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## **Top 10 Darwin and Design Resources for 2010**

**Colorado Springs, CO (Jan 31, 2011)** – Following are the Top 10 Darwin and Design resources for 2010 as selected by the News Staff at Access Research Network.

**1.** *New BIO-Complexity Journal Launched.* <u>BIO-Complexity</u> is a peer-reviewed scientific journal with the unique goal to be the leading forum for testing the scientific merit of the claim that intelligent design (ID) is a credible explanation for life. Because questions having to do with the role and origin of information in living systems are at the heart of the scientific controversy over ID, these topics – viewed from all angles and perspectives – are central to the journal's scope. The first issue included an article by Douglas Axe challenging the evolutionary origin of protein folds.

**2.** DNA By Design: Illustrated Lecture DVD by Stephen C. Meyer. This lecture video is a great visual summary of the main arguments found in Meyer's ground-breaking 2009 book <u>Signature in the Cell</u>, and contains many stunning animations illustrating the detailed design of the cell. If you did not have the opportunity to engage his 661 page compelling argument for design from biology in his book, then you definitely want to watch this illustrated lecture summary by Dr. Meyer.

**3.** *CellCraft: Exploring the Cell Through Gaming.* <u>CellCraft</u> is a new Flash game that is designed to teach about cellular biology. You are probably thinking: "Not more edutainment!" Well, no fear – this is a game crafted by people who love games and is enjoyable even if you learn nothing from it. It is a blend of real time strategy, tower defense, and city planning all cast within a cellular setting. But it is hard to play and NOT be impressed by the complexity of the cell—so much so that evolutionists have labeled the game a creationist Trojan horse. "Not true" claims the evolutionists on the game development team. You will just have to try it out and decide for yourself.

**4.** *Molecular Machines in the Cell by Casey Luskin.* In June, Casey Luskin published an <u>online summary of</u> <u>molecular machines</u> in the cell. Luskin provides a handy, non-exhaustive list briefly describing 40 molecular machines identified in the scientific literature. The first section covers molecular machines that scientists have argued show irreducible complexity. The second section discusses molecular machines that may be irreducibly complex, but have not been studied in enough detail yet by biochemists to make a conclusive argument.

**5.** *Experimental Evolution, Loss-of-Function Mutations, and "The First Rule of Adaptive Evolution"* by Michael Behe. In his book, *The Edge of Evolution*, Professor Mike Behe put great stress on understanding Darwinian mechanisms at a molecular level. It is not good enough to talk about adaptation at a phenotypic level because the mechanisms relate to molecular changes at the genotypic level. When the evidence is examined from that perspective, it becomes clear that Darwinian mechanisms cannot build complexity. In a detailed review paper in the December issue of *The Quarterly Review of Biology*, Behe makes this point again and proposes the "First Rule of Adaptive Evolution" to summarize the findings of experimental evolution: "The gist of the paper is that so far the overwhelming number of adaptive (that is, helpful) mutations seen in laboratory evolution experiments are either loss or modification of function. [. . .] Of course we had already known that the great majority of mutations that have a visible effect on an organism

are deleterious. Now, surprisingly, it seems that even the great majority of helpful mutations degrade the genome to a greater or lesser extent."

**6.** *Programming of Life* by Don Johnson. <u>This book</u> explores the informational aspects of life that are usually overlooked or ignored in chemical and biological evolutionary scenarios. Each cell of an organism has thousands (or millions) of interacting computers reading and processing digital information using algorithmic digital programs and digital codes to communicate information. Life is an intersection of physical science and information science. Both domains are critical for any life to exist, and each must be investigated using that domain's principles. Donald E. Johnson, with Ph.Ds in Chemistry, Information Theory and Computer Science, is uniquely qualified to unpackage the strong parallels between everyday cybernetic design and engineering and the workings of the cell.

**7.** *Liberty University Law Review Journal on Intelligent Design.* This issue of the *Liberty University Law Review* (Vol 3, No 2) was produced as a result of a symposium on Intelligent Design and the Law hosted at Liberty University in February 2009. It contains five articles by lawyers providing different perspectives on why the teaching of ID is not only legal, but necessary in a public school curriculum that discusses origins. While there are various articles available on this topic, as well as the Kitzmiller court case, this is the only volume that offers a comprehensive set of articles that correctly address the issue of ID and evolution in the public schools.

**8.** *Free to Think: Why Scientific Integrity Matters* by Carolyn Crocker. *Free To Think* is the long-awaited response to critics of Dr. Crocker that puts to rest some of the inaccurate claims surrounding her departure from George Mason University in May 2005. Dr. Crocker, who appeared briefly in the 2008 movie <u>Expelled</u>, was an untenured adjunct professor at GMU and had signed a 3-year contract extension. In her book, Crocker recounts how her good fortune was short lived, however, as she became the victim of a bait-and-switch scheme in which her original contract was changed to a one-year term shortly after being accused of teaching creationism in her classes – a charge she steadfastly denies. The appeals process as told by Dr. Crocker was little more than a railroading and a denial of her academic freedom per GMU's own code – and readers are provided with her first-ever complete retelling of what happened in her own words as well as her response to the findings of her grievance committee (all documented in Appendix IV).

**9.** God and Evolution: Protestants, Catholics, and Jews Explore Darwin's Challenge to Faith, Jay W. Richards, Editor. The harshest criticism of intelligent design often comes from the church where theologians of various faiths have worked hard to reconcile materialist theories, including Darwinism, with religious belief. This book seeks to analyze "theistic evolution," to critique various attempts to reconcile Darwinism with traditional theistic religion, and to respond to criticisms of intelligent design. Contributors include William Dembski, Logan Gage, David Klinghoffer, Stephen Meyer, Denyse O'Leary, Jay Richards, Jonathan Wells, John West, and Jonathan Witt. A free downloadable discussion guide is also available.

**10.** *What Hath Darwin Wrought?* with John West and Richard Weikart. Ideas have consequences and this <u>investigative report</u> takes a look at some of the shocking social consequences of Darwinian evolution. Although host Todd Friel at times makes this made-for-TV report feel like an episode of *Ripley's Believe it or Not*, the underlying scholarship is top notch featuring interviews with Richard Weikart, John West, and David Berlinski who have all written extensively on these topics. In addition to connections between Darwin's ideas and Hitler's actions which have been well-established, this videos dives into the lesser known impact of social Darwinism on the American eugenics movement and the current debate over the dignity and value of human life. A <u>free downloadable discussion guide</u> is also available. An honorable mention is this category goes to Jane Harris-Zsovan for the release of her 2010 book <u>Eugenics and the Firewall</u>, which exposes the eugenics efforts in Canada that paralleled those in the U.S.

Many of these resources, as well as many more about the Darwin and Design debate, can be found on the Access Research Network website <u>www.arn.org</u>. Access Research Network is a 501(c)3 scientific and educational organization dedicated to providing accessible information on science, technology and society issues from an intelligent design perspective.