

Windbridge Institute

The Windbridge Institute, based in Tucson, Arizona, was founded in 2008 to conduct research on psi functioning, with an emphasis on real-world applications.

Background

The Windbridge Institute, LLC, is an American research company founded in 2008 by husband-and-wife research team [Mark Boccuzzi](#) and [Julie Beischel](#). The Institute has been dedicated to conducting applied research on phenomena currently unexplained within traditional scientific paradigms.

Until 2016, the Institute maintained three major research programs: afterlife science (focusing primarily on mediums and mediumship), basic and applied parapsychology, and non-human animal consciousness.

In 2017, the mediumship and related research moved to the newly created [Windbridge Research Center](#), a non-profit organization whose mission is to ease suffering around dying, death, and what comes next.

Today, the activities of the Windbridge Institute include developing research, tools, and technologies that help normalize, optimize, and utilize psi functioning through the study and application of mindfulness, synchronicity, intuition, creativity and intention.

Beginnings

Beischel's post-doctoral fellowship based on the study of mediums ended in 2017. She believed that there were still many important questions that needed to be explored, but failed to find a position at an existing organization – a result of the controversial nature of mediumship and lack of funding. Accordingly, Beischel and Boccuzzi planned a new research institute for applied research in human potential that would have a dual purpose: a platform for Beischel's continued mediumship research and a home for Boccuzzi's work in applied parapsychology.

In 2008, the Institute was launched with Beischel as director of research and Boccuzzi as director of operations. Boccuzzi notes, 'A project as ambitious as the Windbridge Institute wasn't created in a vacuum, and there were many people who helped get us up and running in those early days and continue to support us today'.^[1]

2008-2016

Until 2016, the Institute ran three research programmes: afterlife science (focusing primarily on mediums and mediumship), basic and applied parapsychology, and non-human animal consciousness.

Afterlife Science Research

This program, which moved to the Windbridge Research Center in 2017,^[2] focused on studying modern American, secular, mental mediums and modern mediumship. Under Beischel's direction, the program consisted of three arms:

- information – research relating to the accuracy of statements made by mediums during laboratory-based mediumship readings

- operation – research on mediums’ phenomenology, psychology, and physiology
- application – research relating to the potential therapeutic benefits of mediumship readings on grief

Research findings indicate that certain mediums can make accurate statements about dead people that they could not reasonably know and that the explanation best supported by the data is that at least some mediums are communicating with the dead.

See [here](#) for a complete list of current findings.

Other survival-related research included applying new technologies to document effects produced by physical mediums; evaluating and testing instrumental transcommunication methods and message content; and after-death communication with deceased companion animals.^[3]

Basic and Applied Parapsychology Research

This program covers a wide range of projects, including:

Psi task optimization Attempts to capture psi functioning in populations that typically do not perform well on standardized psi tests. The project focuses on creating highly customized testing activities designed to appeal to participants’ specific fundamental cognitive styles and other factors.

Crowdsourcing psi Explores the ability of groups of people under controlled conditions to accurately predict outcomes of future events.

Psi in cross reality (XR) Applies virtual reality (VR) and mixed reality (MR) to create immersive, real-time psi testing and training applications across several domains.

Online psi games and apps Develops and deploys free online tools to explore the relationship between mindfulness and psi performance. These include *Cloud Blue* (a simple, breath-focused meditation app), *A Dog’s Tale* (a slow-paced, meditative, forced-choice precognition activity presented as a retro-style role-playing game), and *Simple Psi* (a game that asks players to use their intention and mental focus to keep a moving target within the play area for as long as possible).

Intentional datasets This exploratory project applies machine learning, data visualization, and other techniques to analyze data from random number generators. Data are collected during sessions in which operators place their mental focus on a specific idea or intention. The resulting datasets are used to influence technological and biological systems in ways consistent with those original intentions.

Machine-based consciousness This highly exploratory research utilizes random number generator arrays, machine learning, artificial intelligence (AI), chatbots, natural language processing, predictive text, image generation, robotics, and quantum computing to create complex, non-biological systems (called nonbiological consciousness hosting platforms) that can ‘channel’ non-corporeal consciousnesses. Applications include precognitive and telepathic robots and AI-based wisdom acquisition systems.

Other research areas include couple’s psi, psi-mediated experimenter effects, and applying Kirlian photography to document the effects of directed mental intention on non-biological targets.^[4]

Non-Human Animal Consciousness Research

This program, which closed in 2010, attempted to apply noninvasive methods to explore psi in non-human animals. The program concluded that, given the current inability to identify the source of psi

effects, ‘future psi research on non-human participants should be carefully considered and those in which the participants are deliberately stressed should be avoided entirely’.^[5]

2017: Afterlife Science Program Moved

By 2016, the number and scope of the institute’s research projects had expanded to the point where the organization was having difficulty providing relevant information and services to its growing and diverse audiences. In response, Boccuzzi and Beischel founded the Windbridge Research Center, a public charity that conducts research and provides free educational materials, to be the new home of the afterlife and mediumship research program.^[6]

Current Activities

After 2017, the Institute rebranded and updated its focus. Today, many of the studies in the basic and applied parapsychology research program continue. Main areas of research and development include mindfulness, synchronicity, intuition, creativity, and intention. The Institute’s goals are to:

- normalize reports of psi functioning (precognition, telepathy, clairvoyance, and mind-matter interactions)
- optimize psi functioning through the use of traditional mindfulness practices, new emerging technologies, and creative expression
- utilize psi to solve real-world problems^[7]

The Institute maintains an active social media presence, presents at scientific conferences, provides a free monthly email newsletter, and produces an annual ‘Best of’ list highlighting the year’s significant contributions by other researchers and organizations in the field. The list acknowledges books, published research, films, and open-access resources related to the Institute’s mission.^[8]

In 2019, the Institute launched the [Psi Hacking Project](#), a ‘local and online community effort to connect makers, artists, tech hackers, citizen scientists, seekers, entrepreneurs, and the general public to the ever-expanding body of parapsychological research to encourage the development of new tools, technologies, and experiences’.^[9]

The Institute continues to develop apps, teach classes, publish peer-reviewed research articles and non-academic texts, and provide research-related consulting services.

A complete and up-to-date list of publications, presentations, and news can be found on the [website](#).

Michael Duggan

Literature

Boccuzzi, M., & Beischel, M. (2018). The Windbridge Institute: Ten Years Working at the Cutting Edge of Science. *EdgeScience* 24, 16-20.

References

Footnotes

1. ^ Boccuzzi & Beishel (2018).
2. ^ <http://windbridgeinstitute.com/july-2017-mediumship-and-afterlife-research-has-moved->

[to-the-windbridge-research-center/](#)

3.^ Boccuzzi & Beishel (2018).

4.^ <https://windbridgeinstitute.com/research-overview/projects/>

5.^ <https://windbridgeinstitute.com/research-overview/projects/>

6.^ Boccuzzi & Beishel (2018); <http://windbridgeinstitute.com/july-2017-mediumship-and-afterlife-research-has-moved-to-the-windbridge-research-center/>;

and <https://youtu.be/LWW7RiVYTpM>

7.^ <https://windbridgeinstitute.com/about/>

8.^ <https://windbridgeinstitute.com/best-of-2019/>

9.^ <https://windbridgeinstitute.com/research-overview/projects/>