

ifornia State Board of Education, 721 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, CA 95814, USA.

As noted before (*J Mol Evol* 28:173–174, 1989), ICR has appealed a decision preventing ICR from granting master's degrees in science. The decision followed a close vote in a committee that reported on ICR's academic qualifications. It now transpires that two of the five members of the qualitative review and assessment committee were prominent creationists. The first of these was Dr. George F. Howe, a board member of the Christian Legal Defense Fund. At the time that it started, its plan was to "blow evolution out of the public schools." I asked the State Department of Education why Dr. Howe, formerly president of the Creation Research Society, who lists one of his fields of research as "creation model of origins" was nominated to the committee. I was informed that "standard policy allows the nomination of one committee member by the school (ICR) undergoing the visitation," which seemed very lenient. The second creationist on the committee was G. Edwin Miller, who worked from 1973 to 1980 at Christian Heritage College, a Bible school at El Cajon, California, that was headed by Henry Morris from 1978 to 1980. Henry Morris is now president of ICR. As of 1984, Miller was Secretary of the Transnational Association of Christian Schools.

ICR is up in arms about being turned down for reapproval as a graduate school. Dr. Henry Morris says (March 3, 1989) "We believe we have a legitimate graduate science program here . . . you must be aware that there is no scientific evidence for evolution that cannot also be explained in terms of special creation. We have been damaged so severely [by the rejection of the application for reapproval] that our board may desire to take some kind of legal action."

Faced with the need for making an appeal, the ICR graduate school has retained Wendell Bird, well-known as the leading creationist lawyer, (*J Mol Evol* 27:281, 1988) as legal counsel. He has averred that ICRGS science degree courses will be consistent with and comparable to similar science courses of California-approved graduate schools. Later, however, he speaks of courses "comparable to the courses required of graduates of other recognized schools accredited by an appropriate accrediting commission. . . ." (Does he mean the Transnational Association of Christian Schools?) Bird asks that ICR be allowed "to select at least one member of the visiting team." The State Department of Education re-

sponded that "ICR will be allowed to select one, precisely one, member of the verification group."

ICR's M.Sc. curriculum has eight fulltime faculty members. Only one of them, Henry Morris, is listed in the current edition of *American Men and Women of Science*, and he names his fields as hydraulic engineering, hydrogeology. In the ICR graduate school announcement, however, he lists his field as "creationism," and the purpose of the M.Sc. program is "Education, research and publication in scientific and Biblical creationism." The general idea is that graduates will teach. An ICR publication "Impacts," May 1989, p. ii, tells us "PLANTS NOT ALIVE . . . The Bible never ascribes to plants the status of 'life' (nor to lower animals for that matter)." Such is biology at ICR.

Creationists, headed by ICR, are conducting a world-wide campaign. ICR debaters and speakers have journeyed to 25 countries, ranging from Norway and Israel to South Africa and Papua New Guinea. Actually, "creationism" means "opposition to evolution." In Australia, the Creation Science Foundation of Queensland has a staff of fourteen and an annual cash turnover of half a million dollars. To scientists, "creation-science" is nonsensical, but to probably the majority of the general public in the USA, it is very persuasive. Thanks to creationist efforts, especially in the field of textbooks, most school science teachers have not had the opportunity to learn much about evolution, so they are poorly equipped to withstand the onslaughts of creationists against school curricula.

### Erratum

A random walk led me astray among the protozoa (*J Mol Evol* 28:467–468, 1989). My mistakes were perceived by Seymour Hutner. He pointed out, diffidently, that the white cliffs of Dover consist largely of the foraminiferan *Gloverigina* and related planktonic genera. Also, petroleum geologists use foraminiferous and diflagellate cysts as index fossils, and that there might be more protozoan fossils than all others put together.

*Ochromonas danica* is an assay organism for biotin and thiamine, not for vitamin B-12, for which *Poteroiochromonas malhamensis* is used.

My apologies to Seymour, to other readers, and to my distant ancestors.

Thomas H. Jukes  
April 28, 1989