



## **Intelligent Design network, inc.**

P.O. Box 14702, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66285-4702  
(913) 268-0852; (913)-268-0852 (fax); IDnet@att.net  
[www.IntelligentDesignnetwork.org](http://www.IntelligentDesignnetwork.org)

**NEWS RELEASE: January 5, 2000**

Contact: Intelligent Design network, inc.  
John Calvert, Managing Director  
816-460-5807 or 913-268-0852

## **IDnet URGES KANSAS STATE BOARD TO TEACH ORIGINS SCIENCE OBJECTIVELY AND WITHOUT RELIGIOUS OR NATURALISTIC BIAS**

Shawnee Mission, KS. - John Calvert, a Managing Director of Intelligent Design network, inc., announced today that IDnet has delivered to the Kansas State Board of Education suggested revisions to a "Sixth Draft" of Science Standards. IDnet urges the Board to remove the naturalistic philosophy which underpins this latest draft submitted by the previously established "Science Writing Committee." The Sixth Draft was informally submitted to Board members in December and is expected to be first considered by the newly seated School Board at its meeting in Topeka on January 9, 2001.

The IDnet **Proposal** and its accompanying **explanatory commentary** may be found at the IDnet web site at: <http://www.intelligentdesignnetwork.org/articles>

"We understand that the Board will be asked to replace the existing Standards that were adopted in December 1999 with the Sixth Draft," says Mr. Calvert. "Although IDnet has no comment on the bulk of the Sixth Draft, our proposal focuses on one issue, and that is to stop the teaching/preaching of Naturalism to our children in the area of origins science - the science which deals with the origin of the universe, of life and its diversity. Origins science should be taught objectively and without religious or philosophic bias."

Naturalism, which is similar to materialism, is the doctrine or belief that everything we see in the universe and nature is the result of purely natural causes, i.e. chance and natural law, and that design inferences are invalid. "Naturalism is not a proven theory," adds Calvert, who is also a lawyer. "It is a philosophy which attempts to attribute the origin and diversity of life to mere chemistry and physics, while censoring evidence that might lead students to infer design as a possible cause for life. Limiting inquiry and explanation in this manner violates the rules of logic."

William Harris, Ph.D., a nutritional biochemist and IDnet Managing Director, agrees. "We believe it is fundamentally wrong to use Naturalism to limit inquiry and interpretation in the area of

origins science. To exclude at the outset any hypothesis or possible explanation for the origin of life and its diversity is in conflict with the scientific method. All evidence should be considered without prior philosophical bias if science is to remain the search for the truth.”

IDnet is concerned that Naturalism, in addition to its conflict with logic and the scientific method, will also lead our schools into violations of the neutrality required by the Establishment Clause of our Constitution. Further, it will have profound negative effects on our culture and our ethical and moral values.

“The problem with Naturalism is its censoring mechanism,” says Jody Sjogren, a certified medical illustrator, aviation artist, and the third Managing Director of IDnet. “It leads a teacher to omit discussion of a growing body of information that is relevant to the origins issue - evidence which challenges the traditional Darwinian narrative of the history of life and supports a design inference rather than a naturalistic explanation. Our proposal seeks to eliminate this Naturalistic censorship and its resulting misinformation from the proposed Kansas Science Standards.”

\*\*\*\*\*

Intelligent Design network, inc. is a member based nonprofit organization. IDnet promotes objective evidence-based science education with regard to the origin of the universe and of life and its diversity. It also seeks to increase public awareness of the scientific evidence of intelligent design in the universe and living systems.

Intelligent Design is a scientific theory that intelligent causes are responsible for the origin of the universe and of life and its diversity. It holds that design is empirically detectable in nature, and particularly in 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.