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In All Things... Including Science

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IN ALL THINGS... INCLUDING SCIENCE

Faculty Notes

Engineering Professor Dr. **Kayt Frisch**

presented a poster titled “Strain Energy Absorption Corresponds to Decreased Incidence of Ventricular Fibrillation in a Commotio Cordis Model” at the American Society of Biomechanics Annual meeting. The project is part of an ongoing collaboration between Frisch and Dordt alumnus Dr. **Mark Link**.



Engineering Professor Dr. **Kevin Timmer**

published a book review on *How to Fly a Horse: The Secret History of Creation, Invention, and Discovery in Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith* in September. Timmer also republished his *in All things* essay “My iPhone made me do it!” in the *Christian Courier* in February.



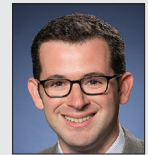
Music Professor Dr. **Karen DeMol** published the second edition of *Sound Stewardship: How Shall Christians Think About Music?* with the Dordt Press in August.

Economics Professor Dr. **Jan van Vliet** gave a presentation comparing the metaphysical architecture of Christian theism with that of Islam as Abraham Kuyper experienced Islam in the early 1900s at the Evangelische Theologische Faculteit in Leuven, Belgium. He was invited to present his paper upon the completion of his translation of Kuyper’s *Om De Oude Weredzee*, which will appear as a volume in the 2018 release of the 12-volume series of *Abraham Kuyper’s Public Theology* published by Lexham Press.

Chemistry Professor Dr. **Channon Visscher** co-authored a research paper titled “The Hunt for Planet Nine: Atmosphere, Spectra, Evolution, and Detectability” in *Astrophysical Journal Letters* in June. In April, Visscher also co-authored a research article exploring the role of chemistry and atmosphere circulation in the atmosphere of super-hot Jupiter exoplanets.

In developing resources for science-faith integration, the Dordt team awarded a STEAM Project grant will partner with *in All things*, an online hub committed to the claim that the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ has implications for the entire world.

Dr. David Henreckson, the new Andreas Center director and editor-in-chief of *in All things*, says, “We’re excited to be part of this. At *in All things*, we’re committed to the idea that faith can inform—and be informed by—scientific discovery.”



Henreckson

In addition to featuring grant-sponsored posts on the relationship between science and faith, the *in All things* website will host the resources developed by the grant team.

Those single- and multi-session studies will help Christian young adults think through questions related to cloning, medical ethics, evolution through natural selection, G.M.O.s, and many others. They will also cover topics in the “soft” sciences, such as psychology and sociology, and explore the scientific aspects of disciplines in the arts and humanities.

It’s not a matter of teaching young Christians *what* to think, Dordt Biology Professor Dr. Robbin Eppinga says. It’s about teaching them *how* to think. “Ultimately,” he says, “that means teaching young Christians to engage in meaningful ways with science, and bringing that understanding into conversation with their faith.”

science. But many people don’t have access to that perspective—they don’t know it’s okay to ask questions. It’s okay to struggle with these things.”

Ultimately, Marcus says scientific study has enriched her faith—but she has also come to accept there are limits to its explanatory power.

“Faith is faith. You can’t judge faith empirically, and that’s okay,” she says. “Science is really cool—it’s necessary and important. But it can’t explain everything. As Dr. Eppinga often reminds us, our value ultimately is in Christ.”

ALEISA DORNBIERER-SCHAT



CARL FICTORIE ('90)

SKYWALK-IN-PROGRESS

Chemistry Professor Dr. Carl Fictorie ('90) enjoys photography and is taking near-daily photos of the Science and Technology Center construction. He hopes to create a video or slideshow chronicling its progress. The photos also allow supporters and friends to peek into the construction zone and see what is going on in spaces they normally wouldn’t see. And maybe, Fictorie thinks, the photos will serve maintenance staff in the future should they need to locate something behind a wall or floor—there may be a photo to show what they can no longer see.

Fictorie likes the fact that the skywalk linking the Campus Center to the Science and Technology Center eventually will put the Chemistry Department on display in a highly trafficked corridor. “Everyone who uses the skywalk will get to see our department in action,” he says.