

# Measuring how students perceive their instructors' beliefs about their capabilities in the classroom

## Introduction

Professors communicate with their students in multiple ways; whether it's mass media via group email, syllabus, and announcements or a more individual approach through office hours. These messages communicate what is considered top performance, middle of the pack, and sub-par performance. This also communicates how gifted, hard working, average, and sub-standard individuals are valued. Distinctly, this project's goal lies in identifying the student's perception of their instructor's mindset. Mindset being the instructor's belief on whether their pupils intelligence is fluid (growth mindset), innate (fixed mindset), brilliant (genetic), or Universal (potentially great).

## Faculty Voice

"Working with undergraduates as a research team is my favorite part of my job! I continue to be **inspired** and humbled by the creativity, enthusiasm, and ideas that these students bring to our work. I am so grateful to the **TrUE Transformers** program for enabling us to work together on this project."

-- Dr. Lisa Limeri

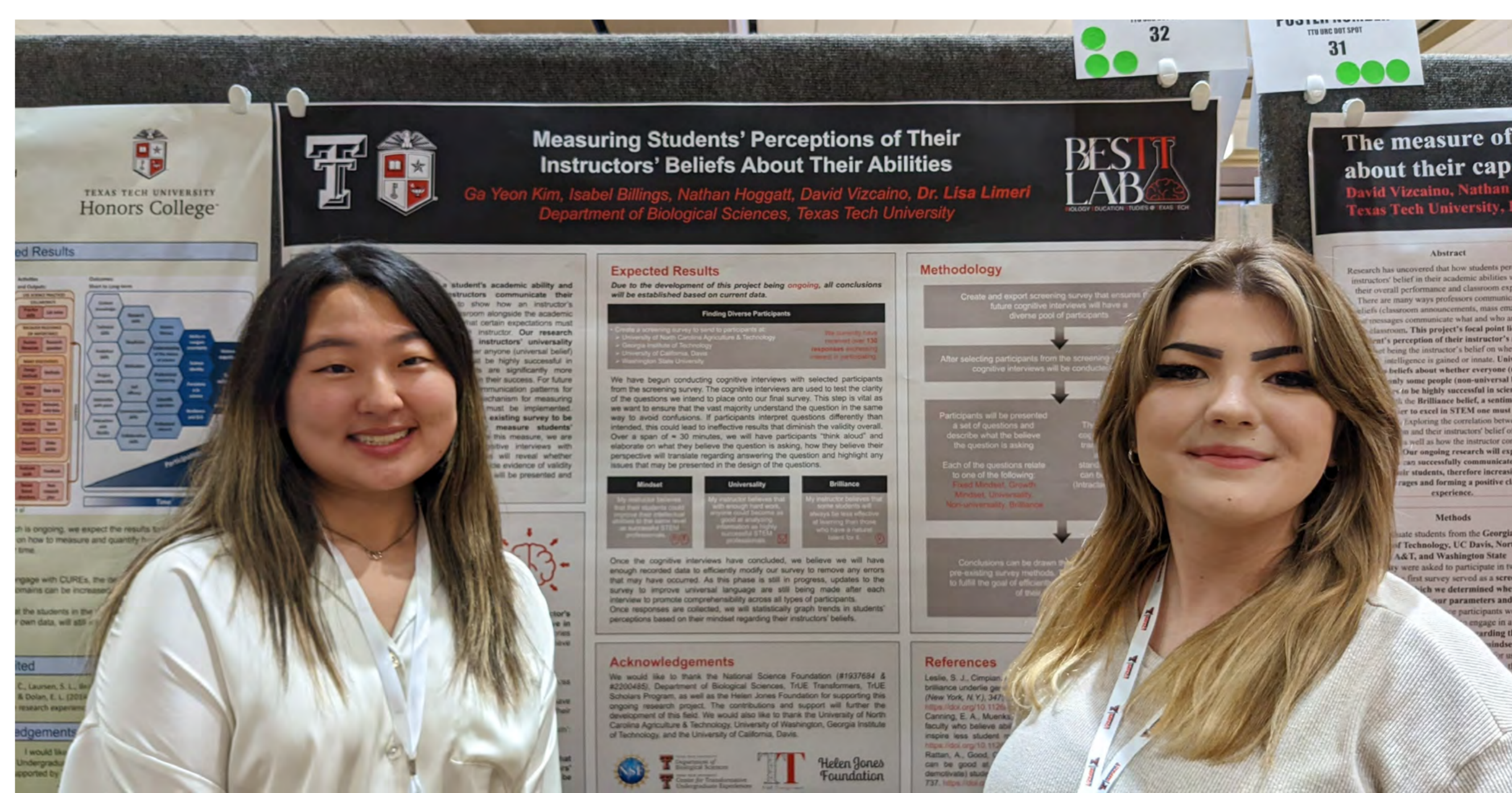
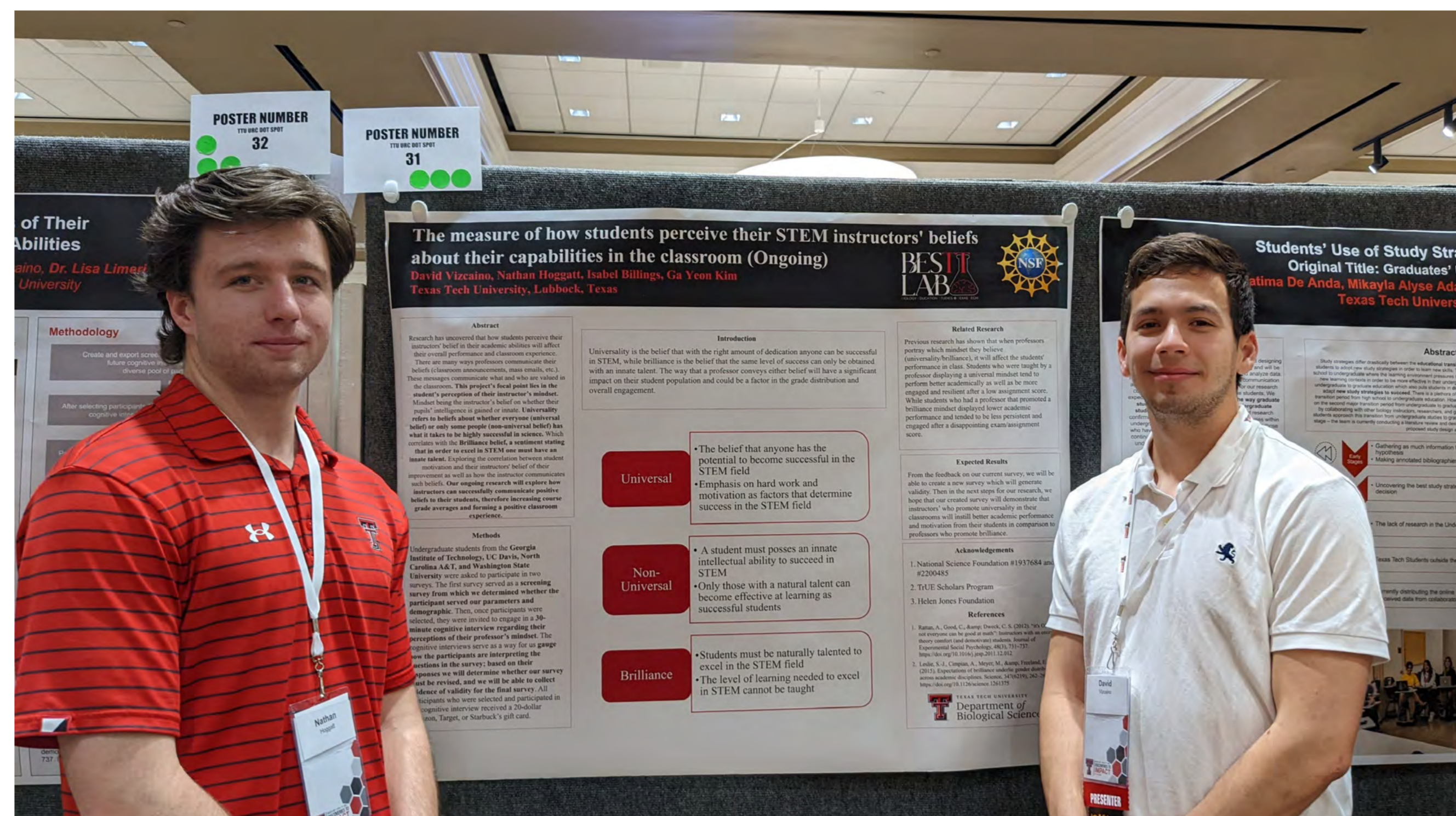


## Team

**Faculty:** Dr. Lisa Limeri

**Students:** David Vizcaino, Kim Ga Yeon, Nathan Hoggat, Isabelle Billings

## Student Voices



"Working with Dr. Limeri on this project has been a **transformative experience** as not only was I introduced into the intricacies of academic research, but I also discovered a passion for discovery in the process. Before working with Dr. Limeri I found the thought of academic research as mundane, but now that I've had this experience, I would like to see myself **leading a research team** such as hers."

-- Undergraduate, David Vizcaino.

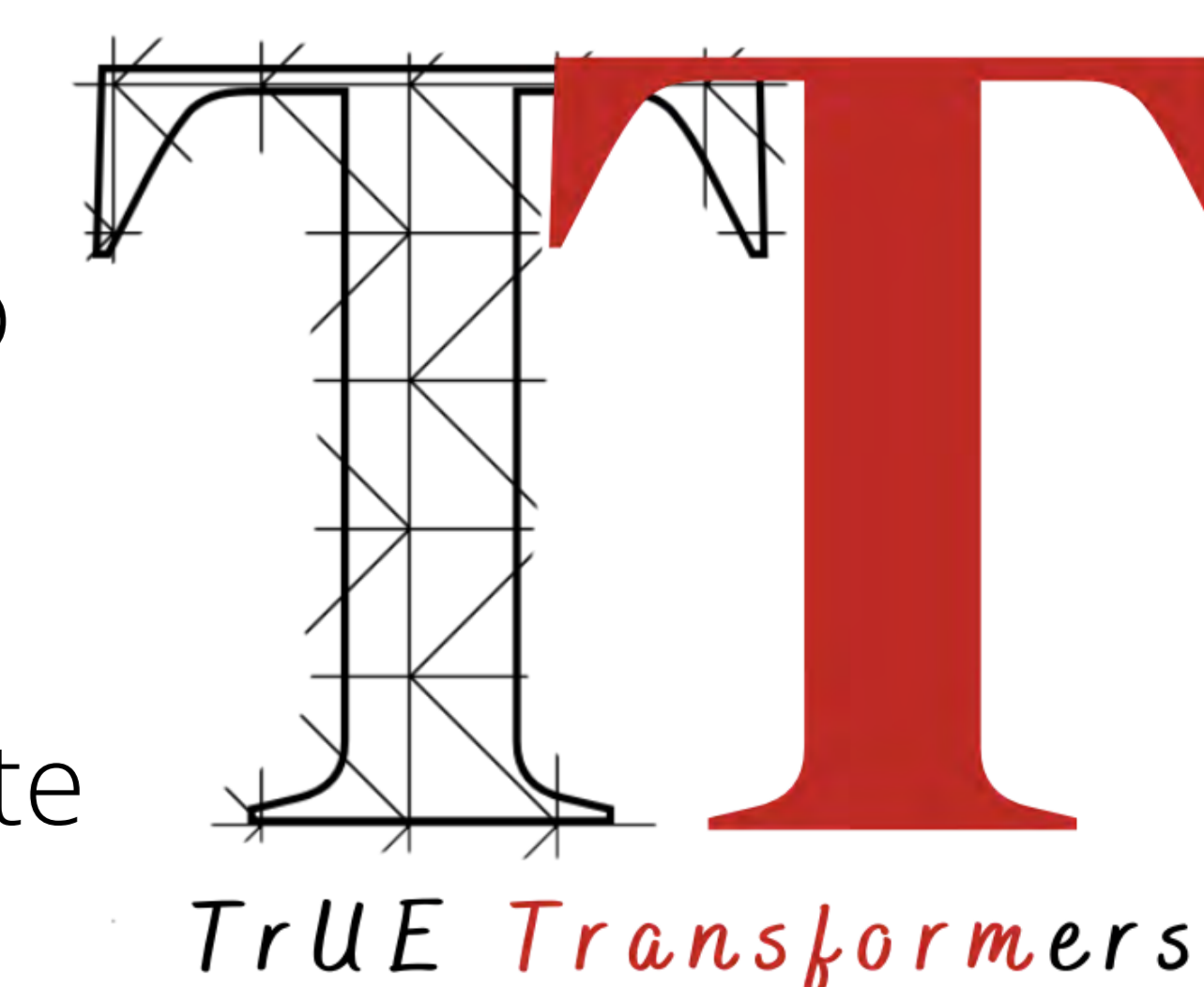
Transformative Experiences

## Project Goals

1. A measurement tool to enable research about students' perceptions of their instructor to further study student experiences in the classroom.
2. Insight into the ways that professors communicate their beliefs about and expectations for their students.

## To Date Progress

We have completed our first goal and are making great progress towards our second goal. We finished developing a measurement tool that is already being used by other research projects. Towards our second goal, we have finished conducting interviews and are finishing the transcripts. We are just about ready to begin analyzing our data to discover the ways that instructors communicate their beliefs to their students in the classroom. In the future we plan to draft recommendations based on our results for instructors to communicate positively with their students and foster a supportive environment.



My Top 3  
Transformative Priorities

Intentionally Recruited  
Underrepresented Students

Strong Potential for  
Institutionalization

Supported Multiple  
Undergraduates