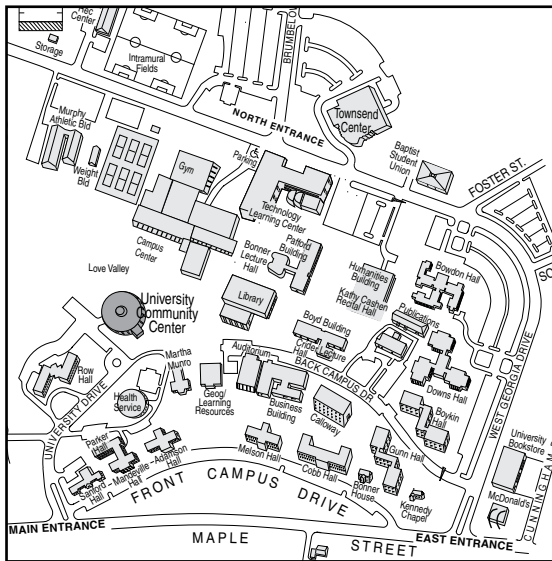


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 JIM KLEE FORUM SERIES

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JIM KLEE FORUM LECTURE SERIES



PRESENTS

Rick Doblin, Ph.D.

**21st Century Psychedelic Research:
 A Renaissance in Science,
 Psychotherapy, Mysticism,
 and Politics**

(Free Lecture)

March 26, 2009
 6:30 p.m. Reception
 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Campus Center Ballroom

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER

RICK DOBLIN

Rick is the founder (in 1986) and president of the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS). His dissertation (Public Policy, Harvard's Kennedy School of Government) was on "The Regulation of the Medical Use of Psychedelics and Marijuana," and his master's thesis (Harvard) focused on the attitudes and experiences of oncologists concerning the medical use of marijuana. His undergraduate thesis (New College of Florida) was a twenty-five



year follow-up to the classic Good Friday Experiment, which evaluated the potential of psychedelic drugs to catalyze religious experiences. He has also completed a thirty-four year follow-up study of the Concord Prison experiment conducted from 1961-1963 by a team of researchers at Harvard University under the direction of Timothy Leary. The original study involved the administration of psilocybin-assisted group psychotherapy to 32 prisoners in an effort to reduce recidivism rates.

Doblin has studied with Stan Grof, M.D., and was in the first group to become certified as holotropic breathwork practitioners. His professional goal is to help develop legal contexts for the beneficial uses of psychedelics and marijuana, primarily as prescription medicines but also for personal growth for otherwise "healthy" people, and to also become a legally licensed psychedelic therapist. He currently resides in Boston with his wife and three young children.

Currently, a quiet psychedelic renaissance is beginning at the highest levels of American science, including the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and Harvard, which is conducting its first research into therapeutic uses of psychedelics since the university fired Timothy Leary in 1963. Doblin has painstakingly worked with intensely skeptical federal authorities to make these and other research projects possible.

Recently, FDA granted South Carolina psychiatrist Michael Mithoefer approval to use MDMA-assisted psy-

chotherapy in a research study to treat posttraumatic-stress disorder (PTSD) in victims of violent assault. It's the first FDA-approved controlled study of the therapeutic effectiveness of MDMA ever conducted. The study, completed in September 2008, was funded by MAPS at a cost of \$1 million; its protocol was developed by Drs. Doblin and Mithoefer in conjunction with other scientists. MAPS' next MDMA/PTSD study is being designed and will focus on US vets with PTSD.

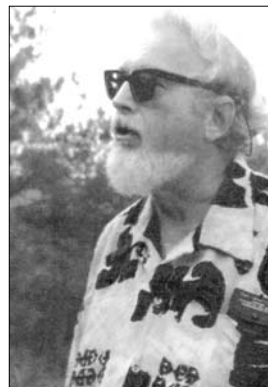
Meanwhile, MAPS worked with Dr. John Halpern of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Research Center at Harvard Medical School's McLean Hospital, in Belmont, to obtain FDA approval to use MDMA-assisted psychotherapy to help advanced-stage-cancer patients deal with their anxieties and fears of death.

According to Doblin, "All drugs have benefits and risks, but in psychedelics we have been tempted to see only one or the other." Not anymore.

JAMES B. KLEE

Jim Klee earned his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in Psychology at the University of Michigan. Much of his academic career was spent at Brandeis University and at the University of West Georgia. At Brandeis he joined Abraham Maslow in establishing the first humanistic psychology program in the nation. There he also became colleagues with and influenced George Kelly and Ulric Neisser, two founders of the cognitive psychology movement. Yet cognition was far too narrow and rigidly cast a vision for Klee himself. His great-plains-sized thinking simultaneously grounded humanistic psychology in existential-phenomenology while also stretching it to its own "outer reaches" in transpersonal psychology in its historical-temporal religious dimension.

Jim typically explored the territory between categories. He navigated his sail ship of vision along the boundaries of words, concepts, and spheres of inquiry, between existing



thoughts and disciplines, in a quest for openings to oceans of potential insight. His published collection, *Points of departure: Aspects of the Tao*, and his papers include such titles as "The Absolute and the Relative", "India's Mysterious Unity" and "Omniscience, Time and Suchness". In the interstices, in the "in between", he found a consciousness-expanding nexus of dimensionality and unity that reveals points of continuity among seemingly unrelated understandings offered by such persons as Satre, Spence, Bergson, Skinner, Aristotle, Plato, Lao Tze, and the Hindu Mystics. For Jim, the continuity was recognized in the discontinuity, the paradoxical, the ironic, and the symbolic.

In 1971, Jim Klee joined the faculty of the newly-forming Humanistic Psychology program at the University of West Georgia. Owing greatly to his largesse d'esprit, the program burgeoned to its current prominence as a principal center for studies and research in Humanistic and Transpersonal Psychology. Jim was named Professor of Psychology Emeritus upon his retirement from the University of West Georgia in 1987. He died in 1996.

THE JIM KLEE FORUM FUND

The Jim Klee Forum Fund was established upon James B. Klee's retirement from the Psychology Department at the University of West Georgia in 1987. As a token expression of appreciation for Jim's monumental contributions to the personal and professional development of students and colleagues over a period of nearly two decades, The initial request for contributions was made to the alumni of the Psychology Department and the Department faculty. In accordance with Jim Klee's wishes, Proceeds from that fund have been assigned to the establishment of the Jim Klee Forum. Annually it brings to the university a speaker of national or international renown. Each forum features a major address by an invited speaker, along with dialogue among the speaker, discussants, and audience.

Funding for this Forum series depends on contributions to the Jim Klee Forum Fund. These contributions are tax deductible and should be directed to the University of West Georgia Foundation, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA 30118.