IN MY 26 YEARS of work with MAPS, I’ve learned that psychedelic research must be conducted with state of the art scientific methodology, to withstand fierce yet justified critique from skeptics and allies alike.

The more scientific studies we design and conduct, the more time we spend negotiating with Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) over protocols, and the more journals that review our papers for publication, the more I see how unconscious and conscious bias, political pressure, and financial incentives can skew the implementation and rational review of studies and their results.

I’ve also learned how difficult it is to conduct research free of random factors, and have been surprised at how many sources of variance there can be even in our own rigorously designed studies. I’ve come to see effective scientific research not as a goal that can easily be attained, but as a process that we must always be working to improve.

This edition of the MAPS Bulletin provides an overview of current accomplishments and challenges in our psychedelic and medical marijuana research, with a special focus on our international series of Phase 2 MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD studies.

Replicating our impressive results from our two completed studies of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy in subjects with PTSD in additional locations with different research teams is essential for demonstrating the reliability of our data to the FDA and international regulatory agencies. Both of our completed studies—our initial U.S. Proof of Principle study (published in 2010 in the Journal of Pharmacology) and our Swiss study (with a paper about the results seemingly close to acceptance for publication)—have generated promising data about safety and efficacy that, if it had been from about 560 subjects rather than just 32, would justify approval for prescription use. Replicating results is also essential for showing potential donors to MAPS that the roughly $15 million more we need to raise to complete Phase 2 and Phase 3 studies over the next seven or so years is a wise investment in our mission to create legal contexts for psychedelic psychotherapy.

We now are working to obtain similarly profound and lasting results in four new studies. Two are in the United States with one ongoing in veterans in Charleston, South Carolina and one about to begin in Boulder, Colorado. One study in Israel is about to begin, and one in Canada is still struggling to obtain approval from Health Canada for the security systems required to store the roughly $1,500 worth of MDMA to be used in the study.

In addition to seeking to replicate our previous results, our new Phase 2 studies are also gathering information about how to conduct successful double-blind studies. The more uncertainty in the guesses of subjects and co-therapists about what dose was administered, the more convincing our results.

Our ongoing South Carolina study in veterans with co-therapists Michael Mitroff and Annie Mitroff, B.S., divides subjects into three groups, each receiving a different dose of MDMA together with psychotherapy: one receiving 30 mg, one receiving 75 mg, and one receiving 125 mg (all subjects also receive a supplementary half dose 1½ to 2½ hours after the first dose in order to prolong the therapeutic effects). Our other Phase 2 studies in Israel, Canada, and Colorado use only two groups and various lower dosages. Preliminary results suggest that raising the lower

(continued page 2)
MAPS Mission and Vision

Mission
Founded in 1986, the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit research and educational organization that develops medical, legal, and cultural contexts for people to benefit from the careful uses of psychedelics and marijuana.

MAPS furthers its mission by:
- Developing psychedelics and marijuana into prescription medicines.
- Training therapists and working to establish a network of treatment centers.
- Supporting scientific research into spirituality, creativity, and neuroscience.
- Educating the public honestly about the risks and benefits of psychedelics and marijuana.

Vision
MAPS envisions a world where psychedelics and marijuana are safely and legally available for beneficial uses, and where research is governed by rigorous scientific evaluation of their risks and benefits.

From the Desk of Rick Doblin, Ph.D. (continued from page 1)

Increasing the low dose could lead to more beneficial therapeutic effects, making it more difficult to show a statistically significant difference in therapeutic outcomes between those receiving low doses and those receiving full doses. We’re seeking to find a low dose that generates a successful double blind with the minimal amount of therapeutic efficacy.

Finding ways to reduce the cost of Phase 3 studies is another key challenge, and our new study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD in Boulder may help us find a way to do just that. In this new study we’re experimenting with a new way of assembling our male-female co-therapist teams, with one member an older experienced professional psychotherapist and another an intern working for free. We’re hopeful that teams of this composition will be successful since research has shown that younger therapists (perhaps due to enthusiasm or exposure to the newest therapeutic techniques) and older therapists (perhaps due to experience and accumulated wisdom) are often more effective than their mid-career peers. As our second trial site in the U.S., our Boulder study may help us find ways to conduct our studies more efficiently while still obtaining compelling results.

Our current series of Phase 2 MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD studies are also designed to learn more about whether subjects with war-related trauma respond to MDMA-assisted psychotherapy as well as subjects with PTSD from other factors, such as childhood sexual abuse, adult rape, or assault. We’re also seeking to gather more information about possible cultural differences between U.S., Canadian, and Israeli subject populations.

With limited financial resources, we’re trying to gather as much information as we can about the risks and benefits of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD in as few studies as possible. We don’t yet know whether we’ll need additional data from further Phase 2 studies to properly design our Phase 3 studies. The beauty and the challenge of well-designed scientific research is that the results are unknown until the data is in—and only when the data is in do the next steps become clearer.

With your continued support, MAPS will be able to continue expanding our research program, getting unprecedented results, and transforming the culture and politics of psychedelic and medical marijuana research. Together, we can make psychedelics and marijuana into legally available prescription medicines within our very own lifetimes.

Psychedelically and scientifically yours,

Rick Doblin, Ph.D.
MAPS Executive Director

Rick Doblin, Ph.D.,
MAPS Executive Director,
rdoblin@maps.org
Treating PTSD with MDMA-Assisted Psychotherapy

U.S. Proof of Principle Study: Long-Term Follow-Up Paper Accepted for Publication

On June 20, 2012, the results of a long-term follow-up of subjects who participated in our initial proof of principle study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD were accepted for publication by the Journal of Psychopharmacology. In the original study, 17 of 21 subjects who had suffered from PTSD as a result of sexual abuse, crime, or war no longer met criteria for PTSD after treatment. The long-term follow-up, conducted an average of 3½ years after the final experimental treatment session, demonstrates that these benefits were, on average, maintained. Additionally, of the subjects who were seeing a therapist prior to the study, 45% were no longer seeing one at the time of the follow-up survey; and 55% of those who were receiving psychiatric medications prior to the study were no longer taking them. These remarkable results confirm that the benefits of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy can persist over time. Check www.maps.org for an announcement of the final publication date, at which time the paper will be publicly available.

This study has been fully funded

MAPS Prepares to Start New Intern Study in Boulder

On May 4, 2012, the FDA approved our new study exploring the effectiveness of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy when one member of the male/female co-therapist team is an experienced therapist and the other is an intern working under supervision for credit towards licensure. The use of interns is an effort both to reduce costs for future MDMA-assisted psychotherapy trials, and to train the next generation of psychedelic psychotherapists.

On May 15, 2012, the DEA approved the protocol for the study. This study will begin recruiting and enrolling subjects once the DEA grants the Schedule 1 license to the study physician and the necessary site preparations, including obtaining a second business license for the site to comply with local zoning regulations, are complete. The study will take place in Boulder, Colorado with Marcela O’Alora as Principal Investigator.

Estimated study budget: $455,000
Already raised: $125,000
Needed to complete this study: $330,000

First Subject in Relapse Study Completes Follow-Up Evaluation after Successful Treatment

On April 27, 2012, the first subject in our relapse study completed their follow-up interview, two months after a single MDMA-assisted psychotherapy session. This study will enroll two subjects whose PTSD symptoms eventually returned after participating in our U.S. proof of principle study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD, which was completed in July 2010. This is an open label proof-of-principle study, investigating whether one additional MDMA-assisted psychotherapy session combined with multiple non-drug psychotherapy sessions can once again free these subjects from a diagnosis of PTSD.

Needed to complete this study: $55,000

MAPS and PRISM Work to Start Australian Study of MDMA-Assisted Psychotherapy for PTSD

MAPS is working with the Australian non-profit organization Psychedelic Research in Science and Medicine (PRISM) to obtain approval for an Australian study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. On February 22, 2012, the Ethics Committee rejected the protocol, citing issues that MAPS and PRISM addressed in their May 31 response. On July 13, the Committee reiterated their decision to reject the protocol. PRISM and MAPS will continue working to initiate MDMA-assisted psychotherapy research in Australia. This study will compare the safety and effectiveness of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for 12 subjects with chronic, treatment-resistant PTSD using two different dosages of MDMA combined with psychotherapy.

Needed to complete this study: $50,000
(additional funds provided by co-sponsor)

(continued page 4)
Health Canada Requests Additional Changes to Canadian MDMA/PTSD Study Pharmacy

Pharmacist Colin Holyk has made multiple security upgrades to his pharmacy at the request of Health Canada.

On December 2, 2011, Health Canada issued the results of their second security inspection of the pharmacy where MDMA will be stored for our planned Canadian study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. The report summarized several security-related changes that will be needed at the pharmacy before the Health Canada grants it the license to the study MDMA, including additional alarm systems, reinforcements to the entryways, and the addition of the words “Restricted Drug” to the MDMA label. A third security inspection will be required after the changes are made. As of September 1, 2012, the creation of additional security regulations following the initial inspection has delayed the study initiation by over nine months.

Estimated study budget: $527,000
Already raised: $15,000
Needed to complete this study: $508,000

Preparations Continue for Israeli MDMA/PTSD Study

Our Israeli site team is making their final preparations for our upcoming clinical trial of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. On February 1, 2012, the independent rater for the study completed training on the Clinician-Administered PTSD Scale (CAPS), a training which MAPS developed in order to standardize how the CAPS is administered across our diverse study sites. On December 25, 2011, contracts were finalized with the Beer Ya’akov Mental Hospital where the study will be conducted. As of September 1, 2012, the site was being prepared with “living room style” décor appropriate for MDMA-assisted psychotherapy sessions. After a final meeting with the clinical team, the site will begin screening and enrolling subjects. A significant percentage of subjects will be referred by the Israeli Defense Forces.

Estimated study budget: $381,000
Already raised: $0
Needed to complete this study: $381,000

Training Protocol Study Continues as Intern Study Therapist Teams Complete Training

Co-therapists Michael Mitheofer, M.D., and Annie Mitheofer, B.S.N., demonstrate an MDMA-assisted psychotherapy session.

From April 8-11, 2012, the therapist teams for our MDMA-assisted Psychotherapy for PTSD Intern Study completed our therapist training protocol in Charleston, South Carolina. This protocol is designed as a Phase 1 study of the psychological effects of MDMA in healthy volunteers, with subjects limited to people in MAPS’ therapist training program. In addition to providing new information about the effects of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy in healthy volunteers, the study will enable us to train therapists to conduct future MDMA/PTSD studies. Our Training Protocol Study is led by MDMA-assisted psychotherapy researchers and co-therapists Michael Mitheofer, M.D., and Annie Mitheofer, B.S.N.

Estimated study budget: $265,000
Already raised: $0
Needed to complete this study: $265,000
Swiss MDMA/PTSD Study Paper Submitted for Publication in Peer-Reviewed Journal

On February 27, 2012, a paper describing the results of our Swiss pilot study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy was submitted to a peer-reviewed scientific journal. The paper is co-authored by Clinical Investigator Peter Oehen, M.D., and Ulrich Schneider, M.D., former president of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. The small number of subjects in this preliminary pilot study contributed to the results falling just short of statistical significance. The study did find clinically significant reductions in scores on the CAPS scale—larger than those associated with Zoloft and Paxil, the only currently approved medications for PTSD. The investigators are now awaiting the reviewers’ response to their submission.

This study has been fully funded

Autism Research with MDMA-Assisted Therapy for Adults on the Autism Spectrum

MAPS is currently developing a protocol for a clinical study of the use of MDMA-assisted therapy for adults on the autism spectrum. The main objective of this study is to examine whether MDMA-assisted therapy could reduce or ease challenges associated with being on the autism spectrum.

On October 14, 2011, MAPS issued a Request For Proposals to support the development of a protocol for the first ever study of MDMA in this subject population. The research team has been selected and protocol development began in February 2012. We hope that the protocol will be approved and the pilot study ready to start by January 2013.

MAPS initially seeded the study with a $10,000 award to the selected research team. On January 25, 2012, the MAPS Board of Directors awarded $200,000 from Ashawna Hailey’s bequest to the study. We have a goal of raising additional funds through grants from leading autism advocacy groups such as Autism Speaks and federal funds available through the NIH, as well as from individual donors.

Newly Published by MAPS

Healing with Entactogens

This booklet explores MDMA and other entactogens as pharmacological adjuncts to group psychotherapy. It presents intimate insights into entactogenic experiences from first-hand accounts of clients who participated in group therapy sessions, and crucial background on the neurobiological and psychospiritual components of those experiences.

The word “entactogen” refers to a class of psychoactive compounds like MDMA that “produce a touching within.”

About the author

Torsten Passie, M.D., M.A., is Professor of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy at Hannover Medical School (Germany) where he serves as the Director of the Laboratory for Neurocognition and Consciousness. He is currently Visiting Professor at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Passie has conducted extensive research on the psychophysiology of altered states of consciousness, and is a leading European expert on the pharmacology and therapeutic use of psychedelic drugs.

“Torsten Passie’s research not only deals with the amplified psychotherapy possible with MDMA, but also with the neurophysiological and neurochemical correlates of the experience. His book deserves a place as an essential milestone in the integration of MDMA-type drugs into psychotherapeutic practice.”

—Ralph Metzner, Ph.D., psychotherapist and consciousness researcher
RESEARCH NEWS

Ibogaine Observational Studies Near Completion in Mexico; Expand to New Zealand

Seventh Subject Completes Follow-Up in Observational Study in Mexico

As of April 6, 2012, seven out of 30 subjects had completed a 12-month follow up in our ongoing observational study of ibogaine treatment for addiction in Mexico. The 30th and final subject was enrolled in the study on August 29, 2011. All participants in this study have already received ibogaine-assisted therapy at one of two independent treatment centers in Mexico. Our study observes and evaluates the participants for addiction and quality of life for 12 months post treatment. The study’s final long-term follow-up visit is scheduled for September 2012. Data from this study will be compared with data from our soon-to-be-initiated observational ibogaine study in New Zealand.

Estimated study budget: $41,000
Already raised: $34,000
Needed to complete this study: $7,000

First Two Subjects Enrolled in New Zealand Ibogaine Study

On July 16, 2012, the first two participants were enrolled in our recently initiated observational study of ibogaine treatment for addiction in New Zealand. Both of these individuals are suffering from methadone dependence and are receiving treatment at independent ibogaine clinics in New Zealand. On February 22, 2012, the study was approved by the IRB. Lead investigator Dr. Geoff Noller, Ph.D., began enrollment shortly thereafter. This study is the second in our international series of observational studies of the safety and long-term effectiveness of ibogaine treatment for addiction, building on our nearly completed study in Mexico.

Already raised: $15,000
(additional funds provided by co-sponsor)

Medical Marijuana Research

Protocol of Marijuana for Veterans with PTSD Submitted to Institutional Review Board

On July 30, 2012, MAPS and Sue Sisley, M.D., submitted the FDA-approved protocol for our planned study of marijuana for veterans with PTSD for review by the University of Arizona Institutional Review Board (IRB). The IRB review is scheduled for August 28. MAPS also submitted a detailed cover letter explaining our rationale for various elements of the protocol design. The protocol received clearance from the FDA on April 28, 2011, but the study has been on hold since then due to NIDA’s refusal to sell researchers the marijuana needed for the study. We will respond to the NIDA/Public Health Service reviewers’ comments if the IRB also approves the study protocol.

Federal Court Heats Oral Arguments in UMass Professor’s Lawsuit Against the DEA

On May 11, 2012 the U.S. First Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston, Mass., heard oral arguments in the case of Lyle E. Craker v. Drug Enforcement Administration. The arguments are the culmination of 11 years of administrative and legal proceeding in response to the DEA’s denial of a license to Craker to start a production facility under contract to MAPS to grow marijuana exclusively for privately funded, federally regulated medical research.

Craker’s attorney from Washington, D.C., law firm Covington & Burling LLP, which is representing Craker pro bono, clarified the issues facing the court and urged the judges to require the DEA to issue Craker’s license. The DEA attempted to get the case thrown out before a ruling by claiming that the court has no jurisdiction over the issue, an argument that the court seems likely to reject. The court’s ruling should come in later this year. Meanwhile, the DEA is succeeding in preventing our medical marijuana research from moving forward.

Needed for protocol development and approval process: $20,000

Treating End-of-Life Anxiety with LSD-Assisted Psychotherapy

On August 8, 2012, the last long-term follow-up interview was conducted in our recently completed study of LSD-assisted psychotherapy for anxiety associated with advanced-stage illness in Switzerland. All twelve subjects have now completed the follow-up portion of this study, and the results are being prepared for publication in a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

This study has been fully funded
MAPS Shares Research Results with Doctors and Therapists at Veterans Administration and UCSF

The promising results that we’re seeing in our ongoing MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD research program are getting unprecedented attention from the scientists, doctors, and psychotherapists most involved in finding effective treatments for PTSD.

On May 31, 2012, psychiatrist Michael Mitroeff, M.D., presented information about our initial studies of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD and our ongoing study in veterans with the staff at the National Center for PTSD at the Palo Alto Veterans Administration. On June 1, Dr. Mitroeff had the honor of presenting our promising research results at the San Francisco Veterans Administration Medical Center Mental Health Services’ Grand Rounds.

On the evening of May 31, MAPS hosted a tremendously successful free lecture and discussion at the University of California, San Francisco Medical Center. Psychiatrist Michael Mitroeff, M.D., and MAPS founder Rick Doblin, Ph.D., shared the most recent research results from our ongoing series of Phase 2 clinical studies of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD with over 200 attendees in a standing-room only lecture hall.

MAPS Receives $5 million bequest

This year MAPS received a generous bequest of approximately $5 million from the estate of software pioneer Ashawna (Shawn) Hailey. This is the largest gift in MAPS’ 26-year history. The Board of Directors has allocated all but $200,000 of Ashawna’s gift to our Phase 3 studies of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for PTSD. This will allow MAPS to begin its Phase 3 fundraising campaign with more than one third of the total budget already raised. We hope this inspires donors to give to the completion of our Phase 2 studies, for which we still need to raise about $2 million. Phase 2 studies are expected to be complete in 2015, with Phase 3 studies beginning shortly thereafter.

Stay up-to-date and be a part of the growing psychedelic and medical marijuana research community.

- **maps.org**
  - Current research, media, student resources, psychedelic harm reduction information, free psychedelic literature, MAPS Store, and many other resources.

- **Facebook**
  - [facebook.com/mapsmdma](http://facebook.com/mapsmdma)
  - Learn and share breaking news as a part of our fast-growing social network community.

- **Twitter**
  - [@MAPSNews](https://twitter.com/MAPSNews)
  - Instant updates from MAPS’ world headquarters in Santa Cruz, California.

- **Maps Email Newsletter**
  - [maps.org/newsletter](http://maps.org/newsletter)
  - Monthly research updates, events, news, multimedia, and more delivered to your inbox.

- **YouTube**
  - [youtube.com/mapsmdma](http://youtube.com/mapsmdma)
  - Watch and learn from leading researchers while exploring our extensive video library.
Psychedemia: Integrating Psychedelics in Academia

**September 27–30, 2012, University of Pennsylvania**
Details at psychedemia.org

Bringing together university scholars and professionals, Psychedemia will promote a discussion about how the increasing visibility and exploration of psychedelic experiences will influence greater culture. This conference is poised to explore varied perspectives of a significant issue: as the psychedelic renaissance increases its momentum, it is vital to consider the impact of altered states of consciousness and how they are produced from interdisciplinary and critical perspectives.

Interdisciplinary Conference on Psychedelic Research

**October 6–7, 2012, Amsterdam**
Details at icpr.stichtingopen.nl

Researchers will present their studies on psychedelics as scholars reflect on their legal and philosophical implications. The study of these substances is approached from various angles: from psychopharmacological studies in human subjects to sociological and anthropological research. The interdisciplinary character makes this conference relevant to students and academics from a multitude of backgrounds.

Horizons: Perspectives on Psychedelics

**October 12–14, 2012, New York City**
Details at horizonsnyc.org

Horizons is an annual forum with the goal of opening a fresh dialogue on the role of psychedelics in medicine, culture, history, spirituality, and creativity.

Science and Nonduality

Details at scienceandnonduality.com

Science and Nonduality (SAND) brings together preeminent scientists, philosophers, spiritual teachers, and mystics for an exploration of the new paradigm emerging in spirituality that is grounded in cutting-edge science and consistent with the ancient wisdom of nonduality—the deep understanding of the interconnectedness of life.

U.S. Psychiatric and Mental Health Congress

**November 8–11, 2012, San Diego, California**
Details at psychcongress.com

The 2012 Psych Congress will provide information and tools from which mental health professionals may confidently diagnose disorders and develop effective treatment plans by applying evidence-based management to daily practice. Michael Mitroff, M.D., will share the latest results from our ongoing study of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy for U.S. veterans with PTSD, and MAPS will host an exhibit booth with additional information about our research program.

Psycodelic Science 2013

**April 18–22, 2013, Oakland, California**
Details at maps.org/conference

Four of the world’s leading psycodelic research institutes will gather researchers, therapists, artists, and the curious over five days to share the latest research on MDMA, LSD, psilocybin, ayahuasca, ibogaine, and more.
Four of the world's leading psychedelic research institutes will gather researchers, therapists, students, and the intellectually curious over five days to share the latest research on MDMA, LSD, psilocybin, ayahuasca, ibogaine, and more.

The Second International Psychedelic Science Conference
Oakland Marriott City Center

Confirmed Speakers
Rick Doblin, Ph.D., MAPS founder and executive director
Amanda Feilding, Beckley Foundation executive director
Robert Jesse, Council on Spiritual Practices convener
David E. Nichols, Ph.D., Heffter Research Institute President, co-Founder

Stanislav Grof, Ph.D., M.D.
Michael Missiroi, M.D.
Dráulio Barros De Araujo, Ph.D.
Bia Caiuby Labate, Ph.D.

Dieter Hagenbach and Lucius Werthmüller
Gabor Mate, M.D.
Sidarta Ribeiro, Ph.D.
and many more!

Tickets on sale now!

Three Day Conference
April 19–21, 2013
9:00 A.M.–6:00 P.M.

Pre- and Post-Conference Workshops
April 18 & 22, 2013
9:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Holotropic Breathwork Workshop
April 20–22, 2013
With lecture by Stan Grof

Dinner & Performance
East Hall
April 20, 2013, 7:00 P.M.

The Marketplace of Goods and Ideas
West Hall
April 19–21, 2013
8:00 A.M.–7:00 P.M.

A gathering place to shop, see scientific presentations, and meet and talk with like-minded people.

Sunset Cruise on SF Bay
Jack London Square/Pier 40
April 19, 2013, 7:00 P.M.

Informal dinner, no-host bar, and entertainment in the company of friends. Cruise to the other side of the Bay for Bicycle Day Party—or stay on board and cruise back to Jack London Square and the Marriott Hotel.

Presented By
Beckley Foundation • Council on Spiritual Practices
Heffter Research Institute • Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS)

Thank you to Awake Media for their support.
MEDIA

A Drug Designed to Treat PTSD?

Esquire, July 9, 2012

“If we were to invent a drug designed to treat PTSD, what qualities would it have?” asks MDMA researcher Ben Sessa, M.D. Neil Boorman of Esquire magazine describes his experience taking part in the UK’s first study of the effects of MDMA on the brain.

MDMA On Trial in the UK

The Guardian, July 19, 2012

Professor David Nutt of Imperial College London writes for the Guardian about his current MDMA research project. With funding from Channel 4, a U.K. television station, and help from Professor Val Curran of University College London, Nutt has been able to measure resting brain activity in healthy volunteers after receiving a pure dose of MDMA. Channel 4 will air footage of the research along with a live debate about MDMA in two 60-minute installments of a special program titled Drugs Live: The Ecstasy Trial.

MDMA Turns 100 Years Old, Still Faces Stereotypes

Care2, June 27, 2012

Care2 delves into the history of MDMA and its place in science and medicine. Brad Burge, MAPS’ Director of Communications, is interviewed and details MAPS’ research focusing on MDMA-assisted psychotherapy as a treatment for PTSD and also talks about the future of MDMA as a therapeutic drug.

Shaping the Renaissance of Psychedelic Research

The Lancet, July 21, 2012

Ben Sessa writes for The Lancet about the current state of psychedelic research.

Are We Finally Reawakening to the Profound Healing Properties of Psychedelics?

AlterNet, June 14, 2012

AlterNet covers the wide variety of uses for psychedelics and marijuana, highlighting the various histories and medical potential of the drugs. The article features a transcript of the talks given at Reform Conference by MAPS Founder Rick Doblin, Ph.D., and Executive Director of The Beckley Foundation Executive Director, Amanda Feilding.

Doors Reopen for LSD

Época, June 18, 2012

Época summarizes the vast history of LSD. In the 1960s, researchers studied the effects of LSD and its potential as a treatment for schizophrenia and depression. Despite its widespread prohibition, research on LSD has begun to take place once again with studies across the world looking into LSD-assisted therapy for end-of-life anxiety and depression.
MAPS Shares in $10 Million Bequest

Chronicle of Philanthropy, June 24, 2012

The Chronicle of Philanthropy details the $5 million bequest given to MAPS from software pioneer Ashawna Hailey. The bequest will go primarily towards research on using MDMA-assisted therapy to treat PTSD. Hailey was a board member of MAPS and cared deeply about drug policy reform. She also left $1.25-million each to the American Civil Liberties Union, Drug Policy Alliance, Marijuana Policy Project, and Second Harvest Food Bank.

California Pot Research Backs Therapeutic Claims

Sacramento Bee, July 12, 2012

The Sacramento Bee examines the recent completion of medical marijuana research conducted in California by the Center for Medical Cannabis Research (CMCR). The studies lasted over a decade and treated more than 300 patients, concluding that marijuana can offer benefits for treating pain from injuries, HIV, strokes, and other conditions. The article also highlights MAPS’ medical marijuana research plans.

Analyzing the Role of Cannabidiol in Medicinal Cannabis

HerbalGram, July 9, 2012

The official journal of the American Botanical Council sorts out the science behind the medical uses of cannabidiol (CBD, an active component of marijuana similar to THC and with different effects) and describes researchers’ efforts to understand the real risks and benefits of all components of the cannabis plant.

Read the full articles at www.maps.org/media
EXPLORE

Want to dive deeper into the world of psychedelic research?

MAPS’ web portal hosts the world’s largest collection of psychedelic research papers.

The MAPS Psychedelic Bibliography contains over 10,000 citations from the scientific and medical literature on psychedelic research and is continuously updated with new papers and timely reviews and summaries by MAPS research associates.

maps.org/bibliography

MAPS Supporter Spotlight: David Bronner

I BELIEVE that the responsible integration of psychedelics and cannabis into world culture holds great promise for helping us heal and deal with the challenges we individually and collectively face. For many years, psychedelics and cannabis have helped me experience intense love, gratitude, and grace, and have been key allies in helping set and keep me on a more conscious and compassionate path.

Given the mercurial, subjective, and intense nature of psychedelic experiences, it’s important to me to support well-grounded advocates who don’t succumb to archetypal identification and psychedelic inflation—tendencies that can unhelpfully interfere with cultural integration. Rick Doblin and MAPS know where the crossover points are. They know what’s what and leverage opportunities with integrity and skill.

With roots firmly planted in both the psychedelic community and the research field, MAPS is skilfully navigating the path to larger cultural acceptance through smart hard work and activism. They know how to work with diligence, wisdom, and compassion, and I’m honored to help the MAPS team in this most worthy project.

For many years, psychedelics and cannabis have helped me experience intense love, gratitude, and grace, and have been key allies in helping set and keep me on a more conscious and compassionate path.