

## Grants awarded 2016-2017

Congratulations to the following team members, whose applications for funding were successful. The *Religion and Diversity Project* is pleased to fund the following research projects for 2016-2017.

### Innovation Grants

**Michael Wilkinson**, Trinity Western University

#### **“Views of Diversity in a Korean Congregation: A Follow-up Study”**

This project builds on a longer study of a migrant congregation that began in Toronto in the 1990s. A Korean Pastor who came to Canada to study theology started the congregation. In 1997 I interviewed the pastor, made observations, and interviewed members from the congregation for my doctoral research. The congregation had approximately 120 attendees and met in a United Church facility. Over time they began an English-speaking service for the youth alongside the Korean-speaking worship service. The purpose of the study was to understand the impact of the migration of Christians, specifically, Pentecostals to Canada. I employed a globalization perspective theoretically and examined the cultural, ethnic, and religious impact on the largest Pentecostal denomination, the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada of which this congregation was a member. I also examined the transnational ties the congregation maintained with Korea. The congregation was affiliated with the Yoido Full Gospel Church in South Korea, which at the time was the largest church in the world.

In 2017 I am proposing to revisit the congregation, administer the survey in the English-speaking and Korean-speaking worship gatherings, interview the Pastor (who is still leading the congregation), make some observations, and conduct a focus group with participants to discuss issues about religious diversity and viewpoints about non-Christian religions in Toronto.