MAPS: Who We Are

Rick Doblin, Ph.D., Founder and Executive Director, 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.

Brad Burge, Director of Communications and Marketing, earned his B.A. in Communication and Psychology from Stanford University in 2005 and his M.A. in Communication from the University of California, San Diego in 2009. His graduate work focused on “the political, scientific, and cultural changes required to make illicit drugs into legitimate medicines.

Brian Brown, Communications and Marketing Manager, studied medical anthropology and visual culture at the University of California, Santa Cruz where he researched social prospects for psychedelics using a community centered approach. Brian is now developing MAPS’ membership base by assisting with education and outreach efforts.

Sarah Jordan, Publications Associate, earned her B.A. in English Literature from the University of Wisconsin Madison, where he also received awards for his poetry and research. His research combined art criticism, psychoanalysis, and disability studies. Erik comes to MAPS from serving in AmeriCorps VISTA and working as a grant writer in Texas.

Cara LaChance, Web and Multimedia Manager, earned her B.A. in English Language and Literatures from the University of California, Santa Cruz. She assists in communicating about MAPS’ psychedelic and marijuana research, provides public education, and contributes to multimedia projects. Cara envisions continual progression of psychedelic and marijuana research, and the possibility of a post-prohibition world.

Bryce Montgomery, Web and Multimedia Manager, studied film production at West Valley College, joining MAPS as Social Media Intern in the summer of 2011. Bryce now serves as Web and Multimedia Manager, bringing his background in film production and social media to public education about psychedelics.

Tess Goodwin, Accounting and Development Consultant, has a B.A. in Psychology from the University of California, Santa Cruz, where she focused most of her time on social psychology and newspaper production. She is a mycophile, artist, and language enthusiast.

Linnae Ponté, Director of Harm Reduction, earned her B.A. in Biological Psychology from New College of Florida. Her clinical work has been with individuals and groups, of all ages, experiencing trauma, addiction, depression, and dual-diagnosis. Shannon supports Executive Director Rick Doblin, and contributes to MAPS’ harm reduction efforts.

Jade Netanya Ullman, Development Officer, is the former executive director of Romeru, an ambassador for the Social Venture Network, and a member of the Threshold Foundation. She received her B.A. in contemplative psychology from Naropa University. Jade is enthusiastic about inspiring others to recognize and support the visionary research and healing work of MAPS.

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Jenni Vierra, Operations Assistant, studied psychology at the University of California Santa Cruz with an interest in cognitive sciences. She is currently working towards her medical degree as she aspires to be a doctor aiding in traumatic injuries. Jenni has always had an interest in the neurological effects of psychedelics and is thankful to have the opportunity to work in a field in which she is passionate.

Erik Brown, Development Associate, earned his B.A. in Environmental Policy with a minor in Journalism from the University of California at Santa Cruz. Prior to joining MAPS, she was Communications and Development Assistant at Firelight Foundation in Santa Cruz, CA.

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Established 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.

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.

MAPS relies on the generosity of individual donors to achieve our mission. Now that research into the beneficial potential of psychedelics is again being conducted under federal guidelines, the challenge has become one of funding. No funding is currently available for this research from pharmaceutical companies or major foundations. That means that the future of psychedelic and marijuana research is in the hands of individual donors. Please consider making a donation today.
/maps.org/donate