

Grants awarded 2012-2013

Congratulations to the following team members, whose applications for funding were successful. The *Religion and Diversity Project* is pleased to have funded the following research projects for 2012-2013.

Innovation Grants

Peter Beyer, University of Ottawa

“Web-based survey on Religious Identity (II): Testing, Refining, Validating” (Solange Lefebvre, Prema Kurien, Susan Palmer, Michael Wilkinson, Jas Singh, Caitlin Downie, Alyshea Cummins)

The proposed research brought to the survey instrument a group of 60-100 participants from a wide range of religious identities, including those who would be using each of the three prongs of the questionnaire, the “religious”, the “spiritual” and the “religious none” (see the report for last year’s project for explanation of these terms). This panel of participants had already been assembled and had, in principle, agreed to participate. The 60-100 participants are those from previous research projects (the ImmigYouth and IYA projects from 2004-2010, with Beyer as PI) who had already agreed to partake in follow up projects and have thus become part of a longitudinal panel whom we can ask from time to time to participate in subsequent projects, such as this one. These participants were asked to take the survey, their responses were gathered and analyzed, and they were asked for critical feedback on any and all aspects of the survey with the express goal of validating and refining the instrument.

Pamela Dickey Young, Queen’s University

“RGSY: Data Management and Analysis, Presentation of Results”

“RGSY: Preparing for and conducting interviews” (Heather Shipley, Ian Alexander Cuthbertson)

The Religion, Gender and Sexuality among Youth in Canada project has four primary aims:

- To explore the constructions and management strategies undertaken by young adults (aged 18-25) concerning their religious and sexual identities, values, and choices;

- To examine the significant social, cultural, and political factors that inform the above-mentioned processes;
- To study how these young adults manage their religious, sexual, and gender identities;
- To generate rich qualitative and quantitative data that will contribute new knowledge to academic and policy debates on religion, youth, sexuality, and gender.

The money received from the *Religion and Diversity Project* last year provided seed money that helped to pay the salary of the RA, provided travel funds for some members of Strand 3 plus the project's RA to attend the one-day workshop and provided funds for Prof. Yip to travel to and from Canada. The survey has been piloted and revised, and went live in English and French on SurveyMonkey July 2012. Next stages: Further recruitment; Tracking participant numbers, comments, etc.; Developing the appropriate interfaces between SurveyMonkey and SPSS; Beginnings of data analysis; Starting Interview phase—developing questions, travelling to interview participants who have indicated their willingness to be interviewed, some telephone interviewing; Keeping website, Facebook page, etc. up to date; Presentation at University of Nottingham, Sept. 3, 2012.

Christopher Helland, Dalhousie University

“Religion in the Media: Data Management and Collaboration” (David Michels, Kim Knott)

Based upon research conducted over the previous year exploring representations of religion within Canadian print media, this current project has two aims: The first component is to develop a Data Management Plan (DMP) that includes meta-data descriptions, storage/access using contentDM, and a searchable public dissemination network. The DMP will be hosted on the Dalhousie computer system and will allow for long-term archiving and preservation of data, web compatibility, and interoperability. The second component of the project is to work collaboratively with Joyce Smith (Canada), Kim Knott (United Kingdom), and Mia Lövheim (Sweden) to develop a code book and research guide for examining religion within the news media. The coding was structured in such a way as to allow for a comparative analysis between data collected on religion within the media in Canada and similar data sets already collected within the United Kingdom and the Nordic Comparative Project (NOREL). Within Canada, we examine religious representation within print media based upon regional boundaries (Atlantic Canada, Quebec, Ontario, the West, British Columbia, and the North).

Solange Lefebvre, Université de Montréal

« Religion et sphère publique au Canada : éducation » (Lori G. Beaman, Peter Beyer)

Ce projet fait suite au projet effectué en 2011-2012, et qui portait sur les approches gouvernementales concernant la gestion de la diversité religieuse. Erin Le Brun et William Hoverd ont travaillé à recueillir une quantité importante de matériaux, surtout dans le domaine de la santé et des services sociaux, et de l'éducation. Le projet présenté pour l'année 2012- 2013 se veut à la fois une possibilité d'exploitation du matériel recueilli (et de sa mise à jour s'il y a lieu). Il concerne l'éducation au Québec et en Ontario.

Barbara Thériault, Université de Montréal


« La religiosité et le corps des détenues »

La présente demande a pour but le financement de la poursuite d'une recherche entamée l'an dernier à la prison Tanguay de Montréal dans le cadre d'une subvention du GRTC religion et diversité (L'aumônerie de prison : le cas de l'établissement de détention Tanguay) et pour laquelle nous avons obtenu une autorisation de la directrice de l'établissement et du Ministère de la Sécurité publique. Le second volet de notre projet porte sur les expériences de transcendance des détenues, l'analyse et la publication de nos résultats de recherche. Dans le cadre de la première partie du projet, nous avons développé un instrument, un jeu de société, qui incite les répondantes à localiser leurs expériences de transcendance dans l'espace, une carte. En plus de l'observation participante et de deux entretiens semi-dirigés avec des membres de l'équipe de pastorale, nous avons réalisé — à l'aide de ce jeu — 18 entretiens avec des détenues et deux séances de groupe.

Michael Wilkinson, Trinity Western University

“Asian Christians in Vancouver”

The purpose of this project is to begin to map the incidence of Asian Christianity, Protestant, Catholic, and other forms, in Vancouver. Methodologically, I will employ an exploratory case study approach. The purpose of an exploratory case study is to uncover data that will lead to determining the best approach for designing a research project. Preliminary data collection will focus on mapping Christian congregations with a majority of participants who are Asian i.e. Chinese, South Asian, East Indian, Filipino, or Korean. Case studies also rely upon multiple



sources of data such as secondary sources like Census Canada reports, denominational reports, Internet searches, and participant observation to identify such congregations. There are two primary objectives for this project. First, I will identify the location, ethnicity, when the congregation started, and the size of Asian Christian congregations in Vancouver from the five largest ethnic groups. Second, I will develop a database to systematically record this data. The data can be used to make some basic observations about the social location of each group, general history, and size of each congregation. This data will provide an important map for identifying Asian Christians in Vancouver. Furthermore, it will establish a baseline for detailed congregational studies of specific churches in the future.