

Gendlin Research Center - Approved Oct. 8, 2021

Gendlin Research Center Formation in Memory of Gene

Gene Gendlin, the founder of The International Focusing Institute, died on May 1, 2017. In its meeting of May 10, 2017, the Board of Directors of The International Focusing Institute passed the following resolution:

The board wishes to honor Gene Gendlin's memory. Consistent with the priorities articulated in the Strategic Plan, the board believes that to move his legacy forward, rigorous academic research in his thought is of the utmost importance. The board has therefore decided to create a research center in Gene's name (the Eugene T. Gendlin Center for Research in Experiential Philosophy and Psychology), and asked [Executive Director Catherine Torpey] to convene a group of academics versed in Gene's thought to move the idea forward.

The Eugene T. Gendlin Center for Research in Experiential Philosophy and Psychology (the Gendlin Research Center) is a vitally important arm of The International Focusing Institute (TIFI). It is a committee which is organized and funded as part of the regular operations of TIFI, in order to ensure that the Institute is actively promoting academic research of the highest caliber.

Committee Membership

Because of the Gendlin Research Center's special status as a committee formed by the Board in memory of Gene Gendlin, and because it can only perform its function well if the members of it are "academics versed in Gene's thought," the Board will approve all members of the Gendlin Research Center Committee. Members of the Committee should, with very rare exceptions, hold a doctoral level degree and serve as faculty of an academic institution. The Board will not add a member to the Gendlin Research Center Committee without seeking the approval of the existing members of the Committee; the Committee itself is welcome to propose new members for Board approval at any time.

Board Liaison

The Board will assign one of its members as liaison to the Committee. The liaison does not have to meet the same criteria of academic status as regular members, but should be well-versed in Gendlin's thought. This might not always be possible, but the Board should make every effort to have such a person on the Board who can take on the role of liaison.