

1. Official name of the center/institute: TWIN STUDIES CENTER (TSC)

Name(s) and academic title(s) of the person(s) who head(s) the center/institute: NANCY L. SEGAL, PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY

College or other unit [e.g. department or academic degree program] within which the center/institute conducts its functions: HSS / PSYCHOLOGY

Contact information – phone number, email address, and building/room location: 657-278-2142, nsegal@fullerton.edu, H426B/C

Year established: 1991

Year of last review: 2012

Date the review is being submitted: FEBRUARY 2018

Name of primary author(s) if different from the director(s) of the center/institute. N/A

2. **Mission and Goals:** The TSC has two goals: (1) to promote twin research by CSUF students and faculty, and (2) to disseminate information about twins and twinning to interested members of the scientific, professional and public communities. These aims align especially well with the *University's Strategic Plan (Goal #1)*: "CSUF aims to provide innovative, high-quality programs and services that offer students broad educational experiences, facilitate lifelong habits of intellectual inquiry and prepare them for successful careers." The TSC supports all CSUF's missions and goals, especially those concerning the preeminence of learning, the enhancement of scholarly and creative activity, and the strengthening of institutional effectiveness, collegial governance and our sense of community. The TSC also supports the Psychology Department's goals of fostering an understanding of human behavior and improving the quality of life, as well as those of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, namely commitment to teaching, scholarship and the broader community.

3. **Activities:** Twin and adoption studies of decision-making, bereavement, social relationships, personality and general intelligence are chief among the projects that are ongoing. There were 33 publications in peer-reviewed journals, 9 with CSUF student co-authors, and 5 external faculty, some international. Conferences included 9 individual presentations at scientific meetings (2 with CSUF student co-authors and 2 with external collaborators, some international), 9 poster presentations (1 with a CSUF student, and 3 with CSUF and external faculty) and 10 invited lectures (by the TSC Director: Segal). The TSC Director also delivered a *TedX* talk in November, 2017, in Manhattan Beach. The TSC Director also taught a graduate level seminar focusing on twin research. Collectively, these activities support the missions and goals of teaching and scholarly research as high priorities.

4. **Organizational Structure and Governance:** The TSC Director oversees all research activities, including student participation and public contacts. There is no formal Advisory Committee or Governing Board. The decision to operate in the absence of such a committee or board was premised on the need for the director to be closely involved in all aspects of center functioning and to keep the center small in order to give a great deal of attention to students.

5. **Resources and Sustainability:** The TSC's projects have been variously supported by the Brout Family Foundation, CSUF Centers Initiative, several small private donations, international travel grants, intramural grants and a summer stipend. There have been both paid and unpaid student research opportunities, with funding variously provided by the grants listed above. The Director has received some assigned time for TSC-related projects. The Director devotes approximately 20-30 hours per week to TSC-related activities, and the approximately 20 students who have been affiliated with the center in the last three years devote 4-5 hours per week to research activities. CSUF faculty collaborations (paper and presentations) have involved approximately 7 individuals who at the time devoted 10-15 hours toward planning, execution and manuscript preparation. Assigned space for the TSC is in the Humanities Building: 426D houses the main office, 426B houses the TSC Library, with testing rooms in a suite on the fifth floor, assigned by the Department of Psychology and Dean's office. There are no costs for this space. The current resources promise to sustain the center in the near future; there are no plans to expand or reduce its size or scope.

6. **Highlights and Accomplishments:** *Director:* Highlights and accomplishments include the 2016 Wang Award (Social and Behavioral Sciences and Public Service), *TedX* talk, HSS Faculty Award for Scholarship and Creativity, National and International Speaker Invitations (e.g., Human Behavior and Evolution Society, Literary Orange, University of Cincinnati, University of Copenhagen, University of Sao Paulo, American Philosophical Society) and media appearances (e.g., Orange County Register, Today Show, BBC Newshour, NPR). *Students:* Western Psychological Association, Gottfried Research Award in Developmental Psychology, student co-authorships (see above) and acceptance at prestigious graduate school programs (e.g., University of Michigan, University of Southern California, UCLA, University of Connecticut). Both collectively and individually, these highlights and accomplishments have greatly enhanced the visibility of the TSC by attracting attention from interested colleagues and the public, and by identifying students for research participation. At the same time, they have increased the visibility of the university because so many activities have been presented and discussed in the media and at professional forums; other are scheduled for the near future.

7. **Planning and Strategic Outlook:** The TSC plans on continuing to pursue extant projects and is in the process of recruiting 1-2 new students to replace those who will leave at the end of the spring 2018 semester, although some will stay. The goals remain unchanged with the exception of securing additional outside funding; extramural funding promises to be likely will given the many ongoing research activities.