

# The Evolution of Creationism: What's Next in the Debate Over Intelligent Design?

---

## Rob Boston

Rob Boston, assistant director of communications for Americans United for Separation of Church and State, will discuss current battles over the teaching of "intelligent design" in public schools. Boston will discuss how intelligent design evolved from standard young-earth creationism and how its current promotion by groups like the Discovery Institute is part of a deliberate political strategy to mainstream creationist ideas and attack Darwinian evolution.

Rob Boston is assistant director of communications for Americans United for Separation of Church and State and the assistant editor of AU's monthly magazine Church & State.

Boston is the author of three books: *Close Encounters with the Religious Right*; *Journeys into the Twilight Zone of Religion*

and *Politics* (Prometheus Books, 2000); *The Most Dangerous Man in America? Pat Robertson and the Rise of the Christian Coalition* (Prometheus Books, 1996) and *Why the Religious Right Is Wrong About Separation of Church and State* (Prometheus Books, 1993; second edition, 2003).

2 - 4 pm, Saturday  
January 14, 2006

Montgomery County Library  
Bethesda Branch  
7400 Arlington Road  
Bethesda, Maryland  
(A short walk from the Bethesda Metro station)



### National Capital Area Skeptics Public Lecture Series

FREE admission - Everyone welcome - members and non-members  
For more information call the 24-hour NCAS Skeptic Line recording at  
(301) 587-3827  
e-mail: [ncas@ncas.org](mailto:ncas@ncas.org)  
[www.ncas.org](http://www.ncas.org)



# Shadow of a Doubt

JANUARY 2006

THE MONTHLY CALENDAR OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA SKEPTICS

## The Independent Thinker's Guide to "Reading" the Media

*Tuesdays, Jan. 24 to March 7, 10:15 a.m.*

Culture via the media is the primary education we all get. Newspapers, ads, commercials, films, and television exercise more control over our daily lives and influence how we think and feel, than do our church, state, or family upbringing. This stimulating and engaging course is designed to help us discern how the media persuade us. Participants use current events, top news stories, and issues of the day from a variety of media as a springboard for discussion.

▲ **January 24:** Media Plot Lines: Why Is the Language of the Western so Popular with Presidents?

▲ **January 31:** Reading the Paper—More than Just Words

▲ **February 7:** The Politics of an Image

▲ **February 14:** Have We Domesticated TV, or Has TV Domesticated Us?

▲ **February 21:** The Spell of Advertisements

▲ **February 28:** The Tabloid and the Ritual of Public Scandal

▲ **March 7:** The Rhetoric of Fear

**Instructor:** Edward J. Ingebretsen, author of several books on popular culture, is a professor in the English department and director of the American Studies Program, Georgetown University.

**Tickets:** Gen. Admission \$136, RAP Members \$90, Senior Members \$81

**Location:** S. Dillon Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Drive, S.W., Washington, DC

**Event Information:** 202-252-0012

## Come to NCAS Friday the 13th Movie Night

7:30 pm, Jan. 13, at the Denman's: 8006 Valley St.,

Silver Spring, MD 20910. Please **RSVP by Jan. 12** to [ncas@ncas.org](mailto:ncas@ncas.org) or 301-587-3827 to give us a count for refreshments—but drop-ins are still welcome. The movie selections and skeptical conversations will not disappoint.

## Mystery of Life's Origins Tues., Jan. 24, 6:30 p.m.

Was it deep on the sunless, mineral-rich ocean floor where hydrothermal vents grew? Or in a sun-drenched tide pool surrounded by black lava rocks? Just where and how did life emerge on Earth? This most fundamental question is addressed by astrobiologist Robert Hazen in a fascinating illustrated lecture.

Hazen is professor of earth science at George Mason University and a mineralogist at the Carnegie Institution's Geophysical Laboratory. *Genesis: The Scientific Quest for Life's Origin* (Joseph Henry Press) is available for signing after the program.

**Tickets:** Gen. Admission \$20, RAP Members \$15, Senior Members \$13

## Board Notes

- ▲ The January NCAS Board is meeting right after the NCAS lecture at the Bethesda Library, Sat., Jan. 14. Members are encouraged to attend.
- ▲ We are compiling the NCAS Member Survey that ended Dec. 31, 2005.
- ▲ The NCAS Hotline (301-587-3827) was mysteriously out of service for a while in December—we're sorry for any inconvenience.
- ▲ We are seeking members to help post NCAS general and monthly program announcements in local libraries and on cable TV public bulletins, etc.
- ▲ We welcome your comments and help any time by email to [ncas@ncas.org](mailto:ncas@ncas.org) or at 301-587-3827.



National Capital Area Skeptics  
P.O. Box 8428  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20907

## NCAS Information:

Telephone: 301-587-3827

Email: [ncas@ncas.org](mailto:ncas@ncas.org)

Skeptical Eye submission:

[S\\_Eye@ncas.org](mailto:S_Eye@ncas.org)

Website: <http://www.ncas.org/>