

PREFACE

The International Conference on Creationism has been taking place every four or five years since the first conference was held in 1986. ICC has become known as the premier young earth Creation conference in the world. Beginning with proposals that were submitted in 2022, editors and peer-reviewers have worked with the authors and have selected the papers that appear in this volume. New for the ninth conference are posters, abstracts, and round table discussions. These items were not peer-reviewed as stringently as the technical papers. There are fewer technical papers this time around, but our goal was not quantity, but quality. Historically only one-third to one-half of the submitted proposals are eventually published as papers in the *Proceedings*. For those who ultimately had proposals or papers that were not submitted or rejected, we encourage you to persist and improve in your research and writing. In this volume you will find many new ideas and proposals, both by well-seasoned scientists and young scholars presenting their first papers.

The first eight ICC conferences were held in the Pittsburgh area and sponsored by Creation Science Fellowship. In 2020, CSF donated the organization of ICC to Cedarville University, moving the conference from a private organization to an academic one, in Cedarville, Ohio. The ICC Board now consists of five Cedarville University faculty members (Drs. Sharon Cooper, Steven Gollmer, Aaron Hutchison, Robert Paris, and John Whitmore) and two outside members (Drs. Jeremy Lyon and Clayton Schultz). The foresight of Creation Science Fellowship is to be commended for their vision of the Conference, now almost four decades old. The *Proceedings* are well-used in my office, and I suspect in many others around the world. My freshman geology students are introduced to the *Proceedings* almost immediately as a generally reliable and trustworthy source for Creation science. It is noteworthy that a local creation organization like CSF has made such a large impact. Their vision has helped to significantly improve the quality and rigor of Creation science publications.

Within the papers of this volume you will find new data that continues to question the conventional paradigm of radiometric dating including further consideration of radiocarbon and radiohalos. Several papers use worldwide stratigraphic correlation and the Paleobiology Database to make conclusions on Flood boundaries. New papers on the potential of tsunamis to erode, transport and deposit sediment during the Flood are discussed. New evidence is emerging that a large lake was breached in post-Flood times to carve the Grand Canyon. The makeup of created kinds continues to be an area of active research including papers on dinosaur, ape, and hominin baraminology. Evidence of design within things as diverse as cavefish and stars continue to be topics of research. When ICC began, numerical modeling was not widely available to the creation community. Now, you will find papers modeling things

as diverse as the development of the Ice Age, sediment dispersal during the Flood, genes and mutation rates, and relatedness of various animal groups—fossil and living.

Abstract and poster presentations garnered a wide range of topics including archaeology, astronomy, baraminology, biblical topics, biology, design, education, geochronology, geology, law, numerical modeling, paleontology, philosophy, and software applications. Abstract presentations were 20 minutes long and the posters were set up during the entirety of the conference.

Afternoon activities at ICC included a local field trip to examine the botany, biology, and geology of an exquisite county park and gorge just outside of Cedarville. Set up in our vendor hall was a portable planetarium highlighting new discoveries from the James Webb Telescope. Thomas Purifoy of Compass Cinema previewed a nearly completed version of the new feature film *Is Genesis History? Mountains After the Flood*. Round table discussions were well-attended and addressed what some would consider controversial topics within creationism. We addressed Flood boundaries, biogeography, and bird/feathered dinosaur controversy. The sessions were professionally done with respect of other positions. The conference is not publishing the content of these discussions because our intent was to openly discuss the data, problems, and differing points of view within these topics. Our hope is that these sessions will foster additional research and forthcoming publications.

For our evening sessions, eleven scholars were asked to discuss the current state and future needs of young earth creation science in their particular field. Contributing were Drs. Bill Barrick (Bible), Andrew Snelling (geology), Russel Humphreys (physics), Joe Francis (biology), Douglass Petrovich (archaeology), Danny Faulkner (astronomy), John Baumgardner (numerical modeling), John Sanford (genetics), Kurt Wise (paleontology), Matt McLain (education), and Aaron Hutchison (chemistry).

We appreciate the support of Cedarville University. CU's doctrinal stance not only makes an organization and conference like ICC possible at the university, but its activities are actually encouraged as a natural part of our biblical integration as faculty. However, the views and ideas expressed at the conference and in the subsequent publications are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of Cedarville University.

Preparing papers for a volume of this type is not an easy task. Many of the authors have spent hundreds of hours studying, thinking, researching, collecting data, and preparing and editing numerous versions of their manuscripts. Some of the papers are the summation of life-long endeavors. All the first drafts of the manuscripts were peer-reviewed and many of the authors had to follow up with major revisions to satisfy the reviewers and editors. We appreciate

the many hours of time contributed not only by the authors but by the peer-reviewers who carefully read and critiqued various versions of the manuscripts. This is often a thankless and difficult job. In many cases, the authors and peer-reviewers are never known to each other, as the process is kept as “blind” as possible. Special thanks to all who were involved in this process.

I want to personally thank the Area Editors who agreed to help me by managing manuscripts in their particular fields of study. Their task was to garner peer-review for any manuscript that I sent their way and then to make final decisions on whether it should eventually become part of the *Proceedings*. This is a difficult job because reviewers do not often agree with each other, and the Area Editors often had to make difficult decisions about the papers under their purview. Assisting me in this effort were Paul Garner, Steve Gollmer, Aaron Hutchison, Jeremy Lyon, Sarah Maithel, Bob Paris, and Clayton Schultz. I am very grateful for their time and effort.

I must apologize for my illness during much of the proposal and paper submission process. Many deadlines were extended, and the peer-review process was rushed in too many cases. I was tardy in getting proposals and manuscripts to Area Editors in a timely fashion. Due to the nature of my illness, it prevented me from thinking clearly and processing materials for ICC. I apologize for the difficulty this caused for many of our authors. Thank you for the grace and understanding that you afforded me during this time. Many from the ICC board stepped in to help, but the delays were entirely my responsibility. Diagnosis and treatment for Lyme disease is a

long process, but I finally seem to be responding well after about six months of treatment.

I want to give special recognition to my wonderful, beautiful wife Jamie whom I married 35 years ago. She has been extremely patient, encouraging, and supportive of me as I have had to spend many hours preparing the *Proceedings*. Lydia Bradley and Joy Miller assisted me in formatting author manuscripts. Because of some health struggles over the past year, I could not keep up with the task of formatting the manuscripts; the many hours they spent in my stead were much appreciated. Thomas Purifoy of Compass Cinema also played a significant role in finishing the *Proceedings* when he realized I was struggling. Thank you!

Clear memories of the first ICC in 1986 at Duquesne University, now 37 years ago, are beginning to fade for me. But, one thing I do remember, as a young graduate student at the time, is being overwhelmed with the realization that God had prepared so many well-credentialed scientists like Drs. Austin, Baumgardner, Humphreys, and Wise. You will still find papers from these four scientists in this installment of the *Proceedings*, and their tribe has increased! I trust that you will carefully read and study these papers as you participate in “developing the Creation model of origins.” May all glory and honor go to our Lord and Creator!

Dr. John H. Whitmore
Senior Professor of Geology, Cedarville University
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