

FAITH & SCIENCE CONFERENCE
PROGRAM



2019

SEMINAR 1

Science is highly respected in our world. However, this can lead to a naïve faith: science says it—therefore it is right. This simplistic approach is understandable, since people are impressed by the fact that science is based on empirical evidence and rigorous research. However, scientific theories can be changed or discarded as our knowledge increases. Also, they can be based on fundamental assumptions that contradict the Biblical worldview.

If Adventist teachers and pastors are to be relevant, they must acknowledge the contributions of science. However, science is not our Master. I still believe that the God of the Scriptures and the God of Science is the same God.

The Adventist visionary pioneer Ellen White reflects this as well. She wrote in *Patriarchs and Prophets*, (page 114).

“There should be a settled belief in the divine authority of God’s Holy Word. The Bible is not to be tested by men’s ideas of science. Human knowledge is an unreliable guide. Skeptics who read the Bible for the sake of caviling, may, through an imperfect comprehension of either science or revelation, claim to find contradictions between them; but rightly understood, they are in perfect harmony.”

Theoretically, if we knew everything, science and scripture would harmonize—because God is consistent. However, we are limited as humans in our knowledge of both science and scripture. Paul acknowledged that, “For now we see in a mirror dimly” (1 Corinthians 13:12 ESV) and as Moses pointed out, “The secret things belong to the LORD our God” (Deuteronomy 29:29 ESV).

Some current scientific conclusions certainly challenge our mainstream Seventh-day Adventist view of God’s world. They raise questions that we do not have answers for. Part of maturity is to be able to live with questions and explore new possible answers, without throwing out the solid foundation of Scripture. One day in eternity, we will have access to all the answers that we need, but what do we do in the meantime?

In Psalm 73, Asaph cannot understand why the wicked prosper around him. What I like about Asaph is that he did not immediately share his doubts with the next generation, “If I had said, ‘I will speak thus,’ I would have betrayed the generation of your children.” (verse 15). He waited until he could publicly share how he found a truly Biblical answer to his concerns. I like the maturity of Asaph and recommend it to us.

In this conference I am sure you will have some of your questions answered, but you may also discover things that raise more questions. This is the process of education. However, in our teaching and preaching we must recognise our limitations, and like Asaph, share faith affirming answers to the big questions of life.

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Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a people who go astray in their heart, and they have not known my ways."

Therefore I swore in my wrath, "They shall not enter my rest."

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Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!

Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!

Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns!

Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it!

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

CREATIVE • SPACE

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

DR JIM GIBSON - BA MA PhD
Director of Geoscience Research Institute



Dr Jim Gibson completed his BA and MA degrees at Pacific Union College. He then taught secondary school science and mathematics in California and then as a missionary in Sierra Leone, West Africa. Further graduate work led to a PhD in biology from Loma Linda University in 1984, from where he joined the GRI, succeeding Dr Ariel Roth as its director in 1994.

His focus is on historical biology, but also the relationship of faith and science, topics on which he has presented at many conferences.

With Dr Humberto Rasi he co-edited the book *Understanding Creation*, and was also an editor of the book, *Entrusted: Christians and Environmental Care*, again with Dr Rasi and also Dr Steven Dunbar.

You can find out more about him and the work of the GRI at www.grisda.org

PROF JACQUES B. DOUKHAN - D Heb Let, ThD
Emeritus Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis Andrews University



Dr Jacques B. Doukhan is professor emeritus of Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and director of the Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies at Andrews University. Prior to his present position, Dr Doukhan was president of the Adventist Seminary in Mauritius, and taught at the Seventh-day Adventist Seminary and the Adventist College in Algiers.

Dr Doukhan received a Master in Hebrew Language and Literature, and a doctorate in Hebrew Language and Literature from the University of Strasbourg, Germany, was recipient of a research scholarship from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and received a doctor of theology in Biblical Studies and Systematic Theology from Andrews, and has a Master in Egyptology from the University of Montpellier. He is author of some 10 books.

DR LEONARD BRAND - BA MA PhD
Professor of Biology and Paleontology, Loma Linda University



Dr Leonard Brand is Professor of Biology and Paleontology at Loma Linda University (LLU). He received his PhD from Cornell University in 1970 and has been on the LLU faculty since, teaching courses in paleontology, vertebrate biology and the philosophy of science. His research focuses mostly on the processes of fossilization and their preservation.

Dr Brand has published over 40 research papers, in addition to four books. He has received a Zapara Award for Distinguished Teaching, a best student paper award, and a Distinguished Service Award from LLU. His strongest long-term interest has been developing a Bible-centered approach to the integration of faith and science.

He has a wife and two grown children, who have endured numerous of his many research trips.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

DR TIM STANDISH - BS ZOOL. (Au), MS Biol. (AU), PhD Env. Biol. Pub. Pol. (GMU)
Senior Scientist - Geoscience Research Institute, Loma Linda



Dr Timothy Standish spent much of his childhood in Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. He studied zoology at Andrews University where he also completed an MS degree in biology while studying brachiopods. Based on his research with molecular techniques, he was granted a Ph. D. from George Mason University.

His publications range across the molecular basis of behavior in crickets, turtle conservation, Intelligent Design and faith and science. Production of films exploring the beautiful and elegant design evident in living things is an area in which he has been active. He currently holds the rank of Senior Scientist at the Geoscience Research Institute.

PROF ARTHUR CHADWICK - BA (Biol) PhD(Hons)
Director of the Dinosaur Research Project



Dr Art Chadwick, Research Professor of Biology and Geology, is a cofounder of the Earth History Research Center, a global consortium of research scientists focused on issues of origins, and currently serves as its director. He is also director of the Dinosaur Science Museum and Research Center at Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas. He is currently the Director of the Dinosaur Research Project - excavating and studying the largest dinosaur bone beds in the world.

He earned his Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from University of Miami, followed by training in Geology at the University of California.

He enjoys working outside, studying fossils or gardening. He also enjoys spending time with his wife, Joy; son, Dan; daughter, Barbara; and his six grandchildren.

DR WENDY JACKSON - PhD MDiv FRACP Dip Paed MBChB BHB
Lecturer in Systematic Theology, Avondale College of Higher Education



Theology is a second career for **Dr Wendy Jackson**, who graduated with an MBChB from the University of Auckland in 1990. She specialized in paediatric endocrinology, and practiced medicine in New Zealand and the USA. However, recognizing God's call upon her life, she commenced further study at Andrews University, completing a Master of Divinity, and more recently a PhD in systematic and historical theology. Wendy took up employment at Avondale College in 2010 where she continues to lecture in systematic theology and Christian history.

She aims to help students see that theology is not merely an intellectual exercise, but something that is practical, relevant and to be lived in everyday life.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

DR SVEN ÖSTRING - BE(Hons) PhD GradDipTheol
Director of Church Planting, North New South Wales Conference



Dr Sven Östring is the Director for Church Planting in the North New South Wales Conference and has had a lifelong interest in Christian apologetics and the relationship between Christianity and science.

He undertook a PhD in computer networking from the University of Canterbury in New Zealand and was a research fellow in the Computer Laboratory at the University of Cambridge. After completing the Graduate Diploma of Theology at Avondale College, Dr Östring was appointed as the Multi-Faith Officer at Curtin University in Perth, Western Australia, where he also launched the ACTS Church.

He is an executive producer and presenter for the “*I Am*” series and chair of this Faith and Science conference organising

DR ANTHONY MACPHERSON - Theology PhD
HOD/Lecturer



Dr Anthony MacPherson is currently serving as the Head of Department in Theology at Fulton Adventist University College (FAUC) in beautiful Fiji where he lectures in the area of Systematic Theology. Previously, he enjoyed serving as a Pastor in Australia for 15 years. He has pastored churches in Margaret River, Busselton, Perth, and Melbourne as well as been a chaplain in two schools. He recently completed a PhD in the area of Theodicy which looks at how a Cosmic Controversy perspective might help resolve some of the difficult challenges raised by the perplexing “problem of evil.” He is married to his beautiful wife Sheree and they have two children.

ASSOC PROF ROSS GRANT - Bed(Sc) MAppSc(ClinChem) PhD(Neuropharm)
*Clinical Associate Professor, Sydney Medical School
Sydney Adventist Hospital & CEO Australasian Research Institute*



Professor Ross Grant has graduate degrees in both Clinical Biochemistry and Neuropharmacology. He worked as a clinical biochemist for 10 years including a 3 year term as Director of SAD Clinical Laboratories Malawi (Africa) before taking up a full time academic and research position on his return to Australia where he has worked for the past 20 years. With over 70 peer reviewed publications in scientific and medical journals, Dr Grant directs an active research program focused on understanding oxidative stress linked cellular degeneration, particularly in the brain and central nervous system. He is passionate about understanding the human body's biochemistry and how the choices we make can drive it toward either health or disease.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

DR WARREN GRUBB - BSc (Hons) PhD FASM FAAM
Emeritus Professor at Curtin University



Dr Warren Grubb is a product of Cooranbong education, having done his university entrance examinations at Avondale College. He then attended the University of Western Australia, earning his PhD in microbiology. He then lectured in the Department of Microbiology until 1979, when he was appointed head of Microbiology at the Western Australian Institute of Technology, now Curtin University and in 1987 was appointed Associate Professor, then Professor of Microbiology. His research interest has been antimicrobial resistance in *Staphylococcus aureus*, particularly the methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* (MRSA) superbug. He has published some 130 papers and presented at numerous conferences on the topic. In 2003, he was appointed a co-director of the Australian Collaborating Centre for *Enterococcus* and *Staphylococcus* Species (ACCESS). On retirement in 2003 he was given Emeritus Professor status and continued his research.

PASTOR HENSLEY GUNGADOO
Lecturer of Practical Theology, Avondale College



Pastor Hensley Gungadoo is currently a lecturer of Practical Theology at Avondale College. He has spent 15 years in the Victorian conference where he has served as a church pastor, chaplain, and Project Manager of the discipleship program called Harvest Victoria. Prior to coming to Melbourne, he worked in Mauritius where he served as church pastor, conference administrator and education & stewardship director. Hensley has his formal studies in Ghana and South Africa. He is married to Esadora and has two sons.

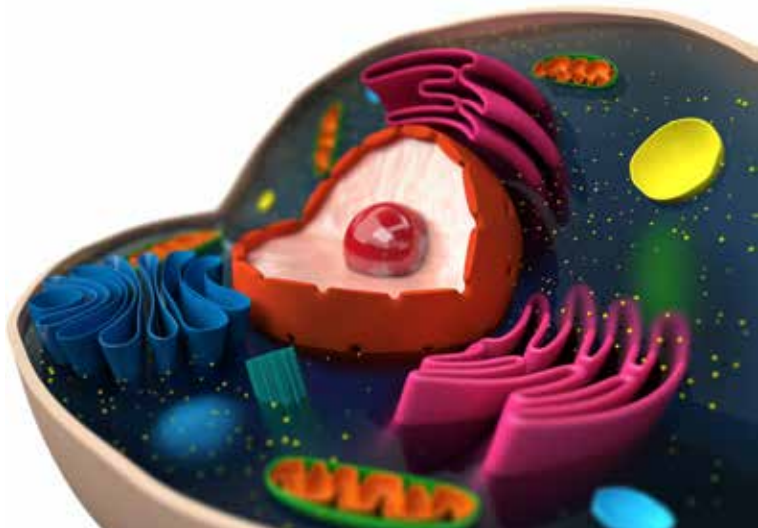
DR JOHN ASHTON - BSc(Hons) MSc PhD CChem FRACI
Strategic Research Manager for Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing



Dr John F Ashton is the Strategic Research Manager for Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing, and also serves as an adjunct professor in the School of Biosciences and Food Technology at RMIT University, Melbourne. He holds a BSc with honours in chemistry, a PhD in epistemology with prize from the University of Newcastle, and an MSc in Chemistry from the University of Tasmania. Dr Ashton is an elected Fellow of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Food Science and Technology.

Dr Ashton has authored over 40 peer-reviewed research papers and 15 books—his latest, *Evolution Impossible: 12 Reasons Why Evolution Cannot Explain the Origin of Life on Earth*.

Time	Title	Presenter
2.00 pm	Registration Commences	
4.00 pm	Welcome	James Gibson (moderator)
4.15 pm	1. Introduction – What are origin models trying to explain?	Ross Grant
5.00 pm	2. Science and Methodological Naturalism	Sven Östring
5.30 pm	Q&A	James Gibson
5.45 pm	Dedication through Prayer	Small Groups
6.00 pm	Dinner	
7.15 pm	Worship	
7.30 pm	<i>The Heavens Declare</i>	<i>King of Creation</i> John 10:10 Project
7.40 pm	3. Scripture: A Reliable Revelation?	Wendy Jackson
8.15 pm	Worship through Prayer: Psalm 95 & 96	Scriptural Prayer



WEDNESDAY 17TH

Time	Title	Presenter
7.00 am	Breakfast	
8.15 am	Welcome	Ross Grant (moderator)
8.30 am	4. Rightly Handling the Genre of Scripture	Wendy Jackson
9.00 am	5. The Neo-Darwinian Mechanism & Punctuated Equilibria	Ross Grant
9.30 am	6. Complexity of the Living Cell	John Ashton
10.00 am	Q&A	Ross Grant
10.15 am	Break	
10.30 am	7. Interpreting Scripture	Jacques Doukhan
11.00 am	8. Implications of the Genetic Information System	Sven Östring
11.30 am	9. Epigenetics, Orphan Genes and Pseudogenes	Warren Grub
12.00 pm	Q&A	Ross Grant
12.30 pm	Lunch	
2.00 pm	10. Comparing Human and Ape DNA	Tim Standish
2.45 pm	11. Can the Evolutionary Mechanism Survive the New Biological Insights?	Leonard Brand
3.30 pm	Q&A	Ross Grant
3.45 pm	Break	
4.00 pm	Workshop Streams - (1 hour repeated twice) 1. Biblical Hermeneutics and Gen 1-3 2. Comparing Biblical & Evolutionary Ethics 3. Cell Death 4. Intelligent Design 5. A Creationist Model for Speciation	Jacques Doukhan Wendy Jackson Leonard Brand Tim Standish James Gibson
6.00 pm	Dinner	
7.15 pm	Worship	
7.30 pm	<i>Starling Murmurations</i>	<i>Flight: The Genius of Birds</i> John 10:10 Project
7.40 pm	12. Jesus and Creation	Kayle De Waal
8.15 pm	Thankfulness through Prayer	Small Groups

THURSDAY 18TH

Time	Title	Presenter
7.00 am	Breakfast	
8.15 am	Welcome	James Gibson (moderator)
8.30 am	13. Rightly Understanding the Meaning of Scripture	Wendy Jackson
9.15 am	14. Mutation and Population Genetics	Warren Grubb
10.00 am	Q&A	James Gibson
10.15 am	Break	
10.30 am	15. Exegesis of Genesis 1-3	Jacques Doukhan
11.15 am	16. Human Evolutionary Tree	Arthur Chadwick
12.00 pm	Q&A	James Gibson
12.15 pm	Break	
12.30 pm	Lunch	
2.00 pm	17. Theological Implications of Alternative Models of Origins	Sven Östring
2.30 pm	18. Moral Implications of Death Before Sin	Anthony MacPherson
3.00 pm	Q&A	James Gibson
3.30 pm	Break	
4.00 pm	Workshop Streams - (1 hour repeated twice) 1. Sabbath: Celebrating Creation 2. Human Fossils 3. Environmentally Friendly Creationism 4. Integrated Ecosystems 5. High School Teachers Tools and Resources	Jacques Doukhan Arthur Chadwick Wendy Jackson Leonard Brand Michael Croft
6.00 pm	Dinner	
7.15 pm	Worship	
7.30 pm	<i>David and the Pale Blue Dot</i>	<i>The Call of the Cosmos</i> John 10:10 Project
7.40 pm	19. Creation in the Old Testament	Jacques Doukhan
8.15 pm	Reflection through Prayer	Small Groups

Time	Title	Presenter
7.00 am	Breakfast	
8.15 am	Welcome	Ross Grant (moderator)
8.30 am	20. Creation in the New Testament	Hensley Gungadoo
9.00 am	21. Carbon-14 Dating	John Ashton
9.30 am	Q&A	Ross Grant
9.45 am	Break	
10.00 am	22. Psalm 104	Jacques Doukhan
10.30 am	23. Biological Evidence for Shorter Chronology	Tim Standish
11.00 am	Q&A	
11.30 am	Where to from here?	Ross Grant
12.00 pm	Commitment through Prayer	Small Groups
12.30 pm	Lunch	
1.00 pm	Pack Up and Depart	

FUTURE SEMINARS

Seminar 2:

- Geology
- Radiometric Dating
- Ice Cores
- Paleontology
- Fossils
- Dinosaurs
- Biogeography

Seminar 3:

- Cosmology
- Problems with Big Bang
- Underdetermination within
Cosmological Models
- Unreasonable Effectiveness of
Mathematics
- Evolutionary Argument Against
Naturalism



ADM AdministrationK10	CH ChemistryR9	HFC Hanson Fitness Centre ... C10	M Maths BuildingS8	SS Sculpture ShedB9
AH Andre HallJ7	CC College ChurchM8	IN Institute HouseN5	MH Media HouseM5	TC Tennis CourtsB17
BH Bethel HallH9	C College HallH12	IB Institute HouseN5	MD Men's DirectorF14	T Turner WingL11
BR BiologyB12	DE Distance EducationQ4	LC Ladies ChapelK6	MB Music BuildingG10	WH Watson HallH15
B Boiler RoomB12	E Education BuildingQ11	LD Ladies DirectorJ6	MS Music StudioF10	WLT Watson Lecture Theatre .G15
BK BookshopE7	EB Ella Boyd HallG6	LT Lecture TheatreL13	NU Nursing BuildingT6	WB White BuildingK12
BS Business StudiesP14	FL Fit LifeD7	LB LEVIC BoatshedG3	OR Outdoor RecreationC15	X Campus Garden Shed ...F18
CAF CafeteriaD8	FLP Fit Life PoolC7	LIB LibraryL14	P Pottery ShedB11	Y Maintenance ShedS15
CSA Chan Shun Auditorium .D12	GH Greer HallG13	MW Maths WorkshopU7	R ResidencesP5, O5, L6	