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Nick Matzke, Public Information Project Director, is leaving NCSE to begin a PhD program at the Department of Integrative Biology at the University of California, Berkeley. He came to NCSE in early 2004, planning to spend a year here before starting a PhD program; we feel fortunate to have had him around for two extra years. In addition to working at NCSE, he somehow found the time not only to blog regularly at [The Panda's Thumb](#) [4] but also to contribute to the scholarly literature, coauthoring articles for [Nature Immunology](#) [5], [Natural Reviews Microbiology](#) [6], and [Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences \(USA\)](#) [7], and contributing a chapter tracing the beginnings of "intelligent design" to the mid-1980s litigation over creation science to the new edition of [But Is It Science? The Philosophical Question in the Creation/Evolution Controversy](#) [8] (Prometheus Books, forthcoming). *Seed* magazine [profiled](#) [9] him in 2006 as one of its nine "Revolutionary Minds."

It was in the *Kitzmiller v. Dover* case, however, that Matzke's star shone brightest. The staffer who was originally assigned to the case when it seemed as though it was just going to be a routine affair, he was instrumental throughout the case, providing a wealth of scientific expertise and practical advice to the legal team representing the plaintiffs. In his book on the case, [40 Days and 40 Nights](#) [10] (Collins, 2007), Matthew Chapman humorously wrote of Matzke, "The NCSE staffer initially assigned to the Dover flare-up, he now briefed the lawyers on the arcane ins and outs of science. Bespectacled, in his thirties, he was tall and large and peered down at you with a look of beleaguered doubt, as if to say, 'You're asking me this question about science, but you know and I know that you're not going to understand my answer, so, although I find this stuff fascinating, wouldn't you really rather go for a beer?'" We'll be buying him one or two as we bid him a fond farewell.

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