

Statement on Evolution

Scientific understanding is advanced by the rigorous review of evidence about natural phenomena. Evolution, a foundational concept in biology, has been established through empirical evidence, and the consensus of the scientific community is that evolution is the best explanation for the origins of biological diversity. Because an understanding of evolution is critical to the advancement of human health, the preservation of our environment, and an understanding of biological processes, our department strongly supports the teaching of evolution as an essential component of a quality education in the sciences.

Many scientists who study evolution hold deep religious convictions, and many religious organizations have issued statements in support of teaching evolution. The biology faculty at Samford University support the university's mission to nurture persons for God, for learning, forever, and believe in the compatibility of science and religion in regard to human origins and biological diversity. One of the benefits of a Samford education is an opportunity to view life from multiple perspectives, and many Samford faculty members have taken an active role in leading discussions about human origins in a variety of scholarly and religious settings.

For further reading:

The American Scientific Affiliation (<http://www.asa3.org/>)

AAAS Dialogue on Science, Education and Religion
(<http://www.aaas.org/spp/dser/>)

The Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences
(<http://www.ctns.org/about.html>)

ELCA Alliance for Faith, Science, and Technology
(<http://www.elca.org/faithandscience/>)

Episcopal Church Committee on Science, Technology, and Faith
(<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/science/>)

The Metanexus Institute
(http://www.metanexus.net/metanexus_online/contact.asp)

The Clergy Letter Project
(http://www.uwosh.edu/colleges/cols/clergy_project.htm)