

## A Call for Proposals:

The University of Notre Dame is pleased to announce a \$3 million project on the Science of Generosity, supported with funding from the John Templeton Foundation. Open invitations are now issued for letters of inquiry proposing research on generosity in the human and social sciences.

Generosity is an important personal virtue, collective responsibility, and vital element in the building of social capital, community wellbeing, justice, and peace in the world. The aim of this Science of Generosity initiative is to stimulate scientific research on the practice of generosity in human life and society. This initiative is particularly interested in better understanding three key aspects of generosity:

- \* The sources, origins, and causes of generosity
- \* The variety of manifestations and expressions of generosity
- \* The consequences of generosity for both the givers and receivers involved

Four to eight proposals for funding of between \$250,000 and \$500,000 will be awarded in this first wave of competition in 2009. A second competition in 2010 will fund \$1.2 million dollars worth of smaller projects. Letters of inquiry (LOIs) for the first wave of the competition are due April 1st, 2009.

“Generosity” is defined for purposes of this project as the disposition toward and practice of giving good things to others freely and abundantly. Generosity may involve the giving of money, possessions, time, attention, talents, aid, encouragement, emotional investment, and more. Generosity is related to but not identical with the areas of charitable financial giving, volunteering, altruism, philanthropy, informal helping, corporate giving, voluntary service, bequests and estates, relational commitment, love, and social exchange.

Proposed projects are encouraged but not limited to scholars in

the disciplines of economics, behavioral economics, business & finance, sociology, psychology, anthropology, political science, social psychology, family and developmental studies, geography, law, education, communications, cultural studies, religious studies, and sociobiology. Proposals may be either discipline specific or inter-disciplinary and may come from scholars with expertise in generosity research or those recently investing into researching generosity.

For detailed information about proposal procedures, topics of interest, eligibility, deadlines, available resources, contact information, or to sign up to receive project updates, refer to the project website:

<http://generosityresearch.nd.edu/>

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