MAPS: Who We Are

Our mission is 1) to treat conditions for which conventional medicines provide limited relief—such as posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), pain, drug dependence, anxiety and depression associated with end-of-life issues—by developing psychedelics and marijuana into prescription medicines; 2) to cure many thousands of people by building a network of clinics where treatments can be provided; and 3) to educate the public honestly about the risks and benefits of psychedelics and marijuana.

If you can even faintly imagine a cultural reintegration of the use of psychedelics and the states of mind they engender, please join MAPS in supporting the expansion of scientific knowledge in this area. Progress is possible with the support of those who care enough to take individual and collective action.

The MAPS Bulletin

- Each MAPS Bulletin reports on MAPS research in progress. In addition to reporting on research both in the United States and abroad, the Bulletin may include feature articles, reports on conferences and book reviews. Issues raised in letters, calls, and e-mail from MAPS members may also be addressed, as may political developments that affect psychedelic research and use.

Rick Doblin, MAPS founder and President, earned his Ph.D. in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Doblin was also in Stan and Christina Grof’s first training group to receive certification as a Holotropic Breathwork practitioner.

Valerie Majiika, Deputy Director, earned her B.A. from the California Institute of Integral Studies. In her work with MAPS’ psychedelic harm reduction project, she has trained over 200 volunteers with skills for helping people who are undergoing psychedelic emergencies.

Josh Sanstroem, Accounting and Information Technology, earned his B.A. in Philosophy and Religion from New College of Florida and is a chef, musician, poet and technologist. He immensely enjoys the depths of existential experience.

Randolph Hencken, Communication and Marketing Director, earned his M.A. in Communication, and his B.S. in Business Administration from San Diego State University. Formerly he was the program coordinator at the Ibogaine Association in Mexico.

Brian Wallace, Events and Outreach Coordinator, studied neuroscience, philosophy, and medical sociology at the University of California Santa Cruz. As an advocate for the dissemination of accurate, unbiased information with respect to psychoactive drugs and other medicines, Brian is at home doing outreach and education on behalf of MAPS.

Berra Yazar-Klosinski, Clinical Research Associate, earned her Ph.D. in Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology from University of California Santa Cruz, where she also served as president of the Graduate Student Association. After attending Stanford University, she worked as a Research Associate with Geron Corporation and Millennium Pharmaceuticals.

Amy Emerson, Clinical Program Manager, earned her B.S. in genetics and cell biology from Washington State University. She has worked in clinical development and research for the last 15 years in the fields of immunology, oncology, and in vaccine development. Amy has worked with MAPS as a volunteer since 2003 facilitating the development of the MDMA clinical program.

David Jay Brown, Guest Editor, earned his M.A. in psychobiology from New York University, and has been interviewing accomplished thinkers about their creative process for over 20 years. He is the author of Mavericks of Medicine, Conversations on the Edge of the Apocalypse, and five other books about the frontiers of science and consciousness. To find out more about David’s work see: mavericksofthemind.com

“I Noah Juan Juneau” is the nom de guerre of a graphic designer and long-time friend of MAPS, who has been designing the MAPS Bulletin and the books published by MAPS since 1990. He earned his B.A. in design from California State University at Los Angeles and has worked in advertising and publishing for over 35 years.