

## **Open letter to Allen Goldman (American Association for the Advancement of Science, Physics Section) and Howard Wactlar (National Science Foundation, Division of Information and Intelligent Systems)**

The American Journal of Physics published an article ("Entropy and evolution," Am. J. Phys., Vol. 76, No. 11, November 2008) that begins with the statement: "The creationist argument is that advanced organisms are more orderly than primitive organisms, and hence as evolution proceeds living things become more ordered, that is less disordered, that is less entropic. Because the second law of thermodynamics prohibits a decrease in entropy, it therefore prohibits biological evolution."

The author says, "Two anonymous referees made valuable suggestions that improved this article significantly." This raises the possibility that the peer-reviewers were more interested in anti-creationist propaganda than in making sure the article is a contribution to scientific knowledge.

The article says evolution decreased the entropy of the biosphere and estimates the decrease in joule/degrees. The article's statements about evolution and entropy are unintelligible.

I pointed out the errors and misinformation in the article to American Journal of Physics, the American Association of Physics Teachers, and the American Institute of Physics in a number of communications. The AJP, the AAPT, and the AIP are refusing to retract the article, which I think is the only remedy for its nonsense. I refer you to the following sources of information about evolution and thermodynamics:

McIntosh, A.C., "Information and entropy – top -down or bottom-up development in living systems?", Int. J. of Design & Nature and Ecodynamics. Vol. 4, No. 4 (2009), pp. 351 to 385.

Fourth paragraph of Ilya Prigogine, Gregoire Nicolis, and Agnes Babloyantz, "Thermodynamics of evolution", Physics Today 25(11) (1972), pp. 23 to 28. View online: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.3071090>.

[http://creationwiki.org/Pseudoscience\\_in\\_the\\_American\\_Journal\\_of\\_Physics](http://creationwiki.org/Pseudoscience_in_the_American_Journal_of_Physics)

My article in <http://www.catholictruthscotland.com/MAYnewsletter12.pdf>

[http://www.evolutionnews.org/2011/10/more\\_philosophical\\_than\\_scient052441.html](http://www.evolutionnews.org/2011/10/more_philosophical_than_scient052441.html)

Very truly yours, David Roemer