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August 27, 2003

Dear Texas Board of Education:

Dr. Jonathan Wells's book *Icons of Evolution: Science or Myth?* is an excellent supplemental text that would be an very valuable resource for students in high school biology classes (as well as in college courses in introductory biology, evolution, and the origin of life). It is very clearly written and cogently argued. It is exactly the kind of supplement needed to balance the one-sided or otherwise seriously flawed discussions of biological origins which unfortunately are still fixtures of the major biology textbooks (in spite of how good these textbooks may be on other topics).

As I said in my jacket endorsement of *Icons of Evolution*, Jonathan Wells "...has brilliantly exposed the exaggerated claims and deceptions that have persisted in standard textbook discussions of biological origins for many decades, in spite of contrary evidence."

The vital topic of biological origins deserves the best possible classroom presentation and discussion. Toward this end, students and faculty would be very well served by the adoption of *Icons of Evolution* as a supplemental text.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dean H. Kenyon".

Dean H. Kenyon
Professor Emeritus of Biology



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September 7, 2003

To friends and supporters of education in the State of Texas:

I have a PhD in Cell Biology and have been actively teaching and conducting research in medical sciences for over 30 years. I am writing because I am very concerned about the reluctance of public school boards in North America to grant their students and teachers the freedom to learn, understand and teach a balanced view of the complexity and design of biological systems and life forms. Although many advanced textbooks in cell and molecular biology have recently abandoned some of the fictitious evidence that were at one time taken to support evolution, many public high school texts have not. I am writing to encourage you to take a proactive, open and balanced approach to science education.

In my role as an active researcher and teacher, I have found that the book "Icons of Evolution" challenged my assumptions and presented a reality check. It has encouraged me to be more discerning and honest about what constitutes the body of scientific knowledge and, equally important, what is fiction. If a goal of science is the search for truth, I have trouble understanding why we (scientists) continue to try to convince others that we are right and they (students, lay public) are wrong. Even more perplexing is the lip service we (scientists) have been paying to the elimination of fraud and deception in our research while science education appears to be immune from this area of ethical sensitivity. The history of science and medicine should have taught us that scientific "facts" are constantly changing and that truth is not decided by a vote.

In my view, Jonathan Wells has taken an important step to dispel the myths about evolution by exposing the distorted claims that have been used as Evidence that evolution is the overriding mechanism that accounts for the origin of matter, the origin of life, the origin of species, and a multitude of other scientific theories today. I have found it refreshing to consider, teach and discuss the "icons" in the light of the information that Wells has provided. In doing so, I have not felt my scientific integrity compromised. Indeed, it has encouraged many of my students and me to take a fresh look at science — without which, I feel contemporary science is in jeopardy of stagnation. This book, and the parallel DVD of the same title, contain information that is worthy of study, critical reflection and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Marvin J. Fritzler PhD MD
Professor of Medicine



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September 7, 2003

Dear Texas Board of Education:

After I read the pre-published manuscript of Dr. Jonathan Wells' book "Icons of Evolution" I wrote:

"The scientific leaders tell us that science is the search for the truth science cannot coexist with lies. We all assume that textbooks contain only a few misprints and minor factual errors. But, is that really so? The public should be aware of how textbooks throughout our education system misuse these icons in addressing the issue. Wells has done a great public service. ... His arguments are easy for laymen to follow. However, the extensive coverage of all the icons of Darwinism in the diverse fields of Biology, with extensive research notes, makes this volume a valuable reference for a professional biologist. "Icons of Evolution" is a must-read for all who are interested in science, and especially in the arguments for and against Darwinism."

I urge you to give full consideration to the merits of Dr. Jonathan Wells' work in educating the public on the arguments regarding Darwinism.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Paul K. Chien", is written over a horizontal line.

Paul K. Chien, Ph. D.
Professor of Biology