

Intelligent Design network, inc. P.O. Box 14702, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66285-4702 (913) 268-0852; IDnet@att.net www.IntelligentDesignnetwork.org

Seeking Objectivity in Origins Science

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Intelligent Design network, inc. (913) 268-0852; <u>IDnet@att.net</u> www.IntelligentDesignnetwork.org IDnet of New Mexico 505-565-0137; nmidnet@prodigy.net www.nmidnet.org

Contact: Joe Renick, Executive Director, IDnet-NM 505-565-0137

INTELLIGENT DESIGN COMES TO ALBUQUERQUE

September 24 and 25, Woodward Hall, University of New Mexico Albuquerque, New Mexico

"Intelligent Design" - that's an issue that sparks controversy. The latest Funky Wikerbean cartoon is devoted to the subject. Hard core Darwinists like to portray it as a silly religious idea. But many scientists and experts are seriously debating it. Twenty of those will be discussing its scientific basis for the public at the University of New Mexico on September 24 and 25. For full details go to <u>www.IntelligentDesignNetwork.org</u> or call 913-268-0852.

"ID or 'Intelligent Design' is the scientific disagreement with the Darwinian claim that the apparent design of the eye and other biological systems is just an illusion." Said Joe Renick, the New Mexico Director of Intelligent Design network, inc. "Darwinists claim all life's complexity can be reduced simply to the laws of physics and chemistry and chance. Physical causes coupled with a process of natural sorting called "natural selection" can explain everything, is the faith of natural science today. This works to some extent for inanimate matter. But our new understanding that life consists of awesome information processing networks is questioning that long-held axiom."

"Recently astronomers and theoretical physicists are finding the universe itself to be exceedingly fine-tuned." said Renick. "That fine tuning will be in the spotlight when the show opens on Friday evening, Sept 24. We are premiering a new documentary: *The Privileged Planet*, a movie based on the book authored by astronomer Guillermo Gonzalez and philosopher Jay Richards. The program ends the next evening with the two scientists who are leading this revolution in scientific thought: Michael Behe, a biochemist, and William Dembski, a mathematician."

"Positive evidence of design is not the only evidence that is promoting ID," said John Calvert, a founder of IDnet and a lawyer with training and experience in geology. "The patterns we find in the fossil record are not consistent with Darwinian predictions. We see sharp bursts of complexity followed by long periods of stasis rather than gradual increases in complexity predicted by Darwin. Instead of a tree of life pattern we see something like a "garden patch" where completely distinct phyla arise without any apparent precursors."

"Another problem is called 'convergence.' The fossil record shows many unique biological systems like eyes, arising independently without clear common precursors. This pattern shows nature frequently "reinventing" the same complex systems rather than building on preexisting ones. This is another issue the scientists will be discussing at DDD V," said Calvert.

According to Renick, "Our conference is the fifth of a series being held around the country. Last year it was held at the University of Minnesota. We require our speakers to make their presentations understandable to both ninth graders and grandparents as well as research scientists. The conference is also specially designed to provide teaching resources for science teachers."

The two-day conference is reasonably priced for teachers and students at \$20 for all presentations. An entire family can attend for \$60. Go to <u>www.IntelligentDesignNetwork.org</u> to register and get full details.

Intelligent Design network, inc. is a nonprofit organization that seeks objectivity in origins science. Objectivity results from the use of the scientific method without philosophic or religious assumptions in seeking answers to the question: *Where do we come from?* We believe objectivity will lead not only to good science, but also to constitutional neutrality in this subjective, historical science that unavoidably impacts religion. We promote the scientific evidence of intelligent design because proper consideration of that evidence is necessary to achieve not only scientific objectivity but also constitutional neutrality.

Intelligent Design is a scientific disagreement with the claim of evolutionary theory that the apparent design reflected in natural phenomena is an illusion. ID claims that natural laws and chance alone are not adequate to explain all natural phenomena. Evidence that is empirically detectable in nature suggests that design is the best current explanation for a variety of natural systems, particularly irreducibly complex living systems. Intelligent Design is an intellectual movement that includes a scientific research program for investigating intelligent causes and that challenges naturalistic explanations of origins which currently drive science education and research.