

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFPS) SOLICITING INITIAL THEOLOGIAN TRAINEES

Funding Initiative:

**Illuminating Theological Inquiry and Christian Ethics Through Training in Psychological Science:
Call for Training Awards for up to 15 Theologians**

(13 months, \$7,000; includes one-week intensives May 2023 and May 2024)

****Theologian awardees will be eligible for up to an additional \$45,000 of salary funding for additional training and \$5,000-40,000 for a collaborative empirical study with a psychology lab.***

Summary

Christian theologians interested in becoming conversant in the psychological sciences are invited to apply to for a one-year cross-training program. Participants will receive two intensive training sessions in the psychological sciences to gain basic competency in the psychological science methods and content and will be invited to participate in twice monthly virtual research presentations throughout the academic year. This program will help theologians build supportive and collaborative interpersonal relationships with other theologians interested in the psychological sciences as well as a group of psychologists interested in working on research of interest to theologians. Awardees will be eligible for up to an additional \$45,000 of salary funding for additional training and \$5,000-40,000 for a collaborative empirical study with a psychology lab in subsequent years.

Deadline for Applications

February 1, 2023.

Using their respective frames and insights, theologians will have the opportunity to cross-train with a psychological scientist and then develop projects related to one of three areas: suffering, virtue development, and aesthetics. For more information on each area, please see our [website](#). Theologians who wish to work on a project not directly related to the themes will also be considered.

Timeline and Application Instructions

Applicants should submit the following materials:

- A 2,000-word document (references do not count toward the total) explaining why they want to participate in psychological cross-training. The document should include: a description of how their theological questions are aligned with one or more of the themes highlighted above, how psychological science could help enhance their theological scholarship, the potential for their psychologically informed scholarship to impact their academic field, and learning objectives for the training. The document may also indicate how the scholar's work addresses the needs of an underserved population and/or contributes to diversity, equity, and inclusion
- A 500-word statement describing the scholar's capacity for successful collaboration.
- A 250-word executive summary of the scholars' proposal.
- CV of the scholar and short bio (<200 words) for posting on a website.
- **(Optional** - pertains to Phases 2 and 3) CVs of 1-4 psychologists with whom applicant would want to partner and an up to 500-word statement of why this partnership for training is beneficial. If there is a psychologist who has already indicated a willingness to be involved, a letter of support may also be appended. However, a confirmed psychology mentor is not required at this application stage. We recommend listing psychologists who are geographically near or who regularly work on research virtually with collaborators or staff.

Applications must be submitted by email attachment to crosstraining@baylor.edu. The words "Phase 1 - Cross-Training Application" should appear in the email subject line. The only acceptable file formats are

.doc and PDF. Questions about applications can be sent to the submission address. Proposals must be received no later than February 1, 2023, at 11:59 PM Pacific Time. An acknowledgement email will be sent within seven days of receiving the materials.

All applicants must have a PhD or equivalent terminal degree (e.g., DMin, ThD) in a discipline that engages theological inquiry (e.g., theology, religion, Biblical studies, philosophy). Most applicants will hold tenure-track faculty positions, but we will accept applications from theologians in non-traditional settings as long as they are regularly engaged in theological scholarship. Criteria for proposal review will include the following: potential impact, fit with program aims, likelihood for successful collaboration with psychologists, creativity/novelty of work, and addresses the needs of an underserved population. All applications must be submitted in English and all payments will be made in US dollars.

The grantee receiving the award will commit to the following:

- 1) Prepare for and participate in an initial 1-week training intensive May 2023 (workshop May 16-20, travel dates on May 15 & 21) at Baylor University in Waco, TX. Meals will be covered for all participants. Non-local participants will be provided accommodation and reimbursed up to \$600 for travel costs.
- 2) Regularly attend a twice monthly virtual seminar series for the 2023-24 academic year.
- 3) Attend a half day workshop adjacent to AAR in San Antonio, TX November 2023. One night of hotel and meals for the workshop will be covered by the project. All other travel expenses are the responsibility of the grantee.
- 4) Prepare for and participate in a second 1-week training intensive May 2024 (location TBD). All meals, travel, and lodging will be covered by the grant.
- 5) Submit a final report summarizing how your training experiences will inform your theological inquiry moving forward, due June 1, 2024.
- 6) Notify the Project at crosstraining@baylor.edu of all conference presentations, papers, and books that arise from the cross-training work.