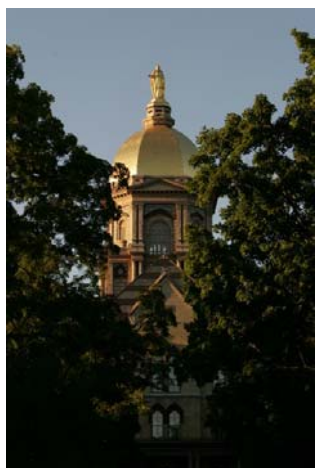


CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION AND SOCIETY

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| <i>Young Scholars</i> | 2 |
| <i>Faculty Profile</i> | 2 |
| <i>Publications</i> | 3 |
| <i>Graduate Students</i> | 3 |
| <i>Upcoming Events</i> | 4 |



Center for the Study of Religion and Society

Director
Christian Smith

Programs & Research Specialist
Trish Snell

Faculty:
David Sikkink
Jessica Collet
Michael Welch
Andy Weigert
Kevin Cristiano

NSYR HEADS INTO WAVE 3

Preparations are underway for a third wave of data collection for the National Study of Youth and Religion (NSYR), funded by Lilly Endowment Inc.

The Principal Investigator of Wave 1 & 2, Dr. Christian Smith, is the William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Sociology and Director for the Center for the Study of Religion and Society (CSRS) at the University of Notre Dame.

The third wave of the study will be administered through CSRS at Notre Dame with continued cooperation from the Carolina Population Center and the Department of Sociology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The \$1,096,631 Wave 3 NSYR grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. will be combined

with a \$99,750 grant from the John Templeton Foundation and research support money from the University of Notre Dame to complete this phase of work.

Beginning in 2007, the NSYR will conduct telephone surveys and face-to-face interviews with the same teenagers that were surveyed and interviewed in the first and second waves of the research project.

This third wave will seek to understand the religious and spiritual lives of emerging adults, who will be between 18 to 24 years of age at the time of data collection.



Soul Searching: A Movie About Teenagers and God is a documentary based on NSYR Wave 1 findings. www.soulsearchingmovie.com/portfolio/all/1.html

“Transforming the cross-sectional NSYR Wave 1 data into a panel study that follows our national youth sample on their journey into emerging adulthood will take an already valuable study to a new level of significance and usefulness,” says Dr. Christian Smith.

STUDY OF RELIGIOUS CHANGE IN U.S.

CSRS Faculty member David Sikkink and his research team are continuing work on the Panel Study of American Religion and Ethnicity (PS-ARE).

Funded by Lilly Endowment Inc., this panel study aims to understand religious change

in individuals and families over the course of their lives and across generations.

The PS-ARE will provide scholars and religious leaders a unique perspective on the dynamics, challenges, and opportunities of individual-level and congregational

religious change over time.

Questions involve such areas as faith formation, congregational involvement, public service, racial justice and religion in public life.

“The conference was an excellent opportunity to network, meet others working with similar subjects, and collaborate for the future.”—YSSR conference participant

CSRS HOSTS YOUNG SCHOLARS CONFERENCE

The CSRS hosted a 3-day conference at Notre Dame entitled “Young Scholars in the Sociology of Religion.” Young scholars refers to advanced sociology of religion graduate students, new PhDs, and assistant professors who are less than three years out from their PhD programs.

Participants were from universities around the country, including Harvard, Princeton, Penn State, Texas-Austin, Berkeley, Indiana, Arizona, North Carolina, Arizona State, Ohio State, Georgetown, Rice, Wayne State, Loyola

Marymount, and the University of Chicago.

The conference also included Notre Dame undergraduate students, Notre Dame graduate students and assistant professors. An editor from Oxford University Press joined the conference to talk about book publishing and participants’ research projects.

The purpose of the conference was to bring together



Young Scholars Conference Participants

some of the most promising young scholars in the sociology of religion from around the country to discuss their own work and larger intellectual issues and directions in the field.

RELIGION SURVEY DATA EXPANSION PROJECT

This year, the CSRS is leading the Religion Survey Data Expansion Project (ReISDEP), funded by the John Templeton Foundation.

The project is designed to increase the availability of a large number of top quality survey dataset resources for the study of

religion and spirituality and to increase the number of capable social science scholars analyzing religious and spiritual factors in the operation of human social life.

The collaborative project committee of 25 highly experienced social science survey researchers with

interests in religion and spirituality will comparatively evaluate the merits of specific new or revised religion and spirituality survey questions. Researchers will investigate well established, high quality, and highly respected existing surveys on which these questions could be placed.

FACULTY PROFILE—JESSICA COLLETT



Jessica Collett

In the Spring of 2007, Jessica Collett joined the CSRS. Jessica Collett is in her second year as an assistant professor of Sociology at Notre Dame. Jessica received her MA and PhD from the University of Arizona in 2002 and 2006, respectively, and her BA from Winthrop University in 1998.

Jessica’s research focuses on the contributions of

social psychology to understanding social life, including religion and religiosity.

As a graduate student, Jessica received an Outstanding Student Paper award from the ASA’s Sociology of Religion Section for “Why Biology is not (Religious) Destiny: A Second Look at Gender Differences in Religiosity” (with Omar Lizardo) and published a paper in the JSSR

on Charitable Choice and clergy referral decisions.

She is currently interested in identity processes in religious organizations and the effect these have on member commitment and cohesion, as well as how religious organizations use identity work to shape perceptions of the community at large.

HUMAN PERSONHOOD IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

This collaborative project on Human Personhood in the Social Science, funded by the John Templeton Foundation, is exploring non-reductionistic accounts of the nature of the human person as they relate to the work of the social sciences.

The project gathers together interdisciplinary groups of scholars in sociology, psychology, political science, philosophy, theology, and law to discuss key questions toward developing new theoretical models of the nature of human

personhood in ways that might improve theoretical and empirical work in the social sciences.

In the 2006-2007 academic year, CSRS hosted a consultation meeting in Sea Island, Georgia with participants from a number of universities across the U.S. and in an array of disciplines.

In 2007-2008, CSRS, in collaboration with the Notre Dame Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, with support from the Provost's Office and the



HP meeting at Sea Island, Georgia

Graduate School, is hosting a series of monthly seminars on the topic of Social Science and Christian Perspectives on Human Personhood and Society.

PUBLICATIONS BY CENTER FACULTY

Christian Smith and Michael Emerson, with **Patricia Snell**. Forthcoming 2008. *Passing the Plate: Why American Christians Don't Give Away more Money*. New York: Oxford University Press.

David Sikkink and Craig Beyelerlein. Forthcoming 2007. "Sorrow and Solidarity: Why Americans Volunteered for 9/11 Relief Efforts." *Social Problems*.

Steve Vaisey and **Christian Smith**. Forthcoming 2008. "Catholic Guilt Among U.S. Teenagers-A Research Note." *Review of Religious Research*.

Michael R. Welch, **David Sikkink**, and Matt Loveland. Forthcoming 2007. "The Radius of Trust: Religion, Social Embeddedness, and Trust in Strangers." *Social Forces*, 86:1, 23-36.

Andrew Weigert and Anthony Blasi. Forthcoming August, 2007. "Vocation." In *Vocation and Social Context* (ed.) Giuseppe Giordan. Boston: Brill Publishers.

Stephen Scharper and **Andrew Weigert**. "Commentary on Environmental Issues." In *Commentary on Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, edited by Paul Sullins. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

GRADUATE STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Bob Brenneman was recently awarded \$5,000 for his dissertation research on gangs and religious conversion in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador.

Monique Gregg received the Constant H. Jacquet Research Award for \$2,880 from the Religious Research Association.

Chris Morrissey presented a paper titled "Mennonites and

Quakers: Cultural Opportunities and Dilemmas for Peacebuilding" at the First North American Conference on Radicalism in January.

Jonathan Hill presented a paper in October titled "Higher Education and Change in Religious Identity and Practice" to the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. He also presented "County-Level Segregation

and the Production of Religion: A First Look" to the Midwest Sociological Society.

Jeffrey Smith, with Edwin Hernandez and Rebecca Burwell, published a report titled "Answering the Call: How Latino Churches Can Respond to the HIV/AIDS Epidemic" presented at the National Hispanic Prayer Breakfast.

Graduate Students

Stephen Armet

Robert Brenneman

Ellen Childs

Kari Christoffersen

Brooke Fischer

Monique Gregg

Jonathan Hill

Jennifer Kang

Ryan Lincoln

Liz Martinez

Peter Munday

Chris Morrissey

Eric Sartain

Sarah Shafiq

Jeffrey Smith

Lisa Swartz

Carlos Tavares

Brandon Vaidyanathan

Yuting Wang

UPCOMING EVENTS IN FALL 2007

Center for the Study of
Religion and Society

Phone: 574-631-2695
Fax: 574-631-9238
E-mail: csrsoc@nd.edu

We're on the web:
<http://csrs.nd.edu>



UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

Center for the Study of
Religion and Society

811 Flanner Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556

September 25th

Robert Fishman, University of Notre Dame
"Explaining Cross-National Variation in the
Evolution of Priestly Vocations: Conclusions
from a Collaborative Study."

Sept 27th, Oct 11th, Nov 15th, Dec 6th
Research & Analysis in the Sociology of
Religion (RASR) Workshop

October 4-5th

"The Advancement of Knowledge and Reli-
gious Identity: Institutions of Higher Learn-
ing in Judaism, Christianity, Islam and Be-
yond." **Sponsored by the University of Notre
Dame's** Office of the Provost, Kellogg Insti-

tute, Kroc Institute, Department of History,
and Center for the Study of Religion and Soci-
ety.

October 12th

Korie Edwards, Ohio State University
"The Face of Race in the Worship Practices of
Interracial Churches."
Event Details: DeBartolo 119, 11:45a-1:00p.

November 17th

Michael Lindsay, Rice University
"A Vision for the Center: Evangelicals and
American Public Life, 1976-2006"
Event Details: DeBartolo 119, 11:30a-1:00p.

RECENT GUEST SPEAKER

The CSRS recently hosted
Andy Greeley of University of
Arizona and the National
Opinion Research Center.

His talk, entitled "It Can't
Hurt: A Preliminary Investiga-

tion of the Sociological Study
of the Correlates of Prayer,"
was held in LaFortune Stu-
dent Center.

**Andy Greeley with Chris
Smith, Rory McVeigh
and David Sikkink**

