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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HUMAN BIOLOGIST TO DISCUSS DARWIN AT ECU LECTURE**

GREENVILLE, N.C. (Jan. 13, 2009) — What thoughts and emotions are evoked at the name of Charles Darwin? Evolution of species? Natural selection? The evolution vs. creationism debate? According to Wikipedia, the online encyclopedia, Darwin is most notably recognized as the English naturalist who demonstrated that all species of life have evolved over time from common ancestors through the process he called natural selection.

In the upcoming Sallie Southall Cotten lecture at East Carolina University, Dr. Eugenie C. Scott, executive director of the National Center for Science Education (NCSE), will discuss “Darwin’s Legacy in Science and Society,” addressing some of the issues surrounding Darwin. The lecture will begin at 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 27, in Wright Auditorium.

Tickets for the general public are \$10 and are available through the ECU Central Ticket Office by calling 252.328.4788, 1.800.ECU.ARTS or (voice/TTY) 252.328.4736. Faculty, staff and students may request complimentary tickets by contacting the ticket office. Tickets also will be available at the box office window in Wright Auditorium prior to the lecture.

For more than 25 years, Dr. Scott has served as a researcher and an activist in the creationism vs. evolution controversy, addressing many components of this debate, including educational, legal, scientific, religious and social issues. She has received national recognition for her NCSE activities, including awards from the National Science Board, the American Society for Cell Biology, the American Institute of Biological Sciences, the Geological Society of America and the American Humanist Association.

Nationally recognized as a proponent of church vs. state separation, Dr. Scott serves on the National Advisory Councils of Americans United for Separation of Church and State and on the National Advisory Council of the American Civil Liberties Union. She also has served as chair of the Ethics Committee of the American Anthropological Association, as President of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, and has chaired the Anthropology Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Scott holds a Ph.D. in biological anthropology from the University of Missouri, and honorary D.Sc. degrees from McGill University and Ohio State University. She has taught at the University of Kentucky and at the University of Colorado, and she is the author of *Creationism vs. Evolution: An Introduction*.

The Sallie Southall Cotten lecture is the fourth presentation in the 2008-09 Voyages of Discovery Lecture Series sponsored by the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences. The Voyages of Discovery Lecture Series is made possible through generous contributions from the Dean’s Advancement Council of the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, the East Carolina Alumni Association and additional friends and supporters of the college. For additional information, contact Dr. John Tucker, director of the series, at tuckerjo@ecu.edu or 252.328.1028, or visit [www.ecu.edu/voyages](http://www.ecu.edu/voyages).

Individuals requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should call 252.737.1016 (voice/TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the event.

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