

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Recent years have witnessed a widespread increase of interest in the alteration and expansion of consciousness. The discovery of the psychedelic substances such as LSD, psilocybin and mescaline has been a major contributing factor in this development. Scientists and scholars from diverse areas as well as many laymen have recognized the importance of these substances as powerful tools for the exploration of consciousness and the production of visionary experiences. The effects of psychedelic substances pose fascinating problems for medical and psychological research and have far-reaching implications for many issues in the sciences and the humanities.

The Psychedelic Review is designed to serve as a forum for the exchange of information and ideas about these issues. It will publish original research reports, scholarly and historical essays, outstanding phenomenological accounts of spontaneous or induced transcendent experiences, and reviews of relevant pharmacological and other literature.

The journal is published and sponsored by the International Federation for Internal Freedom (IFIF), an organization whose purpose is "to encourage, support and protect research on psychedelic substances." The basic long-range goal of IFIF is to work to increase the individual's control over his own mind, thereby enlarging his internal freedom. The present journal is an attempt to contribute to the realization of this long-term objective.

However, the views expressed in articles published by *The Psychedelic Review* are solely the authors' and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors or of IFIF. Conversely, the contributors do not necessarily subscribe to the principles and purposes of IFIF.

A word about the title. The substances discussed here have been referred to by many different names, including "psychotomimetic," "hallucinogenic," "consciousness-expanding" and others. The term "psychedelic," first proposed by Humphrey Osmond, is derived from the Greek and means "mind-manifesting." Strict compliance with linguistic protocol would have dictated the usual intervening vowel (*o*), but the present orthography is gaining wider acceptance.