

DRUDGE RETORT

Saturday, September 08, 2007

[I.D. rift hits Baylor again](#)

Baylor University officials ordered the shutdown of a personal website of one of a handful of the school's distinguished professors because of anonymous concerns that the site, hosted on the university's server, supported Intelligent Design.

Posted by [dogrednu](#) at 07:26 AM | 27 COMMENTS | [permalink](#) | [Comment on This Entry](#)

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"This is a big story, perhaps the biggest story yet of academic suppression relating to ID," William Dembski, a research professor in philosophy at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, told Baptist Press.

"Robert Marks is a world-class expert in the field of evolutionary computing, and yet the Baylor administration, without any consideration of the actual content of Marks' work at the Evolutionary Informatics Lab, decided to shut it down simply because there were anonymous complaints linking the lab to Intelligent Design," Dembski said.

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Robert Crowther of the Discovery Institute's Center for Science and Culture told Baptist Press the institute is watching the Marks situation from an academic freedom standpoint.

"We're deeply concerned that the administration at Baylor University has really not shown any support for academic freedom or freedom of scientific inquiry in shutting down a website and a research project of one of their distinguished faculty," Crowther said. "We find that very troubling. It does show a certain trend at Baylor."

Crowther said he believes Intelligent Design has become such a controversial issue in academia because of the scientific threat it poses. The Scopes Trial should have settled the issue, he said, but discoveries since then have altered the discussion.

"What has changed is the science. We know things now and there are new discoveries being made all the time that are leading a number of scientists to not just question Darwinian evolution but to actively pursue research into Intelligent Design," Crowther said. "The thing that is driving this really is the science. We wouldn't be having the debate if there wasn't something going on in science that was causing a lot of questions to rise from most of the scientists."

--30--

Erin Roach is a staff writer for Baptist Press. Jerry Pierce, managing editor of the Southern Baptist Texan newsjournal, contributed to this article.

(end)

Posted by [Dogrednu](#) at [2007-09-08 07:27 AM](#) | [Reply](#) | Flag:

I suspect their concern is with Baylor's reputation as a mainstream university.

They have an excellent school of medicine and hospital.



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Keep up this ID crap and they'll be the equivalent of Bob Jones and Liberty U in no time.

The thing that is driving this really is the science

Once one posits a metaphysical force and looks to sacred texts for "data" science has been thrown out the window. Science requires the intellectual courage to follow the data where it may lead, even if it conflicts with theology.

Posted by [silver_ironist](#) at [2007-09-08 07:53 AM](#) | [Reply](#) | Flag:

I agree with SI. Besides, what's the big deal? The prof merely has to get another ISP to host his site. Problem solved.

Posted by [goatman](#) at [2007-09-08 08:07 AM](#) | [Reply](#) | Flag:

The whole issue of ID aside, I'm surprised any school employee is allowed to host a personal website on his public employer's server. I don't care whether it's a university or any business.

I do find it interesting the selective criticism a subject like intelligent design would attract vs, for example, one extolling the "fact" of man made global warming - something much more accepted among our left leaning academic elite and well beyond the comprehension of common rubes like me.

Posted by [OohRah](#) at [2007-09-08 08:18 AM](#) | [Reply](#) | Flag:

"Scienc requires the intellectual courage to follow the data where it leads...."

It also requires the courage to tolerate disparate ideas.

I understand the concept of the "Big Bang" was at first shunned by many scientists because the physicist that conceived it was a priest.

Posted by [Zed](#) at [2007-09-08 11:05 AM](#) | [Reply](#) | Flag:

I've spent part of the morning listening to a scientist explain why eye-witness reports are worthless.

Oh, save for those he or his friends make.

Posted by [Zed](#) at [2007-09-08 11:10 AM](#) | [Reply](#) | Flag:

Zed says, "I understand the concept of the "Big Bang" was at first shunned by many scientists because the physicist that conceived it was a priest."

As are all efforts at cosmology by those not working in the field or educated in it, directly. However, the BB theory fit the perception that the red-shift of light from galaxies defined the distance they were from us, and consequently how old the universe was approximately, in light-years.

Now, the BB theory is under attack by observations being made in the last few decades and which defy explanation using conventional cosmological theory (BB). They've had to invent neutron stars (a scientific oxymoron based on observation), black holes, dark matter (both hot and cold) and other excuses why the standard gravitational theories of galaxy and star formation haven't predicted, nor can they explain, the observations made.

They, like their predecessors, try to ignore new theories and explanations for the observations, and even when those theories have shown that they can predict future findings of our explorations in space. See, [Holoscience and the Electric Universe](#) for a start ...

Posted by [tadowe](#) at [2007-09-08 11:48 AM](#) | [Reply](#) | Flag:

They've had to invent neutron stars (a scientific oxymoron based on observation), black holes, dark matter (both hot and cold) and other excuses why the standard gravitational theories of galaxy and star formation haven't predicted, nor can they explain, the observations made.

Posted by [dutch46](#) at [2007-09-09 02:19 AM](#) | [Reply](#) | Flag:

It's evidently true that dogs eat their own poop.

we'll see.

Posted by [Cooper](#) at [2007-09-09 02:22 AM](#) | [Reply](#) | Flag:

classic Dutch.

I'm told his album will be mentioned in an upcoming article. I gotta check into that.

Shot up the Blues fest here in Columbia. I don't know all these guys, but the Last Act was Taj Mahal. I can't be sure how many shots I have. Probably 300-400.

I was looking official with a monopod supporting my 10D, fast Sigma 20mm, and moving around, getting candid, and three memorable shots of some very fine ladies. Posed for me.

If you guys are lucky I'll post them.

Posted by [OzarkAggie](#) at [2007-09-09 02:48 AM](#) | [Reply](#) | Flag:

dorky dorky dorky dorky dorky dorky

That was big when I was in the 4th grade.

Posted by [CalifChris](#) at [2007-09-09 03:05 AM](#) | [Reply](#) | Flag:

Hey, Gnubsy, good luck sneaking into the DR again from your holding pen!

Posted by [ReginaldPerrin](#) at [2007-09-09 09:11 AM](#) | [Reply](#) | Flag:

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