

Cedarville University announces new geology degree

Dear Editor,

I wonder if I could make your readers aware that Cedarville University's Board of Trustees recently approved the formation of the Bachelor of Science in Geology degree, set to begin in fall 2009.

Faculty will equip students for life-long scientific leadership in career fields such as hydrogeology, environmental geology, petroleum geology and numerous other areas of expertise.

to a literal six-day account of Genesis, offers geology as a major course of study to undergraduates. The course of study will be taught from both naturalistic and young-earth paradigms of earth history.

"It is extremely important to develop critical thinking skills within the minds of young scientists", describes Whitmore. "We believe that using a two-model approach of earth history will be advantageous to our students over others who are only taught a one-model, naturalistic approach. Geologists are important when it comes to thinking about earth history, especially within a biblical context."

geomorphology, invertebrate paleontology, and environmental geology among other upper level areas of study. The major will prepare students for both graduate school and industry. For more information see www.cedarville.edu/scienceandmath.

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The cost of selection

J.C. Sanford's book, *Genetic Entropy & The Mystery of the Genome*, provides one of the most convincing arguments I have ever heard against Darwin's theory, especially as it applies to humans. However, I believe that Sanford made a mistake in his discussion of the cost of selection. His mistake was to use an incorrect definition of "cost". This is not a mistake of any substance, but it creates a potential for confusion if someone were to take his conclusions about his definition of cost and apply them to the standard definition. I hope that he will be happy to be corrected because it only makes the strength of his case clearer.

In Appendix Two, page 179, Sanford says, "the total selective cost (C) to a population is that fraction of the population that is not allowed to reproduce." In fact cost does not mean the fraction of the population that is not allowed to reproduce; it means the rate of reproduction required to make up for them—that is if we are defining it in a way so that the population's maximum reproductive rate gives us the maximum total cost that it can afford.

The mistake is in focusing upon the fraction by which it is reduced, rather than the fraction to which it is reduced. If you reduce one population by three quarters and another by half, then the fraction by which you have reduced the first population is only one and a half times that by which you have reduced

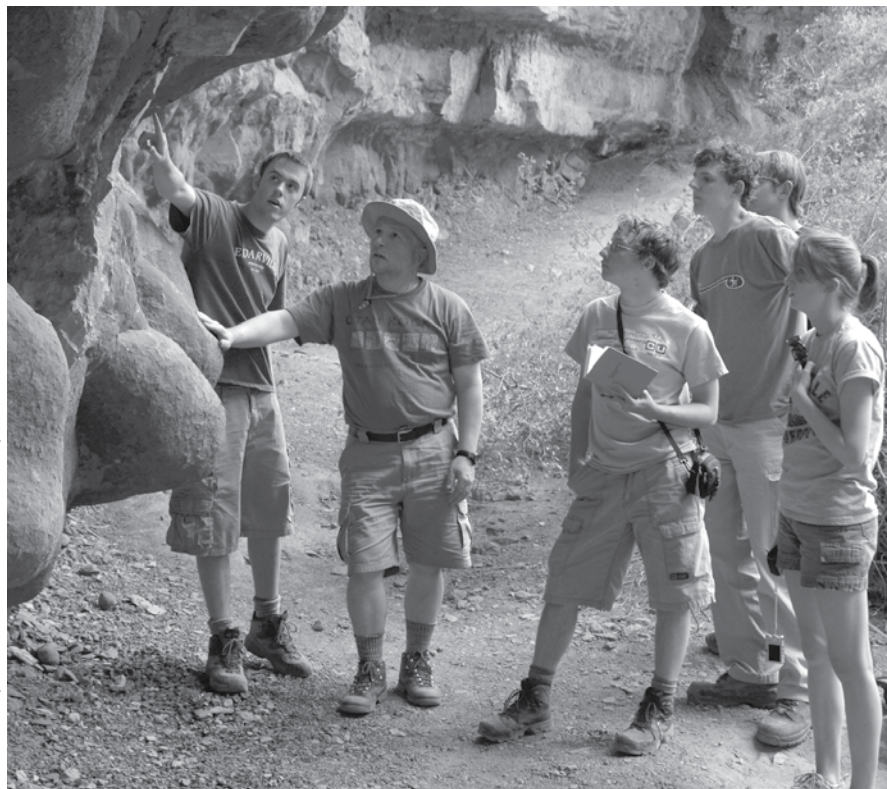


Photo taken by Scott L. Huck/Cedarville University

Cedarville University unveils plans for a Bachelor of Science in geology set to begin fall semester 2009.

"The degree will offer a whole host of new opportunities for graduates", shares Dr John Whitmore, associate professor of geology who proposed the major. "Geologists help us find clean drinking water, petroleum, natural gas, coal, and valuable minerals."

The program will be unique in that no other Christian school, which holds

Course-work will be rigorous and emphasize hands-on experience along with required field work. The geology major will include a wide range of liberal arts classes along with calculus, physics, chemistry, biology, physical geology, historical geology, mineralogy, petrology, structural geology, stratigraphy, sedimentology,