

# Creativity in Parasitological Research

John Janovy, Jr.  
012116



# Creativity: some ideas, descriptions, and definitions:

1. To bring into existence. 2. To invest with a new form. 4. To produce through imaginative skill. (Webster's New Collegiate)

Sistine Chapel  
ceiling (restored).  
The Vatican. 1508-  
1512. Fresco, 45 x  
128 feet.



# Creativity: some ideas, descriptions, and definitions:

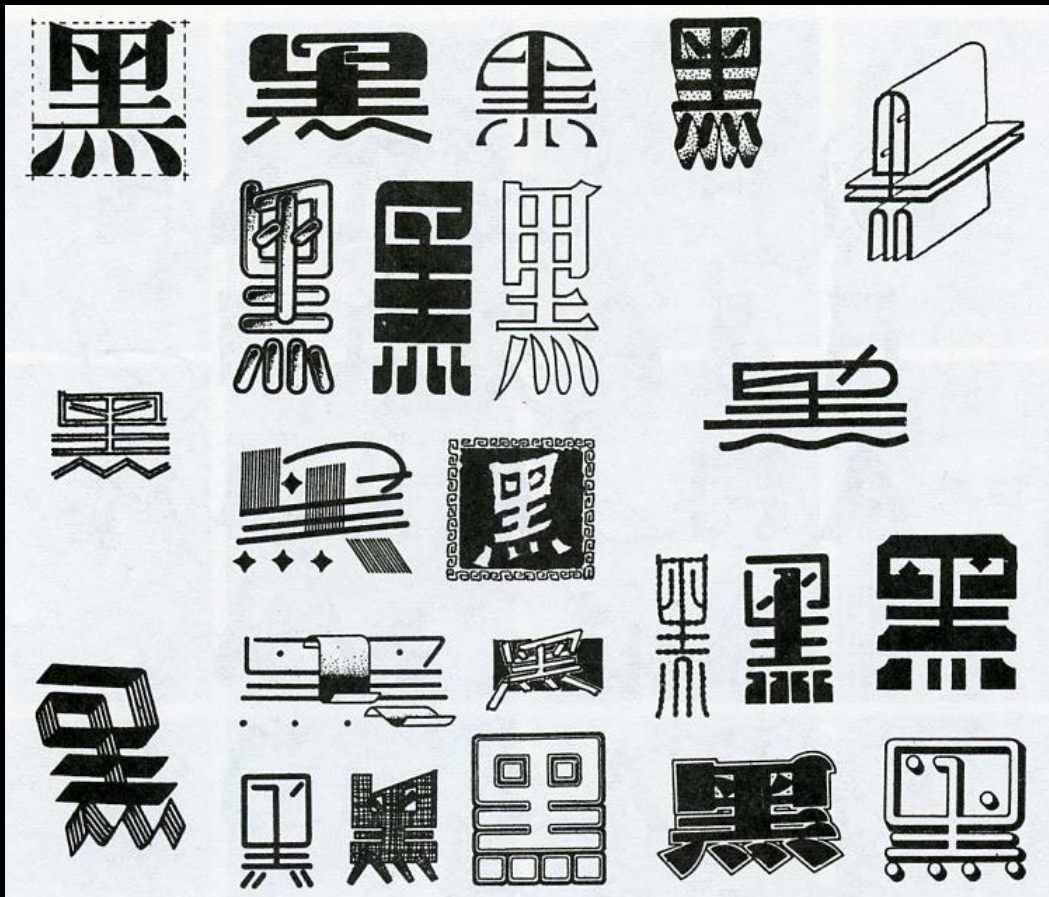
1. To bring into existence. 2. To invest with a new form. 4. To produce through imaginative skill. (Webster's New Collegiate)

Variations on a Theme as the Crux of  
Creativity (D. Hofstadter, *Metamagical  
Themas*)



“56 ‘A’s in different styles, all drawn from a recent Letraset catalog. To native readers of the Latin alphabet, it is an almost immediate visual experience to recognize how any one of them is an ‘A.’”

From Hofstadter’s *Metamagical Themas*



“To native readers of Chinese, it is an almost immediate visual experience to recognize how any of them is a ‘hēi’. For non-readers of Chinese it requires some conscious processing to ‘unmask’ many of these.”

The Chinese character “hēi” meaning “black”.

From Hofstadter’s *Metamagical Themas*



[www.aliexpress.com](http://www.aliexpress.com)

## Boy Meets Girl Car Sticker

Hero succeeds against all odds;  
power corrupts; etc.



[discoveringtruesuccess.com](http://discoveringtruesuccess.com)

“If they'd have been REALLY thankful  
for everything God provided for them  
in the Garden of Eden... the work free  
life, the lack of weeds & stickers, etc.”

# Creativity: some ideas, descriptions, and definitions:

1. To bring into existence. 2. To invest with a new form. 4. To produce through imaginative skill. (Webster's New Collegiate)

Variations on a Theme as the Crux of Creativity (D. Hofstadter, *Metamagical Themas*)

The Picasso Effect: Looking at familiar things in strange and sometimes disturbing ways.



Pablo Picasso, Bull, ca. 1958,  
Cannes, plywood, tree branch



[www.pinterist.com](http://www.pinterist.com)

Face of Woman Pablo  
Picasso, 1962

# Creativity: some ideas, descriptions, and definitions:

1. To bring into existence. 2. To invest with a new form. 4. To produce through imaginative skill. (Webster's New Collegiate)

Variations on a Theme as the Crux of Creativity (D. Hofstadter, *Metamagical Themas*)

The Picasso Effect: Looking at familiar things in strange and sometimes disturbing ways.

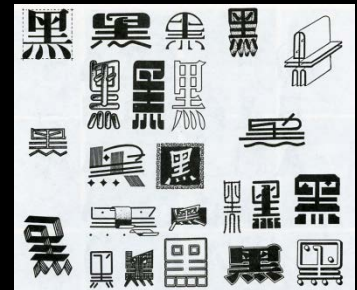
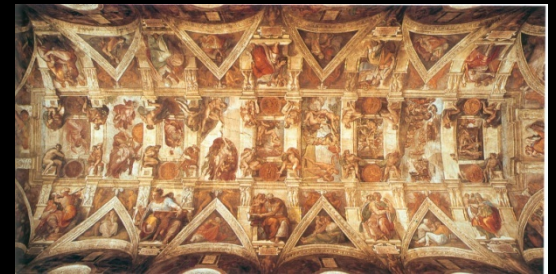
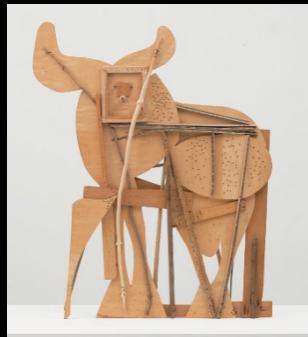
The Pollock Effect: Use of existing materials in the production of things that defy description and/or explanation.



spie.org

Jackson Pollock's 'Convergence' (1952), 237.5cm×393.7cm, oil on canvas. © 2009 The Pollock-Krasner Foundation/Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.

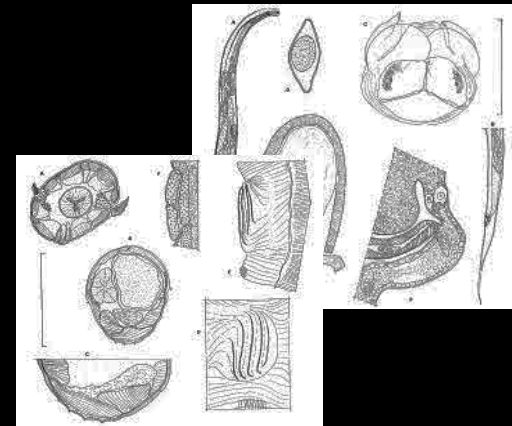
So, how might we view  
some parasitological  
research in terms of  
these qualities of  
creativity?



# Variations on a Theme as the Crux of Creativity - examples



The descriptions  
of new species



Relatives, relationships, physical features, sizes, habitats, “life styles,” development, attraction and mating mechanisms, impact on others, perception by others, unique features, features common to many, ways they move through their environments, barriers to success, opportunities encountered . . . etc.

JJ – Are you referring to characters  
in a novel?

# Variations on a Theme as the Crux of Creativity - examples

Parasites elicit an immune reaction from hosts.

Interruption of development is the key to control

Kill things you don't like having around

History is baggage

Etc.

# Creativity: some ideas, descriptions, and definitions:

1. To bring into existence. 2. To invest with a new form. 4. To produce through imaginative skill. (Webster's New Collegiate)

Variations on a Theme as the Crux of Creativity (D. Hofstadter, *Metamagical Themas*)

The Picasso Effect: Looking at familiar things in strange and sometimes disturbing ways.

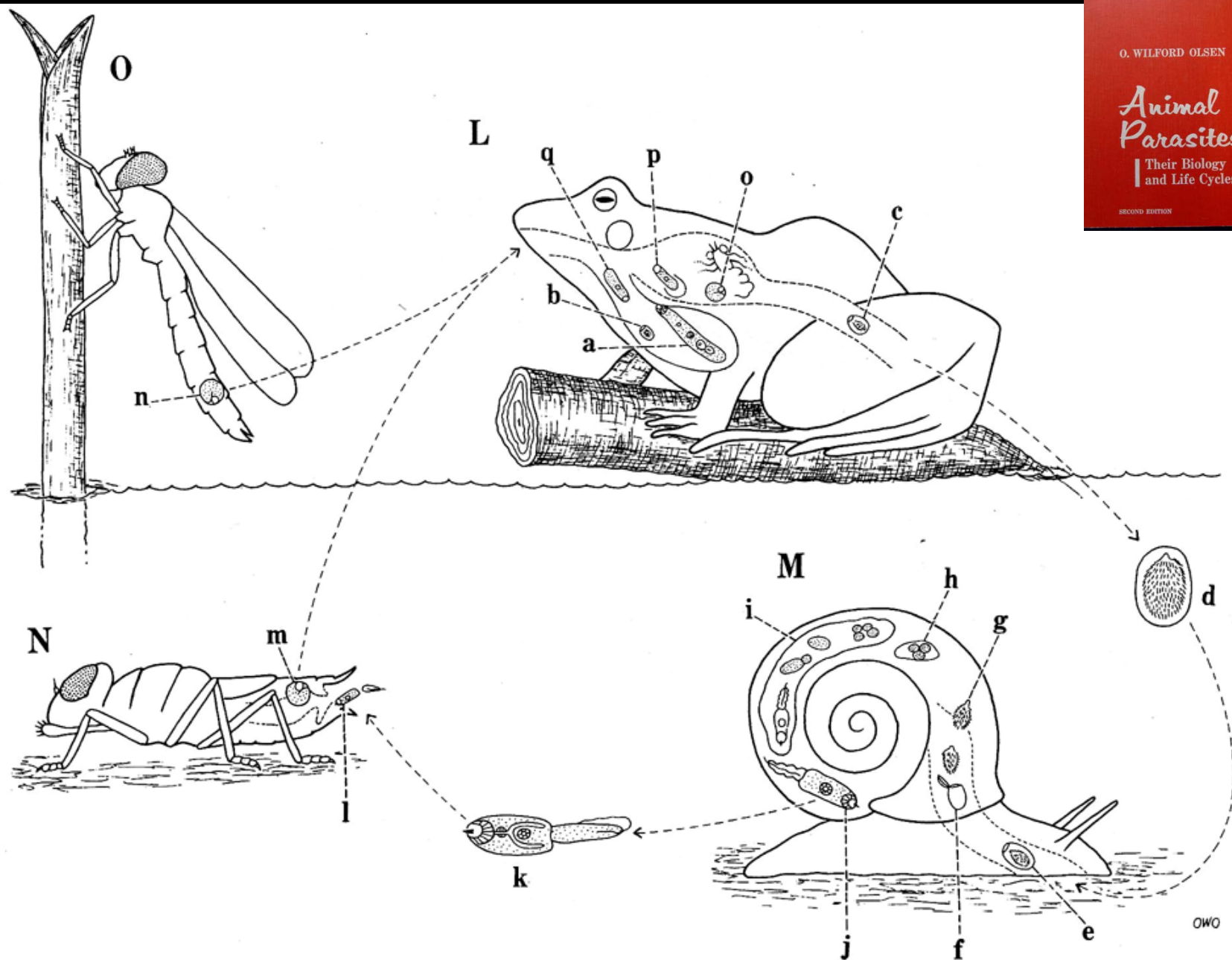


O. WILFORD OLSEN

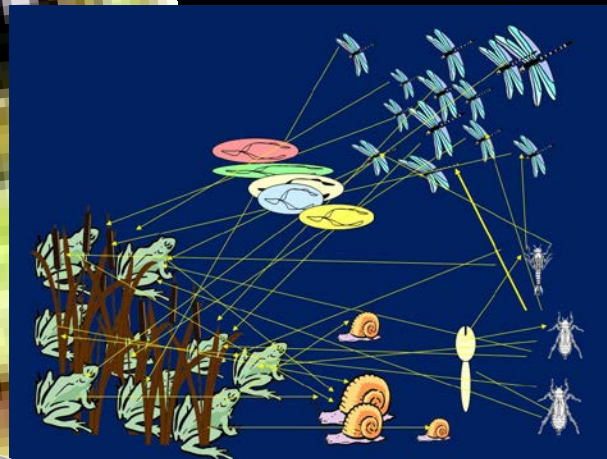
# Animal Parasites

Their Biology  
and Life Cycles

SECOND EDITION



The



Bolek/Snyder  
life cycle

diagram



# Creativity: some ideas, descriptions, and definitions:

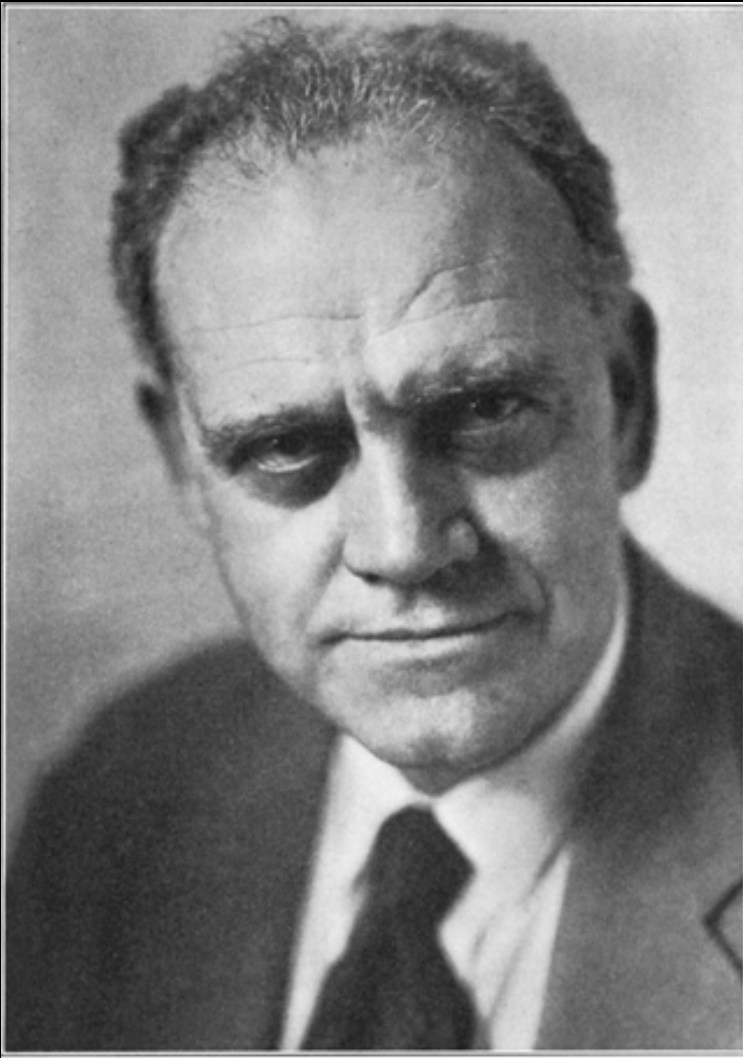
1. To bring into existence. 2. To invest with a new form. 4. To produce through imaginative skill.  
(Webster's New Collegiate)

Variations on a Theme as the Crux of Creativity (D. Hofstadter, *Metamagical Themas*)

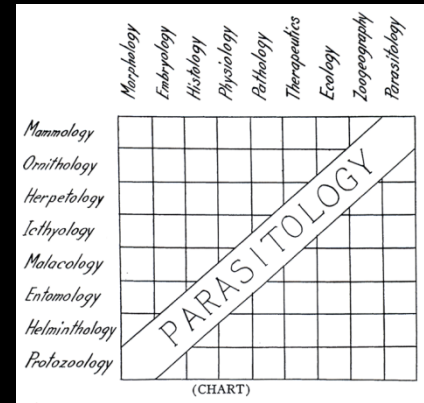
The Picasso Effect: Looking at familiar things in strange and sometimes disturbing ways.

The Pollock Effect: Use of existing materials in the production of things that defy description and/or explanation.

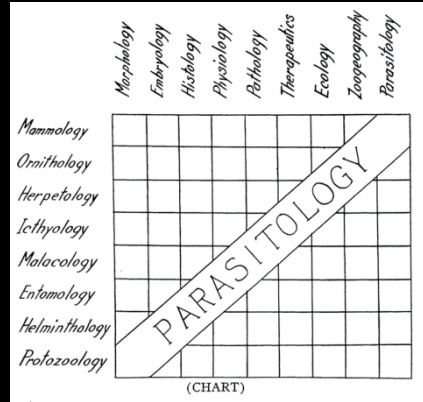
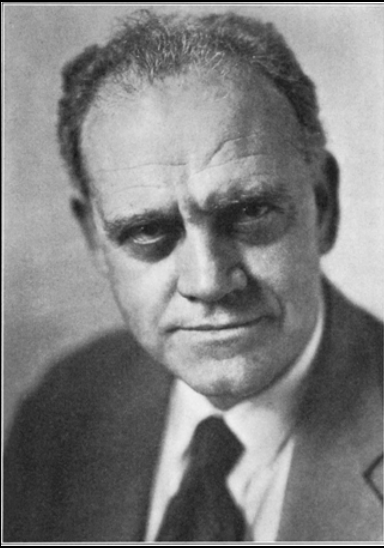




**Maurice Crowther Hall,  
President, ASP, 1932**



**“... If one takes parasitism as one’s object of interest, the resulting field of science overlaps sectors of many other fields of science. This is not news, and all parasitologists know it.”**



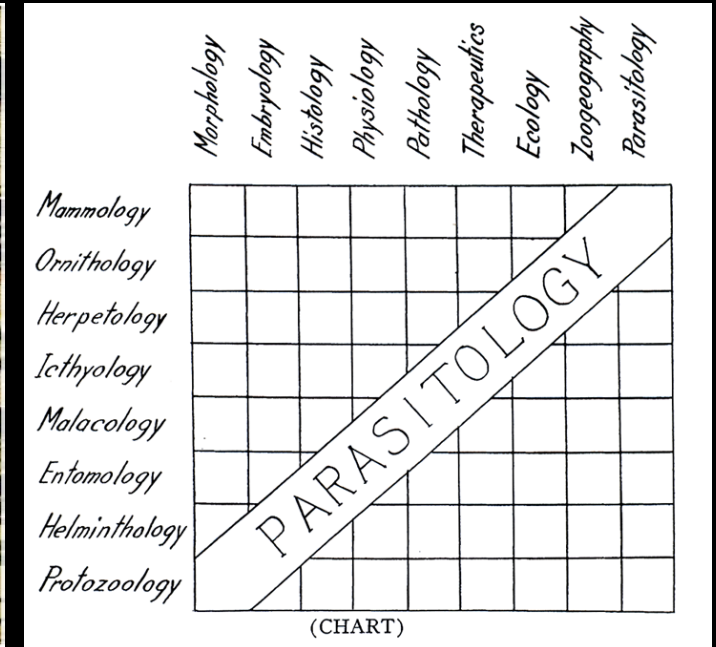
Maurice Crowther Hall,  
President, ASP, 1932

“... If one takes parasitism as one’s object of interest, the resulting field of science **overlaps sectors** of many other fields of science. This is not news, and all parasitologists know it.”

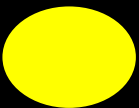
	Morphology	Embryology	Histology	Physiology	Pathology	Therapeutics	Ecology	Zoogeography	Parasitology
Mammology									
Ornithology									
Herpetology									
Ichthyology									
Malacology									
Entomology									
Helminthology									
Protozoology									

PARASITOLOGY

(CHART)



The different colors of Pollock's 'Convergence' can be seen to represent the constrained and paradigmatic views of other sub-disciplines within biological sciences.



# Take-home:



Once you've stepped into it, and understand what you've gotten yourself into, your vision is altered permanently and your patience with narrowness is reduced daily.