spring of 2005 when I had just begun to serve as the ASA executive director. Ken Olson brought me to Dick's home. His health limited our conversation, but it was an inspiration for me to meet the man whose perspectives and insights had a profound and lasting influence on my life. A special symposium will be held at the ASA 2019 Annual Meeting in Wheaton in honor of him.

Walt Hearn also joined the ASA in 1951. He became a biochemist and spent 17 years on the faculty at Iowa State University. In 1972 he surprised many friends by leaving academia to move to Berkeley, CA, to do free-lance editorial work with his wife, Ginny. He wanted to devote his life to the cause of science and Christianity, and the ASA was a key part of his effort. His life and his work for the ASA is cited in more detail in the ASA Members in Glory page at <https://www.asa3.org/obit/Obits/obit.html#Hearn>.

Walt and Ginny edited around 200 books for Christian publishers. He wrote 40 articles for ASA besides his regular newsletters. In contrast to Dick's erudite analyses, Walt wrote in a much more personal style, emphasizing personal relationships and the experiential aspect of the Christian life. His book *Being a Christian in Science* told of his experiences living a life of faith as a scientist. The book, published by IVCF, was widely distributed by the ASA until it ran out of print. Walt's newsy, chatty style in writing the newsletter brought a sense of humor and witty insights to the ASA. He avidly advocated for the ASA wherever he went, using his pen and his social graces to connect with people everywhere. I had met Walt several times at ASA meetings. I first visited his unique home, affectionately dubbed the Troll House, in Berkeley when Ken Olson took me there in 2005. The house was literally stuffed with books and was suffused with their gracious hospitality. In 2015 I was privileged to join Vicki, the Swearengens, the Olsons, the Irvings, and the Hearn at the Troll House for an ASA gathering. The ASA 2016 Annual Meeting featured the 75th anniversary of the ASA and Walt was able to attend, his last of countless meetings. He spoke at the banquet and at the ASA VIP symposium. Recordings of both of these are available on the ASA Resources page. Walt won the hearts of everyone who met him and he graciously shaped the direction of the ASA.



Randy Isaac



Richard Bube (1927-2018)



Walter Hearn (1926-2017)

AT A GLANCE – ASA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

A NEW HOME FOR THE ASA

At the American Scientific Affiliation, we have always relied on God. From the earliest days in the early 1940s through three quarters of a century, what we have accomplished has gone far beyond our human abilities. During this capital campaign to fund the office condominium purchases, God continued to provide in unexpected and amazing ways. Many people saw the strategic vision and contributed over and above their annual fund contributions. Because of your generosity, we have funded 100% of our goal and have positively positioned the ASA in the following ways:

- This bold and strategic move puts the ASA on a strong financial foundation for the future.
- It significantly reduces our occupancy expenses and frees up operational dollars to utilize for faith and science projects.
- It provides the ASA with the ability to build equity in a tangible asset.

We are ever grateful for the enthusiastic and generous response to the ASA capital campaign. Thank you!

Number of Givers

281

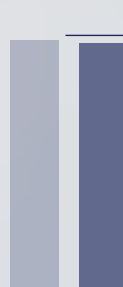


Number of Gifts

481



Total Goal – \$150,000
Total Amount Raised
\$150,000





CSCA REPORT

ARNOLD SIKKEMA, CSCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The CSCA serves the many ASA members living in Canada, and Canadians living abroad, providing leadership and resources on science and faith with a particularly Canadian perspective. Our 11 chapters from coast to coast are often engaged in public lectures at public universities, Christian universities, churches, and other venues. Sometimes these lectures are driven by local chapter leadership; other times we partner with institutions that are hosting a speaker. Developing connections and mentorship for students is an important part of our goal—to help them establish as Christians in the sciences with a supportive network of those already serving.

2018 was a banner year for the CSCA. This was the concluding year of our three-year Local Chapters Project funded by the Templeton World Charity Foundation, Inc. Our project wrap-up newsletter is at csc.ca/newsletter. A major highlight was our May conference at Trinity Western University: "Science & Christianity in Canada: From Sea to Sea to ... Sky!" See csc.ca/may2018. There were 50 contributed talks and about 170 attendees; an additional 130 from the general public attended our "Sky Gala" concert. This evening featured the Isotone Ensemble from Oak Ridge, Tennessee, playing Janet Danielson's "Six Pieces of a Reverberant Cosmos" with narration by Dennis Danielson, followed by Katharine Hayhoe speaking on faith and climate change.

Some of the products of our past three years are online resources which we offer to all. These include recordings of many of our public lectures as well as the conference plenaries available on our YouTube channel at csc.ca/youtube and ten new "Faith and Science, eh?" pamphlets at csc.ca/pamphlets.

2018 also saw the retirement of Don McNally after 15 years of faithful service as Executive Director. This was announced at the opening evening of our May conference where he was fêted with a copy of the Zondervan's recent *Dictionary of Christianity and Science* as well as a dessert social with ice cream, made on-the-spot using liquid-nitrogen, from Theo's Feast. In November, Arnold Sikkema, who had served since 2011 on the executive council (including leading the three-year Templeton grant-funded project and chairing the conference), was appointed in his place as the new CSCA Executive Director.



A COMMUNITY OF BELONGING

BY DANA OLESKIEWICZ, LOCAL CHAPTERS COORDINATOR



I appreciate having grown up in a Christian home, although that gratitude did not fully enter my thoughts until early in 2015. I spent many years isolated from worship due to a perceived conflict. Learning about Genesis through the eyes of my church mentors had convinced me that I must make a choice: science or faith. Within the context of youth and immaturity, I had not yet witnessed the Holy Spirit, while, in exploring creation, science captivated my mind. Thus, my choice was made, even at the peril to my personal relationships. As the only nonbeliever among my large and faithful family, I often felt out of place. Religion, resulting in great angst for me, simply became a topic that was off limits, so my seeking ended.

Fast forward a couple decades to a visit with family, Christmas 2014. A discussion, somewhat heated, and that I usually avoided, transpired about science related to origins and religion transpired. That event became the doorway needed for open and honest contemplation that had so long ago been closed and abandoned. I experienced a truly profound awakening to God's grace as I asked Jesus into my heart. I came to realize that God, contrary to what I had been told, welcomes our questions. For days, weeks, months, I immersed myself in learning this new version of Christianity in harmony with science that had so eluded me when I was younger.

Ultimately, exploration led me to the American Scientific Affiliation. I was amazed to learn of an organization of scientists that also proclaims Christ. For so long, I had believed that these two were mutually exclusive. I began reading ASA literature, studying science and theology, participating at conferences, and engaging as an ASA chapter leader. To this day, I cannot attend the Sunday worship service at the ASA annual meeting without getting emotional. In all my years attending science meetings with fellow practitioners, it never occurred to me that I could both embrace science and find spiritual joy within a faith community of believers.

I wonder what my pathway to belief would have been if I had been exposed to the ASA sooner. That is why I highly value our mission. My career has been dedicated to environmental protection. I have long recognized the importance of outreach to students and early career professionals in gaining future advocates. I now work alongside the ASA staff in providing support to local chapters, with a personal motivation in offering students what I did not have—a vibrant experience spiritually while learning about science that is robust and precise.

All along, unbeknownst to me, the Lord has guided me to be in service as a steward of nature. I am equally blessed with my involvement in the ASA, and I am thankful for the opportunity to do so, to his glory.

AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC AFFILIATION

218 Boston Street
Ste. 208
Topsfield, MA 01983

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