THE LIGHT BULB
IDEA
Intelligent Design and Evolution Awareness Center

"A fair result can only be obtained by balancing the facts and arguments on both sides of each question."

Charles Darwin
The Origin of Species

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Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed

In a controversial new satirical documentary, author, former presidential speechwriter, economist, lawyer and actor Ben Stein travels the world, looking to some of the best scientific minds of our generation for the answer to the biggest question facing all Americans today:



Are we still free to disagree about the meaning of life?

**Or has the whole issue *already been decided*…
while most of us weren't looking?**

The Issue:

The freedom to legitimately challenge "Big Science's" orthodoxy…without persecution.

The debate over evolution is confusing and to some, bewildering: "Wasn't this all settled years ago?" The answer to that question is equally troubling: "Yes…and no."

The truth is that a staggering amount of new scientific evidence has emerged since Darwin's 150-year-old theory of life's origins. Darwin had no concept of DNA, microbiology, The Big Bang, Einstein's Theory of Relativity or of the human genome.

Each of these discoveries has, in one way or another, led a growing number of scientists to reconsider the simple view espoused by Darwin that life is a random, purposeless, chance occurrence. The universe, and life itself – is turning out to be far more complex and mysterious – than Darwin could possibly have imagined.

Darwin's theory isn't a single idea. Instead, it is made up of several related ideas, each supported by specific arguments. Of the three, only Evolution #1 can be said to be scientifically "settled."

- **Evolution #1:** First, evolution can mean **minor changes in features of individual species** – changes that take place gradually over a (relatively) modest period of time.
- **Evolution #2:** The Theory of Universal Common Descent - the idea that all the organisms we see today are descended from a **single common ancestor** somewhere in the distant past. This theory paints a picture of the history of life on earth as a great branching tree, from a single cell that "somehow" materialized.

- **Evolution #3:** A cause or mechanism of change, the biological process Darwin thought was responsible for this branching pattern. Darwin argued that **natural selection had the power to produce fundamentally new forms of life.** Together, the ideas of Universal Common Descent and natural selection form the core of Darwinian evolutionary theory. "Neo – Darwinian" evolution combines our knowledge of DNA and genetics to claim that mutations in DNA provide the variation upon which natural selection acts.

When you see the word "evolution." You should ask yourself, "Which of the three definitions is being used?" Because arguments and evidence supporting #1 do not support #2 or #3!

What Is Intelligent Design?

The theory of intelligent design is simply an effort to empirically detect whether the "apparent design" in nature acknowledged by virtually all biologists is genuine design (the product of an intelligent cause) or is simply the product of an undirected process such as natural selection acting on random variations.

"Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed" rejects the notion that "the case is closed," and exposes the widespread persecution of scientists and educators who are pursuing legitimate, opposing scientific views to the reigning orthodoxy.

The Controversy

The American public's awareness and beliefs vis-à-vis our government's expanding role in defining the curriculum in America's schools, universities and institutions of science.

Neo-Darwinian theory contends that life is the result of a random, purposeless process.

Neo – Darwinian theory is taught in schools as if it is the only plausible scientific explanation of how life originated and developed. Yet Intelligent Design theory has recently emerged to challenge neo-Darwinian theory. Both are scientific theories, and the debate is therefore legitimate. Why is the debate being suppressed?

At stake are two very consequential views of existence: Is life purposeful, and intelligently designed? Or is it random and purposeless?

Question #1: Knowing this - should our government be engaged in official, de facto promotion of the exclusively secular, materialist worldview inherent in neo-Darwinian theory in our nation's public schools, universities and research institutions? Why?

Question #2: There is growing support among scientists that there is evidence of intelligent design operating in nature. Yet these scientists, researchers and educators are being routinely persecuted for their scientific views. Who is behind this persecution? Why is this happening in America? How did this situation develop?

Question #3: Should the enterprise of science somehow be treated differently from all other forms of human knowledge, and accorded a special privilege that exempts it from robust debate or inquiry, especially when such debate or inquiry may alter viewpoints that raise important questions concerning larger issues that extend beyond the limits of science itself?

"Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed" presents a point-of-view so powerful, that it literally *forces* a re-examination of these issues.

What's At Stake (and why is it important)?

We all know that ideas have consequences.

And our country was founded on principles of free and open debate.

EXPELLED: NO INTELLIGENCE ALLOWED

The differences between these two worldviews *are* certainly consequential. So…why the *suppression of scientific debate?*

If in our publicly funded schools, universities and institutions our children continue to be taught only this: that all life on earth is the result of a purposeless, meaningless and undirected process of random mutation and natural selection…

What are the *consequences* over time of teaching this one-sided worldview as if it were *fact* rather than *theory*?

- How will ideas of morality change, if life is thought to be purposeless and undirected?
- How will the role of Government change, if the individual is taught by The State that one is accountable only to ones self?
- How will the role of "science" change, if "Big Science" *alone* determines our worldview?

Such a change in our government's official policy represents a deeply troubling shift in our cultural identity and a radical departure from the very principles upon which our country was built. America is the first Democracy that was *founded* on the distinctive worldview that "a Creator" conferred "inalienable rights" on human beings, rather than the State, or another institution, such as "Big Science."

So…how was it *decided* that the teaching of such a *profoundly different* worldview should become the *official position* of the United States of America's public institutions?

Who was *behind* the decision? And…*why*?

"Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed" looks to scientists on both sides of the issue…and reveals some truly shocking answers.

—Courtesy of www.expelledthemovie.com



Intelligent Design.org

What is the difference between BBC's *A War on Science*, Randy Olson's *Flock of Dodos*, and PBS' *Judgment Day: Intelligent Design on Trial*? Absolutely NOTHING! They are all misrepresenting ID and this site is dedicated to setting the record straight.

This website chronicles the media's attempt to deride ID and gives riveting responses to those committed to silencing it.

PBS Airs False Facts in its "Inherit the Wind" Version of the *Kitzmiller* Trial

Visit: http://www.evolutionnews.org/2007/11/pbs_airs_its_inherit_the_wind.html

Darwin's Failed Predictions, JudgingPBS.com

SETI AND INTELLIGENT DESIGN—COMPARISON OR CONTRAST P.4

By Lee Penick

In late 2005, the National Center for Science Education (NCSE), a pro-Darwin-only educational lobby group, posted an article on its website intending to discredit the methodology used by intelligent design. The article was titled, Why SETI isn't like "intelligent design" and states that SETI Institute's Seth Shostak debunks a claim of the "intelligent design" movement. The claim being that "intelligent design" uses the same methodology as the search for extraterrestrial intelligence. Seth Shostak work appeared on the space.com website (December 1, 2005), he is a SETI senior astronomer. The NCSE article summarizes Shostak's article as follows:

> "the champions of Intelligent Design make two mistakes when they claim that the SETI enterprise is logically similar to their own: First, they assume that we are looking for messages, and judging our discovery on the basis of message content, whether understood or not. In fact, we're on the lookout for very simple signals. That's mostly a technical misunderstanding. But their second assumption, derived from the first, that complexity would imply intelligence, is also wrong. We seek *artificiality*, which is an organized and optimized signal coming from an astronomical environment from which neither it nor anything like it is either expected or observed: Very modest complexity, found out of context. This is clearly nothing like looking at DNA's chemical makeup and deducing the work of a supernatural biochemist."[1]

As I see it, Shostak's arguments above come down to:

- "SETI seeks artificiality" and "ID theorists seek complexity" and the two are vastly different.
- Therefore, don't compare SETI to ID.
- Don't let SETI's established and scientifically accepted program lend credence to ID methodology so that it can be used in biology or other scientific fields.

Is Shostak's argument reasonable? I don't believe so. First, what is artificiality? Basically, artificiality is that which is not produced by *nature* via material causes or by *chance*, therefore, by elimination intelligence/design is implied.[2] Shostak's "artificiality" is actually *exactly* like the method that pro-ID philosopher Del Ratzsch recommends we use to detect design. Ratzsch recommends detecting design by finding precisely such artificial "counterflow" in nature:

> "counterflow refers to things running contrary to what, in the relevant sense, would (or might) have resulted or occurred had nature operated freely. … So design is to be understood in terms of deliberate agent activity intentionally aimed at generating particular patterns. Pattern, in turn, is to be understood in terms of structures that have special affinities to cognition—which correlate to mind. The agent activity involved produces artifacts that are defined via counterflow and that frequently exhibit familiar primary marks of agent activity and counterflow by which that activity and artifactuality can be identified."
>
> (Del Ratzsch, Design, Nature, and Science, pgs. 5, 15-16, State University of New York Press, 2001)

Indeed, Seth Shostak's artificiality is very much like William Dembski's Complex Specified Information (CSI). I say this because CSI, like artificiality, is that which is not produced by *nature* or *chance*, meaning it was designed. Based on Shostak's article, however, his view of artificiality is without the scientific and statistical rigor that Dembski develops for CSI.

The only worthy distinction I see here is that Dembski's criteria is better defined and less likely to give a false positive. Both ID theorists and the SETI researchers are looking for intelligence and neither can identify the source of the intelligence from the evidence they examine. Shostak attempts to bias the argument by saying,

> "This is clearly nothing like looking at DNA's chemical makeup and deducing the work of a supernatural biochemist."

SETI AND INTELLIGENT DESIGN—COMPARISON OR CONTRAST P.5

This is a straw-man argument, however, as ID methodology no more says DNA's design is the work of a "supernatural biochemist" than SETI says an intelligent signal from space is the work of a "supernatural radioman". Someone employing ID theory does not need to know anything about the metaphysical nature of the designer to infer design. A conclusion that something was designed (verses originating by natural law or random chance) can be made independent of any knowledge about the designer. In fact, the design must first be detected prior to supplementary questions about the designer. Based on the empirical evidence, the inference to design can be held without knowing anything about the designer.

It's important to remember:

> "…intelligent design is not a religious doctrine about where everything came from but rather a scientific investigation into how patterns exhibited by finite arrangements of matter can signify intelligence. "
>
> *William Dembski*

Furthermore, Shostak neglects to mention CSI in his article and that it involves both specificity and complexity. For information to qualify as CSI, It's not enough to be complex. A mountain range can have a complex silhouette but it is still naturally occurring. The concept of CSI used in ID theory also employs specificity, meaning the complexity conforms to a meaningful pattern. For instance, Mount Rushmore is a complex mountain silhouette, but it also conforms to the pattern of several past presidents. Based on that empirical evidence, we infer design when looking at Mount Rushmore, but not when viewing a normal mountain silhouette. Both are complex, only one has specificity.





This is precisely the logic used by Shostak at SETI: When you find an unlikely pattern that matches what you would expect to find from an intelligent agent, you infer design. There is no fundamental distinction between SETI and ID, and Shostak's attempted distinction is without merit.

I find Shostak's logic weak and unconvincing. For Seth Shostak to write that SETI is not using ID methodology is false in my opinion. For the NCSE to use Shostak's article to support their pro evolution and anti-ID position is evidence of the weakness of their argument, or faulty thinking.

Quick Quote

"Human DNA contains more organized information than the Encyclopedia Britannica. If the full text of the encyclopedia were to arrive in computer code from outer space, most people would regard this as proof of the existence of extraterrestrial intelligence. But when seen in nature, it is explained as the workings of random forces."

George Sim Johnson
"Did Darwin Get it Right?"
The Wall Street Journal, October 15, 1999

Quick Quote

"Indeed, in all cases where we know the causal origin of 'high information content,' experience has shown that intelligent design played a causal role."

Stephen C. Meyer,
DNA and Other Designs,
First Things 102, April 1, 2000,
arn.org/docs/meyer/sm_dnaotherdesigns.htm

1. Why SETI isn't like "intelligent design", December 6, 2005, http://www.ncseweb.org/resources/news/2005/US/664_why_seti_isn39t_like_intel_12_6_2005.asp
2. Yourdictionary.com defines "artificial" as follows:
a. Made by humans; produced rather than natural. **b**. Brought about or caused by sociopolitical or other human-generated forces or influences: set up artificial barriers against women and minorities; an artificial economic boom.
—Made in imitation of something natural; simulated: artificial teeth.
—Not genuine or natural: an artificial smile.

WHAT EXACTLY IS THE PROBLEM WITH EVOLUTIONARY THEORY? P.6

By Caroline Crocker, M.Sc., Ph.D.

There are at least four categories of problems with evolutionary theory. First, Darwin predates the discovery of the encoded information in DNA and our partial comprehension of the extremely complex machinery inside cells. Just as new physical evidence showed that light waves do not require ether and new medical evidence demonstrated that the body is not composed of humors, this new biological evidence may be rendering evolutionary theory out of date.

Second, evolutionary theory conflicts with several well-accepted scientific laws, making it anti-scientific. The Law of Biogenesis, with the closely-related Cell Theory, has been proven repeatedly in biological history, but the evolutionary origin of life theory contradicts both, suggesting that life evolved spontaneously from nonliving, naturally-generated, self-replicating chemicals. This has never been demonstrated in the laboratory, despite repeated attempts, and that it is only a matter of time until it is, is obviously a faith, not scientific, statement. Next, evolutionary theory does not address the fact that amino acids in bio-proteins are mostly left-handed and are bound only by their amino- and carboxy- termini. Such non-random specific results do not result from random processes; there are no known physical attractions that would cause this, so a statistical law is being contravened by evolutionary theory. Finally, the modern evolutionary theory claims that random changes in the DNA code, followed by natural selection, led to the current diversity of life. However, this exceeds the universal probability limit calculated by statistics, especially because the vast majority of DNA mutations are negative. This fact is regularly used in the laboratory when attempting to discern the role of a specific protein. Put simply, when it is mutated, it does not work and one can ascertain what it did. Again evolutionary theory is found to be in opposition to known science.

Third, most of the "evidences" cited in support of evolutionary theory are scientifically suspect, only imply *micro*evolution, or simply do not support evolution at all. The fossil record does not show gradual evolution of different species from a common ancestor, but repeatedly shows the sudden appearance, followed by stasis, of all kinds of life simultaneously. In addition, although microevolution (small changes within a species) has been observed in the laboratory, a positive change in morphology (macroevolution) through mutation has not. Indeed, the bacterium, *E. coli,* has been genetically engineered, mutated, and grown in labs for generations, but is still *E. coli*. Other "evidences" claimed as support for evolution could just as easily be considered support for a common intelligent designer. The fact that similar organisms have similar genomic structure is often cited as proof of evolution: they have a common ancestor. However, in teaching, two papers with very similar sentences are usually considered to be evidence of cheating, that is, they have a common designer!

Finally, modern evolutionary theory has been unhelpfully linked to naturalism, which is philosophy, not science. Whereas it is true that science can only measure the natural, it is not logical to then assume only the natural exists, or to make a rule that only natural causes can be hypothesized. Intelligence is natural and its operation can be measured by scientific methods. This is the main tenet on which intelligent design theory is based. Evolutionists would agree with this point when operating in the realm of forensics, anthropology, or SETI, but object when the same rules are applied to biology and physics, because they are concerned about the possible *source* of this intelligence. Is this because their dogmatic assertion of the truth of naturalism, a philosophy, is being threatened?

When scientific principles are used as the criteria for comparing the theories of evolution and intelligent design, the latter is more scientifically valid. It is in keeping with 1) our current understanding of biological facts, 2) known scientific laws, 3) the fossil record and our inability to produce a positive change in morphology as a result of mutation, and 4) unlike evolution, ID is not wedded to a philosophical viewpoint that distorts rational assessment of scientific evidence.

This article first appeared in **SALVO** magazine.

AN INTERVIEW WITH DR. JONATHAN WELLS

By Mario A. Lopez & Eduardo Arroyo

Jonathan Wells has received two Ph.D.s, one in Molecular and Cell Biology from the University of California at Berkeley, and one in Religious Studies from Yale University. He has worked as a postdoctoral research biologist at the University of California at Berkeley and the supervisor of a medical laboratory in Fairfield, California, and he has taught biology at California State University in Hayward.

Dr. Wells has published articles in *Development, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA, BioSystems, The Scientist* and *The American Biology Teacher*. He is also author of *Charles Hodge's Critique of Darwinism* (Edwin Mellen Press, 1988) and *Icons of Evolution: Why much of what we teach about evolution is wrong* (Regnery Publishing, 2000).

Dr. Wells is currently working on a book criticizing the over-emphasis on genes in biology and medicine.

This interview was originally conducted by Mario A. Lopez, with collaboration from Eduardo Arroyo Pardo for the Pro-ID Spanish website, Ciencia Alternativa (www.ciencia-alternativa.org).

Ciencia Alternativa – (CA): Can you tell us a little about how you started to question the materialistic view of life's origin and how you arrived at your current position with ID?

Jonathan Wells – (JW): As a college undergraduate in the 1960s I was a Darwinist and a leftist, but after Marxist agitators staged violent demonstrations in Berkeley in 1969-1970 I became disillusioned with the Left and headed for the hills. I built a cabin in the mountains of Northern California, where I was struck by the design in nature all around me. I began to question Darwinism, read the Bible, and pray. In 1978 entered a Yale Ph.D. program in theology, where I did research on the 19th century Darwinian controversies. I learned that the central theological issue in those controversies was design: According to the Christian tradition human beings are created in the image of God – by design – but according to Darwinism we are accidental by-products of unguided material processes. After receiving my Yale Ph.D. I worked for two years before going back to graduate school in 1989 to get a second Ph.D., this time in biology at Berkeley. I soon learned that the scientific evidence for Darwinism was nowhere near as strong as I had been led to believe. In 1991 I met Phillip E. Johnson, a Berkeley law professor who had just written *Darwin On Trial*, and through him I met other leaders of the new intelligent design (ID) movement.

It's important to understand what ID is and isn't. According to intelligent design theory, we can infer from empirical evidence that some features of the natural world are best explained by an intelligent cause rather than by unguided processes. ID is not a substitute for ignorance: If we don't know the cause of something, that does not mean it was designed. We make design inferences on the basis of evidence; the more evidence we have, the more reliable our design inferences are. Since ID relies on scientific evidence rather than on Scripture or religious doctrines, it is not biblical creationism. Intelligent design makes no claims about biblical chronology, and it does not tell us the identity of the designer. Although most proponents of ID believe that the designer is the God of the Bible, they acknowledge that this belief goes beyond the scientific evidence. ID restricts itself to a simple question: Does the evidence point to design in nature? The answer to this question – whether yes or no – carries implications for religious belief; but the question can be asked and answered apart from those implications.

CA: Is it your opinion that neo-Darwinism has seriously constrained research progress? If so, can you give an example of how ID theory has been heuristically fruitful in your own work?

JW: Let's first be clear about what Darwinism is. It is not just evolution. Evolution is a broad term that can mean simply change over time, or changes within existing species – neither of which is the least bit controversial. But Darwin didn't write a book titled *How Existing Species Change Over Time*; he wrote a book titled *The Origin of Species*. According to his theory, all living things descended from a common ancestor by unguided material processes such as random variation and natural selection. When I look at the actual evidence for this grand claim, I find it to be surprisingly thin. For example, the anatomical and molecular evidence is not consistent with Darwin's branching-tree picture of how living things are related to each other. A tree pattern does not emerge from the evidence, but must be imposed on it *a priori*. Furthermore, the evidence does not support Darwin's claim for the creative power of natural selection. Everything we know about mutation and selection suggests that they can modify

living things only in very minor ways. There are no confirmed reports that Darwin's mechanism has produced a new species, much less new organs or body plans.

So Darwinism doesn't fit the evidence. It is empirically false, and as a false theory it has misled scientific research. One example is "junk DNA." When biologists in the 1970s discovered that most of the human genome does not code for proteins, Darwinists proclaimed the majority of our DNA to be garbage accumulated in the course of evolution. As a result, researchers neglected most of our DNA for decades. Now it is becoming clear that this so-called "junk DNA" is not junk at all; instead, it is absolutely essential to the proper functioning of our cells. If biologists in the 1970s had approached the human genome as a product of intelligent design rather than Darwinian evolution, genome research might be decades ahead of where it is now.

In my own work, I have used ID to guide the formulation of testable hypotheses about several aspects of living cells that have been neglected with a Darwinian framework. One example is centrioles, organelles in animal cells that look like tiny turbines. They come in pairs, with one member of the pair oriented at a right angle to the other. Although they participate in cell division, their function remains mysterious. Since they contain no DNA they have attracted comparatively little interest from Darwinists, who regard DNA as the master molecule in evolution. From a design perspective, however, it is unlikely that such intricate structures would be accidental by-products of unguided processes. Starting from an intelligent design perspective, I assumed that centrioles look like turbines because they ARE turbines, and by applying engineering principles I formulated a new hypothesis about centriole function. Of course, the hypothesis must be tested experimentally, but if it turns out to be true it could have implications for the cause of cancer.

CA: Has your work on centrioles been controversial? If so, why?

JW: Yes, it has been very controversial. Of course, any significantly new hypothesis tends to meet with opposition, but mine has been especially controversial because of its connection to intelligent design. One science journal was about to publish it until the editor asked whether I was "the Jonathan Wells of intelligent design fame;" after that I had to find another journal. In 2005 I presented the hypothesis at an annual meeting of my professional society, where I was ridiculed for doing so. Since then Darwinists have relied mainly on their favorite tactic, character assassination – though the only way to settle the matter scientifically is with experimental tests, which I am presently pursuing. My published hypothesis is now available online at
http://www.discovery.org/scripts/viewDB/index.php?command=view&id=2680

CA: In the US, you have faced some opposition from Alan Gishlick and the National Center for Science Education concerning your work in *Icons*. Would you say that they have posed formidable challenges?

JW: No. Like other Darwinists, those at the National Center for Science Education (NCSE) exaggerate and misrepresent the scientific evidence, and they ultimately rely on personal attacks. None of the NCSE's criticisms of my book *Icons of Evolution* stand up under close examination, and I have not seen the need to modify or retract anything I wrote. For my response to published reviews of the book, see "Critics Rave Over *Icons of Evolution*," available online at
http://www.discovery.org/scripts/viewDB/index.php?command=view&id=1180

CA: Why are scientists so reluctant in simply accepting that much of what is being taught in schools is outdated and often wrong?

JW: That's difficult to say. Many scientists (perhaps the majority) simply can't be bothered; they just want to be left alone to do their research. But some are ideologically committed to defending Darwinism and they want to hold onto their cultural power, even if it means denying the truth. Unfortunately, Darwinists hold so much power in the sciences right now that anyone who dares to speak out about textbook falsehoods or otherwise criticize the reigning orthodoxy – at least in the U.S. – risks losing his or her career. This is now happening with alarming frequency, as the forthcoming movie "Expelled" shows. See the movie's trailer online at
http://www.expelledthemovie.com/playground.php

CA: How has your work influenced the way textbooks are currently written?

JW: Some textbooks have removed the more egregious icons in recent editions. For example, few recent textbooks mention the now-discredited peppered moth story, and most have taken out Haeckel's faked embryo drawings. But the standard biology textbooks are still committed to promoting Darwinism, so many continue to exaggerate or misrepresent evidence from the fossil record, anatomical similarities, molecular comparisons, the Galápagos finches, and antibiotic resistance.

CA: How is your work being viewed in other countries? Are you getting the same sort of opposition as you have here in the U.S.?

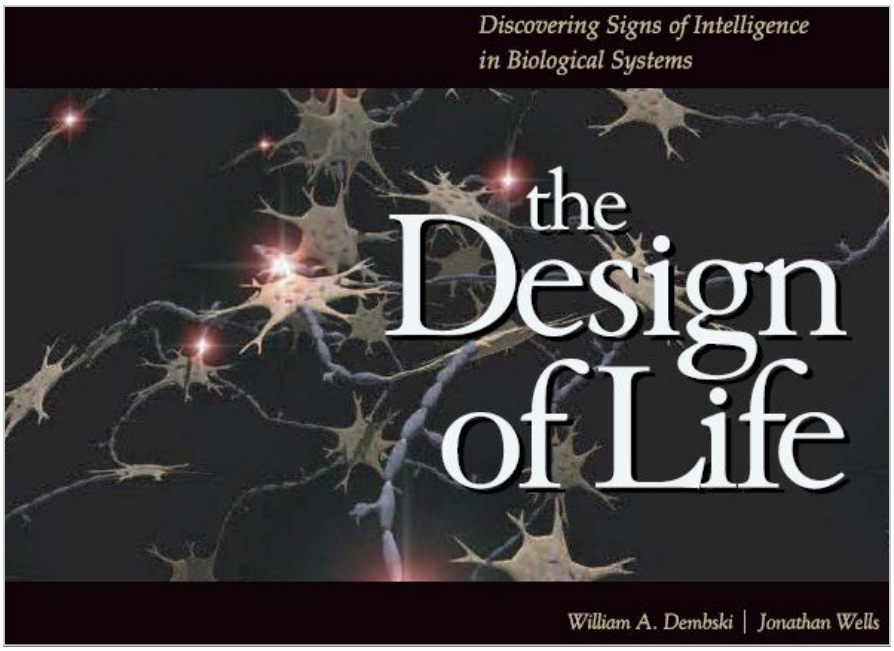
JW: Opposition to me (and to intelligent design in general) has been strongest in the U.S. In some parts of Europe and Asia, criticism of Darwinism – and interest in intelligent design – is more widespread than it is in the U.S. Elite American scientists tend to be rather arrogant, and it wouldn't surprise me if they are among the last to acknowledge the evidence against Darwinism and for intelligent design.

CA: It has been some time since the original publication of *Icons of Evolution;* is there anything in the works that might identify the more current "icons" of Darwinism (i.e. gene duplication, junk DNA, chromosomal fusion, the Tiktaalik fossil, etc.)?

JW: Because Darwinism is really materialistic philosophy masquerading as empirical science, its adherents ignore counterevidence and continue to churn out new icons. Of course we can criticize the new icons and show that the evidence does not support them, but only when people see Darwinism for what it really is will the icons loose their mesmerizing power.

CA: Your last project with Dr. Dembski, *The Design of Life*, is supposed to be the definitive volume on intelligent design. What do you anticipate from your critics?

JW: I wouldn't call our book "the definitive volume on intelligent design" (though I'm flattered by your suggestion) – just a very useful and readable summary of what we know so far. Since intelligent design is still in its infancy, however, the best is yet to come. As for critics: I expect more of the same, especially character assassination. But I'm confident the truth will eventually prevail. For more information about the book, go to http://www.thedesignoflife.net.







The Tri-Cities Washington IDEA Club has a new website and location!!

The new URL is ideaclubtcw.org

For those that miss the old IDEA Center forum where we could discuss ideas, there is a blog with comments that will let us do nearly the same.

Take a look at the "Media Library" for some great audio and video resources too.

Many thanks to Mario A. Lopez for his "intelligent" web skills. His methods far outsurpassed my more Darwinian approach of randomly smashing keys and hoping to improve the old site.

Stop by, take a look, watch a video, and make a comment on the blog.
We are all one community and with Expelled coming out soon, there will be a lot to talk about!!

Lee Penick
IDEA Club, Tri-Cities Washington

Quick Quote

Suppose, however, that we were to learn that the accepted theory of biological evolution is fundamentally untrue. Suppose that the Darwinian mechanism of mutation and selection cannot really create complex organs and organisms from simple beginnings, and that the problem of biological complexity has not been solved after all. If an error of that magnitude had to be confessed, the entire part of the grand metaphysical story that deals with the history and nature of life would be called into question. The confidence scientists feel that they can eventually provide a materialistic explanation for the origin of life and for consciousness would have no basis once its essential Darwinian foundation was removed. Why devote prodigious effort to speculating about how a primitive form of RNA might be produced in a chemical soup if you have no idea how such a molecule could evolve into a cell? Why assume that mind is only matter if you have no idea of how the brain could have evolved? Instead of a generally satisfactory picture of the history of life with a few gaps, science would confront a vast mystery that would become increasingly stark with the gathering of more biological data. When we imagine the consequences that would follow from a discrediting of the Darwinian theory, it is easy to understand why scientists defend the theory so fiercely.

Phillip Johnson
Reason in the Balance, Page 70

IDEA Intelligent Design and Evolution Awareness Center

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WHAT WE WILL DO FOR YOU:

As a member of the IDEA Center, you will be helping to spread the news about ID throughout our country's academic institutions. You will also receive the semi-annual newsletter and email updates with information about IDEA Center events, clubs, ID resources, and science news.

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- ☐ **Specifically Complex Member** ($100 monthly): Receive IDEA annual budget & choose two of the above gifts.
- ☐ **Founding Member** ($2000+/year): Receive IDEA annual budget, and all three gifts.
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