

The NAS and IOM released last week Science, Evolution and Creationism, which is the third edition of a previous NAS publication called Science and Creationism: A View from the National Academy of Sciences (1984 and 1999). This new title reflects the changes evolved between the editions, including IOM's partnership in this latest revised booklet. PDF of the publication and summary are available online, free at: <http://www.nap.edu/sec>. The audio webcast of the press briefing featuring members of the revision committee Francisco Ayala (chair), Gilbert Omenn, Toby Horn and Bruce Alberts, as well as the presidents of the publishing academies can be heard at: <http://nationalacademies.org/morenews/20080104.html>. Francisco Ayala also wrote the editorial for the January 8 issue of PNAS, available online at: <http://www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.0711608105>.

This new booklet is a very useful resource for anyone who wants to learn about the process of evolution, to understand the nature of science, to see the intelligent design/creationism's perspective, and why the latter has no place in the science classroom, where students learn about science. It also provides practical examples, many applied to health (global and human), for scientists and teachers to use when they are asked by students, non-specialist relatives and friends about the relevance of evolution, and science for that matter, in our daily lives.

A parallel publication which resulted from a concurrent phone survey commissioned by a Coalition of Scientific Societies, of which SDB is an active, contributing member, is available at: <http://opa.faseb.org/pages/PolicyIssues/sciencecoalition.htm> and will also appear in "From the Society for Developmental Biology," space allotted for us in our official journal Developmental Biology. This article titled "You Say You Want an Evolution? A Role for Scientists in Science Education" presents results of this national survey that examined attitudes towards science and scientists, views on evolutionary science in the context of education, and means through which the scientific community can effectively bolster support for teaching evolution and related subjects.

SDB Members and interested readers are encouraged to use these materials in their teaching and educational activities. Your comments and suggestions may be sent to: ichow@sdbonline.org with subject title SCIED. Additional resources and links are found at: <http://nationalacademies.org/evolution/> and <http://opa.faseb.org/pages/PolicyIssues/evolutionresources.htm>.