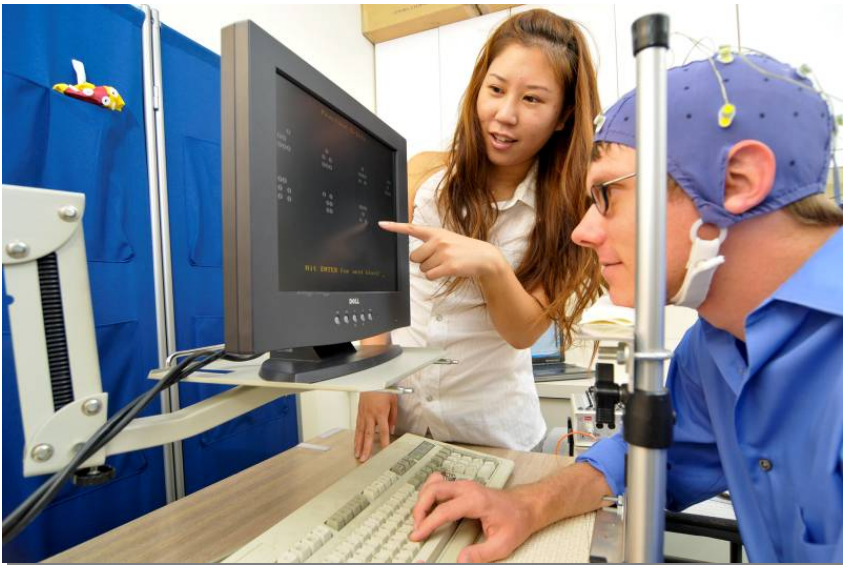




TRAVIS RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Excellence in Research and Scholarship

TRI Annual Report 2007-2008



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Research in the School of Psychology takes place within the context of the Travis Research Institute (TRI) named after Dr. Lee Edward Travis, the school's founding Dean. Dr. Travis was a brilliant pioneering experimental physiological psychologist, speech pathologist and clinical psychologist. TRI strives to embody Travis' legacy of empirical research and scholarship in psychology today.

TRI is committed to fostering interdisciplinary research in the relationships between social systems, environmental situations, personality, mental and affective states, cognitive processes, neurobiological functions, and spiritual and religious states and practices. 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 projects.

The institute is organized into several **Research Centers**, constituting the major foci of large-scale collaborative ongoing work. Centers involve both empirical and theoretical scholarship.

- **The Center for Biopsychosocial Research** seeks to understand the interactions between neural and biologic systems and the social, psychological, and spiritual/religious functioning of persons. Major areas of study have involved the cognitive disabilities associated with congenital brain abnormalities, the role of interactions between the two cerebral hemispheres in higher human mental processes, autonomic/affective responses in depression and panic disorder, and health and illness prevention.
- **The Center for the Study of Stress, Trauma, and Adjustment (CSTA)** is committed to innovative research in the areas of acute, chronic, and post-traumatic stress. The center's purpose is to expand the understanding of these variables and to facilitate the application of this knowledge to the development of better methods of identification and treatment of individuals, families, and communities that have been affected by an environment of chronic stress and trauma. One particular area of focus is the research and clinical service directed to the needs of international ministry and humanitarian aid workers. This work is supported by a generous endowment from the Headington family of Dallas, Texas.
- **The Center for Research in Child and Adolescent Development (CRCAD)** has the purpose to further the knowledge of positive development in childhood and adolescence. A specific focus of this research program is the identification of ecological factors that are associated with the promotion of well-being and the prevention of risk among children and youth. Special attention is given to the unique role of community resources and religion in shaping these positive developmental outcomes. An additional focus of the Center includes furthering an understanding of the associations between child outcomes and marital and parent-child relations.
- **The Center for Research in Psychotherapy and Religion (CPR)** is committed to the empirical and theoretical study of psychotherapy and religion and their interaction. The goal is to improve the quality of treatments, the training of therapists, and the mental health delivery system through research and scholarship. CPR focuses on the relationship of psychotherapy process and outcome; the appropriate role of religion in psychotherapy; and the impact of public policy on mental health reform. The center is committed to high caliber clinical outcome and process research that addresses practical issues facing therapists on the front-line of treatment delivery, and CPR aims to be a national resource for information on religiously sensitive therapy and a venue for training graduate students and post-doctoral clinicians. Moreover, the center promotes scholarly research that encourages public policy that is supportive of and sensitive to matters of religion and spirituality.

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Center for Biopsychosocial Research

Center Description and Mission

The Center for Biopsychosocial Research seeks to understand the interactions between neural and biologic systems and the social, psychological, and spiritual/religious functioning of persons. Major areas of study have involved (1) the neuropsychology of cognitive disabilities associated with congenital brain abnormalities, traumatic brain injury, and normal aging, (2) affective and autonomic responses in depression, panic disorder, and religious experiences; and (3) health and illness prevention.

Faculty involved

Co-Directors:

Drs. Warren S. Brown, Alexis Abernethy

Faculty (in alphabetical order):

Drs. Alexis Abernethy, Warren S. Brown, Archibald Hart, Sarah DeBoard Marion, and Lynn K. Paul.

Neuropsychology and Neuroscience

Mental and Social Abilities Disabilities Associated with Congenital Brain Disorder

Faculty Investigator: Dr. Warren Brown

Co-Investigator: Dr. Lynn K. Paul, Senior Research Fellow, Caltech



The laboratory of Dr. Warren Brown is working in two research areas, both involving the role of the corpus callosum of the brain in human cognitive and social functioning. The corpus callosum is the large neural pathway, composed of over 200 million axons, that connects the right and left cerebral hemispheres.

The primary work involves study of the cognitive and psychosocial consequences of agenesis of the corpus callosum (ACC). ACC is a brain disorder involving congenital absence of corpus callosum. For many years, Brown's lab has been pursuing a very large project involving extensive neuropsychological study of adults and children with ACC who nevertheless have a normal IQ. This research has shown subtle-to-marked deficits in interhemispheric interactions, basic mental capacities, and social competence in persons with ACC. During 2007-2008, 5 journal articles were published.

Brown's lab has also been interested in the impact of neurological disorders such as autism, traumatic brain injury, anoxia, and Alzheimer's disease on the size of the corpus callosum. During 2007-2008, 2 papers were published in scientific journals regarding the outcomes of this research.

Research Team (in alphabetical order): Brandon Birath, Matthew Bridgman, Jodi Buehler, Renee Marie Cutiongco, David Fly, Kate Harrell, Melissa Hofstetter, Hana Ibrahimovic, Christine Kang, Shanesha Legardy, Sarah Longino, Shawneen Pazienza, Chris Ross, Denise Wallace, Cari Yardley, and Christina Young.

I have been a part of TRI studying Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum since starting at Fuller. Every year provided a different opportunity. Of course, there were the basics that every student learns including literature review, data collection, maintenance, analysis, and polishing your scientific writing skills. Beyond those basics, students were encouraged to take on leadership roles through research assistantships, attending conferences, and shaping the course of our research. I held an assistantship for two years, leading lab meetings, training other students, and helping to run the lab. Through conference attendance, I was able to network with others and attend conferences for those affected by this disorder. Every year I have also valued the ways in which students' input shaped and birthed new research ideas. And every year, I have thoroughly enjoyed the ways in which students are encouraged to move beyond the basics.

Shanesha Legardy, 5th Year

Cognitive Profile of Aging Adults

Faculty Investigator: Dr. Sarah DeBoard Marion



Dr. DeBoard Marion joined the SOP faculty in the fall of 2006 and has been steadily growing in the number of students as well as the number of projects available to students interested in neuropsychology. A neuropsychologist by training, Dr. Marion’s research focuses on understanding the pattern of psychological and neurocognitive deficits associated with various neurological and psychiatric syndromes such as reading disorder, traumatic brain injury (TBI), or epilepsy. Students in her lab are (or will soon be) engaged in projects investigating the neuropsychological consequences of schizophrenia, TBI, hemispherectomy, and cancer. One of

the larger of these projects is a collaborative effort with UCLA investigating the short-term and long-term neuropsychological functioning in children with moderate to severe TBI. In specific, it is hoped that we will be

able to identify what factors predict which children successfully recover from their injury in order to better promote those factors.

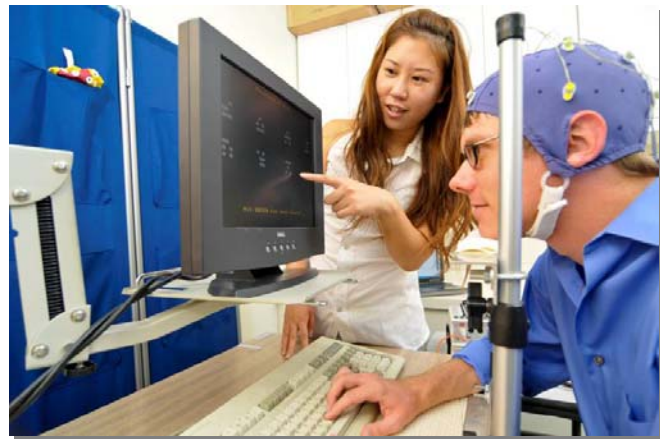
Dr. DeBoard Marion is also interested in understanding how the brain functions in the absence of pathological conditions. Thus, her lab has a project currently underway investigating age-related changes in neurocognitive functioning in normally aging individuals. It is hoped that this study will be the beginning of a long-term investigation of the aging process. Age related conditions such as dementia, and possible methods of intervention or prevention for neurocognitive decline in older adults.

This past year I served as a research fellow under the direction of Dr. Sarah Marion. During this time, I was able to gain abundant research experience while making significant strides toward completing my dissertation. I also assisted the research lab as a whole in launching new projects and endeavors, one of which was an exciting new study examining healthy cognitive aging.

The opportunity to be involved in new research has been invaluable, as it has allowed me to learn firsthand how challenging and exciting it can be to launch a new project. I had the opportunity to be trained on an EEG/ERP paradigm, and assisted in training new students in the test protocol as well. I was also able to serve as the project’s participant coordinator, allowing me to gain hands-on experience recruiting and working with research participants.

I was glad to be able to assist our relatively new lab in establishing new projects that will provide incoming students with opportunities to do meaningful research. I am also grateful, personally, to have gained such extensive experience in managing ongoing research, a set of skills that I am confident will serve me well in the future.

Suzanne Hilleary, 5th year student



Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Kirsty Bortnik, Jessica Bucknam, Esther Chin, Suzanne Hilleary, Erika Knuth, Joseph Lee, Justin Lee, Stella Panos, Heather Schroeder, Sandra Viggiani, Justin Westbrook, Rodney Wilson, Andrew Wong, and Dahyun Yi

Autonomic Psychophysiology and Behavior



Faculty Investigator: Dr. Archibald Hart

Dr. Archibald Hart and his students have been studying psychophysiological indices of emotional states. Using measures of skin conductance, facial muscles responses (smile and frown reflexes), and heart rate, they are exploring a variety of emotional conditions that have clinical relevance. Several studies have explored the phenomenon of anhedonia in normal and depressed children with a view to establishing a psychophysiological tool for diagnosing childhood depression. This approach to evaluating emotional states is also being used collaboratively with Dr. Brown's students in studies that explore the emotional consequences of congenital absence of the corpus callosum (called "Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum").

Second, the Hart laboratory has been investigating variability in heart rate (also called "cardiac coherence") in high stress states. The goal is to develop a psychophysiological tool for assessing stress non-invasively by measuring the push-pull of the sympathetic / parasympathetic systems. Several studies comparing panic anxiety disordered subjects with normal controls have already demonstrated the viability of this approach.

Finally, Hart's lab has been testing the viability of using psychophysiological measures to assess levels of spirituality. Using measures of skin conductance and facial muscle responses to visual and auditory stimuli that have significant spiritual / religious content, it is anticipated that a measure of the intensity of spiritual experience will be possible. At this stage appropriate visual stimuli have been identified and normalized for a population of seminary students, and the next stage will be to assess these pictures in a non-religious population to determine their ability to discriminate persons who are and are not religious.



Neuroscience and Virtue

Investigators:

Dr. Warren S. Brown, Professor, Fuller Theological Seminary

Dr. Gregory Peterson, Associate Professor, South Dakota State University

Dr. Kevin Reimer, Professor, Azusa Pacific University

Dr. Michael L. Spezio, Asst. Professor, Scripps College & Visiting Scientist, California Institute of Technology

James A. Van Slyke, Assistant Research Professor, Travis Research Institute, Fuller Theological Seminary

This project is funded by the Center of Theology and the Natural Sciences with the goal of achieving a deeper understanding of the nature of virtue in relation to the transcendent. How is virtue related to rationality, emotions, and concepts of ultimate value? A unique aspect of this project is the attempt to understand persons who are exemplars of virtue - either historical exemplars, such as holocaust rescuers, or persons whose behavior in economic games is exemplary of fairness and generosity. The project studies exemplars with respect to the implicit conceptual "schemas" by which they understand themselves and the world (including their orientation to something transcendent, or concepts of ultimate value), their psychological makeup, and their patterns of brain activity while making virtue-relevant decisions.

A core question of this project is the degree to which a virtuous person's mental "schemas" (of themselves and of the world) involve a representation of transcendent realities and ultimate values, and the degree to which these are important in their virtuous behavior and character. The research program will foster discussions among philosophers, theologians, psychologists, economists, and cognitive neuroscientists regarding the nature of transcendence and a theory of virtue that focuses on the personal traits and character of virtuous exemplars.

Spirituality and Health

Cultural Factors in Cancer Screening:



Faculty Investigator: Dr. Alexis Abernethy

Guided by the Common Sense Model (CSM) of illness representations that posits that the individual as well as cultural values and beliefs play an active role in the response to and interpretation of health threat information and the Cultural Empowerment Model (CEM) which offers a framework for understanding the adaptive and maladaptive dimensions of culture, this study involved a two phased exploration into the cultural factors among African American men that facilitate and impede colorectal and prostate cancer screening. In particular, the study examined religiousness as part of the cultural perspective of African Americans with attention to religiousness' influence on causal views of illness, including fatalistic causes. Using the CEM, this study examined the positive and negative influences of religiousness and fatalism on colorectal and prostate cancer screening (PCS) behavior and the CSM clarified the mechanisms of this association in African American men. The specific aims were as follows: (1) to identify religiously based illness perceptions of cancer screening in African American men, and (2) to examine the relationships among religious factors, fatalism, illness perceptions, and colorectal and prostate cancer screening attitudes and behavior.

Results for Aim #1

For Aim 1, key themes related to religiously-based causal attributions were identified from two focus groups of spiritual experts and 22 interviews of men selected from an earlier study of religiousness and PCS. These causal attributions were used to adapt the Illness Perception Survey-Revised (IPQ-R). We completed the proposed studies in Aim #1, a focus group and interview study of clergy and follow-up interviews of participants from an earlier study. Specifically, we conducted focus groups and interviews with 11 clergy and obtained detailed information regarding religious and fatalistic causal attributions. Clergy noted a range of causal factors such as genetics, lifestyle, diet, environment, and stress, but they also indicated that God's will and God's control of health might play a role in cancer causation. Most clergy did not indicate that they believed that God could cause cancer, but they reported that they had heard of supernatural causes such as generational curses, lack of faith, and God's judgment as causes for cancer. Qualitative analyses of clergy responses to questions regarding religious control of health revealed a positive association with positive emotion. There was no association between fatalistic control of health and negative emotion. The reluctance of clergy to directly refer to God's role in cancer causation resulted in a modification of our interview protocol for the follow-up participants.

To say that my experience with the cancer team has been invaluable would be an understatement. Having worked with Dr. A since enrolling in my program, the opportunity to integrate theoretical, empirical, and clinical concepts discussed in class to cancer screening research has been a humbling and life-changing experience. Working with others as a research fellow, community partner, and liaison has increased my awareness of the multi-faceted roles that clinical psychologists potentially fulfill. As an African American woman, it has been an amazing experience to contribute to research and to increase African American men's knowledge about cancer prevention.

Dione Johnson, 7th year student



For the follow-up interview study, interviews of men from a prior study were conducted to identify key causal themes and categories, that could be added to the IPQ-R. Twenty-two African American men who have not been diagnosed with cancer between the ages of 50 and 70 were recruited from the preliminary study from our database. The research team included God-related and more supernaturally related themes for the IPQ-R. The following themes were identified: generational curses, generational sin, payback, hexes, sinful acts, punishment from God, lack of faith, demons, witchcraft, curses, casting spells, voodoo, root work, God’s will, Satan, wrongdoing, God allows it, God is testing you, God is using prostate cancer for his glory, God could cause it, breaking spiritual laws, evil, destiny, and divine purpose. We completed Aim #1 as we were able identify a number of religiously-based illness perceptions of African American men and incorporate this into a revision of the IPQ-R.

Results for Aim #2

The survey was piloted on 4 participants and collected data on 373 African American men, ranging from 50-70 years of age who have not been diagnosed with prostate or colorectal cancer.

For this sample, the primary dimensions of the CSM were supported as measured by the IPQ-R. The clearest factor was emotional representation. Consequences was the least clear factor. The strongest factor solution emerged using a 6-factor solution of (Emotional, Timeline Acute, Timeline-Chronic, Patient Control, Treatment Control, and Coherence). Exploratory factor analyses of supernaturally-based perceptions for PCS yielded a two-factor solution: Supernatural and God Causal (e.g., God allows it, God could cause it). Although these causal dimensions were identified, participants were reluctant to indicate that God directly caused cancer.

The findings from this study have built upon past work that attempted to clarify the complex relationship between religiousness, fatalism, and cancer screening.

The in-depth examination of religious and fatalistic causal and control beliefs in cancer screening and their associations with illness perception suggests one pathway that may explain the association between religiousness and health.

There were no associations between intrinsic religiousness and religious causal perspectives, but there were associations between negative perspectives of God, cancer fatalism, and fatalistic causal perspectives. These findings suggest that the role of supernaturally-related and fatalistic causes and control may not minimize emotion or the anticipated consequences related to illness perception.

Overall, these results support an association between supernaturally-related and fatalistic causes and control, illness perceptions, and cancer screening attitudes and behavior, but in some cases not in the expected direction. These supernatural causal and control dimensions may identify specific dimensions of religiousness that are associated with less receptive cancer screening attitudes and reduced screening. By contrast, intrinsic religiousness, consistent with our past work, is positively related to cancer screening receptivity. The behavioral findings are limited, but there is some evidence of associations. This work makes a major contribution in understanding the complex role of religiousness and fatalism in cancer screening. *Research was supported by National Cancer Institute grant 1R21 CA107344-01A1*

Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Dione Johnson, Broderick Leaks, (complete list currently unavailable)

During the past year and a half I have had the privilege of participating in Dr. Abernethy's lab where we have been researching psychophysiological correlates of worship. I have enjoyed the integrative nature of our study as it has encompassed variables related to culture, interpersonal dynamics (e.g., conflict), spirituality, and health outcomes. Our research should make important contributions not only to the academic conversation between spirituality and health, but also to clinical applications. Furthermore, I hope that our findings will prove helpful to communities of faith engaged in ministries of healing, hope, and reconciliation.

The Worship Lab has been a context for honing my research skills, both quantitative and qualitative, but it has also become a small community of like-hearted believers and scientists who have encouraged and challenged me spiritually and professionally. I look forward to continued growth in Dr. Abernethy's lab.

John Guthrie, 2nd year student

Spiritual Experience in Worship

Faculty Investigator: Dr. Alexis Abernethy

This scientific study of worship sought to understand ways that religious experience and worship within and across ethnic and denominational groups contribute to psychological and health-related dimensions. This work examined the physiological correlates of a specific dimension of church attendance, worship experience that may partially explain the finding that church attendance protects against death.

Results Summary. The pilot results suggest that worship plays a transformational role in people's lives based on self-report. A fuller report of these results is published in the book, *Worship that Changes Lives* (Abernethy, 2008; see the reference below.). The sermon or message played the most prominent role as a trigger in these experiences. Prior to a transformational worship experience, many participants were experiencing sadness. Worship provided cognitive insight that was associated with affective, relational, and behavioral change. This finding is consistent with the Broaden and Build Theory that suggests that positive emotions may broaden people's thought-action repertoires (Fredrickson, 2001). People experienced God either through direct contact, indirectly through others, and/or through an artistic element in worship. The findings suggest that although there were differences between the two denominations on some of the worship elements, overall these participants engaged in enthusiastic worship, but also had elements of ceremonial worship. Ethnic and denominational differences were found in worship narratives, but the patterns were complicated and varied by condition. The Multidimensional Scaling results from LSA suggested that Latinos differed from other ethnic groups. In addition, Koreans were less communal than other groups, particularly African Americans. More representation from each ethnic group and greater denominational diversity will facilitate interpretation in this proposed project.

The physiological responses provide some data beyond self-report. There were significant heart rate increases and changes in skin conductance for the struggling as compared to the close to God condition. These findings are consistent with the hypothesis that types of worship experiences would be associated with different psychophysiological responses. This supports that participants were actively engaged in their stories. If future research demonstrates faster recovery following transformation conditions, then this might provide an analogue for how worship affects health. People bring their troubled lives to worship and they have not only an affectively powerful experience, but also a deepened cognitive understanding that results in changed behavior and relationships. See the Literature review for more detailed findings.

This research was supported primarily supported by the Templeton Foundation. Additional funding for the preliminary phases of this work was obtained from Travis Research Institute in the Graduate School of Psychology, the Provost's Office at Fuller Theological Seminary, the Brehm Center for Worship, Theology, and the Arts at Fuller Theological Seminary, and the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship. In addition to the book referenced below, findings from this study have been presented at several Annual Meetings of

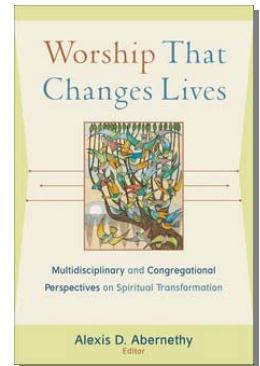
What I have treasured most throughout my experience as a member of the Spiritual Experiences in Worship Lab is the opportunity to hear so many stories. I have been both amazed and humbled by each participant's willingness to open up their lives to complete strangers. Each interview is different; some filled with laughter, others with tears. The participants themselves are a richly diverse representation of the African-American, Latino, Korean, and Caucasian communities here in the Los Angeles area. However, despite the different components in each interview, one thing remains the same: God is at work throughout each narrative that has been shared. For me, that has been really exciting.

From my own family's tradition I have learned that there is something particularly sacred about telling one's own story. I have learned through my experience with Dr. Abernethy and the SEW Lab is that there is also something sacred about hearing and honoring the story of another. What I have gained through my participation on this research team extends far beyond techniques for interpreting quantitative data or organizing physiological research. In exploring the worship experiences of others, I have gained a deeper appreciation for my own worship.

Andrea Anderson, 4th year student

the Society of Behavioral Medicine, in master's and dissertations, and articles that are in submission.

Abernethy, A. D. (2008). *Worship that changes lives: Multicultural, multidisciplinary, and denominational perspectives on transformation in worship*, (Ed.). Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic.



Research Team (in alphabetical order): Mitzen Black, Steve Brown, Clementina Chacon, Tyson Chung, Erika Colon, Andrea Daniel, Christine Guevara, JoAnn Marie Hoye, Stella Panos, Asha Ragin, Jasmine (Jung-Min) Seo, Gu-Hwa Yi

Spirituality and Health in Women of African Descent

Faculty Investigator: Dr. Alexis Abernethy

This project examines the relationship between spirituality and health in women of African descent. Foci include the relationship between spirituality, overeating, and depression in African American women, as well as spirituality and resilience in African American adolescents. This research team also includes dissertation proposals that are examining self-objectification, eating disturbance, body image and spirituality in ethnically diverse populations.



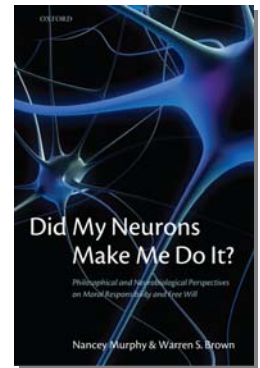
CBR Publications and Presentations

Papers in Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Badaruddin, D. H. Andrews, G. L., Bölte, S., Schilmoeller, K. J., Schilmoeller, G., Paul, L. K. and Brown, W. S. (2007). Social and behavioral problems of children with agenesis of the corpus callosum. *Child Psychiatry and Human Development*, 38, 287-302.
- Hallam, B. J., Brown, W. S., Ross, C., Buckwalter, J. G., Bigler, E. D., Tschanz, J. T., Norton, M. C., Welsh-Bohmer, K. A., and Breitner, J. C. S. (2008). Regional atrophy of the corpus callosum in dementia. *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society*. 14, 1-10.
- Kilian, S., Brown, W. S., Hallam, B. J., McMahon, W., Lu, J., Bigler, E. D., and Lainhart, J. E. (2008). Regional callosal morphology in autism and macrocephaly. *Developmental Neuropsychology*, 33, 1-26.
- Moes, P., Brown, W. S., and Minnema, M. (2007). Individual differences in interhemispheric transfer time (IHTT) as measured by event related potentials. *Neuropsychologia*, 45, 2626-2630.
- Paul, L.K., Brown, W.S., Adolphs, R., Tyszka, J.M., Richards, L.J., Mukherjee, P., and Sherr, E.H. (2007). Agenesis of the corpus callosum: Genetic, developmental, and functional aspects of connectivity. *Nature Reviews Neuroscience*. 8, 287-299.

Books, Book Chapters

- Abernethy, A. D., & Witvliet, C. V. O. (2008). A study of transformation in worship: Psychological, cultural, and psychophysiological perspectives. In A. D. Abernethy (Ed.), *Worship that changes lives: Multicultural, multidisciplinary, and denominational perspectives on transformation in worship* (pp. 197-216). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.
- Abernethy, A. D. (2008). The voice of the congregation: Stories revealing the process of transformation. In A. D. Abernethy (Ed.), *Worship that changes lives: Multicultural, multidisciplinary, and denominational perspectives on transformation in worship* (pp. 217-234). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.
- Abernethy, A. D. (2008). Call and response: Authors' commentary on lessons learned from the congregation. In A. D. Abernethy (Ed.), *Worship that changes lives: Multicultural, multidisciplinary, and denominational perspectives on transformation in worship* (pp. 249-270). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.
- Abernethy, A. D. (2008). Implications for theology, research, and worship practice. In A. D. Abernethy (Ed.), *Worship that changes lives: Multicultural, multidisciplinary, and denominational perspectives on transformation in worship* (pp. 271-280). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.
- Brown, W.S. (2007). The Emergence of Efficacious Mental Function. In N. Murphy and W. Stoeger (Eds.), *Reductionism and Emergence: Implications for the Science/Theology Dialogue* (pp. 198-226). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Murphy, N. and Brown, W.S. (2007). *Did My Neurons Make Me Do It? : Philosophical and Neurobiological Perspectives on Moral Responsibility and Free Will*. Oxford, U.K., Oxford University Press.



Presentations at Professional/Scientific Meetings and Published Abstracts

- Pazienza, S., Paul, L. K., and Brown, W. S., (2008, February). *Alexithymia and Somatization in Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Waikoloa, Hawaii.
- Harrell, K. M., Marco, E., Porter, A., Sherr, E., Paul, L. K., and Brown W. S., (2008, February). *Color-word Inhibition in Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Waikoloa, Hawaii.
- Wallace, D.R., Lautzenhiser, A., McBurney-Rebol, K., Paul, L. K., and Brown, W. S., (2008, February). *Facial EMG in Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum When Viewing Emotional Faces*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the international Neuropsychological Society, Waikoloa, Hawaii.
- Cutiongco, R., Paul, L. K., Symington, M., and Brown, W. S. (2008, February). *Semantic Analysis of the Awareness of Consequences Test in Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Waikoloa, Hawaii.
- Brown, W.S., (2007, March). *Persons, Groups, and the Church*. Paper presented at the *Wesleyan Theological Society*, Bourbonnais, IL.
- Brown, W.S. and Castelli, F., (2007, March). *Eliciting Understanding of the Human Mind in Interstellar Messages*. Presented at the biennial meeting of the *Society for Psychological Anthropology*. Manhattan Beach, CA.

Marion, S.D and W.S.Brown, (March 2008). *Attachment, Spiritual Formation, and Wesleyan Communities*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Society for the Study of Psychology and Wesleyan Theology, Durham, NC.

Papers, Presentations, Books, Book Chapters Accepted/In Press

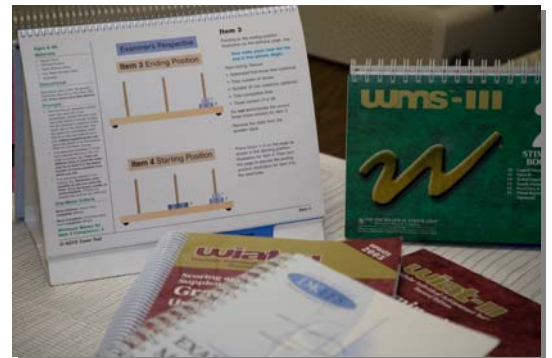
Abernethy, A. D. Brown, S., Johnson, D., Christman, L. K., Leaks, B., Allocco, P., & Gorsuch. R. L. Clarifying common and unique dimensions of spirituality and fatalism in threat representations of cancer: Implications for cancer prevention. (accepted for presentation)

Jeeves, M.A. and Brown, W.S. (in press) *Neuroscience, Psychology and Religion: Illusions, Delusions, and Realities about Human Nature*. Radnor, Penn: Templeton Press.

Panos, S., Chung, T., Ragin, A., Brown, S., Black, M., Hoye, J. A., & Abernethy. A. D. "Emotions, heart rate, and worship." (accepted for presentation)

Brown, W. S., Reimer, K. S., Spezio, M. L., Peterson, G. and Van Slyke, J. (in press). A science of love: Behavioral and neuroscience study of the virtue of compassion. In M. Welker & Xutong Qu (Eds.), *Law and love: Philosophy, religions studies, and sciences in China and the west*.

Brown, W.S. (in press). Nonreductive human uniqueness: Immaterial, biological, or psychosocial? In J. W. van Huissteen, M. Hewlett, & C. Knight (Eds.), *Understanding humans in a scientific age*.



Center for Research in Child and Adolescent Development

Center Description and Mission

The primary purpose of the CRCAD is to further the knowledge of positive development in childhood and adolescence. A specific focus of this research program is the identification of ecological factors that are associated with the promotion of well-being and the prevention of risk among children and youth. Special attention is given to the unique role of community resources and religion in shaping these positive developmental outcomes. An additional focus of the Center includes furthering an understanding of the associations between child outcomes and marital and parent-child relations.

Positive Youth Development

Thriving and resilience in emerging adults of the Asia Silk road



Faculty Investigator: Dr. Linda Mans Wagener

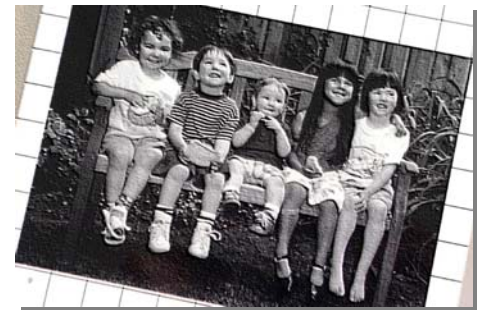
This is one of the most recent projects lead by Dr. Wagener and funded by the Thrive Foundation for Youth. The aim is to examine thriving under diverse cultural conditions in order to contribute to the development of assessment tools that are culture fair and sensitive to cultural differences. Very little is known about conditions of thriving in youth outside of the North American context (Lerner & Galambos, 1998). This project will have significant implications for the development of thriving assessment tools that are globally useful.

Faculty involved

Co- Directors:

Drs. Linda Wagener, James Furrow

Faculty (in alphabetical order): Drs. Mari Clements, James Furrow, Pamela Ebstyn King, Sofia Herrera Maldonado, Lisseth Rojas-Flores and Linda Wagener



Fuller Youth Initiative (FYI)

Faculty Investigator: Dr. Linda Mans Wagener

Co-Investigators: Drs. James Furrow, Lisseth Rojas-Flores, Sofia Herrera Maldonado, David Foy, and Warren Brown

This multi-year project funded by award #2002-JN-FX-K002 from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has been completed in the summer of 2007 but the data analysis continues. The FYI project was a three-community project exploring a positive youth development (PYD) approach to violence prevention among adolescents.

The program followed three strategies to study PYD assumptions and youth violence. The first strategy involved a randomized phone survey of adolescents from each community to establish an estimate of the risk behaviors, resources, and developmental outcomes for youth in that community. Second, an in-depth interview was used to assess a smaller group of youth, which were nominated from each community based on being known for their exceptional prosocial behavior and caring for others. The third strategy included a survey of youth programs in each community to identify those, which specialize in violence prevention. Youth violence prevention programs were recruited for a process based program evaluation. This evaluation included assessment of a programs adherence to national standards of best practices for violence prevention and practices recognized in the positive

youth development field. The evaluation also included a study of barriers to the implementation of these best practices.

The FYI program has surveyed over 1400 youth in the three communities that compose the study. Over 70 youth have participated in the in depth interview, including 30 youth nominated for their exemplary caring behavior. Approximately forty additional youth were included in this interview sample, with each participant being nominated as a successful participant from one of the violence prevention programs being evaluated. Ten programs received program evaluation including specific feedback on their adherence to best practice standards and implementation of positive youth development practices.

Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Mackenzie Abraham, Emily Andrews, Hana Carmona, Sunitha Chandy, Brianne DeWitt Goudelock, Vanessa Enoch, Paul Groenewal, Ross Mueller, Susan Park, David Quagliana, Asha Ragin, Joey Sagawa, Lara Sando, Danielle Speakman, Krystal White.

The Influence of Adolescent Perceptions of Resources on Developmental Trajectory

Investigators: Brianne DeWitt Goudelock and Drs. Linda Wagener and James Furrow

This project is an extension of the FYI grant and it combines a further analysis of the youth violence data with data generated by an exploratory study that investigates questions like: what is unique about the way that adolescents from a resource poor neighborhood who are thriving talk about their context? Also, do thriving adolescents from a resource poor neighborhood identify and utilize resources from outside of their immediate context and from the broader community?

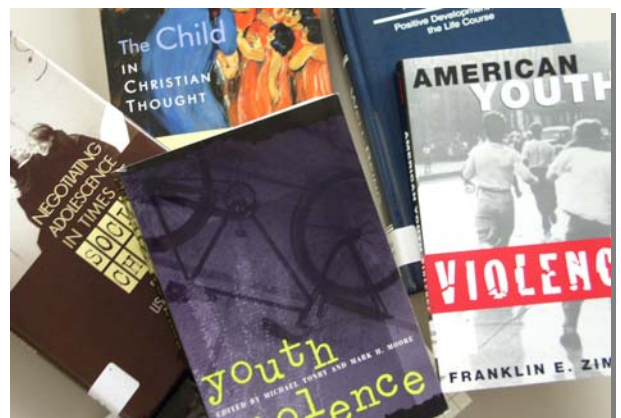
The first study investigated the following three hypotheses based on the assumption that adolescents who are thriving must be recognizing more resources in their neighborhoods than those who are at-risk. The first hypothesis is that adolescents who are thriving from resource poor neighborhoods will report more perceived resources than at-risk adolescents from resource poor neighborhoods. The second hypothesis is that adolescents who are thriving from resource poor neighborhoods will report more perceived resources than at-risk adolescents from resource rich neighborhoods. The third hypothesis is that thriving adolescents will report more perceived resources than at-risk adolescents, regardless of their neighborhood status. The project was successfully completed in the summer of 2008.

My time as a research fellow, working with Dr. Furrow, has been inspiring. My experience has focused on learning about positive youth development through research and applying what we learn to practice. I am especially grateful for the chance to see programs at work. I was able to meet with the founder of an effective mentoring program and now collaborate with those who helped develop a key component of the program, called the Thriving Conversation. This is particularly important to me because I am interested in program development in another field of adolescent intervention, specifically within the growing field of wilderness therapy.

My research and career aspirations in wilderness therapy are unusual at Fuller. However, I have been met with enthusiasm and support that has allowed me to develop important contacts, gain useful experience, and begin to apply the concepts of thriving and positive youth development to a new context.

These opportunities keep challenging me to expand my network to include those who have similar interests both within and outside Fuller so that the possibilities for positive change in the lives of youth are continually growing.

Emily Andrews, 3rd year student



Spiritual Thriving

Exemplars of Spiritual Thriving in Adolescence: An Exploratory Study



Faculty Investigator: Dr. Pamela Ebstyn King

This study is a joint effort between the Center for Spiritual Development in Childhood and Adolescence at Search Institute and the Center for Research in Child and Adolescent Development in the Graduate School of Psychology at Fuller Theological Seminary and is funded by the Sir John Templeton Foundation. The study aims to identify core principles of spiritual development that are found in youth recognized in their culture for being spiritual. The study involves in depth interviews of 25 youth nominated for living with a profound sense of spirituality in Peru, Kenya, India, Jordan, Great Britain, and the United States. The sample includes atheist, Buddhist, Catholic, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, and Protestant youth.

Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Casey Clardy, Wesley Dorsett, and Jenel Ramos.



CRCAD Publications and Presentations

Papers in non-Peer-Reviewed Journals

King, P. E. (2007). Asset building in youth: Do you treat them as half empty or as half full? In K. Powell (Ed.) *Theology, News, and Notes, Fall 2007*, 54(3), 13-15, 20.

Books, Book Chapters, and Other Publications

- King, P. E. (2007). Adolescent spirituality and positive youth development: A look at religion, social capital, and moral functioning. In R. K. Silbereisen & R. M. Lerner (Eds.) *Approaches to positive youth development* (pp. 227-242). London: Sage Publications.
- King, P. E. (2008). Spirituality as fertile ground for positive youth development. In R. M. Lerner, R. Roeser, and E. Phelps (Eds.). *Positive Youth Development and Spirituality: From Theory to Research*. West Conshohocken, PA: Templeton Foundation Press.

Never did I imagine that my fellow RA, Jenel, and I would be flying around the world, conducting cross-cultural interviews on five continents as part of my graduate school research experience!

Collaborating with the Search Institute on the Spiritual Exemplars project has been such a rewarding experience, as we have been able to connect to such a rich network of scholars, youth workers, and practitioners in our quest to disseminate our findings among the scholarly community as well as to the public at large. A love of applied research has been instilled in me as I have been inspired by the Search Institute's practical focus on equipping communities and leaders with our research findings in a user-friendly format.

I have learned so much from working on this project - from conceptualizing and designing a new study, to the iterative processes of developing an interview and research protocol with feedback from advisors and cultural informants, to conducting interviews with youth from diverse backgrounds, to writing up our results and findings in book chapters, professional presentations, scholarly articles, and even media press releases! Needless to say, my researching, writing, organizing, cross-cultural, and even clinical skills have been sharpened significantly throughout this process.

During the interviewing, coding, and analyzing stages, I have been personally humbled, challenged, and inspired to learn from the stories of such exemplary youth - from Buddhists to atheists, from Kenya to India. Not to mention, I have experienced a tremendous amount of personal growth in working with and learning from my colleagues, Pam and Jenel - as we have spent many long hours together wrestling with what spiritual development looks like in youth and adolescence.

Casey Clardy, 3rd year student



Presentations at Professional/Scientific Meetings and Published Abstracts

- Abraham, M., Sloan, T., Wardlaw, V., Furrow, J., & Wagener, L. M. (2008, April). *Faith and hope for the future: Religiousness and future orientation among African American youth*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Chicago.
- Andrews, E. C., & Furrow, J. L. (2008, April). *Religiousness and adolescent aggressive beliefs*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Chicago.
- Carmona, H. H., Geddert, A. J., Wagener, L. M., & Furrow, J. L. (2008, April). *Identity and thriving in youth*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Chicago.
- DeWitt Goudelock, B., Furrow, J. L., & Wagener, L. M. (2008, April). *Single parenting, neighborhood resources, and thriving in adolescence*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Chicago.
- Furrow, J. L., & King, P. E. (2008, August). Religion and urban youth: Engagement, social support, & thriving. Paper presentation at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association, Boston, MA.
- Park, S., Wagener, L., Furrow, J., & Eriksson, C. (2007, August). *Community violence and aggressive beliefs: Posttraumatic growth in adolescent males*. Poster presented at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco.
- Sagawa, J. T., & Furrow, J. L. (2008, April). *Understanding future orientation among male delinquents: The role of school context*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Chicago.
- Soliman, N. N., Clements, M. L., & Mariam, L. C. (2007, November). *Children at play: How marital interactions impact children's peer interactions*. Poster presented at the annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.
- Whitehead, L. S., Furrow, J. L., & Wagener, L. M. (2008, April). *Prosocial values in male adolescence: The impact of parental involvement and positivity*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Chicago.

Papers, Books, Book Chapters Accepted/In Press in Peer Reviewed Journals

- Foy, D.W., Furrow, J. L., & McManus, S. (in press). Violence exposure and PTSD among juvenile delinquents. In V. Ardino (Ed.), *Posttraumatic syndromes in childhood and adolescence*. New York: J. Wiley & Sons.

Center for Study of Stress Trauma and Adjustment

Center Description and Mission

The Center for the Study of Stress, Trauma, and Adjustment (CSTA) represents a collaboration of faculty committed to innovative research in the areas of acute, chronic, and post-traumatic stress with the purpose to expand the understanding of these variables and to facilitate the application of this knowledge to the development of better methods of identification and treatment of individuals, families, and communities that have been affected by an environment of chronic stress and trauma. One particular area of focus for CSTA is the work of the Headington Program in International Trauma. The Headington family of Dallas, Texas gave a generous endowment to support research and consultation directed to the needs of international ministry and humanitarian aid workers

Faculty involved

Director: Dr. Cynthia Eriksson

Faculty (in alphabetical order): Drs. Alexis Abernethy, Jeff Bjorck, Cynthia Eriksson, David Foy, Sofia Herrera Maldonado, Katharine Meese Putman and Liseth Rojas-Flores

The Headington Institute

Longitudinal Study of Stress in Humanitarian Aid Workers: Center for Disease Control and Prevention and Antares Foundation Collaboration:

Faculty Investigator: Dr. Cynthia Eriksson

Co-Investigator: Dr. David Foy, Professor of Psychology, Pepperdine University

The purpose of the longitudinal research project is to find out how stress affects the lives of international humanitarian aid workers and which factors contribute to this stress during 3 points of the deployment experience: pre-deployment, immediately post-deployment, and 3 to 6 months following return from deployment. Objectives of the research include:

1. To identify aspects of work associated with elevated risk of poor mental health and burnout in aid workers.
2. To identify the risk and resilience factors moderating the impact of such stressors on mental health.
3. To provide recommendations for selection, training, and management of aid workers, and effective intervention for stressed individuals.

The outcomes of the research will be used to make recommendations to NGOs on how to best prevent stress-related illness in their staff, to improve retention and productivity of aid workers, and to enhance the well-being of humanitarian aid workers around the world. Project is funded by the CDC, Atlanta.





Participating institutions are the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, USA; University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands; Fuller Theological Seminary, CA, USA, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, LA, USA, and the Antares Foundation, Netherlands.

Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Kimberly Michael and Ann Yeh

Risk and Resilience in Urban Ministry: Stress, Spirituality, and Support:



Faculty Investigator: Dr. Cynthia Eriksson

The Risk and Resilience in Urban Ministry project was designed to extend organizational knowledge of current staff needs, experience of stressors, and level of personal functioning. The survey assessing stressors, spirituality, resource utilization and personal functioning was sent to urban ministry organizations in 5 US cities: Los Angeles, Phoenix, Chicago, Memphis, and Philadelphia. Surveys were returned between July 2006 and October 2006. Key findings are the chronic and traumatic stressors existing in the urban ministry context; the extent of adverse experiences in childhood reported by staff and volunteers; the report of why

individuals do not access needed services; and the levels of burnout and posttraumatic stress disorder. Several variables have practical implications for the enhancement of urban ministry workers' support: (1) personal or vicarious exposure to traumatic experiences is commonplace; (2) vicarious trauma exposure (witnessing or hearing about traumatic events) is related to depression and burnout; (3) social support a critical area of resilience against depression, PTSD, and burnout; and (4) positive health behaviors are another practical and modifiable area of personal resilience. *Project funded by the Fuller Youth Institute (Formerly the Center for Youth and Family Ministry), Fuller Theological Seminary*

Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Hanna Lee, Alexandra Linscott, Sean Love, Jean Min, Hana Shin, Bikat Tilahun, and Sherry Walling.

Guatemalan Aid Worker Project:

Faculty Investigator: Dr. Kathy Putman

Co-Investigator: Dr. David Foy, Professor of Psychology, Pepperdine University

The Guatemalan Aid Worker Project consisted of a survey of 135 aid workers in Guatemala as well as focus groups with several Guatemalan non-governmental organizations. This project assesses risk for direct and indirect trauma exposure and adverse outcomes among Guatemalan aid workers, specifically, community violence exposure, exposure to traumatic loss, complicated grief symptoms, posttraumatic stress symptoms, burnout, and private religious practices.. The focus groups also explore culturally specific religious coping among these participants.

Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Jarrett Ellington, Autumn Gallegos, Jeanette Lantz, Julia Lea, Amy Potts, Rebecca Roberts, and Cindy Townsend

Being a part of the Headington Lab has provided me with enriching opportunities for research and community work that I would not have otherwise had. It has supplemented my experience at Fuller by allowing me opportunities to put my learning into action—specifically by going to Guatemala and Dallas, Texas to do research in communities facing adverse circumstances.

My masters and dissertation research allowed me to see the challenges that aid workers are facing every day. I have also benefited from working closely with Christian professionals who have modeled their passion for this research through their interactions with me. They have also allowed me to witness the process of balancing faith, family, and work, which inspires me as a young professional entering this field.

Rebecca Roberts, 6th year student

Child S.H.A.R.E. Foster Parent Support Project:

Faculty Investigator: Dr. Kathy Putman
 Co-Investigator: Dr. David Foy, Professor of Psychology, Pepperdine University

The Child S.H.A.R.E. project is a collaborative effort between a community- and faith-based foster parent recruitment and support program (Child Shelter Homes A Rescue Effort) and Fuller Theological Seminary. Fuller conducted focus groups to assess the organization's foster parents' strengths and needs within Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Then a survey was assembled based on findings from the focus groups. The survey was mailed to all foster parents on the organization's mailing roster. Seventy-two foster parents completed the surveys, which included measures of spirituality and religiousness, burnout, posttraumatic stress symptoms and adverse experiences of the foster children, and foster family resource utilization. Results were shared with the organization's staff and the foster parents to help with creating more effective foster parent support and training programs.

Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Antonia Ciovica, Carrie Dilley, Sam Girguis, Deborah Gorton, Heather Quagliana, Christy Reeder, and Shelle Welty

Religious Support, Religious Coping, and Illusory Control:

Faculty Investigator: Dr. Jeff Bjorck

The Faith and Coping research program of Jeff Bjorck and his students has been focusing in two major areas during the past two years. The first involves the study of religious support among adults of various ethnocultural groups and faiths. The second involves the assessment of religious support and religious coping among Christian adolescents. The work on religious support continues to build on earlier work with the Religious Support Scale (Fiala, Bjorck, & Gorsuch, 2002), a measure originally normed on Christian adults. Research has involved the ongoing development of three major new psychometric measures.

Faith Universal Religious Support

Dr. Bjorck and his students are studying the effects of religious support perceived from: a) one's God concept, b) one's religious leaders, and c) one's fellow participants. This research has involved two strategies. First, 277 religious Jews in Israel were assessed with a Hebrew version of the Religious Support Scale, modified specifically for Jewish faith. Second, a Faith-Universal Religious Support Scale (FURSS) is being developed. Thus far, this measure has been used to assess the following samples obtained in the Southern-California area: a) 64 Korean Buddhists, b) 65 English-speaking Muslim university students, and c) 295 Korean Christians. In addition, a web-based survey assessed 697 English-speaking Muslim adult women from around the world, including 304 converts to Islam residing in the USA. All five of these studies have consistently shown that perceived religious support is related to better psychological functioning, above and beyond the effects of general social support. Most recently, a new data collection is being conducted in India among Hindus. During 2007-2008, two presentations were given and one article was published in connection with this research. One master's project and one dissertation were also completed, and one other master's project is currently underway. One article is also currently under review and several others are in preparation.

Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Katrina Gayles, Audrey Maslim, and Chris Waters.



Religious Support Among Adolescents

This project involves modifying the original Religious Support Scale for adults in two ways. First, the measure enables faith-universal assessment, and second, its wording targets adolescent populations. In both the pilot study, with 62 church youth group attendees, and the first formal study, with 500 Christian school students, the measure showed excellent psychometric properties. In addition, religious support was consistently related to better psychological functioning. During 2007-2008, one presentation was given, one master's project was completed and one dissertation is nearing completion.

Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Sabrina Abney, Robert Braese, David Gilliland, Grace Kim, and Joey Tadie

Religious Coping Among Adolescents

Whereas a growing literature addresses religious coping in adults, virtually none has focused systematically on adolescents. Development of this new measure by Dr. Bjorck and his students involved the same two samples of 62 and 500 mentioned above. Preliminary findings showed that adolescents use both avoidant and approach religious coping. In addition, their strategies can be classified as active versus passive. Seven subscales were developed: (a) God Focused Coping, (b) Deferring to God, (c) Seeking Religious Support, (d) Constructive Distraction, (e) Questioning, (f) Avoidance, and (g) Denial. Preliminary findings suggest that some strategies are generally associated with better functioning (e.g., God Focused and Seeking Religious Support) whereas others are generally linked with poorer functioning (e.g., Questioning and Avoidance). During 2007 – 2008, one presentation was given and one article is in preparation in connection with this research. One master's and one dissertation were also completed.

Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Robert Braese, David Gilliland, and Joey Tadie

I have been working alongside Dr. Bjorck for over three years and the experience has been extremely engaging and formative for me. Not only does Dr. Bjorck continue to push me to grow on a professional level, he has also inspired me to live a healthy and balanced lifestyle. I have appreciated his guidance as I pursue my goals for research and for therapy and he has been a model of integrity, diligence, and compassion in this regard. He provides valuable training and supervision on many aspects of the research process and has been an excellent resource throughout my time at Fuller.

Joey Tadie, 4th Year Student

Community Violence and Trauma

Community Violence and Trauma in El Salvador: Supporting Teachers to Cope with Traumatic Stress in El Salvador

Faculty Investigators: Drs. Kathy Putman and Lisseth Rojas-Flores

Co-Investigators: Dr. Sofia Herrera, Dr. David Foy

The Community Violence and Trauma in El Salvador study is a collaborative undertaking with the Episcopal Dioceses of El Salvador, the Salvadorian Minister of Education, and Fuller Theological Seminary. The purpose of the project is to document levels of community violence and post-traumatic stress symptoms as well as to identify potential buffers of stress and trauma for teachers in El Salvador. A survey was given to 190 teachers in El Salvador. Measures include religious coping, forgiveness, fatalism, posttraumatic stress symptoms, depression, burnout, and community violence exposure. Results will be reported to the Bishop and Minister of Education in El Salvador. Additionally, manuscripts will be prepared for submission to academic journals for publication and will contribute to our understanding of risk and resilience for caregivers in Central America.

Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Alexandra Linscott, and Amy Potts

LAPD Curriculum Change Evaluation Project

Faculty Investigator: Dr. Kathy Putman

Co-Investigator: Dr. Luann Pannell

The LAPD Curriculum Change Evaluation Project is a collaborative effort between the LAPD Training Division, the State of California's Peace Officer Standards and Training Division, and Fuller's School of Psychology. The aim of the project is to evaluate the impact of a change in curriculum at the Los Angeles Police Academy on officers' perceptions of preparedness for the job and their performance in the field. Specifically, officers will be evaluated on their problem solving skills, community orientation, professionalism/ethics, tactics, and communication skills.

Research Team (*in alphabetical order*): Tim Arentsen, Lee Perry, and Cindy Townsend



CSTA Publications and Presentations

Papers in Peer Reviewed Journals

Lazar, A., & Bjorck, J. P. (2008) Religious support and psychosocial well-being among a religious Jewish population. *Mental health, religion, and culture*. 11(4), 403-421.

Bjorck, J. P. (2007) Faith, coping, and illusory control: Psychological constructs with theological ramifications. *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, 26, 195-206.

Book Chapters

Putman, K.M. (2007). *Children's Needs for Parental Love in a Systemically Broken World*. In C.D. McConnell, P. Stockley, and J. VanHeijzen (Eds.). *Understanding God's Heart for Children, World Vision Resources*.

Presentations at Professional/Scientific Meetings and Published Abstracts

Bjorck, J. P., Braese, R. W., & Gililland, D. (2007, August). *The Adolescent Religious Coping Scale: Preliminary psychometric evaluation*. Poster presented at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco.

Eriksson, C. B., & Hodge, D. (2008, May). *Stress in the City*. Workshop held at the annual meeting of the Urban Youth Workers Institute, Azusa, CA

Gallegos, A. M., Lantz, J. I., Townsend, C. I., Roberts, R. C., Potts, A. A. & Putman, K. M. (2007, November). *Traumatic bereavement and spiritual practices among Guatemalan aid workers*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Baltimore.

Gorton, D. E., Reeder, C., Chin, E. Y., Foy, D. W., & Putman, K. M. (2007, November). *Adverse childhood experiences, parent burnout and current functioning in foster/adoptive children*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Baltimore.



- Hilleary, S. M., Skidmore, E. F., Gable, P. G., Montgomery, C. R., & Eriksson, C. B. (2007, November). *Attitudes toward Victims of Trauma among future clergy and mental health professionals*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Baltimore.
- Linscott, A., Lee, H., Gable, P., Michael, K., Tilahun, B. S., & Eriksson, C. B. (2007, November). *Religious beliefs about suffering in an urban U.S. sample*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Baltimore.
- Montgomery, C. R., Perry, L. R., Fawcett, G., & Eriksson, C. B. (2007, November). *Physical and mental health after trauma: A study of national aid workers*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Baltimore.
- Roberts, R. C., Potts, A. A., Gallegos, A., Lantz, J. I., Yeh, D. A., Putman, K. M. & Foy, D. W. (2007, November). *Burnout, PTSD, and spiritual practices among Guatemalan aid workers*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Baltimore.
- Walling, S. M., Tilahun, B. S., Lee, H., Linscott, A., Love, S. M., Min, J., Shin, H., & Eriksson, C. B. (2007, November). *Community violence exposure, PTSD, and adverse childhood experiences in a national sample of urban workers*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Baltimore.
- Whealin, J., Eriksson, C. B., Vega, E., Gill, D., & Southwick, S. (2007, November). *Developing preparation programs designed to prevent the likelihood of work-related traumatization*. Panel discussion presented at the annual meeting of the International Society of Traumatic Stress Studies, Baltimore.

Papers, Books, Book Chapters Accepted/In Press

- Eriksson, C. B., Drescher, K., Putman, D., & Foy, D. (in press). Spirituality. In G. Reyes, J. Elhai, & J. Fords (Eds.) *Encyclopedia of Psychological Trauma*. New York: J. Wiley & Sons.
- Putman, K.M., Lantz, J., Potts, A., Gallegos, A., Herrera, S., Eriksson, C., Steenwyk, M., de Guitz, & Foy, D.W. (in press). Cultural understandings of child sexual abuse from aid workers and parents at the Guatemala City Dump community. *Journal of Child and Adolescent Trauma*.
- Putman, K.M., Lantz, J.I., Townsend, C.L., Gallegos, A., Potts, A., Roberts, R., Cree, E., de Villagran, M., Eriksson, C.B., Foy, D.W. (in press). Exposure to violence, support needs, adjustment, and motivators among Guatemalan humanitarian aid workers. *American Journal of Community Psychology*.
- Putman, K.M., Townsend, C., Lantz, J., Roberts, R., Gallegos, A., Potts, A., Eriksson, C.B., & Foy, D.W. (in press). Reports of community violence exposure, traumatic loss, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Complicated Grief among Guatemalan aid workers. *Journal of Traumatology*.

Center for Research in Psychotherapy and Religion

Center Description and Mission

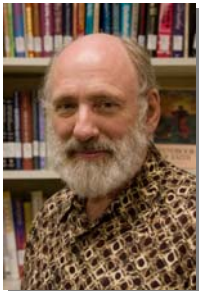
The Center for Psychotherapy and Religion (CPR) is the newest TRI research center, beginning in Fall 2004. CPR is committed to the empirical and theoretical study of psychotherapy and religion and their interaction. Our goal is to improve the quality of treatments, the training of therapists, and the mental health delivery system through research and scholarship. CPR focuses on the relationship between psychotherapy process and outcome; the appropriate role of religion in psychotherapy; and the impact of public policy on mental health reform. The Center is committed to high caliber clinical outcome and process research that addresses practical issues facing therapists on the front-line of treatment delivery, and CPR aims to be a national resource for information on religiously sensitive therapy and a venue for training graduate students and post-doctoral clinicians. Moreover, we promote scholarly research that encourages public policy that is supportive of and sensitive to matters of religion and spirituality.

Faculty involved

Faculty (in alphabetical order): Drs. Al Dueck, Scott Garrels, Winston Gooden, and Siang-Yang Tan



Spirituality, Language and Behavioral Transformation



Faculty Investigator: Dr. Alvin Dueck

Dr. Dueck's research laboratory has several foci: reported religious/spiritual experiences by moral exemplars from different religious traditions, theoretical and theological reflections on psychotherapy, scale construction of communal spirituality, and international perspectives on psychotherapy.

Articles and presentations of this lab are available at:

<http://www.fuller.edu/sop/integration/Publications/Dueckpub.asp>

Spiritual transformation in three religious groups: Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

This project interviewed moral exemplars from three religious groups: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Participants were asked to describe their experience of spirituality and spiritual transformation. Interviews are analyzed using current computational linguistic programs. The research was funded by a grant from the Metanexus Institute and preliminary results have been reported at various conferences.

Theoretical and theological reflections on psychotherapy

This research group focuses on the intersection of philosophical/social issues with religion accommodating psychotherapy. Dissertations have been written on feminism and therapy, relational psychoanalysis and religious discourse, Jewish resources for therapy, and Augustinian perspectives on psychoanalysis.

Scale construction of communal spirituality

Many of the current instruments assessing spirituality assume it is an individual experience. However, there are religious traditions and cultures that emphasize communal spirituality. The scale has been tested and further studies in validity and reliability are being conducted.

International perspectives on psychotherapy

The pattern over the past century has been to export Western psychology to countries developing psychological departments of study. In many parts of the world, these departments now resemble Western approaches to research and therapy. This group explores the nature of indigenous approaches to therapy in religious and non-religious cultures.

Research Team (in alphabetical order): Sabrina Abney, Joseph Barsuglia, Brian Becker, David Choi, Neil Cortez, Lisa Finlay, Adam Ghali, David Goodman, Scott Grover, Steven Huett, Istvan Kasco, Julia Langal, Sabrina Lee, Heather Schroeder Robert Turnbull, Elizabeth Welsh, and Dr. Kevin Reimer

I love the interdisciplinary aspect of Al Dueck's lab. Because many of us would like to do theoretical dissertations, we read philosophy in conjunction with the empirical research that we do for our masters projects. This year one group within the lab has focused on the writings of scholar Rene Girard. We have read his *Deceit, Desire and the Novel* alongside actual therapy transcripts in order to apply his theory to clinical psychology. I am now interested in how various artists have conceptualized the self, as opposed to psychologists, who aim at a "scientific" understanding of the self. Although I will continue to appreciate psychological research, our lab's theoretical focus has also helped me understand the importance of thinking critically about psychology (and its assumptions) as a discipline.

Lisa Finlay, 3rd year student

Imitation, Mimetic Theory, and Religious and Cultural Evolution



Faculty Investigator: Dr. Scott Garrels

Awarded to help further scientific understanding of the relationship between human motivation, culture, and religion, this grant project is a Templeton Advanced Research program sponsored by the Metanexus Institute on Religion and Science and Imitatio: Integrating the Human Sciences. The overall objective of this project is to pioneer interdisciplinary collaboration between scholars of René Girard's mimetic theory of culture and religion and imitation researchers from the empirical sciences.

During the last century of immense scientific progress, the pervasive and foundational role of imitation in human life was either largely ignored or misunderstood by empirical researchers. This is no longer the case. Recent and revolutionary research from developmental psychology, cognitive neuroscience, neurophysiology, and comparative psychology has revealed that imitation is not only a distinct human ability, but also one that is foundational to the emergence and continued functioning of those characteristically human forms of social intelligence, language, rationality and culture. As such, empirical investigations on human imitation are now among the most profound and innovative areas of research contributing to the future of a more unified and coherent understanding of the cognitive and social sciences.

What is more, several decades before empirical research prompted a surge of interest in imitation, the French cultural theorist René Girard had already articulated his *Mimetic Theory*. Early on Girard identified the generative role of imitation on human motivation, including a profound understanding of human violence and its resulting implications for the study of human culture and religion. Since his initial discoveries, Girard's work has only gained increased respectability, spawning diverse applications across a wide range of disciplines and methodological domains.

Yet remarkably, despite the enormous success and inherent overlap between these two fields, there have been no substantial inquiries concerning the critical question of human imitation, which have applied and synthesized recent empirical research with Girard's mimetic theory of culture and religion. The purpose of this project is to do just that: to commence a research program that will pioneer interdisciplinary collaboration between *mimetic scholars* and *empirical researchers* concerning the core mechanisms of imitation and their powerful implications for the study of the human mind, culture and religion. It is our hope that this project will be used for the commencement of a more long-term initiative in helping us to better understand and appreciate the incredible nature of human life, culture, and religion: an appreciation that is essential for transforming human relationships through infinitely more imaginative and non-violent ways of relating.

The second of three project symposiums took place at Stanford University on April 24-26, 2008. Attending this second meeting were several mimetic scholars and members of the Colloquium on Violence and Religion (COV&R), including cultural theorist and pioneer of the mimetic theory René Girard (Stanford University), social and political philosopher Jean-Pierre Dupuy (Stanford University), philosopher Paul Dumouchel (Ritsumeikan University, Japan), anthropologist Mark Anspach (École Polytechnique, Paris), pastor and theologian Robert Hamerton-Kelly (Stanford University), and psychiatrist Jean-Michel Oughourlian (University of Paris).

Andrew Meltzoff (University of Washington), developmental psychologist and the internationally recognized expert on infant imitation was also present, as well as neurophysiologist Vittorio Gallese (University of Parma, Italy), one of the pioneering discoverers of mirror neurons. In addition, several prominent interdisciplinary scholars and researchers also participated in the weekend's events, including physician and bio-ethicist William Hurlbut (Stanford University) and neuroscientist Warren Brown (Fuller Graduate School of Psychology).

The primary goals and activities of this and the following symposium are 1) to present and discuss the latest advances on imitation research from developmental psychology, cognitive neuroscience, neurophysiology, evolutionary theory, and related disciplines in the humanities and social sciences represented by mimetic scholars, 2) to develop various core research topics to be investigated by each participant that will be reviewed and integrated as chapters and published as an edited book, and 3) to develop additional research questions, methodologies, and grant proposals for continued collaborative work between scholars and institutions.

For more information about this grant project visit: www.mimetictheory.org



CPR Publications and Presentations

Papers in Peer Reviewed Journals

Dueck, A., Ting, S. K., & Cutiongco, R. (2007). Constantine, Babel, and Yankee Doodling: Whose indigeneity? Whose Psychology? *Pastoral Psychology*, 56, 55-72.

Dueck, A., & Walling, S. (2007). The contribution of Bishop K. H. Ting to Christian/pastoral Counseling, *Pastoral Psychology*, 56(2), 143-156.

Tan, S. Y., (2007). Using spiritual disciplines in clinical supervision. *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, 26, 328-335.

Tan, S. Y., (2008). Potentially harmful therapies: Psychological treatments that can cause harm. *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, 27, 61-65.



- Tan, S.Y. (2008). Faith in psychology and counseling: Being Spirit-filled servants of Jesus Christ. *Edification: Journal for the Society of Christian Psychology*, 2 (1), 63-68.
- Walker, D.F., Gorsuch, R.L., Tan, S.Y., & Otis, K.E. (2008). Use of religious and spiritual interventions by trainees in APA-accredited Christian clinical psychology programs. *Mental Health, Religion & Culture*, 11, 623-633.

Papers in non-Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Tan, S. Y., (2008). Evangelical spirituality: An essential aspect of evangelical activism. *Theology, News and Notes*, 55(1), 28-31.

Books, Book Chapters, and Other Publications

- Dueck, A., (2007). On Living in Athens: Models of relating Psychology Church and culture. In Stevenson, D. H., Eck, B. E., & Hill, P. C. (Eds.). *Psychology and Christianity integration: Seminal works that shaped the movement* (pp. 217-227). Batavia, IL: Christian Association for Psychological Studies.
- Tan, S.Y. (2007). Integration and beyond: Principled, professional, personal. In D.H. Stevenson, B.E. Eck, & P.C. Hill (Eds.), *Psychology and Christianity integration: Seminal works that shaped the movement* (pp.196-203). Batavia, IL: Christian Association for Psychological Studies.
- Ulanov, A., & Dueck, A., (2008). *Living God and living psyche*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmann.

Presentations at Professional/Scientific Meetings and Published Abstracts

- Becker, B., & Dueck, A. (2007, August). *Iconic Concepts: Seeking Invisible Phenomena in Therapy*, Presented at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco.
- Dueck, A., (2007, September). *Christianity and Counseling*, Lecture at the Institute for Christian Counseling, HK, China.
- Dueck, A., (2007, September). *Chinese and Western Perspectives on Psychology of Religion*, Lecture at Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China.
- Dueck, A., (2007, September). *Internal Family Systems Therapy*, Lecture at the Institute of Psychology, Beijing, China.
- Dueck, A., (2007, October). *Psyche and the spirit*, Paper presented at the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, Fresno, CA.
- Dueck, A., (2007, October). *The therapist as potter*, Paper presented at the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, Fresno, CA. Also presented at Fuller Integration Symposium (2008, February), Pasadena, CA and as workshop for area clinicians (2008, April), Raleigh, NC.
- Dueck, A., (2008, March). *Case Consultation*, Lecture at the Institute of Psychology, Beijing, China.
- Dueck, A., (2008, March). *Postmodern Family*, Lecture at Tonji University, Shanghai, China.
- Dueck, A., Yang, Y., & Hsia, M., (2008, March). *Loss and grieving*, Workshop for the China Christian Council, Nanjing, China.
- Dueck, A., (2008, March). *Retaining good employees*, Lecture at SMIC Shanghai and Beijing, China.

- Dueck, A., (2008, March). *Spiritual transformation in Christian, Jewish and Muslim exemplars*, Paper presented at the Second Psychology of Religion conference: New Directions, Beijing, China.
- Dueck, A., (2008, April). *Thin therapists, thick clients and a Prozac god*, Paper presented to the Spirituality, Theology and Health Seminar, Hillborough, NC.
- Dueck, A. Chang, E., Yang, M., Choi, D., Cortez, N., Chen, M., & Lo, T., (2008, March). Pastoral care lectures at Nanjing Union Theological Seminary, Nanjing, China.
- Dueck, A., Langdal, J., & Goodman, D. (2007, November). *Remembering Heschel: Psychological perspectives*, Paper presented at the Honoring Heschel at 100 International Conference hosted by the Center for Jewish Studies, Baylor University, Waco, TX.
- Dueck, A., Langdal, J., Barsuglia, J., Huett, S., & Ghali, A., (2008, April). *A Christian psychology: Ethical, just, indigenous and the suffering of the innocent*, Paper presented at the Christian Association for Psychological Studies International Convention, Phoenix, AZ.
- Dueck, A., & Welsh, E., (2007, October). *An unfolding of love in the works of Kristeva and Levinas: Implications for psychotherapy*. Paper presented at Levinas conference, Seattle, WA.
- Dueck, A. Welsh, E. & Grover, S., (2008, April). "Love, life, and psychotherapy," Paper presented at the Christian Association for Psychological Studies International Convention, Phoenix, AZ.
- Garrels, S., & Laughrun, D., (2008, January). *The science of human imitation: A collaborative look at imitation, mirror neurons, and psychoanalysis*. Seminar sponsored by Newport Psychoanalytic Institute and Fuller Psychological and Family Services, Pasadena, CA.
- Garrels, S., Waters, C., & Dueck, A., (2008, June). *Discovering catastrophe and conversion in the therapeutic encounter*. Paper presented and panel discussion at the Colloquium on Violence and Religion (COV&R), Riverside, CA.
- Girard, R., Damasio, A., Lacoboni, M., Dupuy, J.-P., & Garrels, S. (2008, January). *Mimetic theory and neuroscience*. Panel discussion sponsored by the Center for the Study of Religion, Los Angeles.
- Goodman, D., & Dueck, A., (2007, August). *Normativity and history: The basis of the normal bell-shaped self*, Paper presented at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco.
- Goodman, D., Walling, S., Dueck, A., & Linscott, A., (2007, August). *Just research, just constructs*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the European Congress of Psychology (ECP). Prague, CZ.
- Grover, S., Gorsuch, R., & Dueck, A., (2007, November). *Conceptions of God across Muslim, Jewish and Christian traditions: An empirical approach using the Five Factor Model of Personality*, Paper presented at the Society for Scientific Study of Religion, Tampa, FL.
- Shafranske, E., & Tan, S.Y. (2007, August). *Integrating religious and spiritual interventions in psychological treatment*. Seven-hour workshop presented at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco.
- Tan, S.Y. (2007, July). *Mindfulness and acceptance: Spiritually-oriented cognitive-behavioral therapy from a Christian perspective*. Professional Counseling Training Workshop presented at Grace Assembly of God Church, Singapore.
- Tan, S.Y. (2007, July). *Spirituality and Christian counseling*. Course taught at Theological Centre of Asia (TCA) College, Singapore.
- Tan, S.Y. (2007, Sept.). *The use of the spiritual disciplines in counseling*. Workshop presented at the AACCC World



Conference, Nashville, TN.

- Tan, S.Y. (2007, Sept.). *Developing an effective and ethical lay counseling ministry in the Church*. Workshop presented at the AACC World Conference, Nashville, TN.
- Tan, S. Y. (2008, March). *Christian disciplines and mental health*. Course taught at the Psychological Studies Institute, Atlanta, GA.
- Tan, S.Y. (2008, April). *Wounded healers: Suffering and stress-related growth*. Plenary Address at the Christian Association for Psychological Studies, International Conference, Phoenix, AZ.
- Tan, S.Y. (2008, April). *Spiritually-oriented cognitive-behavioral therapy: A Christian Approach*. Workshop presented at the CAPS International conference, Phoenix, AZ. Also presented at the Fuller Integration Symposium (2008, February), Pasadena, CA.
- Tan, S.Y. (2008, June). *The Holy Spirit and counseling*, Course taught at Tyndale Seminary, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
- Tan, S.Y. (2008, June). *A spiritual perspective on mental illness: Sin, sickness, or Satan?* Plenary Address at the 7th Annual Mental Health Conference for Faith Leaders, 2008, County of Los Angeles Department of Mental Health, Los Angeles, CA.
- Tan, S.Y. (2008, July). *Experiencing God through Christian Counseling: Implicit and explicit integration*. Plenary Address at the Conference on Wholistic Christian Counselling in Asia 2008, Singapore.
- Ting, S.-K., Dueck, A., & Cutiongco, R., (2007, June). *A critique of indigenous psychology in Asia: Whose indigeneity? Whose psychology?* Paper presented at the Asian Association of Social Psychology, Sabah, Malaysia.
- Welsh, E., Welsh, R., & Dueck, A., (2007, July). *A perspective of postpartum psychosis and infanticide from the theoretical framework of Julia Kristeva*, Paper presented at the annual meeting of the European Congress of Psychology, Prague, CZ.

Papers, Books, Book Chapters Accepted/In Press

- Dueck, A., & Reimer, K. (accepted). *A Peaceable Psychology*. Grand Rapids, Brazos Press.
- Dueck, A., Reimer, K., & Finlay, L. (accepted). *Secularity, psychology, and the Mennonite university*, *Direction*.
- Garzon, F., Worthington, Jr., E. L, Tan, S. Y., & Worthington, R. K., (in press). *Lay Christian counseling approaches and the integration of psychology and Christianity: What lay people often bring into counseling*. *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*.
- Ghali, A., & Dueck, A., (accepted). *Lost in Translation: Response to Watson*, *Edification*.
- Quagliana, D., & Dueck, A., (In Press). *Dealing with an anxiety disorder*, in *closer to home* series.
- Reimer, K. S., Dueck, A., Adelchanow, L., and Muto, J. D, (accepted). *Developing spiritual identity: Retrospective accounts from Muslim, Jewish, and Christian exemplars*. Farnham, UK: Ashgate Publishers.
- Tan, S.Y. (in press). *Developing integration skills: The role of clinical supervision*. *Journal of Psychology and Theology*.

Other TRI Research

Marriage and Family

Conflict Resolution in Families:



Faculty Investigator: Dr. Mari Clements

This project examines the effect of marital conflict on individual and parent-child functioning in intact families with four-year-old children. Of particular interest are 1) the relations between parental marital conflict and children's emerging self-regulation of emotion and behavior and 2) gender differences in parenting in the presence of marital conflict. Results have generally supported links between marital conflict and children's dysregulation of behavior and emotion. Further, support has been found for mediated models of fathering in which marital conflict appears to negatively impact fathers' perceptions of their own parenting and of their relationship with their children. These more negative evaluations of the father-child relationship, in turn, are related to observed father-child interactions.

Since beginning at Fuller, Dr. Clements has consistently helped me in my research efforts. She sat with me while I explored potential research interests, worked with me to hone those interests into a research project, and continually provided feedback during the writing process. I am quite surprised by the progress I have made over the past two years in my development as a researcher and look forward to what the next four years have to offer. Not only does Dr. Clements provide a wonderful opportunity for mentorship with a talented researcher, she offers her students compassion, support, and encouragement as she leads them through their graduate school experience. I am honored to work with her as I develop my research career and I value the resources she has provided for my success in school and for my future professional work.

Mandy Cassil, 3rd year student

Research team (*in alphabetical order*): Andrea Bailey, Amanda Cassil, Bryan Choi, Casey Clardy, Becky De Waay, Cathy Evangelatos, Kelly Goehring, Terry Hong, Lydia Mariam, Brady Miller, Jessica Plumley, Niveen Soliman, Martha Wang



Dr. Clements' Publications and Presentations

Peer Reviewed Articles

Allen, E. S., Rhoades, G. K., Stanley, S. M., Markman, H. J., Williams, T., Melton, J., & Clements, M. L. (2008). Premarital precursors of marital infidelity. *Family Process, 47*, 243-259.

Presentations at Professional/Scientific Meetings and Published Abstracts

Strother, D. F., Clements, M. L., Buckwalter, D. K., & Goodwin, T. M. (2008, February). *Pregnancy and cognition: Effects of nausea and mood*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Waikoloa, Hawaii

Mariam, L. C., & Clements, M. L. (2007, November). *Charting the course of marital conflict using RMICS: Do we need to code it all?* Poster presented at the annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.

Mariam, L. C., Clements, M. L., Flanagan, K. M., Randall, D. W., & Horton, J. J. (2007, November). Conflict Resolution Strategies Scale (CRSS): Development and validation of a self-report measure of couples conflict behaviors. In B. Baucom & E. Gadol (Chairs), *Positive aspects of relationship functioning*. Symposium presented at the annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.

Parenting in Context: Research with Immigrant and Minority Parents



Faculty Investigator: Dr. Lisseth Rojas-Flores

These research projects aim to learn about some of the culturally and contextually unique problems faced by immigrant families in raising their children in the United States. The purpose of the *Child-rearing values and practices of Salvadoran parents living in the US and El Salvador* study is to explore the impact of community violence exposure on parenting practices and values of

Central American parents. Focus groups explore the role that spirituality and the church play in buffering some of the ill effects of community violence and trauma. The impact of immigration and acculturation is also explored with surveys and focus groups. Another study, entitled *Factors that influence the quality of parent-child relationships in Asian immigrant families*, seeks to advance the limited research on Asian immigrant families by identifying factors that contribute to the quality of parent-child relationships among Asian immigrant parents. Focus groups and acculturation surveys were administered to participating parents and surveys will be administered to adolescents. Our ultimate goal is to better design parenting programs that can be more helpful to immigrant and minority families.

Research Team (in alphabetical order): Emily Hong, and Elizabeth Lin



Dr. Rojas-Flores' Publications and Presentations

Presentations at Professional/Scientific Meetings and Published Abstracts

Sánchez, Ramos, J., Y. Lin, E., Clark, J., Siswanto, N., Herrera, S., & Rojas-Flores, L., (2007, November). *Salvadorian and U.S. immigrant Central-American parents' exposure to community violence*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Stress and Trauma Society, Baltimore, MD.

Emotionally Focused Couple Therapy: Process and Training Research



Faculty Investigator: Dr. Jim Furrow

Couple distress is the single most common reason for seeking therapy. It undermines family functioning and is strongly associated with depression, anxiety disorders, and alcoholism. Emotionally Focused Therapy for Couples (EFT) offers a comprehensive theory of adult love and attachment, as well as a process for healing distressed relationships.

Working in this lab has afforded me great opportunities to explore parent-child relationships in Asian immigrant families, an area that is important to me both personally and professionally. This year, I completed a master's project in which I interviewed focus groups of Chinese mothers about their experiences of raising children in the United States, and it was enriching both to hear their stories and to give them an opportunity for their voices to be heard. That project served as a springboard for my dissertation, which will focus more on the child's perspective; Emily Hong and I have started collecting quantitative data from Asian American adolescents regarding their relationships with their parents. Thus, I've been able to do both qualitative and quantitative work and to interact with both parents and children. This research will not only be important to me in the future, as I hope to do therapy and psychoeducation in Asian American communities, but it will also hopefully contribute to the growing body of research in this area that seeks to better understand this population and to formulate relevant prevention and interventions.

Elizabeth Lin, 4th Year Student

This research program includes a series of process research studies on the use of Emotionally Focused Couples Therapy (EFT) in facilitating key change events in the EFT model.

The first study is of the blamer softening event based on the study of practitioners trained in EFT. This follow-up study provides a "field-based" analysis of softening events facilitated by second and third generation therapists. Results from the study promise to confirm and inform the mini-theory as initially proposed. The study will recruit 10 clinical examples of a blamer softening events that will be analyzed using task analysis.

The second study examines therapist interventions and client responses in successful and unsuccessful softening events. Specifically, the study tests the assumption that client emotional experiencing is important to a successful softening event and that the level of therapist emotional engagement is essential in facilitating a successful softening event. Five transcripts and in-session examples are being compared using measure of experiencing and vocal quality for the therapist and client alike.

Research Team (in alphabetical order): Dr. Yok Choi, Shenelle Edwards, Dr. Martin Hsia, Kyle Isaacson, Dr. Allegra Klacsmann, Kelly Short, Tena Sloan

From fall of 2007 to fall 2008 I was given the amazing opportunity of being a research assistant and fellow with Dr. Furrow conducting research related to Emotion Focused Therapy (EFT). Working on this project was rewarding for multiple reasons. First of all, it provided me with the opportunity to contribute to an area of psychology that I care about deeply—couples therapy. I truly believe that our work contributes crucial and much needed information related to *how and why* successful change actually occurs in EFT couples therapy. On a related note, the fellowship opportunity provided me with extensive research experience and enabled me to begin working toward some of my long term career goals of research and practice in couple's therapy. It also provided me with many significant leadership opportunities, including mentoring and supervising the training of other students who are interested in similar research. Such experiences continue to prepare me to become a successful clinical supervisor and teacher. Lastly, but not insignificantly, the fellowship allowed me to channel time and energy into pursuing my research and career goals, while still providing me with much



Dr. Furrow's Publications and Presentations

Papers in Peer Reviewed Journals

Furrow, J. L., & Palmer, G. (2007). EFFT and blended families: Building bonds from the inside out. *Journal of Systemic Therapies*, 26, 44-58.

Bradley, B., & Furrow, J. L. (2007). Inside blamer softening: Maps and missteps. *Journal of Systemic Therapies*, 26, 25-43.

Presentations at Professional/Scientific Meetings and Published Abstracts

Furrow, J. L. & Klacsmann, A. (2008, November). *Rebuilding broken bonds: Insecure attachment and recovery from infidelity*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Orlando, FL.

Atkins, D. C. & Furrow, J. L. (2008, November). *Infidelity is on the rise: But for whom and why*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Orlando, FL.



Choi, Y., Furrow, J. L., & Tan, S. Y. (2007, October). *Client responses in the blamer softening event in Emotionally Focused Therapy*. Poster presentation at the annual meeting of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, Long Beach, CA.

Klacsman, A., Hsia, M., & Furrow, J. L. (2007, October). *Understanding and treating couples with attachment injuries*. Poster presentation at the annual meeting of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, Long Beach, CA.



Infidelity

Faculty Investigator: Dr. David Atkins



Infidelity is both common and associated with a number of negative sequelae including divorce, depression, and anxiety. Recent work in Dr. Atkins lab has shown the central role of religious service attendance as a protective factor where many other religious factors show no relationship with infidelity (e.g., prayer and importance of faith). Moreover, they have been examining trends in infidelity over the 15 year period from 1991 to 2006. These analyses point to large increases in infidelity within certain gender-cohort combinations (e.g., men over 60 and men and women younger than 35) and may point to shifting cultural scripts about sexuality. Infidelity is also a challenging problem for marital therapists, and along with German colleagues, we have examined treatment outcomes for infidelity in a large, effectiveness sample ($N = 576$ couples) of couple therapy in Germany. This research confirms earlier work in his lab, pointing to an optimistic picture of the efficacy of marital therapy to help couples in which there has been an affair when couples seek treatment. Finally, their recent focus on infidelity has shifted to the public health impact of non-monogamy, focusing on the risk for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) when partners have sexual affairs. Past research has shown that partners are unlikely to use safer-sex practices either at home with spouses or with affair partners, putting themselves and their spouses at risk for STIs, including HIV. Dr. Atkins and a colleague at Colorado University at Denver have recently submitted a grant application to NICHD on this topic, focusing in particular on cultural variations in scripts regarding male sexuality and non-monogamy as they relate to actual infidelity.

Sexuality

Faculty Investigator: Dr. David Atkins

In tandem with their recent focus on infidelity and STIs, Dr. Atkins research team is currently involved in research studies focused on sexuality and how cultural scripts about sexuality relate to behavior. Over the last year, he has begun collaborating with Dr. Cliff and Joyce Penner, sex therapists who regularly conduct workshops and seminars on sexual problems and sexual enrichment for couples. They are engaged in several research studies with the Penners: examining clinical assessment data ($N = \sim 2,500$) from the mid-1970s up to the present for shifts in attitudes and behaviors, redesigning and evaluating their clinical assessment tool, and collecting outcome data on their seminars. Another project focuses on sexual scripts within Christian culture and how those relate to sexual behavior. Anecdotal evidence suggests that Christian culture prescribes emotional and cognitive suppression as a general coping strategy for sexual desire, impulses, and behavior (prior to marriage), which the social

psychological literature on thought suppression and emotion regulation would suggest are ineffective. Along with interdisciplinary colleagues from sociology, marriage and family studies, developmental psychology, and clinical psychology, Dr. Atkins and his lab are currently designing a study using the Implicit Association Test (IAT) to examine discrepancy between explicit and implicit sexual attitudes among religious youth (Christian, Jewish, and Muslim) and how a tension between the two (i.e., positive implicit, negative explicit) may relate to compulsive and/or risky sexual behavior. A small, networking grant from the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, initiated this work and they are currently developing a proposal for the Templeton Foundation to fund a larger study.

Marital Therapy

Faculty Investigator: Dr. David Atkins

Dr. Atkins research group also focuses on behavioral approaches to couple therapy, including their efficacy, predictors of successful outcome, and mechanisms of therapeutic improvement. In collaboration with colleagues at UCLA and the University of Washington, they have assisted in research on a large, randomized clinical trial of two couple therapies: integrative and traditional behavioral couple therapies. Their current focus has been on long-term outcome, examining individual and couple adjustment at five years post-therapy. In addition, they have focused on the role of language in therapy. Over the last two years, this research has been supported by a supplemental grant from NIMH focused on the application of computational linguistics programs to therapy transcripts. In the course of this funded project, they have transcribed over 1,200 hours of couple therapy and structured communication tasks, and a handful of student-led projects have explored the linguistic nature of demand-withdraw communication, power processes, self-focused vs. couple-focused discussions, and successful vs. unsuccessful treatment outcomes. This research has led to an interdisciplinary collaboration with colleagues at the University of California, Irvine in the fields of cognitive and computer science. They are also currently revising a grant application to NIH to continue this novel research on the linguistic mechanisms of therapy.

Being able to do quality research that makes a difference in real lives is the reason I pursued a graduate degree. Yet with the high demands of grad school and "tyranny of the urgent", I feared I'd miss out on research experience. But I was wrong. I've been fortunate that my time at Fuller has been full of opportunities to participate in high quality research. TRI's commitment to providing such opportunities for, and exposure to, research has been obvious from the beginning. Since joining my lab I have been able to collaborate in the inception and development of a research study spanning multiple institutions. I have been involved in data entry, analyzing and reviewing my own data on the sexual attitudes, behaviors and problems of Christian married couples. Thanks to the funding of TRI, I was blessed with the chance to present my data at a national conference, rubbing elbows with the crème de la crème of the field. And through TRI's colloquia I have been exposed to exciting, diverse research taking place across the country. My lab's and TRI's commitment to support and encourage excellence in research are giving me the opportunity to accumulate the knowledge and experience necessary to be a competent researcher who effectively contributes to the ongoing discourse of the psychological community.

Rebeca Marin-Cordero, 4th year student



Dr. Atkins' Publications and Presentations

Papers in Peer Reviewed Journals

Atkins, D. C., & Kessel, D. E. (2008). Religiousness and infidelity: Attendance, but not faith and prayer, predict marital fidelity. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 70, 407-418.

McGlinchey, J. B., Zimmerman, M., & Atkins, D. C. (2008). Clinical significance and remission: Bridging two parallel treatment outcome constructs. *Harvard Review of Psychiatry*, 16, 1-10.



Simpson, L. E., Atkins, D. C., Gattis, K. S., & Christensen, A. (2008). Low-level violence and couple therapy outcomes. *Journal of Family Psychology, 22*, 102-111.

Atkins, D. C., & Gallop, R. J. (2007). Re-thinking how family researchers model infrequent outcomes: A tutorial on count regression and zero-inflated models. *Journal of Family Psychology, 21*, 726-735.

Atkins, D. C., & Haynes, B. (2007). Book review of *Getting past the affair: A program to help you cope, heal, and move on – together or apart*. *The Family Psychologist, 23*(4), 40-41.

Books, Book Chapters, and Other Publications

Atkins, D. C. (2007). Regression. In W. A. Darity (Ed.), *International encyclopedia of the social sciences* (2nd Ed., Vol. 7 pp. 136-137). New York: Thomson/Gale.

Atkins, D. C., & Marin Cordero, R. (2007). Infidelity. In W. A. Darity (Ed.), *International encyclopedia of the social sciences* (2nd Ed., Vol. 4, pp. 20-22). New York: Thomson/Gale.

Bedics, J. D., & Atkins, D.C. (2007). Timothy Leary. In W. A. Darity (Ed.), *International encyclopedia of the social sciences* (2nd Ed., Vol. 4, pp. 390-391). New York: Thomson/Gale.

Presentations at Professional/Scientific Meetings and Published Abstracts

Gallop, R. J., Dimidjian, S., Atkins, D. C., & Muggeo, V. (2008, March). *Quantifying treatment effect when flexibly modeling individual change in a nonlinear mixed effects model*. Presentation at the annual meeting of the Eastern North American Region (ENAR) of the International Biometrics Society, Arlington, VA.

Kirby, J. S., Baucom, D. H., Pukay-Martin, N. D., Porter, L. S., Atkins, D. C., Fredman, S. J., Gremore, T. M., & Keefe, F. J. (2007, November). *Important factors in men's psychological responses to women's breast cancer*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.

Lo, T. Y., Marin, R. A., Atkins, D. C., Klann, N., & Hahlweg, K. (2007, November). *Infidelity in couple therapy: Does infidelity affect treatment outcomes?* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.

Williams, M. B., Atkins, D. C., & Christensen, A. (2007, November). *Personal dedication vs. constraint commitment: How reasons for getting married affect satisfaction and therapy outcomes*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.

Steenwyk, S. A. M., Atkins, D. C., & Christensen, A. (2007, November). *Using basic linguistic science to understand the language of empathic joining*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.

Kessel, D. E., Atkins, D. C., & Furrow, J. L. (2007, November). *Infidelity on the rise: The evolving demographics of infidelity*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.

Marin, R. A., Chaves, F. J., & Atkins, D. C. (2007, November). *Behind closed doors: The sexual attitudes, behaviors, and problems of Christian married couples*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.

- Chaves, F. J., Marin, R. A., & Atkins, D. C. (2007, November). *He said, she said: Exploring congruence within the sexual experiences of Christian couples*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.
- Bedics, J. D., Atkins, D. C., Dimidjian, S., & Christensen, A. (2007, November). *Comparing the association of marital distress and depression in treatment of depression and treatment of marital discord*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.
- Bortnik, K. E., Atkins, D. C., Klann, N., & Hahlweg, K. (2007, November). *Bad relationships can be so depressing: The association between marital discord and depression in a community-based sample of couples seeking treatment*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.
- Williams, K. J., Atkins, D. C., & Christensen, A. (2007, November). *The language of closeness: Relationship talk in distressed couples*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.
- Atkins, D. C., & Laurenceau, J. P. (2007, November). *How advancements in the basic science of methodology can improve the study of clinical problems and intervention*. Symposium co-chaired at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.
- Atkins, D. C., & Gallop, R. J. (2007, November). *Rethinking how clinical researchers model negative outcomes: Count regression and zero-inflated models*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Philadelphia.
- Williams, M. B., Atkins, D. C., & Christensen, A. (2007, October). *What were your reasons for getting married? How the history of the relationship impacts marital therapy*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Long Beach, CA.
- Lo, T. Y., Marin, R. A., Atkins, D. C., Klann, N., & Hahlweg, K. (2007, October). *Infidelity and couple therapy in a community-based sample*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Long Beach, CA.
- Doeden, M., Atkins, D. C., & Christensen, A. (2007, October). *Therapist effects in behavioral couple therapy*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Long Beach, CA.
- Bortnik, K. E., Atkins, D. C., Klann, N., & Hahlweg, K. (2007, October). *Marital discord and depression in a community-based sample*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Long Beach, CA.
- Gallop, R. J., Dimidjian, S., & Atkins, D. C. (2007, October). *Quantifying treatment efficacy when flexibly modeling individual change*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Psychotherapy Research, Madison, WI.
- Schnose, M. A., Gooden, W., Atkins, D. C., Morales, T., & Hunt, R. (2007, August). *Marital satisfaction among Hispanic couples: Adult attachment, shame, and intimacy*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco.



Student Mentoring and Support

All 4 research centers have been able to support student research in various ways not only by creating research assistantship and fellowships opportunities but also by financially supporting the students' attendance and presentation at professional conferences.

During the academic year 2007-2008, a total of 12 students have been presented with research fellowships and additional 11 held research assistantships for a total amount of \$173,847 in funding.

TRI Research Fellows

(in alphabetical order)

Brianne DeWitt Goudelock
Shanesha Legardy
Shawneen Pazienza

SOP Research Fellows

(in alphabetical order)

Emily Andrews (Thrive fellow)
Hana Carmona (Thrive fellow)
Shenelle Edwards
Andrew Geddert (Thrive fellow)
Kathryn Harrell
Suzanne Hilleary
Elizabeth Lin
Lydia Mariam
Rebeca Marin Cordero
Rebecca Roberts

TRI Research Assistants

(in alphabetical order)

Lauren Adelnachow
Jamie Bedics
Steve Brown
Casey Clardy
Rebeca Marin Cordero
Renee Marie Cutiongco
Wesley Dorsett
Roger Erickson
Adam Ghali
Jenel Ramos

One of the most critical areas of work in TRI is mentoring students in their graduate training and research. Students have always been encouraged by their faculty mentors to attend and present to national and international professional conferences. In the past year, TRI was able to provide financial support of approximately \$5,900 to 22 students for participation to meetings such as International Neuropsychological Society, International Society of Traumatic Stress Studies, Society for Research in Adolescents, Association of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, European Congress of Psychology, 5th World Conference for Psychotherapy, The Society for Student of Psychology and Wesleyan Theology, American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, etc. The amount includes funding generated directly by grants and also the funding provided by TRI for students that do not have access to grant money.

Research Grants and Funding

2007-2008

Total funding: \$442,349

Federal government funding	\$23,462
Institutes and other agencies	\$174,445
Private foundations grants and endowments rev	\$190,442
Other sources	\$54,000

Research Output

During the past year, 2007 through 2008, the scholarly output of the TRI faculty indicates significant progress and impact within the research domains represented.

TRI Center	Peer Reviewed publications	Non-Peer Reviewed Publications	Books, Book Chapters, Other publications	Presentations at professional meetings	In-press Publications	Book Reviews
Center for Biopsychosocial Research	5		6	7	5	
Center for Research in Child and Adolescent Development		1	2	9	1	
Center for the Study of Stress, Trauma and Adjustment	2		1	10	4	
Center for Research in Psychotherapy and Religion	6	1	3	36	7	1
Other TRI Research	9		3	26		
Total (2007-2008)	22	2	15	88	17	1

TRI Events

Symposia

April 2008

Imitation, mimetic theory, and religious & cultural evolution

An international and interdisciplinary symposium organized by Dr. Scott Garrels as part of his Templeton Advanced Research Program (TARP) sponsored by Metanexus Institute and Imitatio. Among others, participants included Rene Girard (Stanford University), Andrew Meltzoff (University of Washington), Vittorio Gallese (University of Parma, Italy), and Warren S. Brown (Fuller Seminary / School of Psychology). This meeting was held in the Gould Center for Conflict Resolution at Stanford University, Palo Alto, California

Research Colloquia

Fall 2007

Tuppett Yates, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychology, University of California, Riverside
Trauma embodied: The role of child maltreatment in nonsuicidal self-injury

Michael Spezio, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychology, Scripps College, Visiting Associate in Psychology & Neuroscience, CalTech

Mindset influences early processing in brain networks for social decisions associated with real electoral outcomes: Evidence for top-down effects on the amygdala

Archibald Hart, PhD, Senior Professor and Dean Emeritus, Fuller School of Psychology
Heart rate variability research and its implications for clinical practice

Winter 2008

Albert Rizzo, PhD, Research Scientist - Institute for Creative Technologies, Research Asst. Professor - USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology, Director - Virtual Environments Lab, Integrated Media Systems Center, USC, Viterbi School of Engineering
Design, development and data from a virtual reality exposure therapy tool for the treatment of combat-related PTSD

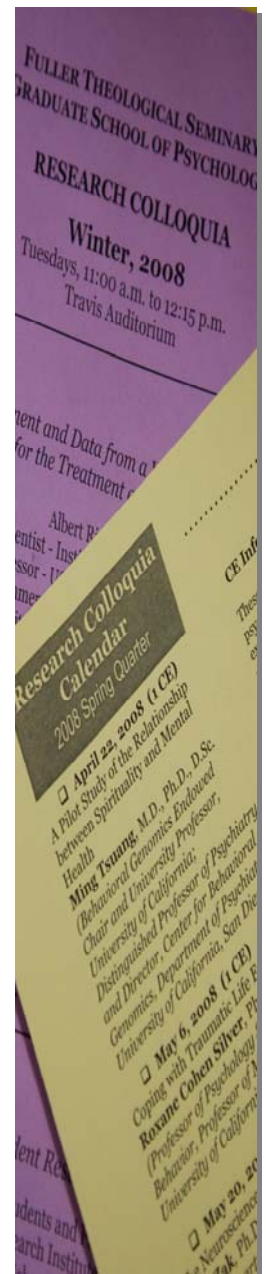
Paul Touchette, EdD, Professor & Principal Psychologist, Child Neurology Division, Department of Pediatrics, University of California, Irvine
Severe challenging behavior in developmental disorders: identifying phenotypes and interventions

Spring 2008

Ming T. Tsuang, M.D., Ph.D., D.Sc., Behavioral Genomics Endowed Chair and University Professor, University of California; Distinguished Professor of Psychiatry and Director, Center for Behavioral Genomics, Dept. of Psychiatry, University of California, San Diego
A pilot study of the relationship between spirituality and mental health

Roxane Cohen Silver, PhD, Professor of Psychology & Social Behavior, Professor of Medicine, University of California, Irvine
Coping with traumatic life events

Paul Zak, PhD, Professor and Chair, Dept. of Economics, School of Politics and Economics, Claremont Graduate University
The neuroscience of virtue





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Excellence in Research and Scholarship

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