

## DENIS ALEXANDER

### Editorial

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Book Reviews have always played a central role in *Science & Christian Belief* and probably represent the most consistently read section of the journal. Yet the hard work of Reviews Editors remains largely unsung and unseen. This Issue of the journal marks a changeover in the Reviews Editor position, and therefore provides a welcome opportunity to thank the Revd Dr Ernest Lucas warmly for all his contributions as Reviews Editor over the period 1999-2006. Dr Lucas has fitted this responsibility into an extremely busy professional career as Vice-Principal of Bristol Baptist College, during which time he has also lectured and published extensively, not least in the field of science and religion. The third edition of his book *Can We Believe Genesis Today?* was published by IVP in 2005 and continues to be extremely popular (It can be ordered from [www.cis.org.uk/resources/books/books.shtml](http://www.cis.org.uk/resources/books/books.shtml)), whilst a lecture on a related theme can be found at [www.st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk/faraday/Multimedia.php](http://www.st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk/faraday/Multimedia.php). In addition Dr Lucas has continued to publish academic biblical studies books, including *Decoding Daniel: Reclaiming the Visions of Daniel 7-11* (Grove Books, 2000) and *Exploring the Old Testament, Vol. 3: The Psalms and Wisdom Literature*, (SPCK & IVP, USA, 2003). Dr Lucas now feels that he should shed some of his extra responsibilities and it is therefore with regret but also with our sincerest thanks for all his hard work on behalf of the journal, that we say farewell.

In the same breath that we thank the retiring Reviews Editor, we are also pleased to welcome the new incumbent to the position, the Revd Dr Rodney Holder who is Course Director of the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, Cambridge, and was formerly Priest in Charge of the Parish of the Claydons, Diocese of Oxford. Dr Holder read mathematics at Trinity College, Cambridge, before researching for a D.Phil. in astrophysics at Christ Church, Oxford, and then continuing to work in Oxford on accretion of intergalactic gas by the galaxy before spending fourteen years in the UK Ministry of Defence as an operational research consultant with EDS (formerly Scicon). Dr Holder then returned to Oxford, and took a first class degree in theology in 1996 prior to his period of ministry in the Anglican Church up to 2005. Our new Reviews Editor therefore comes to his position with a very strong background in both science and theology, and has himself contributed two books to the science-religion field: *Nothing But Atoms and Molecules?* (Monarch, 1993) and *God, the Multiverse, and Everything* (Ashgate, 2004) in which Dr Holder uses Bayes' theorem to examine the fine-tunings of natural law that were necessary for life to evolve in our universe. We look forward to a continuing strong repertoire of book reviews in the journal in the years to come and, as always, the Reviews Editor would be pleased to receive your suggestions for reviews.