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0521815169 - Darwinian Heresies

Edited by Abigail Lustig, Robert J. Richards and Michael Ruse

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Darwinian Heresies

Darwinian Heresies looks at the history of evolutionary thought, breaking through much of the conventional thinking to see whether there are assumptions or theories that are blinding us to important issues. The collection, which includes some of today's leading historians and philosophers of science, digs beneath the surface and shows that not all is precisely as it is too often assumed to be. Covering a wide range of issues starting back in the eighteenth century, *Darwinian Heresies* brings us up through the time of Charles Darwin and the *Origin* all the way to the twenty-first century. It is suggested that Darwin's true roots lie in Germany, not in his native England; that Russian evolutionism is more significant than many are prepared to allow; and that the main influence on twentieth-century evolutionary biology was not Charles Darwin at all but his often-despised contemporary, Herbert Spencer. The collection is guaranteed to interest, to excite, to infuriate, and to stimulate further work.

Abigail Lustig is a postdoctoral Fellow at the Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She has previously held fellowships at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin; the Secrétariat National Recherche et Sauvetage, Paris; and the Universitat Autònoma, Barcelona.

Robert J. Richards is Professor of History and Philosophy and director of the Fishbein Center for History of Science at the University of Chicago. He is the author of *Darwin and the Emergence of Evolutionary Theories of Mind and Behavior* (1987), *The Meaning of Evolution* (1992), and *The Romantic Conception of Life: Science and Philosophy in the Age of Goethe* (2002).

Michael Ruse is Lucyle T. Werkmeister Professor of Philosophy at Florida State University. He is the author of many books, including *The Darwinian Revolution: Science Red in Tooth and Claw* (1979), *Monad to Man: The Concept of Progress in Evolutionary Biology* (1997), and *Can a Darwinian Be a Christian? The Relationship between Science and Religion* (Cambridge University Press, 2000).

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ABIGAIL LUSTIG

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

ROBERT J. RICHARDS

University of Chicago

MICHAEL RUSE

Florida State University



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Contents

List of Contributors	<i>page</i> vii
1 Introduction: Biologists on Crusade <i>Abigail Lustig</i>	1
2 Russian Theoretical Biology between Heresy and Orthodoxy: Georgii Shaposhnikov and His Experiments on Plant Lice <i>Daniel Alexandrov and Elena Aronova</i>	14
3 The Specter of Darwinism: The Popular Image of Darwinism in Early Twentieth-Century Britain <i>Peter J. Bowler</i>	48
4 Natural Atheology <i>Abigail Lustig</i>	69
5 Ironic Heresy: How Young-Earth Creationists Came to Embrace Rapid Microevolution by Means of Natural Selection <i>Ronald L. Numbers</i>	84
6 If This Be Heresy: Haeckel's Conversion to Darwinism <i>Robert J. Richards</i>	101
7 Adaptive Landscapes and Dynamic Equilibrium: The Spencerian Contribution to Twentieth-Century American Evolutionary Biology <i>Michael Ruse</i>	131
8 "The Ninth Mortal Sin": The Lamarckism of W. M. Wheeler <i>Charlotte Sleigh</i>	151

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0521815169 - Darwinian Heresies
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Frontmatter
[More information](#)

vi

Contents

9	Contemporary Darwinism and Religion	173
	<i>Mikael Stenmark</i>	
	Index	193

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0521815169 - Darwinian Heresies

Edited by Abigail Lustig, Robert J. Richards and Michael Ruse

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contributors

Daniel Alexandrov is Professor of Sociology at the European University in St. Petersburg. His area of interest is the sociology and history of science, including the history of sociology and other social sciences. He has worked at the Russian Academy of Sciences and has taught at the University of Chicago and the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Elena Aronova is a researcher at the Institute for the History of Science and Technology, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, where she earned a Ph.D. for her dissertation on twentieth-century immunology. Her research focuses on the history of molecular biology and immunology, Russian experimental biology, and women in Russian science.

Peter J. Bowler is Professor of the History of Science at Queen's University, Belfast. He is a member of the Royal Irish Academy and has taught at universities in Canada, Malaysia, and the United Kingdom. His books include *The Eclipse of Darwinism* (1983), *Theories of Human Evolution* (1986), *The Non-Darwinian Revolution* (1988), *The Mendelian Revolution* (1990), and *Life's Splendid Drama* (1996). He has written several general surveys, including *Evolution: The History of an Idea* (1984) and *The Fontana/Norton History of the Environmental Sciences* (1992). His most recent book is *Reconciling Science and Religion: The Debate in Early Twentieth-Century Britain* (2001).

Abigail Lustig is a postdoctoral Fellow at the Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

Contributors

currently working on a book tentatively titled “Calculated Virtues: Altruism and the Evolution of Society in Modern Biology.”

Ronald L. Numbers is Hilldale and William Coleman Professor of the History of Science and Medicine at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He has written or edited more than two dozen books, including, most recently, *The Creationists* (1992); *Darwinism Comes to America* (1998); *Disseminating Darwinism* (1999), coedited with John Stenhouse; and *When Science and Christianity Meet* (2003), coedited with David Lindberg. He is currently writing a history of science in America and coediting, with David Lindberg, the eight-volume *Cambridge History of Science*. He is a past president of both the History of Science Society and the American Society of Church History.

Robert J. Richards is Professor of History and Philosophy and director of the Fishbein Center for the History of Science at the University of Chicago. He is the author of *Darwin and the Emergence of Evolutionary Theories of Mind and Behavior* (1987), *The Meaning of Evolution* (1992), and *The Romantic Conception of Life: Science and Philosophy in the Age of Goethe* (2002).

Michael Ruse is Professor of Philosophy at Florida State University. He is the author of several books on Darwinism.

Charlotte Sleigh (University of Kent) received her Ph.D. in the history and philosophy of science from the University of Cambridge in 1999 and spent one year as a postdoctoral research Fellow at the University of California at Los Angeles before taking her current post. Her research interests focus on the cultural history of natural history, especially that of insects. Her book *Six Legs Better: A Cultural History of Myrmecology, 1874–1975*, is forthcoming from Johns Hopkins University Press.

Mikael Stenmark is Professor of Philosophy of Religion in the Department of Theology, Uppsala University. He has published papers in the philosophy of religion, the philosophy of science, and environmental ethics and on science-religion issues. He is the author of *Rationality in Science, Religion and Everyday Life: Four Models of Rationality* (1995), *Scientism: Science, Ethics and Religion* (2001), and *Environmental Ethics and Policy-Making* (2002).