

## Evidence News 25/11 – 19<sup>th</sup> October 2011

WELCOME to a Free School report that costs you your kids and to grumbles about creationists involved in official geology research and conferences, plus a great new question on dinosaurs and you get to find out how the debate in Southampton University went against the atheist, as you enjoy Evidence News 25 11 with EDitorial COMment from John Mackay and the Creation Research Team worldwide.

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**1. NEW QUESTIONS:** 1) “Why do creationists make so much of the tissue and blood cells found in dinosaur fossils? It just shows they last longer than we have ever thought.” For this week’s answer by Prof Ed Neeland [CLICK](#).

2) “Was there ever actually such a landmass as Gondwana, and if so when did it split?” For the answer by John Mackay [CLICK](#).

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**2. CLOSE DOWN CREATIONIST SCHOOLS**, says British Education Minister, according to report on BBC 14 February 2010 and *Free Schools in 2012, How to apply*. The British government is setting up a new programme of independent schools, known as Free Schools. According to the guidelines for groups, applying to set up one of these schools: “The vision of the Free Schools programme is to raise standards by encouraging a range of new and diverse providers to play a much greater role in state education”. One of the aims is listed as: “provide parents with greater choice about the school their child attends – with the power to propose to set up their own school if they are unhappy with existing options”. Page 12 section 4 of the *How to apply* document, lists a criteria used to assess applications: “Creationism, intelligent design and similar ideas must not be taught as valid scientific theories”. No other topics are specifically banned from being taught.

Michael Gove, the Secretary of State for Education in Britain is an outspoken opponent of creationism. In an interview about Free Schools on the BBC radio programme, *The Andrew Marr Show*, Gove stated: “Well the critical thing is they will have freedom over the curriculum, and that’s one of the most important freedoms that they can have”. Further on he was asked by Andrew Marr, “what about creationism?” Gove replied: “Well to my mind, you cannot have a school which teaches creationism. And one thing that we will make absolutely clear is that you cannot have schools which are set up, which teach people things which are clearly at variance with what we know to be scientific fact. But critical inspection is key here. We do have some schools at the moment, independent schools which have been set up by religious groups. You mention Islamic groups. Let’s be clear, there are other fundamentalist groups as well which have schools in the private sector. If those schools are properly regulated and inspected, then we can ensure that anyone who teaches in a way which undermines our democratic values can be brought to public light, challenged, and, if necessary, closed down”.

Links: [BBC](#), [Free Schools How to Apply](#)

ED. COM. Michael Gove talks about “democratic values”, but he is clearly ignoring the significant number of British adults (and therefore many parents and teachers) who believe creation. (See [Evolution Is On The Way Out](#) and [Evolution Fails in British Opinion Poll](#)). The hypocrisy of educators, politicians and bureaucrats in the way they claim to be supporting democracy is quite breathtaking. On one hand they proclaim they are providing “parents with greater choice about the school their child attends” and giving them “freedom over the curriculum” but any parents who want their children to be taught about creation are specifically excluded from the system. Such a bold faced position is simply another way of antichrist Governments saying that Governments own all the children and parents have no rights over their education. Keep watching for such Governments to move for children to be confiscated from Christian parents for teaching them any biblical views as absolutes. WE PREDICT it will happen. (Ref. education, philosophy, politics)

**3. CAN'T KEEP CREATIONISTS OUT OF CONFERENCES**, writes Steven Newton, in an article in *New Scientist* 8 October 2011, p30. Steven Newton is programs and policy director at the National Center for Science Education in the USA, described by *New Scientist* as “a non-profit organisation based in Oakland, California, devoted to defending the teaching of evolution in public schools”. He notes that creationists have presented posters, given talks and led field trips at mainstream science conferences such as those run by the Geological Society of America. According to Newton: “It's not surprising that they were able to do so: the presenters had received decent geology educations from legitimate institutions. Geologically, they could talk the talk and walk the walk”. He then goes on to ask: “But why? What is the point of giving a talk on marine strata in the late Cretaceous, as Marcus Ross of Liberty University, a Christian college in Lynchburg, Virginia, did, when you actually think the Earth is only a few thousand years old?” Newton contends it is so the creationists can “claim legitimacy” from the scientific mainstream, who would otherwise refuse them entry to conferences. In spite of this, Newton does not call for creationists to be banned from science conferences. He says: “My view, though, is that a blanket ban on presentations by creationists would be a mistake as it would hand them a PR coup”. He then goes on to explain: “Science is a process. The methods of science are much more important than any particular result. Indeed, the self-correcting process of science has on rare occasions resulted in big shifts in thinking. Within living memory, geologists dismissed the idea that the crust of the planet could move as crazy. Now we know that plate tectonics has radically reshaped our planet. Most outlandish ideas turn out to be wrong, of course, but conferences can be a place for them to be scrutinised by the gimlet eyes of science. As long as research conforms to the standards of the discipline, and involves real data collected by standard methods, then it merits more than summary rejection”.

Links: [New Scientist](#)

ED. COM. Newton asks how come creationists “walk the walk and talk the talk”. He partly answers the question when he says that science is a process. This is correct – science is a method of examining the world around us in the present, and therefore creationists are just as capable of doing this and describing their findings as evolutionists. They are also capable of communicating their findings using the standard terminology, because much of it was invented by creationists. The names in the geological column, such as Cretaceous, have nothing to do with the earth being millions of years old. Cretaceous means “chalky”, i.e. it is a description of the physical characteristics of the rock. Other names in the geological column refer to where rocks with particular characteristics were found. The most famous of these, Jurassic, refers to rocks found in the Jura Mountains around the Swiss/German border in Europe where this editor is right now on a geological field trip After the original areas were first described, rocks in other places all over the world with similar characteristics (including fossil content) were referred to as Jurassic. Thus, the Creation Research fossil site in south eastern Queensland, Australia, is in Jurassic rocks, so this week we will be researching Aussie Kinds of fossil plants in the Jura Mountain rocks. The millions of years ages for these rocks were applied to them only after Lyell and Darwin tag teamed to get rid of Moses out of science. (Ref. philosophy, education, history)

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**4. A FRUSTRATING DEBATE VICTORY** The debate at Southampton University against Atheist Physicist Dr. Mark Lewney vs. John Mackay (11<sup>th</sup> October 2011) was on the topic “Genesis 1 to 11 is not literally true”. There is no doubt that evangelical Atheist Mark was out to get any Bible Believing Christians to “convert” as he started his defence by asking for a show of hands from any who believed in evolution, or creation, then 6 day creation and then stating this 6 day group was the one he was after. Then he proceeded to argue from Astronomy about claimed star formations being observed, the universe then geology etc on how things were too old for Genesis to be literally true. Mark was enthusiastic but his case was full of what we are calling Dawkisms i.e. continually arguing theory as if it is fact and then launching from this invented history to dismiss real history from the God who was actually there. So the whole debate was very frustrating, but it did give John the opportunity to hammer the basis for all the vast time span methods that modern scientists use in Geology, Physics, Astronomy etc which was formulated by Charles Lyell with his provable aim of getting rid of Moses out of science. Not that this was popular with many in the audience.

One University lecturer who attended, very aggressively attacked John in question time with the statement that it was time for 6 day creationists to admit the truth that the vast majority of Christians accept evolution and millions of years, so John’s case is doomed and irrelevant and that he himself was a learned Christian so we should give up now. He was most displeased when he was advised that truth is not a democratic result and so it is irrelevant how many people accept it or reject it, and that if he really was a Christian he would take Jesus’ advice and accept Moses’ data in Genesis (Luke 16, John 5) as it would be Moses’ God who would be his judge and not his fellow scientists. The best question was from an atheist/agnostic student who stated that obviously our argument depended on the existence of God. so how could God be proved – what an open door to share the Gospel to the several hundred in the lecture theatre. The chairman of the Uni Debating Society did a really good job and actually played Mark’s survey to the hilt when at the end he asked for a most unusual survey to determine the result. A show of hands from any who had admitted to believing in creation at the start yet who had been convinced by Mark’s arguments to change their minds – score 0. Then he asked for any who had admitted to believing in evolution at the start but had changed their minds because of John’s arguments. On a campus in front of Science lecturers that really took courage to admit - score 2 students. The saddest part of Uni campus work at present is the increasing number of Lecturers and Students who accept that “increasing chaos or disorder” is evidence of information increasing naturally through evolution – a concept which atheist Mark put forward to answer a question. Another disheartening trend is the increasing claim that research such as Genetic Engineering is an example of natural selection and is yet another proof evolution is true. When challenged that Genetic Engineering is actually evidence for pre-existent Intelligent design (unless you wish to insult a professor’s IQ) sadly not even many of the professors get it. Talk about Romans 1: 20ff happening as you watch people choose to leave God out of their knowledge and reap what happens when God hands them over to foolishness, so that the god of this world is blinding their eyes as we speak. Pray for the mercy of God on this generation and the outpouring of God’s Holy Spirit before it is too late. Pray for us - Time is short – Jesus is coming again.

**5. GREENLAND MAP UPDATE.** In Evidence News 21 September 2011 we reported on The Times Comprehensive Atlas 13th Edition that grossly exaggerated the amount of ice lost from the Greenland ice sheet. (See article entitled “[Fudged New World Atlas](#)”.) Harper Collins who published the atlas have issued a “clarification” which includes the following two paragraphs. “On reflection and in discussion with the scientific community, the current map does not make the explanation of this topic as clear as it should be. We are now urgently reviewing the depiction of ice in the Atlas against all the current research and data available, and will work with the scientific community to produce a map of Greenland which reflects all the latest data. We will then create an insert for the current atlas showing this map and also give an explanation of the situation and how we have mapped it. Any material generated as a result of this activity will also be made available online and incorporated into the Atlas. The one thing that is very apparent is that there is no clarity in the scientific and cartographic community on this issue but we have been consulting widely over the last week with experts in the field and have received a good response and support with new sources and data.”

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Link: [Harper Collins](#)

ED. COM. So, there is “no clarity in the scientific and cartographic community on this issue”? If something that can easily be checked with current satellite technology is lacking in clarity, how much more unclear are the more complex aspects of climate science that are still being researched, such as the role of variations in ocean currents, clouds, solar irradiance and cosmic rays? Meanwhile, the politicians and economists are telling us the science is settled. (Ref. climate, research, one world government)

**6. DONATIONS TO HELP CREATION RESEARCH WORLDWIDE** can be sent to the following addresses or use our secure Web site: [CLICK](#).

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UK: P.O. Box 1 Ashton under Lyne Lancs. OL6 9WW (Donations in UK payable to Creation Research Trust are tax deductible - a Gift Aid Declaration is required - available from <http://www.amen.org.uk/cr/trust/>)

AUSTRALIA: P.O. Box 260 Capalaba Qld 4157

CANADA: Westney Heights Baptist Church 1201 Ravenscroft Rd Ajax Ont. L1T 4K5

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