



**TRAVIS  
RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE**

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Fuller Theological  
Seminary

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**RESEARCH CENTERS**

Center for Biopsychosocial  
Research

Center for the Study of  
Stress, Trauma and  
Adjustment

Center for Research  
in Child and Adolescent  
Development

**A Letter from the Director of Research**

We are delighted to present the Annual Report of The Lee Edward Travis Research Institute for the academic year 2009-2010. We hope that this report gives a clear and exciting picture of the important achievements and significant progress made in psychological research this past year.

The Travis Research Institute (TRI) exists within the Graduate School of Psychology of Fuller Theological Seminary in order to support faculty and students in regular and ongoing research activities. An important role of TRI is the establishment and maintenance of a research infrastructure that encourages large-scale collaborative research and facilitates obtaining research funding for the various Centers and Projects.

TRI is organized into four Research Centers, constituting the major foci of large-scale collaborative work ongoing within the Institute:

- Center for Biopsychosocial Research (CBR)
- The Thrive Center for Applied Developmental Science  
*formerly known as Center for Research in Child and Adolescent Development (CRCAD)*
- Center for the Study of Stress, Trauma and Adjustment (CSTA)
- Center for Research in Psychotherapy and Religion (CPR)

The Travis Research Institute is now entering its twelfth year of existence in its current form. In 2010 the Center for Research for Child and Adolescent Development (CRCAD) became part of a new center in TRI named the Thrive Center for Applied Developmental Science. The "Thrive Center" expands Fuller's ongoing commitment to the scholarship and practice of positive youth development and human flourishing.

While our ability to obtain grant funding for projects has been affected by the downturn the U.S. economy, we have had some success. Generally we are proud of the progress we have made as an institute, and we continue to be able to encourage scholarship amongst the faculty and students in the School of Psychology.

This coming year we are excited to welcome Drs. Sarah Schnitker and Joe Currier to TRI! Dr. Schnitker comes to us from doctoral work in Personality and Social Psychology at the University of California, Davis. Her area of expertise is character development and spiritual transformation in youth. Dr. Schnitker, in collaboration with Drs. Robert Emmons of UC Davis and Justin Barrett of Oxford University, recently received a grant from the Templeton Foundation that will explore the relation between spiritual transformation and the development of character strengths in youth. Joe Currier has been a postdoctoral researcher and clinician at the V.A. Medical Center in Memphis. He pursues research in the experience of bereavement and other traumatic events. We look forward to the contributions of these new members of the faculty, particularly their contributions to the work of the Travis Research Institute.



During the past year Al Dueck received a grant from the Templeton Foundation to develop an intellectual exchange between scholars from China and American psychologists interested in research and scholarship in the field of psychology of religion. This summer Al and Professor Han Buxin of the Chinese Academy of Sciences successfully hosted a meeting at Fuller of 19 scholars and students from mainland China. Seong-Hyeon Kim, new to the faculty last year, received a TRI seed grant to spend a large part of the summer in Korea collecting data for a study of North Korean refugees. Kim's specific interest was evidence of stress and trauma in these refugees. Pam King also received a TRI seed grant to continue the Spiritual Exemplars Project. This grant allows her research team to further probe their model of spiritual development.

Another noteworthy accomplishment was our continued work on the *psychology and neuroscience of virtue*. As a part of this project, Fuller and Caltech will jointly host a multi-day conference on moral psychology and neuroscience involving about 20 outstanding scientists and moral philosophers from all over the world, as well as two evenings of public lectures. The keynote speakers will be Christian Keyzers from the University Medical Center Groningen, Netherlands, and Stanley Hauerwas from Duke University. The grant supporting this project was funded by the Science and Transcendence Advanced Research Series (STARS) program at the Center for Theology and Natural Sciences. The research team includes scholars from South Dakota State University, Azusa Pacific University, California Institute of Technology, and Scripps College, as well as TRI.

Find TRI on Facebook! We have been working hard to develop a better online presence that is dynamic and exposes faculty and student research to the public. It is our hope that through the TRI website ([travisinstitute.org](http://travisinstitute.org)) and through our Facebook presence, we can best interact with students, researchers, and the general public who are interested in the work of TRI.

I invite you into the excitement I have for the accomplishments of the Travis Research Institute as you read the following, more detailed, report of the significant scholarly activities of the faculty and students that work within TRI. As director I am proud of the work that my colleagues and their students have done this past year, and will continue to build upon in the coming years.

Warren S. Brown, Ph.D.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Warren S. Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "W" and "B".

Director, Travis Research Institute