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Center for the Study of Religion and Society

GRR/ Launches | Research Highlights | American Generosity

Global Religion Research Initiative Funding the Social Scientific Study of Global Religion

CSRS is pleased to announce the launch of the Global Religion Research initiative (GRR), funded by the Templeton Religion Trust of Nassau, Bahamas. Directed by Christian Smith, the initiative is dedicated to supporting the study of religion in global perspective in order to address two weaknesses in contemporary scholarship, namely the neglect of religion as a subject of study in the social sciences and the relative neglect of scholarship on religions outside of the North Atlantic region.

The GRR seeks to realize these goals by providing scholars interested in pursuing questions related to the structure, practice, and influence of religions worldwide with resources to conduct their work. To match resources with talented scholars interested in studying religion, the GRR will conduct three rounds of competitive funding, open to scholars (both faculty and graduate students) with a wide array of research interests from social science disciplines. University of Notre Dame undergraduate students interested in research on global religion can apply for the Notre Dame Undergraduate Research Fellowship program.

In total, more than \$3 million will be awarded to 150 scholars of global religion through faculty sabbatical fellowships, postdoctoral positions, dissertation fellowships, project launch and international collaboration funding grants, and curriculum development grants, as well as funding for undergraduate research for Notre Dame undergraduate students.

The first round of proposals will be accepted in Fall 2016 for funding for the 2017–2018 academic year, and the second and third rounds of funding will follow in subsequent years. Visit grr.nd.edu or email grr@nd.edu for more information.



Congratulations, Cole!

The Center is proud to recognize the accomplishments of one of our recent graduates, **Cole Carnesecca**. The Winner of the 2015 D'Antonio Award, Cole has accepted a tenure-track position at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China.

Cole's work is primarily focused on Chinese and Japanese society, religion, social movements, state formation, and social theory. His dissertation, "Fate of the Gods," is a historical-comparative analysis of state formation in China and Japan in which he developed an alternative approach to understanding religion in modernity as part of an ideological reconstruction of political institutions. His other work explores the relationship of religion—particularly Chinese congregations—to civic engagement.

Graduate Students

Feyza Akova

Jade Avelis

Cole Carnesecca

Katie Comeau

Shanna Corner

Julie Dallavis

Hilary Davidson

Kevin Estep

Ethan Fridmanski

Sarah Harrison

Karen Hooe Michalka

Linda Kawentel

Hyunjin Deborah Kwak

McKenna LeClear

Bridget Littleton

Brianna McCaslin

Chris Quiroz

Megan Rogers

Chip Rotolo

Peter Ryan

Brandon Sepulvado

Lisa Weaver Swartz

Justin Van Ness

Brad Vermurlen

Michael Wood



Graduate Student Award

Bradley Vermurlen (left) and **Karen Hooe Michalka** (right) won the 2016 William V. D'Antonio award for Graduate Student Excellence in the Sociology of Religion at the University of Notre Dame, awarded by Christian Smith and Kraig Beyerlein. The award is named after William D'Antonio, who joined the faculty of Notre Dame as assistant professor in 1957. He served as Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology from 1966 to 1971.

Bradley's dissertation describes and causally explains the New Calvinist movement (also known as the "Reformed resurgence") within present-day American Evangelicalism at the level of religious leadership. He examines American Evangelicalism empirically as its own field of strategic contestation rather than as a unified or coherent movement, allowing him to develop a model of simultaneous reli-

gious strength and weakness in modernity, such that pockets of religious vitality come at the expense of religious conflict, fragmentation, and incoherence.

Karen's work focuses on the embodied culture of Latino Protestant churches and how congregational rituals and boundary-work shape group identity in a new immigrant location. Her dissertation is a comparative ethnography of two churches that shows how the practices of communal worship, engagement with the second generation, gendered family relationships, and the incorporation of suffering in daily life bring meaning and order to lives of immigrant Latino Protestants.



Graduate Presentations

2015 Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Presentations

- **Manglos-Weber, Nicolette and Jade Avelis.** "Consciousness and Concern: New Ways of Talking about Young Adult Religiosity."
- **Karen Hooe Michalka.** "Including the Youth: Process of Incorporation of the Second Generation at Two Latino Protestant Congregations"
- **Linda Kawentel.** "School Sector and Catholic Religiosity: Re-Examining How School Type Relates to Later Religiosity Among American Catholics,"
- **Peter Ryan.** "The 'Language of Reverence', Secularization Movement(s) and Countermovement(s) in the Unitarian Universalist Association"
- **Lisa Weaver Swartz.** "Al Mohler's Pulpit: Embodied Masculinity at a Southern Baptist Seminary "
- **Justin Van Ness.** "Exploring a New Religious Movement's Anti-Religious Religious Culture"
- **Michael Wood.** "Individual Religious Trajectories and Civic Engagement: Separating the Never Religious from the Formerly Religious"

2015 American Sociological Association Presentations

- **Cole Carnesecca.** "Theologies of the State: the Meiji Restoration and the Emergence of Religious Modernity in Japan"
- **Katherine Comeau.** "Non-governmental Organizations and the Impact of Religious Identity"
- **Shanna Corner.** "The Proper Role of Religion: Nuancing Theorization of the Politics of Legitimizing Human Rights"
- **Daniel Escher.** "The Role of Cultural Matching in Micro-Mobilization"
- **Megan Rogers.** "The Impact of Differing Levels of Legal Regulation on Chinese Religiosity"
- **Megan Rogers.** "Who Are China's Buddhists? Applying Riesebrodt's Theory of Religion to Contemporary Chinese Buddhism"
- **Megan Rogers** with Mary Ellen Konieczny. "Religion, Secular Humanism, and Atheism: USAFA and the Cadets' Freethinkers Group"
- **Bradley Vermurlen.** "The Production of Marginal Culture: The Case of Calvinist Hip-Hop"
- **Michael Wood.** "Bonds of Discord: Religious Meaning-Making in Online Mormon Interpretive Communities"

Faculty Fellows

Kraig Beyerlein
 Kevin Christiano
 Jessica Collett
 Donna Freitas
 Edwin Hernandez
 Mary Ellen Konieczny
 Atalia Omer
 David Sikkink
 Christian Smith
 Jason Springs
 Erika Summers-Effler
 Michael Welch

Visiting Scholars

Casey Clevenger
 Christine Gardner
 Ines Jindra
 Michael Jindra
 Roberta Ricucci

Visiting Faculty

Rhys Williams

Featured Undergraduate Student: Abigail Jorgensen



Abigail became involved with The Center for the Study of Religion and Society in 2014 as an Undergraduate Fellow.

Her project examined how Catholicism defined much of Danish culture until the Protestant Reformation. Abigail used fellowship funds to travel to Denmark and interview Danish Catholics about how they see their faith identity and political identity interacting, and with the guidance of Dr. David Sikkink, she completed a yearlong capstone project on this topic.

Abigail will continue her study of identity and politics as a graduate student at the University of Notre Dame this fall.

FACULTY RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Kraig Beyerlein is nearing completion of his book manuscript (*Flooding the Desert: Faith-Based Mobilizing to Save Lives along the Sonora-Arizona Border*) on the causes and consequences of congregations' involvement in the humanitarian aid movement in Southern Arizona. Kraig also collaborated with the Center for Social Concerns to teach their Border Issues Seminar, which included a weeklong immersion trip to the Mexico-United States border, in which 15 undergraduate students participated.

Kraig Beyerlein collected the first-ever nationally representative sample of protest events in the United States using the hypernetwork sampling method. The overview paper (co-authored with three Notre Dame graduate students) is forthcoming in *Sociological Methods and Research*. Two graduate students and four undergraduates helped with data cleaning and coding. Kraig and graduate student Peter Ryan will also present a paper on the role of religion in explaining variation among protesters at this year's annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR) in Atlanta.

Ines Jindra and **Michael Jindra** continue work on their project "Nonprofits and Poverty: Diverse Approaches and Controversial Issues."

Mary Ellen Konieczny finished collecting data for her Marriage and Divorce, Conflict and Faith Study. A sole-authored paper by Mary Ellen Konieczny, "Individualized Marriage and Family Disruption Ministries: How Culture Matters" has just been published in the journal *Sociology of Religion*. Additional papers from this project are currently under review.

Mary Ellen Konieczny conducted exploratory research for her third book project during a faculty development trip to East Africa in summer 2014, and a second, three-week research visit to Rwanda in summer 2015. She received internal funding from ND Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts and the CSRS to conduct a research visit in July and August 2016. The topic surrounds Marian apparitions in East Africa and their cultural and political significance. The focal case is Our Lady of Kibeho, an apparition that took place in Rwanda in 1981, and the only Church-approved apparition in Africa.

Mary Ellen Konieczny, Charles C. Camosy, and Tricia Bruce have co-edited a book originating in the conference on the topic of polarization in the U.S. Catholic Church that Mary Ellen organized and led with Charles Camosy at Notre Dame in April 2015. The book, *Polarization in the U.S. Catholic Church: Naming the Wounds, Beginning to Heal*, includes contributions from sociologists, theologians, and church leaders, and was published by Liturgical Press in August 2016.

Mary Ellen Konieczny and Megan Roger's paper on the USAFA Freethinkers Group was accepted for publication by *the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* in November 2015. Mary Ellen submitted a book proposal and chapter to Oxford University Press in June 2015, and received an advance contract from Oxford in fall 2015. With funding from Jack Shand and CSRS, Mary Ellen conducted a research trip to USAFA in June 2016, to wrap up interviews and archival data collection. The project has also been funded by the Louisville Institute and by grants from ND Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts and the ND Office of Research.

Atalia Omer is working on a book project that examines the phenomenon of Jewish Americans who are critics of Israel and Palestine solidarity activists. It argues that they constitute not only a social movement but also a refashioned Jewish-American community. The research examines this movement's participation in both inter-traditional work that seeks to provincialize Zion from Jewish identity, and inter-traditional and intersectional work that seeks to fight Islamophobia, racisms, and other social justice concerns. Omer studies specifically a new Chicago-based non-Zionist Jewish congregation that embodies a Jewish transformative agenda.

David Sikkink continues his research collaboration with the Institute for the Advanced Study of Culture at the University of Virginia, working on the Moral Foundations of Education Project. He is designing and conducting surveys with students, teachers, and parents in 54 selected schools. The goal of the project is to better understand moral and civic formation processes in a diverse set of schools, including Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Islamic and various types of non-religious schools.

CENTER PUBLICATIONS

- Andrews, Kenneth, **Kraig Beyerlein** (Equal First Authors), and Tuneke Tucker Frantum. 2016. "Legitimacy of Protest: Explaining White Southerners' Attitudes Toward the Civil Rights Movement." *Social Forces* 94(3):1021-1044.
- **Beyerlein, Kraig**, Sarah Soule, and Nancy Martin. 2015. "Prayers, Protest, and Police: How Religion Influences Police Presence at Collective Action Events in the United States, 1960-1995." *American Sociological Review* 80(6):1250-1271.
- **Christiano, Kevin**. 2016. "European Principles and Canadian Practices: Developing Secular Contexts for Religious Diversity." Chapter 3 in Francisco Colom Gonzalez and Gianni D'Amato (eds.), *Multireligious Society: Dealing with Religious Diversity in Theory and Practice*. Farnham, England: Ashgate Publishing.
- **Collet, Jessica**, Kelcie Vercel, and Olevia Boykin. 2015. "Using Identity Processes to Understand Persistent Inequality in Parenting." *Social Psychology Quarterly* 78(4):345-64.
- **Smith, Christian**. 2014. Symposium on *What is a Person?* in *Method: Journal of Lonergan Studies* 5(1).
- **Smith, Christian**. 2016. "The Conceptual Incoherence of 'Culture.'" *The American Sociologist* 47(1):1-28.
- **Smith, Christian**. 2016. "Persons and Human Nature." Part of Chapter 4 In Agustin Fuentes and Aku Visala (eds.), *Conversations on Human Nature*. Walnut Creek, CA: Left Coast Press.
- **Springs, Jason**. 2016. "Tentacles of the Leviathan? Nationalism, Islamophobia, and the Insufficiency-yet-Indispensability of Human Rights for Religious Freedom in Contemporary Europe," *Journal for the American Academy of Religion*.

SCIENCE OF GENEROSITY

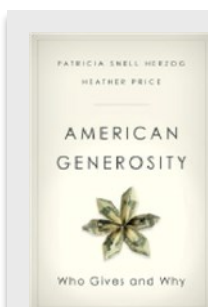


researchers). The data will also be released to the public later this year through the Association of Religion Data Archives (ARDA). This project is funded by the Science of Generosity grant from the John Templeton Foundation.

Kraig Beyerlein is working with graduate students and various colleagues on a number of projects using Science of Generosity data. His manuscript on the effect of religion on blood donation is forthcoming in the *Sociology of Religion*. Another paper (with Jeff Sallaz - University of Arizona) focuses on the relationship between religion and

gambling. A paper with Kelly Bergstrand (University of Texas-Arlington) that analyzes dyads to understand why certain people but not others are recruited to donate blood, volunteer time, and engage in political activism is conditionally accepted at *Social Science Research*. Kraig is also investigating (with John R. Hipp of UC-Irvine) how the larger religious context affects people's generosity. Kraig and John presented a paper on their findings at the 2016 American Sociological Association annual meeting.

Christian Smith led a research team in analyzing data from a nationally representative survey on generosity and related topics, and from in-depth, household interviews and family ethnographies with 40 of the survey respondents in 12 U.S. cities. The analysis is complete and resulted in a second book, *American Generosity: Who Gives and Why* by Patricia Snell Herzog and Heather Price (former CSRS students and



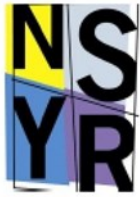
New Book: *American Generosity*

American charitable giving ranges from the extremely generous to the stingy. On some days, no one has a quarter to spare; in times of disaster, Americans will put their lives on hold to build houses for those displaced. The crucial question of who gives and why they do lies at the heart of ***American Generosity***, Oxford University Press 2016.

Patricia Snell Herzog and **Heather E. Price**, both formerly of the Center for the Study of Religion and Society, draw on findings from the groundbreaking Science of Generosity initiative, which combines a nationally representative survey of adult Americans with in-depth interviews and case studies. For most Americans, they find, the important forms of giving are

donating money, volunteering time, and taking political action. Focusing on these three activities, the authors examine and analyze multiple dimensions of resources, social status, regional cultural norms, different approaches to giving, social-psychological orientation, and the relational contexts of generosity.

NSYR WAVE 4 DATA AVAILABLE SOON



The National Study of Youth and Religion, directed by **Christian Smith**, was designed to investigate the religious lives of American adolescents and emerging adults. This mixed-method study included surveys of 3,370 adolescents (and their parents) in a nationally representative sample in 2002, along with in-person interviews with a subset of this sample. Respondents were re-contacted at three additional time points for subsequent surveys and interviews, resulting in four waves of data collected over 11 years.

Currently, the first three waves of NSYR survey data are available for download from the Association of Religion Data Archives (thearda.com), and the Wave 4 data will be added to the ARDA archive this fall. Researchers interested in using NSYR interview data can apply for restricted data access by emailing sskiles@nd.edu.

CARDUS RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS INITIATIVE



The Cardus Religious Schools Initiative (CRSI), directed by **David Sikkink**, conducts empirical research aimed at understanding students' experiences in private and religious schools, and outcomes as a result of attending such schools, both in terms of differences within the religious school sector, and between religious and secular schools.

During the Spring 2016 semester, the fourth wave of the Cardus Education Survey was fielded, collecting data from Canadian high school graduates. Analyses of those data are currently underway, and a major report of findings will be released in September. The research team, including project manager **Sara Skiles**, postdoctoral fellow **Jon Schwarz**, and graduate student **Sarah Harrison**, also completed a project last year that examined the depth and effectiveness of religious congregational involvement in public schools. Reports outlining recent findings can be found on the CRSI website: <http://crsi.nd.edu>

LILLY PARENTING PROJECT UPDATE

One of the primary lessons learned from the first waves of the National Study of Youth and Religion was that adolescents and young adults tend to be much more influenced by their parents' beliefs and behaviors than by the beliefs and behaviors of their peers, the media, and even religious congregations, leading to the conclusion that, at least for the transmission of religious faith and practices, what parents say and do matters greatly.

A research team led by **Christian Smith** conducted 235 interviews between April 2014 and June 2016 with parents from across the United States to examine the intergenerational transmission of religious and moral beliefs. Interviewers for the project included **Donna Freitas**, Amy Adamczyk, Nicolette Manglos-Weber, **Heather E. Price**, **Hilary Davidson**, **Katie Comeau**, Justin Bartkus, Angel Williams, and Daniel Matus. A group of two dozen graduate and undergraduate students is wrapping up data coding this fall.

Awards and Recognitions

- **Jade Avelis**. 2015. Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Kaneb Center for Teaching and Learning at the University of Notre Dame.
- **Shanna Corner**. 2015. \$19,000 Dissertation Year Fellowship, ND Kellogg Institute for International Studies.
- **Shanna Corner**. 2015. \$3,000 SSSR Student Research Award, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, and \$3,000 Graduate Student Research Award, Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, University of Notre Dame.
- **Hilary Davidson** along with former graduate student **Brandon Vaidayanathan**. 2015. \$6,000 Collaborative Research Grant from the Lake Institute, and \$1,500 from the ND Nanovic Institute for European Studies.
- **McKenna LeClear**. 2015. \$25,000 ND Kellogg Institute PhD Fellowship.
- **Megan Rogers**. 2015. \$24,000 National Security Education (NSEP) Boren Fellowship.
- **Megan Rogers**. 2015. \$22,000 Fulbright Study/Research Grant to fund her dissertation research in China.

Colloquium on the Interdisciplinary Study of Religion

The CSRS offers a colloquia series, the Colloquium for the Interdisciplinary Study of Religion (CISR), which brings together graduate students and faculty from disciplines including sociology, history, and political science.

Last year's speakers included:

Annette Mahoney, Bowling Green University, "Psychological Research on the Bright and Dark Side of Sacred Love"

Neslihan Cevik, "Turkish Muslimism: A New Islamic Engagement with Modernity, Neither Fundamentalist nor Liberal"



Neslihan Cevik

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