Keynote Speaker Professor Heather Bennett, Ph.D.



Heather is an Associate Professor of Biology and Environmental Science, Lone Star College-University Park, who specializes in marine biology, invertebrate zoology and evolution. For many years, her research focused on marine biodiversity as well as the biology of clams and octopuses. However, after years of pursuing both research and teaching at colleges all over the country, she recognized her vocation to be as a classroom teacher, deeply committed to providing excellent instruction on a par with the educational opportunities her students would receive at a four-year college. Her goal for her students is not only to teach them about biology, but also to inspire them to be curious about this big, amazing world we live in.

“It’s so beautiful out there.”

Dr. Bennett is a life-long Episcopalian who grew up in Corsicana, TX, in the Diocese of Dallas. Currently she’s a member and Eucharistic Minister at The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Tomball, Texas. She’s happy to have settled permanently in beautiful Tomball where she lives with her two unruly Shetland Sheepdogs. When not teaching, she enjoys tent camping, cooking, and practicing traditional target archery with a recurve bow.

B.S., Biology (1994). The University of the South (Sewanee).

M.S., Biology (1997). Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Ph.D., Biological Sciences (2000). University of Rhode Island.