



**Dr. Kasey Karen** earned her B.Sc. in Microbiology from the University of New Hampshire. She then earned a Ph.D. from Stony Brook University in Molecular Genetics & Microbiology where she studied Adenovirus and the DNA repair pathways. Kasey then moved to Baltimore and worked as a postdoctoral fellow in two labs resulting in publications related to an Adenovirus-vectored malaria vaccine. In 2013, Kasey started as an Assistant Professor of Biology here at Georgia College and has taught a variety of classes related to genetics, microbiology, and bioethics. She is also the faculty advisor for two student groups; the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society and GC STEM club, which she helped to found. STEM club hosts Science Cafes that are open to the public to try to bring science to the people in an informal and fun setting. Kasey became the Program Coordinator for the Undergraduate Biology program in 2016, which includes duties such as chair of the undergraduate biology program committee, assessment coordinator, and TA coordinator. She has worked towards revitalizing the introductory laboratory courses to bring them in line with current pedagogy, increasing diversity and inclusive excellence within the department, and reviewing the entire curriculum to bring more consistency to multi-section courses and increase continuity among the required courses. Last summer, Kasey was accepted into the AAC&U STEM Leadership Institute where she spent 5 intensive days focused on learning how to implement STEM initiatives in an academic environment. Kasey is committed to becoming an effective leader in her field with a focus on pedagogy and diversity.