

# Intelligent Design and the Logos of Creation

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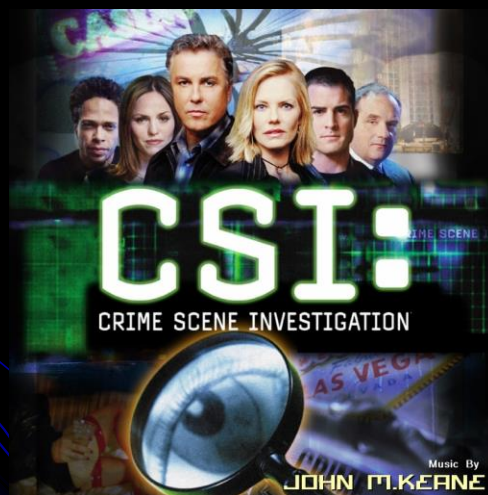
## What Is Intelligent Design?

Intelligent design is the study of patterns in nature that are best explained as the product of intelligence.

## Example 1: Forensic Science



## Example 1: Forensic Science



## Example 2: SETI



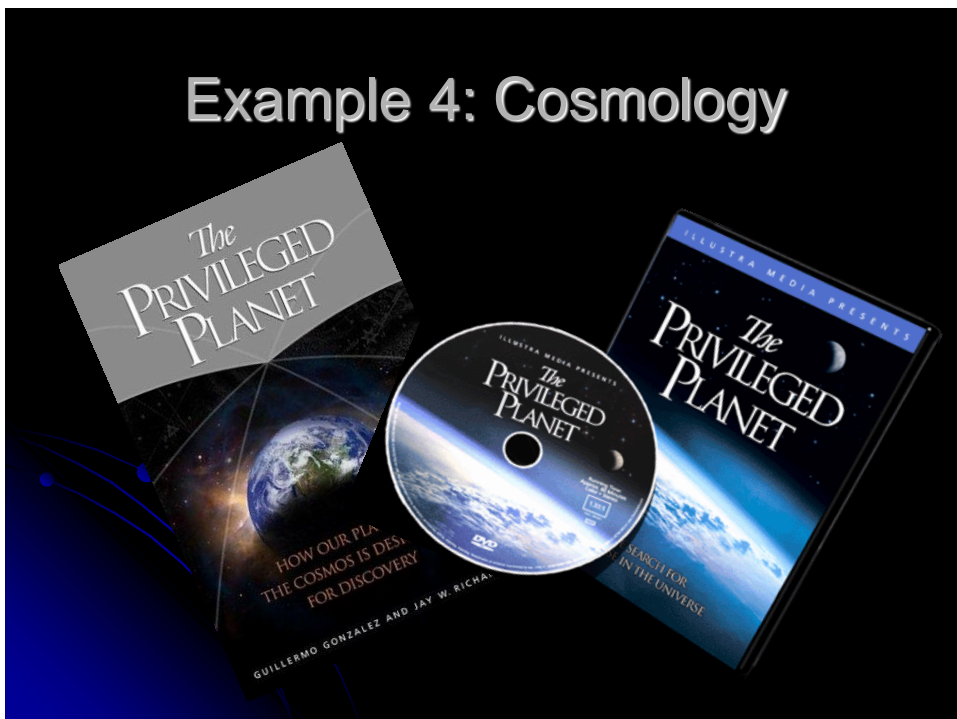
## Example 3: Archeology



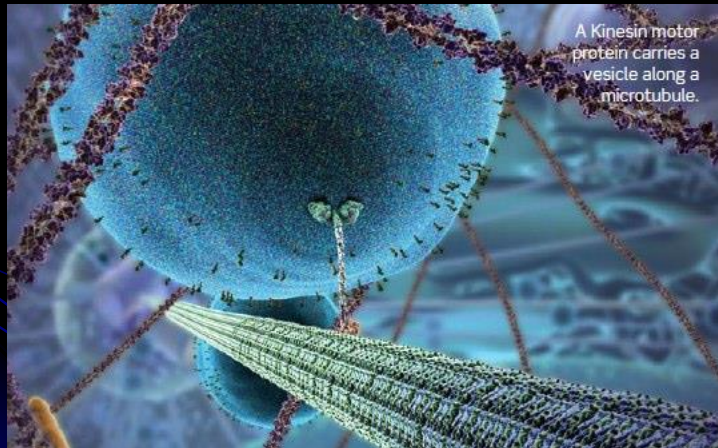
## Example 3: Archeology



## Example 4: Cosmology



## Example 5: Biology



## Example 5: Biology



## But Is Design in Biology Real?

- “Biology is the study of complicated things that give the appearance of having been designed for a purpose.”  
—Richard Dawkins
- “Biologists must constantly keep in mind that what they see was not designed, but rather evolved.”  
—Francis Crick

## But Is Design in Biology Real?

“The illusion of purpose is so powerful that biologists themselves use the assumption of good design as a working tool.”

--Richard Dawkins (ROOE, 1995, p. 98)

## But Is Design in Biology Real?

**Molecular biologists have themselves needed to introduce the language of high-tech engineering to describe the systems they are seeing:**

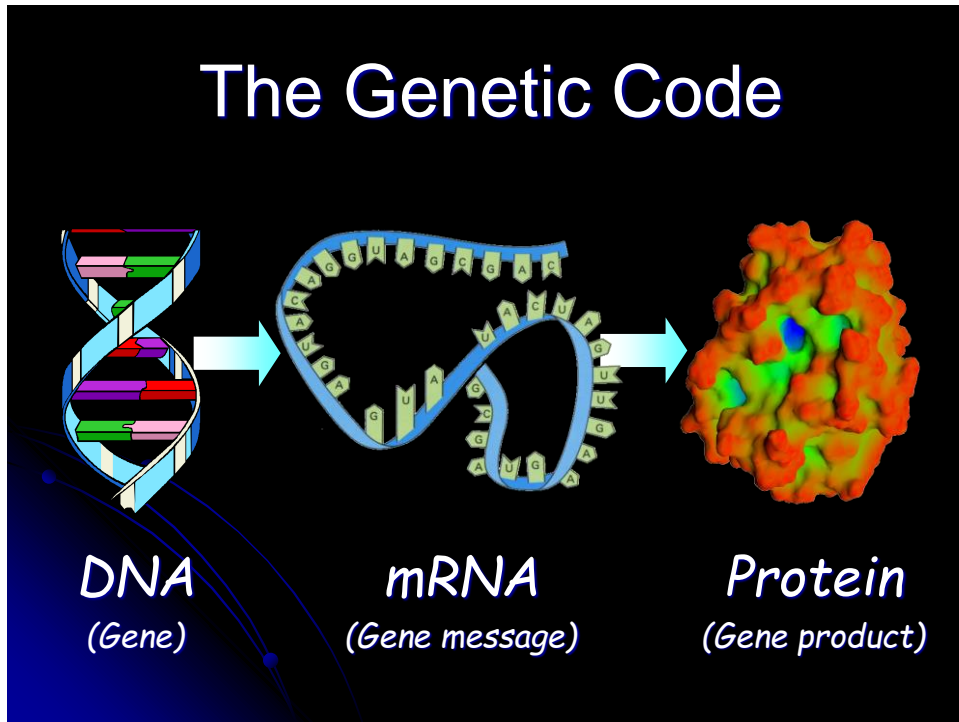
- information storage, retrieval, and processing (genetic code)
- signal transduction circuitry
- high-efficiency nano-engineered motors
- automated parcel addressing (UPS labels / zip codes)
- transportation, distribution, and communication systems
- complex monitoring, error correction, and feedback mechanisms
- self-replicating robotic manufacture

## But Is Design in Biology Real?

“Apart from differences in jargon, the pages of a molecular-biology journal might be interchanged with those of a computer-engineering journal.”

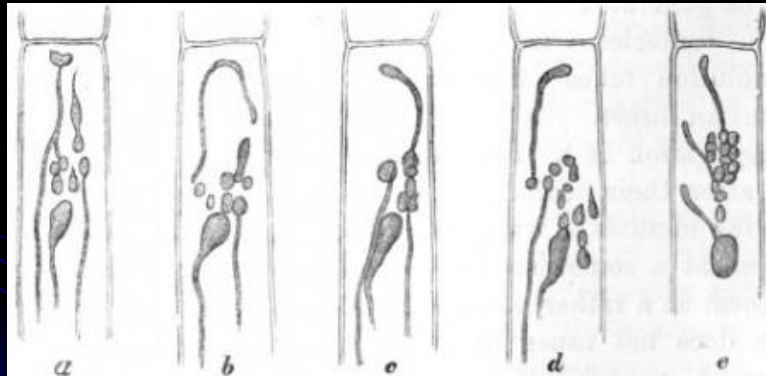
--Richard Dawkins (ROOE, 1995, p. 17)

# The Genetic Code

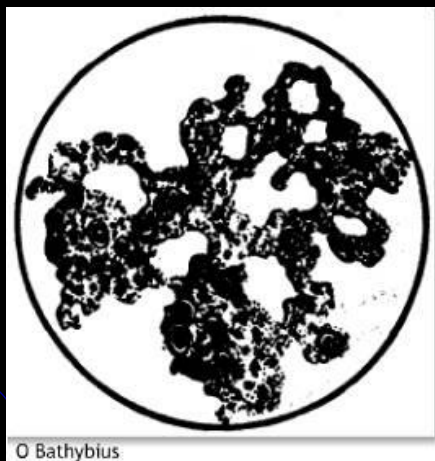




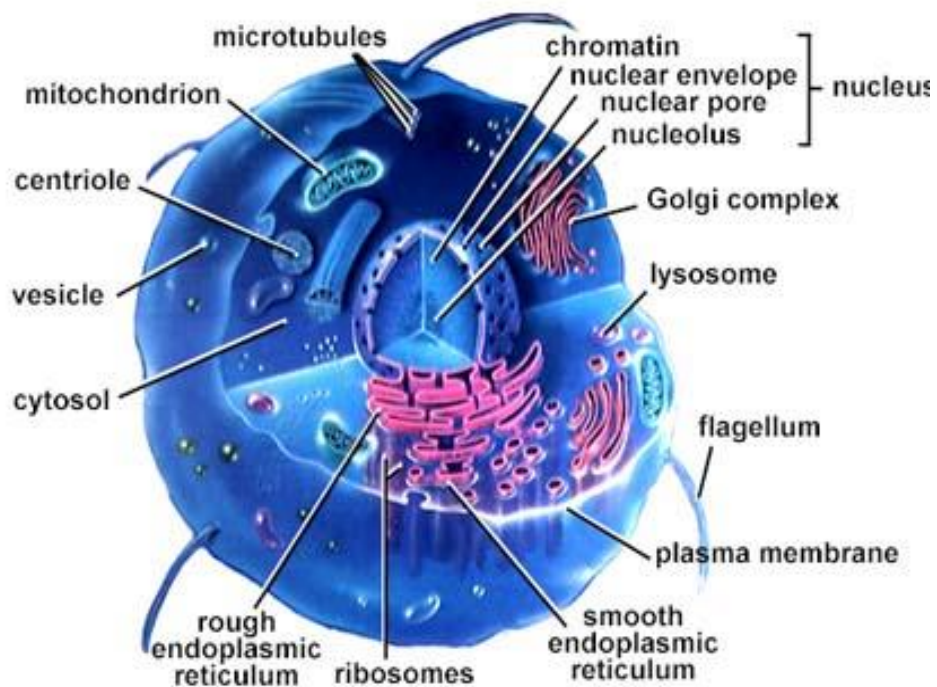
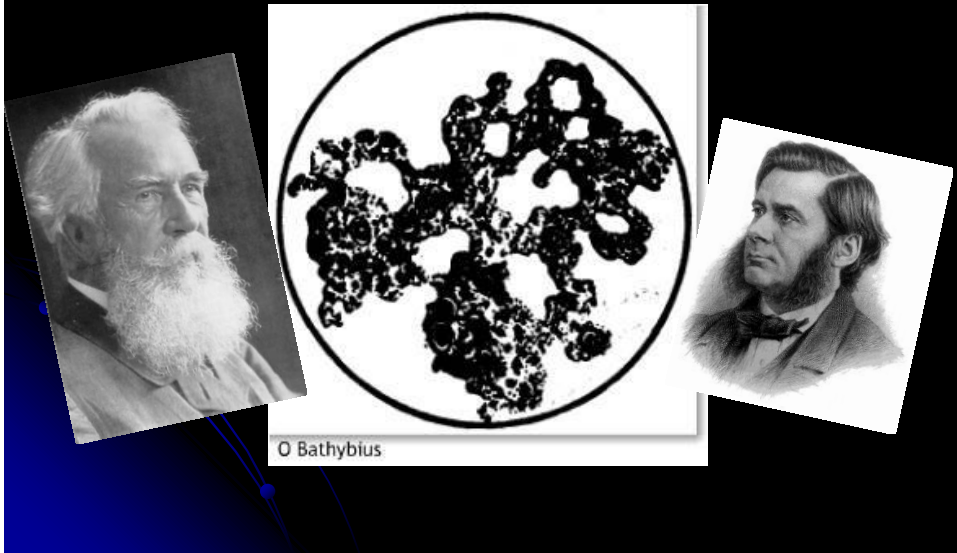
## The Cell in Darwin's Day

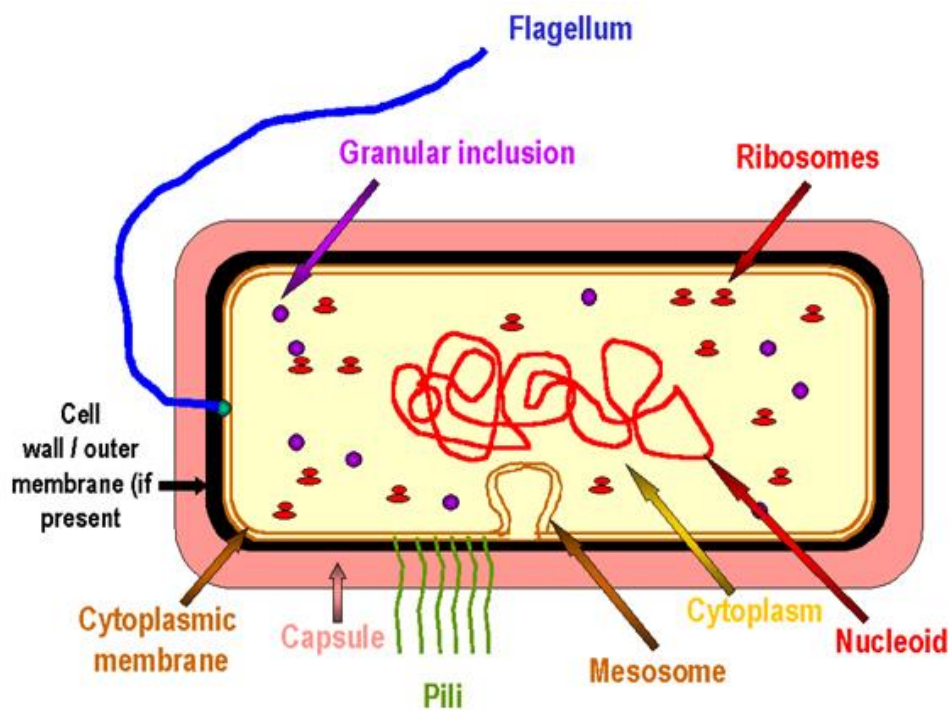
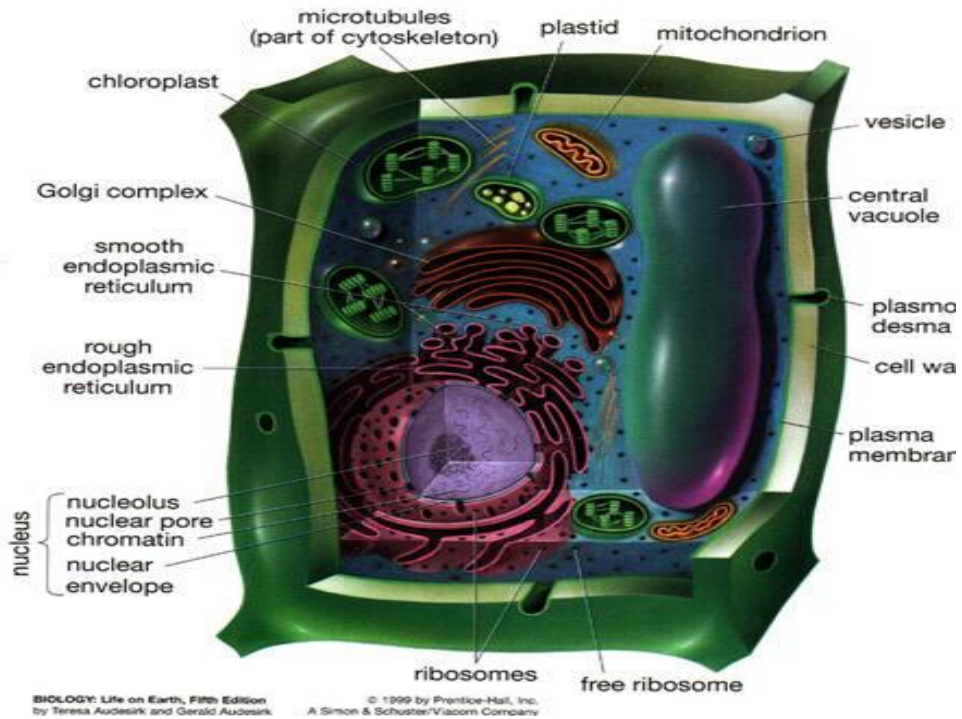


## The Proto-Cell in Darwin's Day

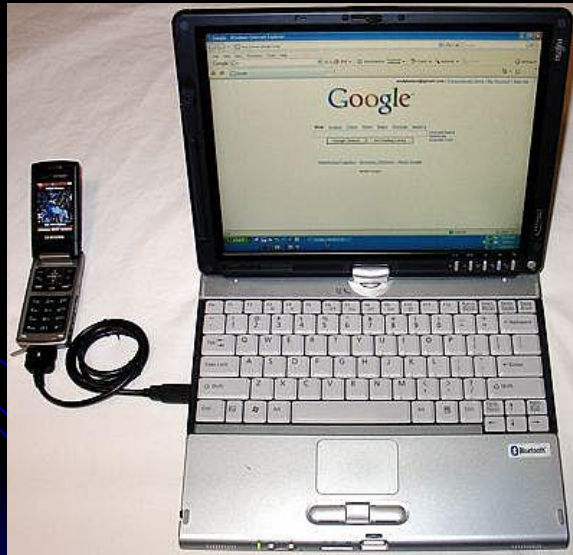


## *Bathybius haeckeli*





## Cell Phone vs. Laptop Computer



## The Collapse of Darwinian Explanations

There are presently no detailed Darwinian accounts of the evolution of any biochemical or cellular system, only a variety of wishful speculations.

– Franklin Harold  
*The Way of the Cell*  
(OxfordUP 2001)

## The Collapse of Darwinian Explanations

There are no detailed Darwinian accounts for the evolution of any fundamental biochemical or cellular system, only a variety of wishful speculations. It is remarkable that Darwinism is accepted as a satisfactory explanation for such a vast subject — evolution — with so little rigorous examination of how well its basic theses work in illuminating specific instances of biological adaptation or diversity.

— James Shapiro, 1996  
Review of *DBB*

## The Collapse of Darwinian Explanations

Anybody who thinks they know the solution to this problem of the origin of life is deluded.

— Leslie Orgel, 2004

# The Collapse of Darwinian Explanations

No serious scientist would currently claim that a naturalistic explanation for the origin of life is at hand.

– Francis Collins, 2006

## The ID Challenge to Biological Evolution

Premise 1: If unguided evolutionary mechanisms adequately explain biological complexity and diversity, then intelligent design is superfluous.

~~Premise 2: Unguided evolutionary mechanisms adequately explain biology complexity and diversity.~~

~~Conclusion: Therefore, intelligent design is superfluous.~~



## The Received Wisdom

By attributing the diversity of life to **natural causes** rather than to **supernatural creation**, Darwin gave biology a **sound scientific basis**.

— Campbell's BIOLOGY, 5<sup>th</sup> ed.

## The Received Wisdom

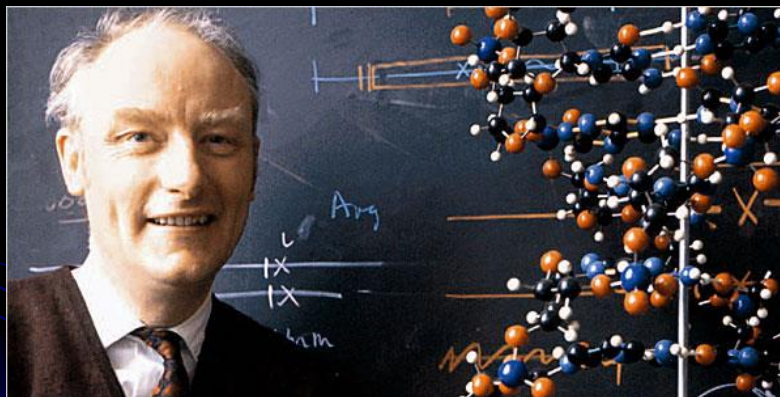
He [Darwin] dismissed it [design] not because it was an incorrect scientific explanation, but because it was **not a proper scientific explanation** at all.

— David Hull

## The Received Wisdom

Intelligent design is not science because it **cannot be science.**

## Design Theorist?



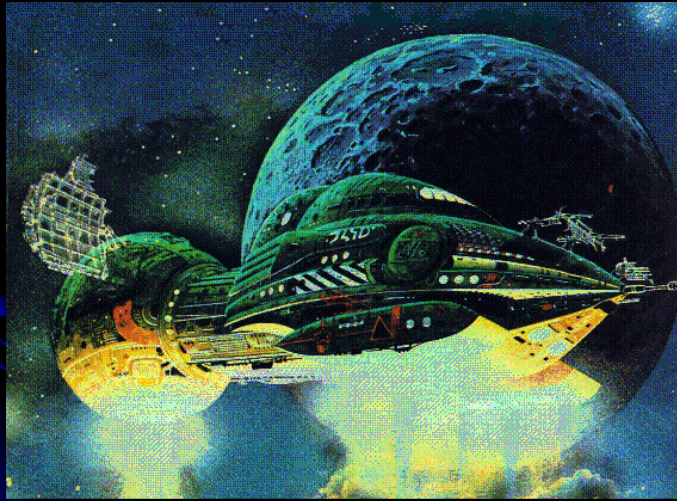
## Directed Panspermia



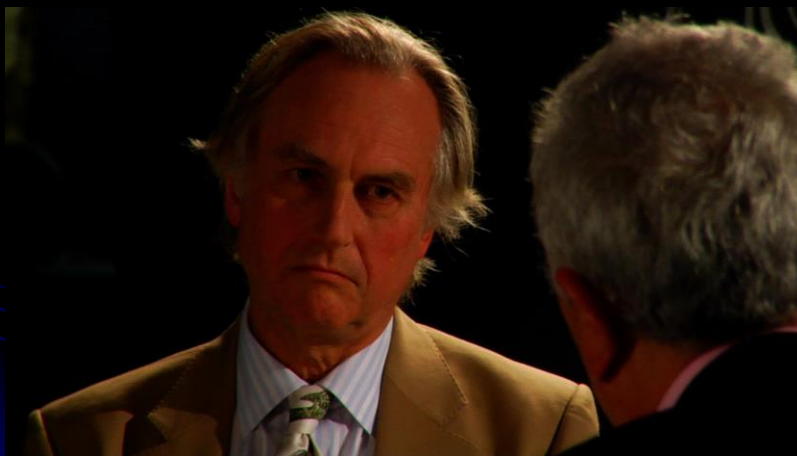
## Panspermia



## Directed Panspermia

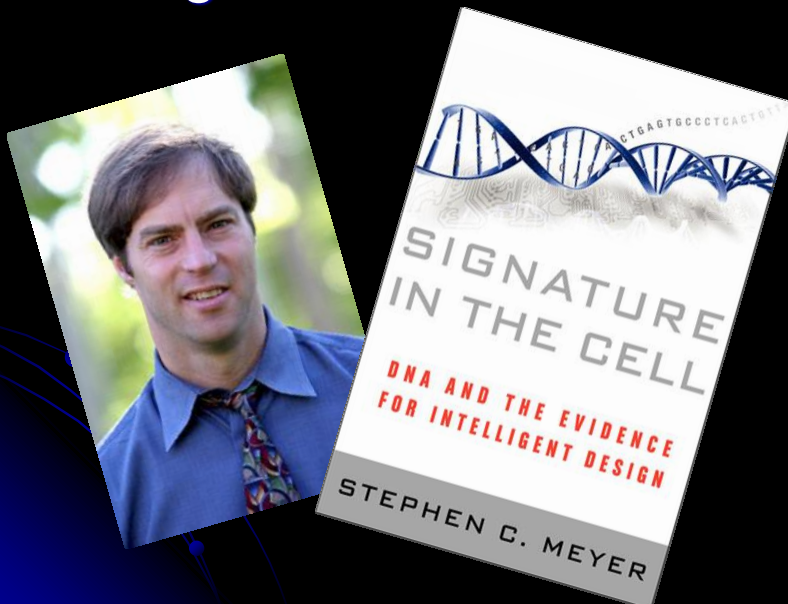


## Directed Panspermia



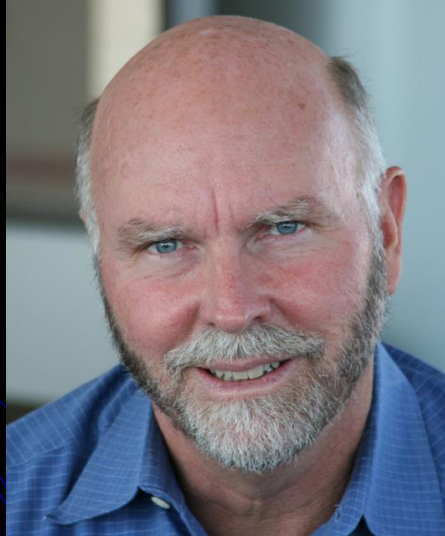
# Directed Panspermia

## Signature in the Cell

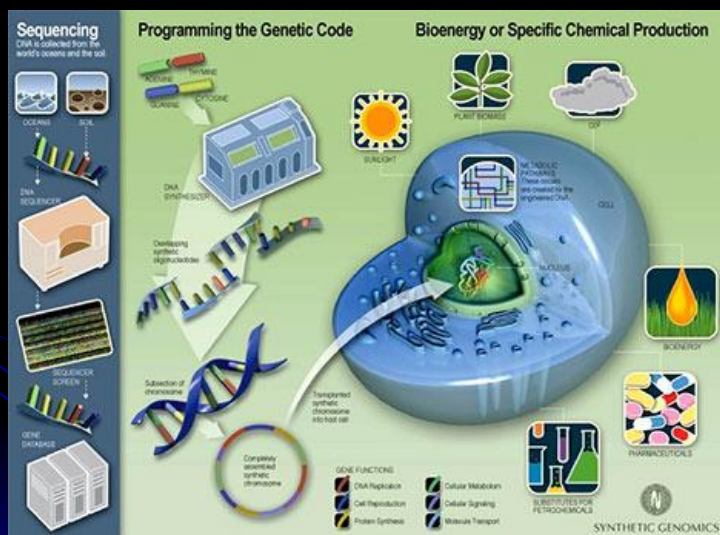




# Craig Venter



## Venter's Synthetic Genomics





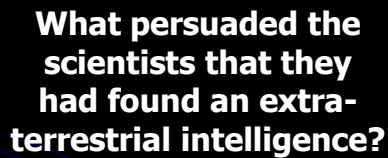
## Venter's DNA "Watermarks"

The five coded messages embedded in the first synthetic genome :

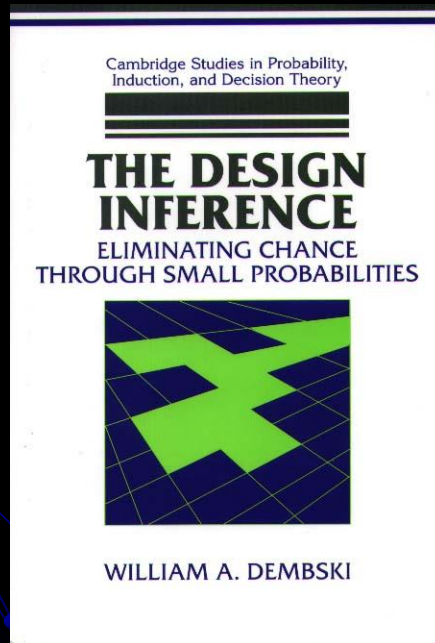
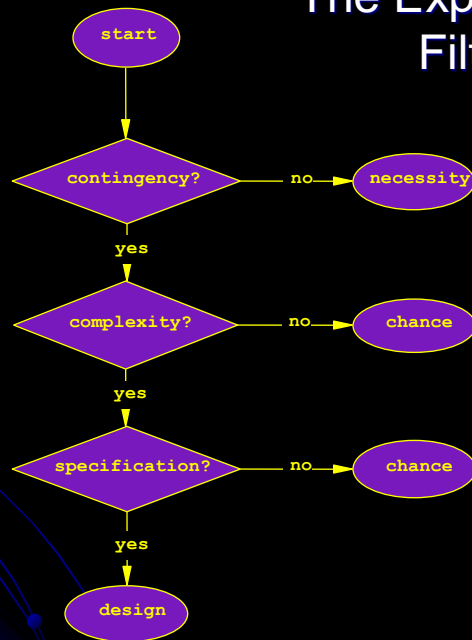
VENTERINSTITVTE  
CRAIGVENTER  
HAMSMITH  
CINDIANDCLYDE  
GLASSANDCLYDE

--Wired, 28jan08

## How Do We Detect Design?

[illegible]

## The Explanatory Filter



www.thedesignoflife.com

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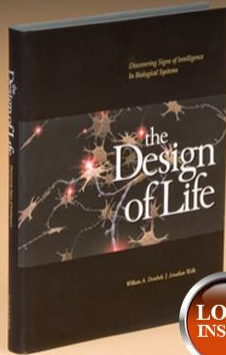
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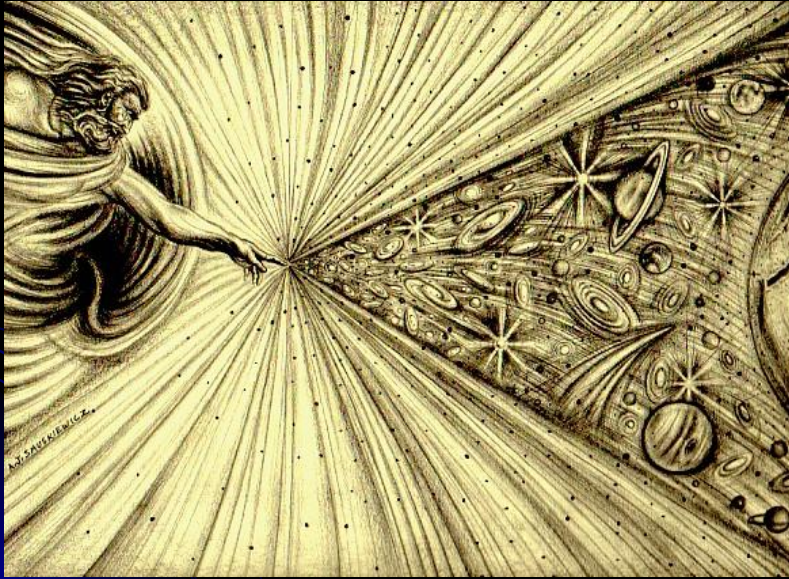
LOOK  
INSIDE!

*"When future intellectual historians list the books that toppled Darwin's theory, **The Design of Life** will be at the top."*

Michael Behe  
Author, *Darwin's Black Box*



## ID and Creation

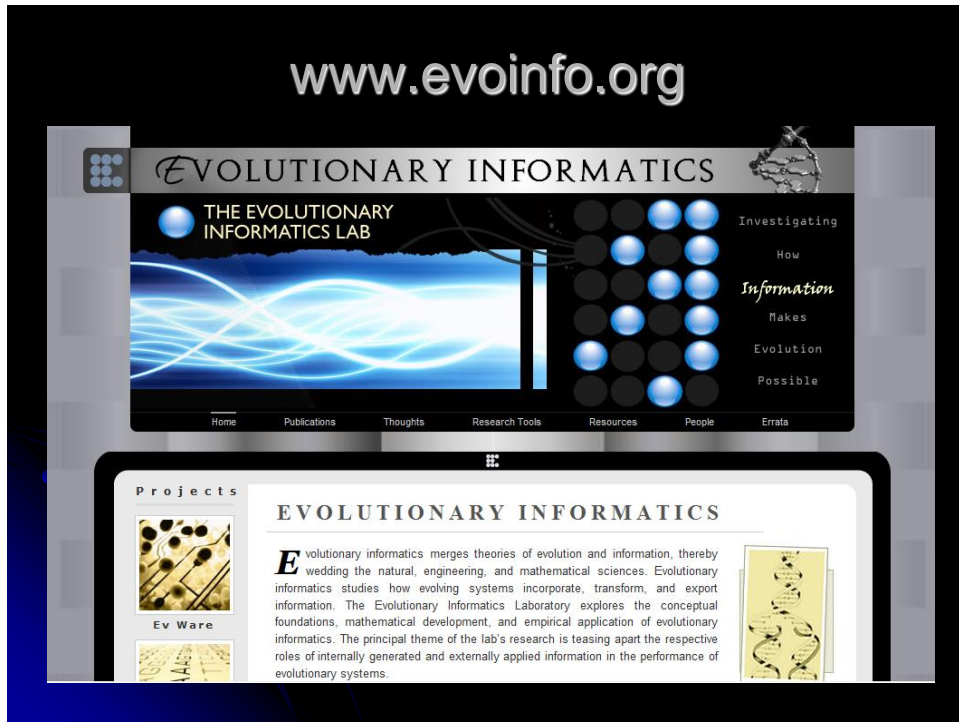


## ID Is Three Things

“Intelligent design is three things: a scientific research program that investigates the effects of intelligent causes; an intellectual movement that challenges Darwinism and its naturalistic legacy; and a way of understanding divine action.”

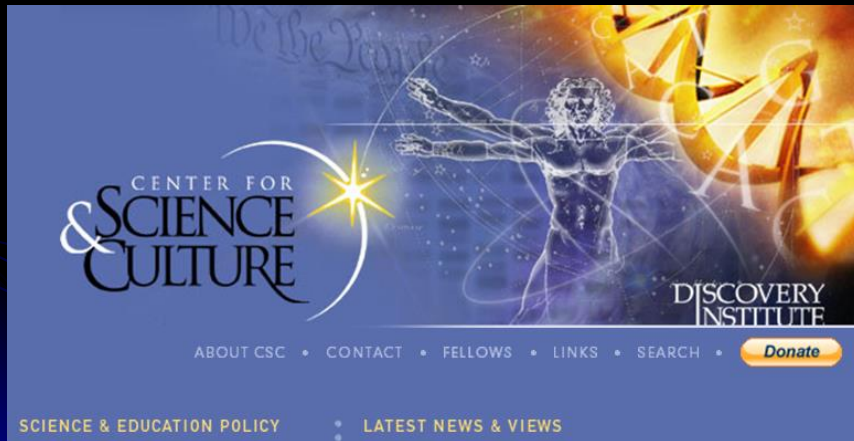
~William Dembski, *Intelligent Design* (1999).







[www.discovery.org/csc](http://www.discovery.org/csc)



## Is the Christian God a Designer?

- Short answer: Yes.
- Longer answer: The Christian God is the Creator of all that comes into existence. As such, he is the source of all being. But Scripture also clearly teaches that the Christian God brings order to being. The Christian God is therefore a designer. He is more than a designer, but he is at least a designer.

## My Best Known Quote

“Intelligent design is just the Logos theology of John’s Gospel restated in the idiom of information theory.”

~William Dembski, “A Primer on Intelligent Design,” *Signs of Intelligence* (2001).

## John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

## Colossians 1:16-17

By him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him. And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

## Barry Lynn on 1997 *Firing Line*

“‘In the beginning was the word....’  
Indeed that word just might turn out  
literally to have been a command:  
‘Evolve!’”

## Edward Oakes in 2001 *First Things*

[Identifying the Designer of ID] with ... the Logos of God, an inference supposedly based on special revelation, I hold to be illegitimate. For such an identification would force us to claim that the Logos of God *directly* attached the flagellum to the first bacterium, that the Second Person of the Trinity *explicitly* toggled a complex molecule to bring about the first act of self-replication,

## Edward Oakes in 2001 *First Things*

and that the Deity *immediately* altered the architecture of one species, say a tiger, to lead to another conspicuously different species. For each and every one of these hypotheses (when they are not downright preposterous) the scientific evidence is exactly zero, the logic fallacious, and the theo logical implications grotesque.

## Is Intelligent Design Creationism?



## Christ as Designer and Redeemer





## Why Is This Important?

- 1) Atheistic materialism requires Darwinian evolution.
- 2) Intelligent design convincingly refutes Darwinian evolution.
- 3) Therefore intelligent design convincingly refutes atheistic materialism.



## What Can I Do About It?

Plenty of people **wish well** to any good cause, but very few care to **exert** themselves to help it, and still fewer will **risk** anything in its support. "Some one ought to do it, but why should I?" is the ever re-echoed phrase of weak-kneed amiability. "Some one ought to do it, so why not I?" is the cry of some earnest servant of man, eagerly forward springing to face some perilous duty.

--Annie Besant