

## Statistical Analysis of SEYA Focus Groups

---

October 2015

Prepared by Scott Compton, Ph.D., Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University Medical Center  
Steve Koch, Ph. D., School of Education, California State University, Chico



SCIENCE FOR STUDENTS ■  
& EMERGING YOUNG ADULTS

This analysis brought together four surveys (Chico State February 2015 Science and Religion conference; Chico State Science and Religion class RELS 241/PHIL 204 Fall 2015; Columbia University discussion groups in fall 2014; post-college emerging adult small groups at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, CA). It tracked the responses of 87 emerging adults who had studied and discussed *Test of Faith* or Alister McGrath's *Science and Religion: A New Introduction* and found that three constructs (out of six total) that demonstrated significant changes in attitudes.

- There were significant changes in construct 2, with mean going down from 2.8 to 2.2 at post test. "I am turned off by the creation-versus-evolution debate."
- There were significant changes in construct 5, with mean going up from 3.6 to 4.2 at post test. "There are people in my faith or religious community who can point me toward resources which honestly address my questions, such as books and Internet resources, about science and faith."
- There were significant changes in construct 6, with mean going up from 2.9 to 3.7 at post test. "My own views about spirituality/religious faith have been strengthened by some of the discoveries of science."

This indicates that the attitudes of emerging adults moved toward integration on Barbour's typology by an intervention with high-quality material that offers ways in which religion and science integrated.