

Darwin Day 2017 in Tyler, TX

Workshops for K-12 STEM teachers on teaching evolutionary biology in the classroom

Breakfast and lunch provided!

When: February 11th 2017 8:45am – 3:30pm

Where: Room 222, Genecov Science Building at Tyler Junior College

Registration required: Contact Dr. Betsy Ott (bott@tjc.edu)

Last-minute registrations will be accommodated if space available

Morning Session

8:45am: **Welcome, overview, and introductions. Continental breakfast provided.**

9:00am – 9:15am: **Pre-workshop survey**

9:15am – 10:15am: **Session 1**

Eugenie Scott, Ph.D. Founding Executive Director, National Center for Science Education, Inc.

“Teaching Evolution and Avoiding Minefields”

More than 200 years since the birth of Charles Darwin, the teaching of evolution in the United States still poses challenges for many teachers, though his views of evolution through natural selection remain well accepted in the scientific community. To be scientifically literate, students must understand the principles of evolution, full stop. Teachers therefore must be responsible to their profession, and ensure that evolution is taught. How to do this while minimizing potential problems? The answer has to do with both what and how evolution is taught.

10:15am – 10:45am: **Break and conversation**

10:45am – 11:45am: **Session 2**

Marnie Rout, Ph.D. Research Assistant Professor, Biology Dept. UT Tyler

“Evolutionary Roots”

A hands-on plant propagation activity focused on plant growth forms and architecture

11:45am – 12:30pm: **Lunch provided on-site**

12:30pm – 1:30pm: **Session 3**

Rebecca Owens, Professor, Geology Dept. TJC

“Studying Evolution Through the Rock and Fossil Record”

An introduction to understanding sedimentary rocks as record-keepers of the evolution of Earth and the life on it, as well as examining key fossil groups to trace the diversification of life throughout Earth’s history.

1:30pm – 2:00pm: **Break and conversation**

2:00pm – 3:00pm: **Session 4**

Betsy Ott, Ph.D., Professor, Biology Dept. TJC

“The Anthropocene and the Sixth Extinction”

An exploration of current trends in environmental change, loss of biodiversity, and the delineation of geological time periods.

3:00pm – 3:30pm: **Closing remarks and surveys**