

## Exploring Major Developments Concerning the Foundational Role of Imitation in Life

[East Lansing, MI] – Editor Scott R. Garrel’s new book, *Mimesis and Science: Empirical Research on Imitation and the Mimetic Theory of Culture and Religion*, is to be released October 1, 2011 by Michigan State University Press and will be available for sale through their website at [www.msupress.msu.edu](http://www.msupress.msu.edu) and through fine bookstores.

This exciting compendium brings together, for the first time, some of the foremost scholars of René Girard’s mimetic theory, with leading imitation researchers from the cognitive, developmental, and neuro sciences. These chapters explore some of the major discoveries and developments concerning the foundational, yet previously overlooked, role of imitation in human life, revealing the unique theoretical links that can now be made from the neural basis of social interaction to the structure and evolution of human culture and religion. Together, mimetic scholars and imitation researchers are on the cutting edge of some of the most important breakthroughs in understanding the distinctive human capacity for both incredible acts of empathy and compassion as well as mass antipathy and violence. As a result, this interdisciplinary volume promises to help shed light on some of the most pressing and complex questions of our contemporary world.

### About the Editor:

Scott R. Garrels is a licensed clinical psychologist in private practice and Adjunct Professor in the school of psychology at Fuller Theological Seminary. He received the Travis Award for Integration in Psychology and Theology (2003) and was awarded a Templeton Advanced Research Program grant from the Metanexus Institute (2006).

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