

Amanda L. (Glaze) Townley

Associate Professor at Georgia Southern University

Statesboro, GA, US

Dr. Amanda Townley's research centers on the intersections of science and society, specifically the acceptance and rejection of evolution.

Biography

Dr. Townley specializes in evolution education research and development, alternating her time between the classroom and the field as an Associate Professor of Middle Grades & Secondary Science Education at Georgia Southern University. Her research centers on the intersections of science and society, specifically the acceptance and rejection of evolution in the Southeastern United States and the impact of the conflict between religion and evolution on science literacy. Her research and outreach have been featured on the NPR radio series Science Friday, the NPR video series The Macroscopic, Vox.com, and the Bold Signals podcast. She has further contributed as an invited guest on the National Center for Science Education (NCSE) Science League of America Blog, ErrantScience.com, and WeTheHumanities.com and collaborator with the Human Origins Program at the Smithsonian Institution. Her outreach includes service as a curator for RealScientists.org and @RealScientists on Twitter, @IAmSciComm, @BioTweeps, and expert panelist for Science Friday's education focus #TeachTheE. She is a regular Science Education writer for the Times Education Supplement USA edition and Books Editor for The American Biology Teacher journal. She presently serves on the Curriculum Board for the National Geographic Umsuka project for the Cradle of Mankind Heritage site, South Africa. Her publications can be found in Science Education, The International Journal of Mathematics and Science Education, Education Sciences, The American Biology Teacher, Georgia Education Researcher, Revue Internationale d'Education de Sevres, and Nature Ecology & Evolution. Publications available without paywall via ResearchGate.

Areas of Expertise

Pre-Service Teacher Education, Intersections of Science and Society, Worldview Theory, Evolution Education, Conceptual Change, Ecologies of Learning, Science Literacy

Affiliations

American Education Research Association, Association for Science Teacher Education, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Association of Middle Level Educators, Georgia Science Teachers' Association, Eastern Educational Research Association, National Association for Research in Science Teaching, National Center for Science Education, National Science Teachers' Association, Sigma Xi Scientific Research Honor Society, Society for the Study of Evolution

Event Appearances

A house on solid ground: science and faith in the evangelical South

Invited Address

Mind and Soul: Intersections of Science and faith in the Push for Science Literacy

Invited Address

Reflections of an Evangelical Evolutionary Biologist: Walking in a World of Science and Faith

Invited Address

Can science and faith truly co-exist?

Invited Address

Laboring for science, laboring for souls: obstacles and approaches to teaching and learning evolution in the Southeastern United States

Invited Address with Respondent Panel

Education

Ph.D.

University of Alabama Curriculum & Instruction

Ed.S.

Jacksonville State University Secondary Science Education

M.S.Ed.

Jacksonville State University Secondary Science Education

B.S.

Jacksonville State University Criminal Justice/Political Science

Accomplishments

Emerging Scholar Award

2023 American Educational Research Association, Religion & Education Special Interest Group

Award for Excellence in Research

2021 Georgia Southern University

Jack Miller Scholarship Award

2020 Georgia Southern University College of Education

Biology Education Research Award

2020 National Association of Biology Teachers

Evolution Education Award
2018 National Association of Biology Teachers

M. Ray Loree Most Outstanding Dissertation Award
2015 The University of Alabama

Top Ten, University-Wide Outstanding Dissertation Award
2015 The University of Alabama

Alabama Academy of Sciences, First Place Paper
2014 Science Education

A.R.E. (Advisors Recognizing Excellence) Faculty Excellence Award
2014 SNHU

Dissertation Research Award
2012 The University of Alabama

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