



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 8, 2006
Columbia Political Union

CONTACT

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THE COLUMBIA POLITICAL UNION PRESENTS

“ID: The Politics of Intelligent Design”

On **Monday February 27, 2006 at 7:45 pm**, The Columbia Political Union proudly presents “ID: The Politics of Intelligent Design” a panel discussion which will examine the political implications of the nationwide debate on the theory of Intelligent Design, with a concentration on the landmark federal court case, *Kitzmiller et al. v. Dover Area School District*.

Featured on the panel will be several figures at the forefront of the debate including Joel Cracraft, of the American Museum of Natural History, Reverend John Rankin, President of the Theological Education Institute in Hartford, Nick Matzke of the National Center for Science Education, and Barbara Forrest, of Southeastern Louisiana University.

Joel Cracraft is a Curator-in-Charge at the American Museum of Natural History. He has professorial appointments in the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology at Columbia University and at the City University of New York. His research interests are in systematic biology and biological diversification. He has written or edited books on the biodiversity crisis and the teaching of evolution in addition to over 150 scientific papers.

Rev. John C. Rankin is president of the Theological Education Institute (TEI) and Mars Hill Society of Hartford. Raised an agnostic Unitarian and secular humanist before his conversion to a biblical worldview in 1967, he holds graduate degrees from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and Harvard Divinity School (Th.M. Ethics and Public Policy). He is the author of the three volume series, *First the Gospel, Then Politics*, and is a host of the Mars Hill Forum series.

Nick Matzke is a Public Information Project Director at the National Center for Science Education. During the landmark "intelligent design" case *Kitzmiller v. Dover*, Nick spent a year working for the Plaintiffs' legal team, providing scientific advice and researching the creationist origins of the ID movement, work which eventually resulted in the discovery of the creationist drafts of the 1989 ID textbook *Of Pandas and People*.

Barbara Forrest is a professor of Philosophy at Southeastern Louisiana University and is the co-author with Paul R. Gross of *Creationism's Trojan Horse: The Wedge of Intelligent Design*, which details the political and religious aims of the intelligent design creationist movement. She served as an expert witness for the plaintiffs in *Kitzmiller et al. v. Dover Area School District*. She is on the board of directors of the National Center for Science Education and the National Advisory Council of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

We are proud to co-sponsor this event with the Columbia Forum for Science, Society and Religion, Women in Science at Columbia, Teacher's College and The Astronomy Department.

This event is free and open to the public. Those without Columbia ID are asked to please RSVP to Geoffrey Aung at the address listed above.

EVENT SUMMARY: Intelligent Design Panel

Date: Monday, 2/27/06, Time: 7:45 pm Location: Roone Arledge Cinema