Evolution education research in the Biology Education Research Lab!

Did you know that around 50% of people in the United States reject evolutionary science? Would you like to engage in research that aims to change this? If so, ASU’s Biology Education Research (BER) lab might be the place for a young budding researcher such as yourself! The ASU BER lab is run by SoLS faculty Sara Brownell. In our lab, we aim to identify ways to improve undergraduate biology education and we are looking for an undergraduate research assistant to aid in our studies for the 2016-2017 school year:

1. Exploring the ways in which religious beliefs affect the way people accept/reject biology concepts
2. Identifying ways in which instructors can aid students with different religious beliefs become comfortable with biology concepts.
3. Identifying ways in which educators might inadvertently spread anti-science attitudes in undergraduate biology classes.
4. Exploring ways to increase participation of religious individuals in biology.

We are looking for a highly motivated and independent undergraduate student who has a strong work ethic and who is also inquisitive about science advocacy and education research. The work is interdisciplinary, drawing on the fields of biology, psychology, and education so any background or interest in these areas would be beneficial. The duties of the student will include assisting with data collection, preparation, and analysis as well as attending weekly lab meetings.

Doing undergraduate research in our lab will be an excellent chance to gain research experience, explore your interests in science education, and make new friends and colleagues that will become important resources for your future academic and employment pursuits. We look forward to hearing from you! Students can either volunteer or enroll for research credits.

Please contact us if you are interested: Liz Barnes (liz.barnes@asu.edu)