

CURRICULUM VITAE

Taner Edis

Department of Physics
Truman State University
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EDUCATION

- **Ph.D.** (Physics) December 1994
The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore
Dissertation: Theoretical Analysis of Josephson Junction Systems and Superconducting Superlattices
Thesis Advisor: Prof. Kishin Moorjani
- **M.A.** (Physics) 1989
The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore
- **B.S.** Highest Honors (Computer Engineering) 1987
B.S. Highest Honors (Physics) 1987
Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic:

Truman State University

- **Professor** (2011–present)
Associate Professor (2005–2011)
Assistant Professor (2000–2005)
Taught: Quantum Mechanics, Cosmology, Thermodynamics & Statistical Physics, Mathematical Methods, College Physics, Concepts in

Physics, Engineering Thermodynamics, Statics, Physics Seminar, Junior Seminar.

Developed and taught: “Weird Science” Junior Interdisciplinary Seminar, Computer Programming for Physics.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Atmospheric Science Division

- **Participating Guest** (2000–2008)
Model development work on IMPACT, LLNL’s global 3D atmospheric model.
- **Summer Faculty** (1998 and 1999)
Modeling aerosol and cloud effects on radiation transfer.

Southern University, Department of Physics

- **Research Associate** (1998–2000)
Improved an atmospheric model developed at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.
- **Instructor** (1998–2000)
Classical Mechanics, Introductory Modern Physics, Earth Science.
- **Research Associate** (1996–1998)
MD simulations of high-temperature superconducting cuprate structure.

Iowa State University, Department of Physics and Astronomy

- **Temporary Instructor** (1994–1995)
Introductory physics lab, Advanced Electromagnetism.

The Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Laboratory

- **APL Fellow in Science and Engineering** (1991–1994)
Theoretical and computational research on the statistical mechanics and magnetic behavior of Josephson-coupled granular superconducting systems.

The Johns Hopkins University, Department of Physics and Astronomy

- **Research Assistant** (1990–1991)
YBCO/PrBCO superlattices; Hubbard model.
- **Teaching Assistant** (1987–1990)
General Physics recitations and labs.

Los Alamos National Laboratory, Theoretical Division

- **“Collaborator”** (Summer 1989)
Theoretical research on anyon superconductivity.

CERN, Geneva

- **Summer Student** (1986)
Programming support in the design of the Large Electron-Positron Collider.

Service & Administration:

Associate Editor (Physics and Astronomy), *Reports of the National Center for Science Education*

Truman State University

- **Physics Department**
Webmaster, colloquium series organizer, Faculty Senate representative (2017–2018), High School Academic Festival (2003–2007), ...
- **School of Science and Mathematics**
Science and Mathematics Distinguished Speaker series committee chair (2012–2016), STEP application reviewer (2006–2009), Promotion and Tenure committee (2006).
- **University**
Global Issues Colloquium committee (2006–present), Sabbatical Review committee chair (2018–present), Justice Systems promotion review committee (2019), Faculty Research Conference organizing committee (2009–2015; Chair 2010–2015), Missouri Department of Higher Education Curriculum Alignment Initiative (2007–2011), Director of Interdisciplinary Studies screening committee (2007), Diversity Institute Fellow (2003–2004).

- **Student organizations advised**

Society of Physics Students (2001–present), Sigma Pi Sigma honor society (2001–present), Tau Kappa Epsilon (2020), Freethinkers Society (2002–2007; 2009–2015), Truman Club Soccer (2007–2015), Truman Club Basketball (2010–2015).

Southern University

- **Conference Secretary** (1998–1999)

For the *Second International Conference on New Theories, Discoveries, and Applications of Superconductors and Related Materials*, Las Vegas, Nevada, June 1–4, 1999.

- **Conference Secretary** (1997–1998)

For the *First International Conference on New Theories, Discoveries, and Applications of Superconductors and Related Materials*, Baton Rouge, LA, February 19–24, 1998.

International Institute of Theoretical and Applied Physics (at Iowa State University)

- **Research and Educational Resources Project Coordinator** (1994–1996)

Resource assistance for physicists based in Central American countries.

The Johns Hopkins University

- Co-organizer, 1991 Johns Hopkins University Graduate Representative Organization Symposium; “Science in the 1990’s.”

Student Research Projects:

- **Wigner functions as currents** (2011–2015; 2018–present)

Riley Dawkins (2019–present), Thomas Reardon (2019), Tatsuya Akiba and Francesco Setti (2018–2019). Nathan Engle and Katherine Maxwell (2014–2015). Destry Newton (2012–2015). Robert Ashcraft and Dispeh Niraula (2012–2013).

- **The arrow of time** (2016–2019)

Madison Miller (2017–2019). Brent Koogler (2017–2018). Nicholas Kronlage (2016–2017).

- **Random walks in phase space** (2008–2011)
Kevin Satzinger, Vijay Koju, Miguel Fernandez Flores, and Robert Ashcraft (2010–2012). Om Goit (2010–2011). Joey Palmer (2009–2010). Adam Vogt (2008–2009).
- **Discrete spacetime computational physics project** (2002–2007)
M. Hannon, M. Wright, J. Johnson, M. Molitoris, O. Ikechukwu, A. Bezinovich, A. Smolik, J. Park.
- **Atmospheric Physics** (2001–2002)
Jessica Rolwes. Joined me at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, summer 2001.

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

- *Weirdness!: What Fake Science and the Paranormal Tell Us About the Nature of Science* (Durham: Pitchstone Publishing, 2021).
- *Islam Evolving: Radicalism, Reformation, and the Uneasy Relationship with the Secular West* (Amherst: Prometheus Books, 2016).
- Sonja Brentjes, Taner Edis, and Lutz Richter-Bernburg, eds., *1001 Distortions: How (Not) to Narrate History of Science, Medicine, and Technology in Non-Western Cultures* (Würzburg: Ergon-Verlag, 2016).
- *An Illusion of Harmony: Science and Religion in Islam* (Amherst: Prometheus Books, 2007). Selected as one of 250 “central texts in the field of science and religion” by the International Society for Science and Religion.
- *Science and Nonbelief* (Westport: Greenwood Press, 2006). Part of the Greenwood Guides to Science and Religion; Richard Olson, series editor. Paperback edition by Prometheus Books, 2007.
- Matt Young and Taner Edis, eds., *Why Intelligent Design Fails: A Scientific Critique of the New Creationism* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2004).

- *The Ghost In the Universe: God in Light of Modern Science* (Amherst: Prometheus Books, 2002). Recipient of the Morris D. Forkosch award for “best humanist book of 2002” from the Council for Secular Humanism.

Philosophy and History of Science:

- “The Turkish Model of Islamic Creationism,” *Almagest* 12: 40–65 (2021); DOI: 10.1484/J.ALMAGEST.5.125385.
- “The Politics of Islamic Opposition to Evolution in Turkey,” in C. Mackenzie Brown, ed., *Asian Religious Responses to Darwinism: Evolutionary Theories in Middle Eastern, South Asian and East Asian Cultural Contexts* (Dordrecht: Springer, 2020).
- “Is There A Political Argument For Teaching Evolution?” *Marburg Journal of Religion* 22:2 (2020); DOI: 10.17192/mjr.2020.22.8304
- M. Boudry, M. Vlerick, and T. Edis, “The End of Science? On Human Cognitive Limitations and How to Overcome Them,” *Biology & Philosophy* 35:18 (2020); DOI: 10.1007/s10539-020-9734-7
- “A Revolt Against Expertise: Pseudoscience, Right-Wing Populism, and Post-Truth Politics,” *Disputatio Philosophical Research Bulletin* 9:13 (2020); DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.3567166
- T. Edis and M. Boudry, “Truth and Consequences: When Is It Rational to Accept Falsehoods?” *Journal of Cognition and Culture* 19 153–175 (2019); DOI: 10.1163/15685373-12340052
- “Arguments Involving Cosmology and Quantum Physics,” in Joseph W. Koterski, S.J. and Graham Oppy, eds., *Theism and Atheism: Opposing Arguments in Philosophy* (Farmington Hills, MI: Gale, 2019).
- “Cosmic Conspiracy Theories: How Theologies Evade Science,” in J. Seckbach and R. Gordon, eds., *Theology and Science: From Genesis to Astrobiology* (New Jersey: World Scientific, 2019).
- “From Creationism to Economics: How Far Should Analyses of Pseudoscience Extend?” *Mètode Science Studies Journal* 8 141–147 (2018); DOI: 10.7203/metode.8.10001

- “Two Cheers for Scientism,” in Maarten Boudry and Massimo Pigliucci, eds., *Science Unlimited? The Challenges of Scientism* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018).
- T. Edis and A.S. Bix, “Flights of Fancy: The ‘1001 Inventions’ Exhibition and Popular Misrepresentations of Medieval Muslim Science and Technology,” in S. Brentjes, T. Edis, and L. Richter-Bernburg, eds., *1001 Distortions: How (Not) to Narrate History of Science, Medicine, and Technology in Non-Western Cultures* (Würzburg: Ergon-Verlag, 2016).
- “Technological Progress and Pious Modernity: Secular Liberals Fall Behind the Times,” in Anthony B. Pinn, ed., *Humanism and Technology: Opportunities and Challenges* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016).
- “Finding an Enemy: Islam and the New Atheism,” in Ruqayya Khan, ed., *Muhammad in the Digital Age* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2015).
- T. Edis and M. Boudry, “Beyond Physics? On the Prospects of Finding a Meaningful Oracle,” *Foundations of Science* **19**:4 403–422 (2014); DOI: 10.1007/s106 99-014-9349-z.
- T. Edis and S. BouJaoude, “Rejecting Materialism: Responses to Modern Science in the Muslim Middle East,” in Michael R. Matthews, ed., *International Handbook of Research in History, Philosophy and Science Teaching* Volume III (Dordrecht: Springer, 2014).
- “Atheism and the Rise of Science,” in Stephen Bullivant and Michael Ruse, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of Atheism* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013).
- “Defending *Science and Nonbelief*,” *Bulletin for the Study of Religion* **40**:4 14–16 (2011).
- “Modern Science and Conservative Islam: An Uneasy Relationship,” *Science & Education* **18**:6-7 885–903 (2009). Also published as a chapter in Michael R. Matthews, ed., *Science, Worldviews and Education* (Dordrecht: Springer, 2009).

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- “Muslim Resistance to Darwinian Evolution,” in J. Seckbach and R. Gordon, eds., *Divine Action and Natural Selection: Science, Faith and Evolution* (New Jersey: World Scientific, 2009).
 - “Religion: Accident or Design?,” in Joseph Bulbulia et al, eds., *The Evolution of Religion: Studies, Theories, & Critiques* (Santa Margarita: Collins Foundation Press, 2008).
 - T. Edis and A.S. Bix, “Biology and ‘Created Nature’: Gender and the Body in Popular Islamic Literature from Modern Turkey and the West,” *Arab Studies Journal*, **12:2/13:1** 140–58 (2005).
 - “Why ‘Intelligent Design’ is More Interesting than Old-fashioned Creationism,” *Georgia Journal of Science* **63:3** 190–97 (2005).
 - “Chance and Necessity—and Intelligent Design?” in Matt Young and Taner Edis, eds., *Why Intelligent Design Fails: A Scientific Critique of the New Creationism* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2004).
 - “Grand Themes, Narrow Constituency,” in Matt Young and Taner Edis, eds., *Why Intelligent Design Fails: A Scientific Critique of the New Creationism* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2004).
 - A.S. Bix and T. Edis, “Museum Review: The Rahmi M. Koç Museum, Istanbul,” *Technology and Culture*, **45:3** 590–96 (2004).
 - “Democracy vs Secularism in the Muslim World,” in Barry F. Seidman and Neil J. Murphy, eds., *Toward A New Political Humanism* (Amherst: Prometheus, 2004).
 - “A World Designed by God: Science and Creationism in Contemporary Islam,” in Paul Kurtz, ed. *Science and Religion: Are They Compatible?* (Amherst: Prometheus, 2003).
 - “Cloning Creationism in Turkey,” *Reports of the National Center for Science Education* **19:6** 30–35 (1999).
 - “How Gödel’s Theorem Supports the Possibility of Machine Intelligence,” *Minds and Machines*, **8** 251–63 (1998).

- “Relativist Apologetics: The Future of Creationism,” *Reports of the National Center for Science Education* **17**:1 17–24 (1997).
- “Islamic Creationism In Turkey,” *Creation/Evolution*, **34** 1–12 (1994).

Physics:

- T. Edis, K.E. Grant, and P.J. Cameron-Smith, “Stratospheric Relaxation in IMPACT’s Radiation Code,” LLNL Technical Report UCRL-TR-226128 (2006).
- T. Edis, K.E. Grant, and P.J. Cameron-Smith, “Update on the Radiation Code in IMPACT: Clouds, Heating Rates, and Comparisons,” LLNL Technical Report UCRL-TR-215001 (2005).
- T. Edis, P.J. Cameron-Smith, K. E. Grant, D. Bergmann, and C. C. Chuang, “Testing IMPACT’s Radiation Code,” LLNL Technical Report UCRL-TR-205281 (2004).
- D.S. Guo, R.R. Freeman, L. Gao, X. Li, P. Fu, T. Edis and A. Troha, “Spin-other-orbit Effect of Photon Modes,” *Journal of Physics B*, **34**:15 2983–91 (2001).
- T. Edis, J.D. Fan, D. Bagayoko and J.T. Wang, “A Two-dimensional Structure Factor Calculation for the Cu-1 Plane in $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_6$,” *International Journal of Modern Physics B*, **12**:29–31 3091 (1999).
- J.D. Fan, T. Edis, G.L. Zhao and Y.M. Malozovsky, “Molecular-dynamics-simulation Study of the Two-dimensional Lattice Structure of the Cu-1 plane in $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{6+x}$,” *Physical Review B*, **56**:17 10747 (1997).
- T. Edis and K. Moorjani, “The Weak Link Magnetically Modulated Resistance Response in Granular Superconducting Systems,” *Physical Review B*, **51**:2 1124 (1995).
- “Unusual Constraints in the Quantum Statistical Mechanics of Josephson Junction Systems,” *Journal of Statistical Physics*, **71** 313 (1993).
- M. Rasolt, T. Edis and Z. Tešanović, “Kosterlitz-Thouless Transition and Charge Redistribution in the Superconductivity of YBCO/PBCO Superlattices,” *Physical Review Letters*, **66** 2927 (1991).

Skepticism:

- “Skepticism Needs More Historians and Social Scientists,” *Skeptical Inquirer*, **45**:5 50–53 (2021).
- “Çöküş Döneminde Bir Altın Çağ mı?” in Tufan Çelebi, ed., *Ateizm: Teori ve Pratik* (Istanbul: Propaganda Yayınları, 2017).
- “How Western liberals undercut dissidents from Islam,” *The Secular Web* (online), July 24, 2016.
- “Islam and the Eclipse of Secularism,” *Free Inquiry*, **36**:4 39–41 (2016).
- “Evrim ve Tanrının varlığı sorusu,” *Bilim ve Gelecek* **145** 62–63 (2016).
- “On Harmonizing Religion and Science: A Reply to Bigliardi,” *Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective* **3**:2 40–43 (2014).
- T. Edis and S. Brentjes, “A Golden Age of Harmony? Misrepresenting Science and History in the *1001 Inventions* Exhibit,” *Skeptical Inquirer*, **36**:6 49–53 (2012).
- “Secularization Has Hit Its High Mark,” in Kathleen Mulhern, ed. *The Future of Religion: Traditions in Transition* (Englewood, CO: Patheos Press, 2012) 223–224.
- “Is The Universe Rational?,” *Free Inquiry*, **30**:2 27–29 (2010).
- “An Ambivalent Nonbelief,” in Russell Blackford and Udo Schüklenk, eds., *50 Voices of Disbelief: Why We Are Atheists* (Wiley-Blackford, 2009).
- “Harun Yahya’s Legal Troubles,” *Reports of the National Center for Science Education* **28**:3 4–5 (2008)
- “Islamic Creationism: A Short History,” *History of Science Society Newsletter* **37**:1 14–15 (2008).
- “Intelligent Design: A Blind Alley,” *IslamOnline.net*, September 2007.
- “The Rise of Islamic Creationism,” *International Humanist News*, August 2007, 24–26.

- “Origin of the Universe and Unbelief,” in Tom Flynn, ed., *The New Encyclopedia of Unbelief* (Amherst: Prometheus, 2007); reprinted in Norbert-Bertrand Barbe, ed., *Le Néant dans la Pensée Contemporaine* (Bès Editions, 2012).
- “The Best and Brightest Fanatics,” op-ed distributed internationally by *Project Syndicate*, August 2007.
- “A False Quest for a True Islam,” *Free Inquiry*, **27**:5 48–50 (2007).
- “ABD’deki Yaratılışçı Akımlar ve Türkiye ile Bağlantıları,” *Bilim ve Gelecek* **39** 14–20 (2007).
- “Exorcizing All The Ghosts,” *Skeptical Inquirer*, **28**:2 35–38, 48 (2004).
- “An Accidental Critic,” in Ibn Warraq, ed., *Leaving Islam* (Amherst: Prometheus, 2003).
- “Flipping a Quantum Coin,” *Free Inquiry*, **23**:2 60–61 (2003).
- “Creationism to Universal Darwinism: Evolution and Religion Today” and “Harun Yahya and Islamic Creationism,” in Amanda Chesworth et al., eds., *Darwin Day Collection One* (Albuquerque: Tangled Bank, 2003).
- “An Accidental World,” *Free Inquiry*, **22**:4 57–58 (2002).
- “With Darwin in Mind: ‘Intelligent Design’ meets Artificial Intelligence,” *Skeptical Inquirer* **25**:2 35–39 (2001).
- “The Rationality of an Illusion,” *The Humanist*, **60**:4 28–33 (2000).
- “Taking Creationism Seriously,” *Skeptic* **6**:2 56–65 (1998).
- “The Big Bang Controversy,” *The Skeptic* (UK), **7**:5, 1993.

Book Reviews:

- “How Not to Be Extreme,” *Free Inquiry*, **39**:3 54–55 (2019). [Review of *Extremism* by J.M. Berger.]

- “A Muslim Version of New Atheism,” *Free Inquiry*, **37**:1 52–53 (2016). [Review of *The Atheist Muslim: A Journey from Religion to Reason* by Ali A. Rizvi.]
- A.S. Bix and T. Edis, “Trapped By Opportunity: Phillip Brown, Hugh Lauder, and David Ashton, *The Global Auction*,” *Technology and Culture*, **54**:1 170–174 (2013).
- Review of *Among the Creationists: Dispatches from the Anti-Evolutionist Front Line*, by Jason Rosenhouse, *Reports of the National Center for Science Education* **32**:5 4.1-3 (2012).
- Review of *Intelligent Design: Science or Religion? Critical Perspectives*, Robert M. Baird and Stuart E. Rosenbaum, eds., *Reports of the National Center for Science Education* **29**:4 34–35 (2009).
- “The Return of the Design Argument,” *Philosophy Now* **50** 42–43 (2005). [Review of *Debating Design* edited by Dembski and Ruse, and *The Hidden Face of God* by Gerald Schroeder.]
- Review of *Defending Science—Within Reason: Between Scientism and Cynicism* by Susan Haack, *Reports of the National Center for Science Education* **24**:3–4 54 (2004).
- “Can Secular Philosophy Give Us Objective Morality?,” *The Secular Web* (online), March 2003. [Review of *Atheism, Morality, and Meaning* by M. Martin.]
- T. Edis and A.S. Bix, “Tales of Hysteria,” *Skeptical Inquirer*, **21**:5 52 (1997). [Review of *Hystories* by E. Showalter.]
- T. Edis and A.S. Bix, “Bashing the Science-bashers,” *Skeptical Inquirer*, **19**:2 46 (1995). [Review of *Higher Superstition: The Academic Left and Its Quarrels with Science* by P.R. Gross and N. Levitt.]

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “The Politics of Creation and Evolution in the US and Turkey,” American Academy of Religion virtual annual meeting; panel discussion on “Darwinism in Asia,” December 1, 2020.

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- “Can Physics Account for Biology? Intelligent Design as Anti-reductionism Gone Wild,” International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology conference, University of Oslo, Norway, July 8, 2019.
 - “The Universe is a Game of Dice,” Third Congress of Critical Thinking and Scientific Divulgation: Science and Ideology, University of València, Spain, March 6, 2018.
 - “Technological Progress and Pious Modernity: Secular Liberals Fall Behind the Times,” Institute for Humanist Studies 2014 Symposium, Houston, November 15, 2014.
 - “Two Cheers for Scientism,” Scientism Workshop, Graduate Center of the City University of New York, May 16, 2014.
 - “Flights of Fancy: The ‘1001 Inventions’ Exhibition and Popular Misrepresentations of Medieval Muslim Science and Technology,” 24th International Congress of History, Science, Technology and Medicine, Manchester, UK, July 27, 2013.
 - “Is There a *Political* Argument for Teaching Evolution?,” keynote address at the “Religions, Science and Technology in Cultural Contexts: Dynamics of Change” conference in Trondheim, Norway, March 2, 2012.
 - “The Limits of Physics? Looking for Oracles,” Truman State University Faculty Research Conference, October 1, 2011.
 - Respondent, book review session on *Science and Nonbelief*, annual meeting of the Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion, Louisville, March 5, 2011.
 - “A Brief History of Islamic Creationism in Turkey,” annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington DC, February 18, 2011.
 - T. Edis and A.S. Bix, “Pseudoscience in the Periphery,” Science and Technology in the European Periphery conference at Galway, Ireland, June 19, 2010.

- “Between Nasr and Ateş: What Understanding of Evolution do Science Educators Want?”, *Darwin and Evolution in the Muslim World* conference at Hampshire College, October 3, 2009.
- “Islamic Creationism, Liberal Education, and the Privileged Position of Science,” Truman State University Faculty Research Conference, September 12, 2009.
- “Rejecting Materialism: Muslim Responses to Conceptual Frameworks of Modern Science,” invited presentation at the McGill Symposium on Islam and Evolution, McGill University, Montréal, Canada, March 31, 2009.
- “Religion: Accident or Design?”, invited talk at The International Conference on the Evolution of Religion, Hawaii, January 7, 2007.
- T. Edis and A.S. Bix, “Islamic Creationism in Turkey: Historical and Intellectual Perspectives,” annual meeting of the History of Science Society in Vancouver, Canada, November 4, 2006.
- “Chance and Necessity...and ‘Intelligent Design’?”, invited talk at the Association of Southeastern Biologists Annual Meeting, April 15, 2005.
- T. Edis and A.S. Bix, “‘Fitra’ (Created Nature): Premodern Concepts of Gender Biology in Current Popular Islam,” International Society for the History Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology conference in Vienna, Austria, July 20, 2003.
- “Intelligent Design: Bad Science, Bad Philosophy, or Both?,” invited talk at the Council for Secular Humanism conference on ‘Secularism, Society, and Justice,’ April 12, 2003.
- T. Edis and A.S. Bix, “The Incomplete Female and the Passive Egg: Premodern Concepts of Gendered Bodies in Current Popular Islam,” the 75th annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine, April 25–28, 2002.
- “A World Designed by God: Science and Creationism in Contemporary Islam,” invited talk at the Center for Inquiry International Conference on ‘Science and Religion,’ November 11, 2001.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- “Kurallar ve Tesadüfler: Fizik Ötesi Ne Olabilir?” Ateizm Derneği Bilim ve Felsefe Okulu, May 5, 2021.
- “A Revolt Against Expertise: Pseudoscience, Global Right-Wing Populism, and Post-Truth Politics,” Global Issues Colloquium, Truman State University, February 21, 2019. Folklore Colloquium, Truman State University, February 19, 2020.
- “Cranks, Conspiracists, and Creationists: Weirdness in Conservative Muslim Environments,” CSICON 2017, Las Vegas, October 28, 2017.
- “Can Secular Liberalism Accommodate Islam?” Global Issues Colloquium, Truman State University, January 26, 2017. Reasonfest, University of Kansas, April 15, 2017.
- Panelist on “Islam’s contribution to the modern sciences,” Michigan State University, September 12, 2016.
- “Kim korkar bilimcilikten?” BETİM, Istanbul University, Turkey, May 14, 2016.
- “Einstein Variations: Pop culture and reality in physics, philosophy and religion,” Ghent University, Belgium, May 10, 2016. Physics Colloquium, Truman State University, October 26, 2016.
- “Creation v. Evolution: The Muslim Debate,” Trinity University, San Antonio, February 9, 2012. Vrijzinnig Centrum Geuzenhuis, Ghent, Belgium, March 3, 2016.
- “What would it take for a woo-woo idea to succeed?” and panelist on “How Should Philosophy of Science Inform Rational Skepticism,” The Amazing Meeting 13, Las Vegas, NV, July 17 and 19, 2015.
- “The Limits of Physics? On the Prospects of Finding a Meaningful Oracle,” Department of Physics, Marmara University, Istanbul, Turkey, June 1, 2015.
- “Religion and Politics in the Science Classroom,” Reasonfest, University of Kansas, April 20, 2013.

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- “The Science and Religion Debate in Modern Islam,” Center for Middle Eastern Studies in Lund University, Sweden, March 8, 2012.
 - “Can Science and Islam Coexist?”, Reasonfest, University of Kansas, February 12, 2012.
 - “Random Adventures in Physics and Weirdness,” Physics Department Colloquium at The University of Iowa, October 19, 2009. Truman Physics Colloquium, March 3, 2010. SciMath Colloquium, University of Nebraska–Kearney, March 31, 2011.
 - “Natural vs. Supernatural: How can we draw the line?”, Department of Philosophy and Moral Sciences, University of Ghent, Belgium, March 16, 2011.
 - “Rejecting Materialism,” Skeptics In The Pub, St. Louis, October 22, 2010.
 - “Angry Atheists and Soulless Scientists: Stereotypes of nonbelief in the era of the ‘New Atheism’,” Truman Folklore Colloquium, October 5, 2009.
 - “Evolution and Islam,” Hampshire College, October 3, 2009.
 - “Science and Religion in Islam,” presentations in 2007, 2008, and 2009, including Ryerson University, University of Toronto, Wilfrid Laurier University, CFI-Los Angeles, Madison Public Library, University of Michigan. Also keynote address at Truman’s 18th Annual Undergraduate Philosophy and Religion Conference, November 10, 2007.
 - “Where does Intelligent Design stand today?”, Columbia Public Library, MO, co-sponsored by the Show-Me Science Alliance, October 4, 2008.
 - “Science and Nonbelief,” Center for Inquiry–Michigan, January 9, 2008.
 - “What Cost Rationality?”, Center for Inquiry Community and Student Leadership Conference, June 15, 2007.
 - “The Creation/Evolution Debate in the Muslim World,” University of Kansas, April 3, 2007; University of Wisconsin–Madison, October 24, 2008.

- “An Accidental World,” at the Jefferson Center Summer Institute, Ashland, OR, August 5, 2006.
- “Intelligent Design: Creationism Evolves Again,” presentations from 2002-2004, including at Iowa State University, Nova Southeastern University, and the Bay Area Skeptics. Also presented as the main event at Sacramento’s 7th annual Darwin Day celebration, 2004.
- “Exorcizing *All* The Ghosts,” The Amazing Meeting 1, Fort Lauderdale, FL, February 2, 2003.
- “Chance and Necessity...and ‘Intelligent Design’?”, Truman biology seminar, November 22, 2002.
- “The Ghost in the Universe,” presentations in Kansas City, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Sacramento, Cleveland, Chicago, and the San Francisco Bay Area, in 2002 and 2003.
- “Believing in Magic: Public Science Literacy in the New Age,” The Eupraxophy Group (Kansas City), April 28, 2002.
- “Diversity within Science and its Community,” Truman Diversity Day, March 26, 2002.
- “Why do a JINS Course?,” Truman Faculty Development lunch, March 20, 2002.
- “Creationism to Universal Darwinism,” Truman Darwin Day, February 12, 2002.
- “Where Science and Religion Disagree,” Truman Philosophy/Religion Club, October 15, 2001.

HONORS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Sabbatical at the Department of Philosophy and Moral Sciences, Ghent University, Belgium, 2015-2016 academic year.
- Nominated for Walker and Doris Allen Fellowship for Faculty Excellence, 2009.

- Truman State University College of Arts and Sciences summer research grant, 2008.
- Nominated for Truman “Educator of the Year,” 2007 and 2008.
- Truman State University Faculty Research/Scholarship Grant, 2001.
- Truman State University “Funding For Results” grant to develop a Junior Interdisciplinary Seminar Course, Summer 2001.

OTHER

- Scientific and Technical Consultant to the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry (CSI, formerly known as CSICOP).
- Senior Fellow, Institute for Humanist Studies, Washington, DC.
- Honorary Fellow of The Jefferson Center, Ashland, OR.