

"Religious Cultural Competence in Evolution Education"



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Friday, October 5, 2018
3:00 – 4:00 PM
Science 2, room 109

For further information: www.csufresno.edu/biology

Students' religious beliefs have been identified as a major barrier to accepting evolution and lack of acceptance of evolution is a challenge for those who teach evolution. Nationwide interviews with 70 instructors teaching evolution and 69 Judeo-Christian students learning evolution revealed that cultural competence, the ability of people from one culture to effectively communicate with those from another culture, could be a useful framework for evolution education. From these interviews and the prior literature in evolution education, we created a new instructional framework for teaching evolution called "Religious Cultural Competence in Evolution Education (ReCCEE)". Further, our studies in undergraduate biology classrooms indicate that using ReCCEE can increase students' acceptance of evolution, decrease students' perceived conflict between religious beliefs and evolution, and create more inclusive college biology classrooms.

Bio: Elizabeth Barnes is a Discipline-Based Education Researcher (DBER) in the School of Life Sciences at Arizona State University. Her research is focused on the teaching and learning of evolution in undergraduate classrooms.

If you need a disability-related accommodation or wheelchair access, please contact Lindasue Garner at the Department of Biology at 278-2001 or e-mail lgarner@csufresno.edu (at least one week prior to event).