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HIGHER EDUCATION  
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ENVISIONING A CAREER WITH PURPOSE: CALLING AND ITS SPIRITUAL  
UNDERPINNINGS AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS (181 pp.)

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The current study tested the hypothesis that student spirituality would relate positively to the construct of calling and that these constructs together would lead toward career decidedness. To test this model, a sample consisting of 1139 students from a large Midwest university was surveyed. Results supported these hypotheses only in part. The results suggest the spirituality construct to consist of spiritual identity, spiritual quest, and equanimity consistent with the Astin, Astin, and Lindholm (2011b) spirituality study. Both search for calling and presence of calling consisted of three parts consistent with Dik and Duffy's (2009) concept of calling: transcendent summons, purposeful work, and prosocial orientation. Career decidedness also consisted of three domains related to career path, academic major, and occupation (Savickas, 1993).

Spirituality, in general, highly correlated with search for calling. Correlations were also high between search for calling and presence of calling. Because of this, search for calling was found to mediate an indirect influence of spirituality on presence of calling. However, the manner in which career decidedness related to the model was not expected. According to the data, career decidedness weakly but directly correlated with presence of calling and was determined to be a predicting influence, contrary to the hypothesis. Although no meaningful correlations were discovered between spirituality

and career decidedness, equanimity was discovered to meaningfully associate with both spirituality and career decidedness. Theoretical and practical implications are explored.