

## RESEARCH POLICY

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### GOALS

#### The main goals are to:

- a. Support and encourage research involving Choice Theory/Reality Therapy (CTR/RT);
- b. Provide credible evidence that substantiates CT/RT as a cognitively-based theory applicable in a wide variety of settings and for a wide range of educational, organizational, and mental health issues.

#### 1. **OBJECTIVE:** *To increase the recognition and use of:*

- a. *CT/RT as an evidence informed practice in counseling and social work*
- b. *CT/RT as evidence informed practice in education*
- c. *LEAD MANAGEMENT as evidence informed practice in business*

#### **Procedures to address Objective 1a, b, and c:**

- a. Offer previous CT/RT published research online
  - i. Copies of the electronic journal are available online at <http://www.ctrtjournal.com/>
  - ii. Copies of journals prior to the electronic journal are available online through the West College of Education at Midwestern State University
- d. Provide a professional journal that publishes research involving CT/RT
- e. Arrange available mentors (i.e., list of college and university faculty with tools, skills, knowledge, and resources to support and collaborate with practitioners interested in research and evaluation, and publication)
- f. Prepare a list of available tools (measurements) developed specifically for CT/RT
- g. CT/RT Faculty submit CT/RT training and participant figures quarterly from their own records
  - i. Appendix 1 (below)
  - ii. Information to be collated as world training data

#### **Performance Indicators:**

- a. Access to CT/RT research increases
- b. CT/RT research published in our journal increases
- c. CT/RT research published in other professional journals is reported and tracked
- d. CT/RT training data is reported and tracked

#### **Evaluation/Data:**

- a. Annual After-Action report from the Research Committee on
  - i. number of research articles published

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- ii. where these articles were published
- iii. annual worldwide training data
- b. Research Committee will track any observed or reported barriers to CT/RT research publication

### **2. OBJECTIVE: To increase funded research proposals/projects**

#### **Procedures to address Objective 2:**

- a. Researchers will report to the WGI Research Committee on any CT/RT research finding obtained
- b. Research Committee will ask WGI to budget funds for annual research funding awards (Appendix 2)

**Performance Indicators:** Monies will be allocated for research by WGI. Annual targets will be determined in order to demonstrate success of program.

**Evaluation:** The research committee will review the success of the WGI research funding program annually and evaluate future funding based on the results of the review.

**3. OBJECTIVE: To have all researchers follow the WGI professional guidelines concerning CT/RT research (See Appendix 3); each WGI member must also follow the code of ethics set by their individual profession, e.g., counseling, psychology, social work, and teaching. In addition, WGI members and included member organizations who conduct research are encouraged to contribute to the CT/RT knowledge base by publishing their work.**

**Procedures to address Objective 3:** WGI members and member organizations engaged in research are encouraged to consult among themselves regarding as questions arise that involve professional ethics and guidelines. In the event questions cannot be answered and/or issues cannot be resolved, WGI members and member organizations are to report questions/concerns to the Research Committee for consultation and follow-up.

**Performance Indicators:** That all will adhere to the WGI professional guidelines, as evidenced by no unresolved questions and/or reports of violations/concerns.

**Evaluation:** The WGI Research Committee will consult regarding questions/concerns submitted on an as needed basis. In addition, the Research Committee will review WGI professional guidelines and any reported violations/concerns on at least an annual basis.

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**4. OBJECTIVE:** *To create a Facebook (or similar social media platform) page that supports those interested in CT/RT research.*

**Procedures:** Develop and promote a Facebook page that is user-friendly for all those interested in research. Links to available material (i.e., tools, past research, links to journal, mentors, question and answer section) will be included.

Performance Indicators: Numbers of hits/participants involved will be tracked.

Evaluation: Numbers of hits/participants and feedback received.

**5. OBJECTIVE:** *To create and maintain a quarterly online Research Forum and panel of research mentors.*

**Procedures:** To identify a volunteer group of mentors that are also willing to meet on a quarterly basis to discuss research issues with those interested in conducting research.

**Performance Indicators:** Members of the volunteer group and interested parties will attend and participate in the online forum on a quarterly basis.

**Evaluation:** The number of volunteer mentor and interested party participants will be tracked by the moderator and reported quarterly to the Research Committee.

## APPENDIX 1

### FACULTY QUARTERLY RESEARCH REPORT

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

Profession \_\_\_\_\_

Fee paid by Individual \_\_\_\_\_ or paid by Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

### APPENDIX 2

#### WGI ANNUAL RESEARCH FUNDING AWARD PROPOSAL GUIDELINE CONSIDERATIONS

##### 1. Scientific merit and quality of the proposed research

###### Considerations:

How important is the proposed activity to advancing knowledge and understanding within its own field and/or across different fields?

To what extent is the proposed research design likely to be able to address the research question or hypothesis?

How well-conceived and organized is the proposed activity?

Extraordinary\_\_\_\_\_ Excellent\_\_\_\_\_ Good\_\_\_\_\_ Fair\_\_\_\_\_ Poor\_\_\_\_\_

##### 2. Clear and concise statement of research question/hypothesis and goals/objectives

###### Considerations:

Does the proposed activity clearly state the central research question or hypothesis of the project?

Does the proposed activity clearly state the goals/objectives of the project?

Extraordinary\_\_\_\_\_ Excellent\_\_\_\_\_ Good\_\_\_\_\_ Fair\_\_\_\_\_ Poor\_\_\_\_\_

##### 3. Literature Review

###### Considerations:

Does the proposal describe and demonstrate knowledge of CT/RT and/or LEAD

MANAGEMENT using professional, scholarly and/or research literature?

Extraordinary\_\_\_\_\_ Excellent\_\_\_\_\_ Good\_\_\_\_\_ Fair\_\_\_\_\_ Poor\_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Methods

#### Considerations:

Is the research or evaluation design described clearly?

Are planned approaches and techniques adequately described and documented to justify their feasibility?

Extraordinary\_\_\_\_\_ Excellent\_\_\_\_\_ Good\_\_\_\_\_ Fair\_\_\_\_\_ Poor\_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Anticipated results and interpretation

#### Considerations:

Is adequate information provided describing any data manipulation that will be performed (e.g. statistical analysis)?

Is the sample size justified/sufficient to address the research question/hypothesis?

Extraordinary\_\_\_\_\_ Excellent\_\_\_\_\_ Good\_\_\_\_\_ Fair\_\_\_\_\_ Poor\_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Limitations and alternatives

#### Considerations:

Are potential limitations related to experimental design, techniques, and resources described?

Are possible alternative approaches adequately addressed?

Extraordinary\_\_\_\_\_ Excellent\_\_\_\_\_ Good\_\_\_\_\_ Fair\_\_\_\_\_ Poor\_\_\_\_\_

### 7. Timetable

#### Considerations:

Is a timeline provided for the project?

Extraordinary\_\_\_\_\_ Excellent\_\_\_\_\_ Good\_\_\_\_\_ Fair\_\_\_\_\_ Poor\_\_\_\_\_

### 8. Format

#### Considerations:

Does the proposal follow APA format?

Extraordinary\_\_\_\_\_ Excellent\_\_\_\_\_ Good\_\_\_\_\_ Fair\_\_\_\_\_ Poor\_\_\_\_\_

### 9. Ethical Considerations

#### Considerations:

Did the research proposal pass an ethical review board (e.g., university institutional review board)?

Extraordinary\_\_\_\_\_ Excellent\_\_\_\_\_ Good\_\_\_\_\_ Fair\_\_\_\_\_ Poor\_\_\_\_\_

### APPENDIX 3

#### PROFESSIONAL GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH

Important principles underlying integrity in research include honesty in proposing, seeking support for, conducting, and reporting research. In addition, a researcher must respect the rights of others in these activities.

WGI members and member organizations will plan, design, conduct, and report research in a manner that is consistent with appropriate ethical principles, including international, federal and state policies and laws. They will follow institutional review board regulations where applicable, and abide by scientific standards governing research.

WGI members and member organizations will pursue consultation and adhere to rigorous safeguards to protect the rights of research participants and observe guidelines regarding confidentiality in their research practices. When and where possible, research proposals will be institutional review board approved.

WGI members and member organizations conducting research are responsible for research participant welfare throughout the research process, and should take all necessary precautions to avoid causing emotional, physical, or social harm to participants.

The ultimate responsibility for ethical research practice lies with the principal investigator/researcher. All others involved in the research activities share ethical obligations for the project, and assume responsibility for their own actions.

Individuals have the right to refuse requests to become research participants. In pursuing consent, WGI members and affiliates use language that

1. Precisely clarifies the purpose and procedures to be followed in the research
2. Highlights and discloses any procedures that are new or untried
3. Defines in detail any potential discomforts or risks involved for the participant

Above all, members of WGI and member organizations are obligated to practice and promote ethical behavior and avoid research misconduct. Research misconduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- *Fabrication*: altering data or results in recording or reporting
- *Falsification*: manipulating research materials, equipment, or processes, or changing/omitting data or results, such that research is not accurately represented





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- *Plagiarism*: seizure or confiscation of another's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit

Research misconduct does not include honest error or differences of professional opinion.