



**Statement on Creation and Evolution**  
Olivet Nazarene University  
Department of Biological Sciences Faculty

We firmly affirm the Biblical doctrine of creation which proclaims God as the sole creator and sustainer of the world and life ("In the beginning God created the heaven and earth..."- Genesis 1:1)

As professional educators in the biological sciences, we seek to understand the details and interconnections that are a part of all living things. We recognize our ethical responsibility to communicate the best available knowledge and understanding of biology to ONU students. Teaching our students and helping them to effectively integrate their faith with their learning is not just an option, but our professional calling and spiritual worship.

We recognize that great emotion and misunderstanding surround the use of the term evolution. We think that evolution should primarily be seen as a biological/education issue. As a scientific explanation of the diversity of life on earth, inclusion of evolution is essential in a college biology curriculum. From our perspective as Christian biologists, evolution is a life-shaping and life-supporting creative biological mechanism. Therefore, we view evolution to be God-ordained and God-sustained.

We strongly oppose any godless interpretation of evolution that denies God's hand in the process of creation. Definitive atheistic conclusions of this nature are philosophical statements and scientifically unjustified.

We affirm that all truth is God's truth, and that God makes Himself known to humankind through different avenues. We continue to seek His guidance and direction, believing that God reveals Himself in scripture and through truths discovered in the natural world. Our desire is to faithfully fulfill His calling on our lives to be diligent, conscientious, and committed followers of Jesus Christ, and to effectively model the Christian lifestyle to our students.