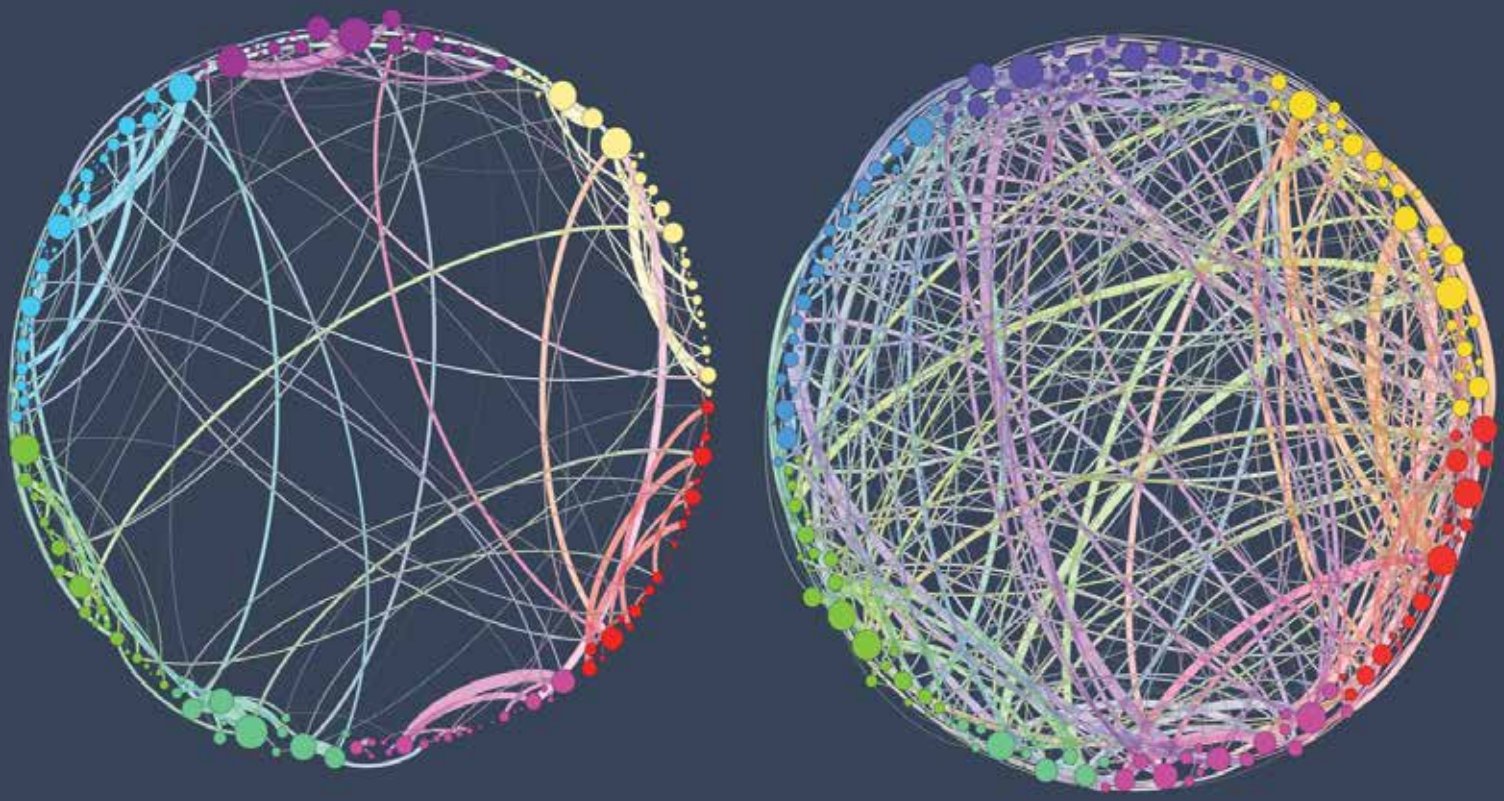

THE BECKLEY FOUNDATION
History and Achievements

BECKLEY FOUNDATION

Exploring Consciousness
Pioneering Research
Changing Minds

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DR. JORDI RIBA, PH.D.
Associate Professor of Pharmacology at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), Associate Researcher at the Drug Research Center of the Sant Pau Hospital in Barcelona

IN MEMORIAM

DR. ALBERT HOFMANN, PH.D
Discoverer of LSD and founding member of the Beckley Foundation's Scientific Advisory Board until he passed away in April 2008 at the age of 102.

DR. ALEXANDER SHULGIN, PH.D.
Pharmacologist, chemist, and psychoactive drug researcher. Author of PiHKAL, TiHKAL, and The Shulgin Index.

DR. RONALD SANDISON, M.D.
British psychiatrist, psychotherapist and pioneer for the clinical use of LSD in psychiatry.

Image on front cover shows visualisation of brain functional networks under a) a placebo and b) psilocybin. Petri et al. (2014). From Beckley / Imperial Psychedelic Research Programme.

Many thanks to our donors!

Both our Science and Policy Programmes, and the dissemination of new information to international organisations, governments, and the public, rely exclusively on the generosity of our sponsors. The Beckley Foundation would like to thank the J. Paul Getty Jr. Charitable Trust and the Open Society Foundation for their generous support, and ask all interested parties to help us develop and expand our programmes of work in science, policy, and communication.

Donations, of any amount, are greatly appreciated.

Please visit: www.beckleyfoundation.org/donate-2

AMANDA FEILDING AND THE BECKLEY FOUNDATION

Amanda Feilding's contribution to psychedelic science and drug policy reform has been pivotal and widely acknowledged. She has been called the hidden hand behind global drug policy reform and the renaissance of psychedelic science. In 2012, the New Scientist called her the 'Queen of Consciousness'. She has had a passionate interest in consciousness and its altered states since childhood, and started studying the possible beneficial and medical applications of the psychedelics in the 1960s. She was among the first to start creating a scientific evidence-base on which to build global drug policy reform, and has been the driving force behind many of the changes in attitudes and policies over the last 17 years.

Amanda studied comparative religions and mysticism at Oxford, under the tutelage of the renowned Prof. R. C. Zaehner, author of *Mysticism, Sacred and Profane*. She travelled widely in Egypt and the Middle East, living with the Bedouin among other adventures.

In the 1960s, at the height of the first wave of scientific research into psychedelics, she was introduced to LSD, and was impressed by its power to initiate mystical and other non-ordinary states of consciousness, including enhanced creativity and heightened awareness. She realised the transformative and therapeutic potential of psychedelics, and dedicated herself to exploring ways of harnessing this potential for the benefit of society.

In 1966, she met the Dutch scientist Bart Huges, who had recently developed two new hypotheses: first, that changes in cerebral circulation underlie changing states of consciousness; and second, that the 'ego' is a conditioned reflex mechanism which controls the distribution of blood in the brain.

Inspired by these new ideas, over the following years she worked with Huges in developing these hypotheses. She studied how cannabis and the psychedelics can alter brain function, how to use these compounds as tools to better understand consciousness itself, and how they can increase self-awareness, mental, and physical well-being.

In the 1970s, she wrote a booklet entitled *Blood & Consciousness* and gave exhibitions around the topic of consciousness and its changing states at galleries including PS1 in New York and the ICA in London, where she also showed her film *Heartbeat in the Brain*.

After many years of studying physiology, psychology, neuroscience, and related subjects, in 1996 she decided to set up the *Foundation to Further Consciousness*. In 1998, she changed its name to the Beckley Foundation. She realised that only through developing the very best scientific research could cannabis and the psychedelics be re-integrated into society and their potential benefits for the individual and society be better understood and utilised more fully.

From the 1970s onwards, Amanda had watched with dismay the development of the War on Drugs, and felt duty-bound to do whatever she could to draw attention to its devastating unintended consequences, and to create a scientific evidence-base to help reform global drug policy to protect health, reduce harms, be cost-effective, and respect human rights. From 1998, she initiated and hosted a series of seminars of international experts in the House of Lords and elsewhere, to discuss key policy issues. These seminars and the papers arising from them were very influential in changing attitudes among thinkers and policy-makers internationally.

"The best way to overcome the taboo and re-integrate these invaluable compounds into the fabric of society is by undertaking the very best scientific research" - Amanda Feilding

A DUAL PURPOSE

FROM ITS INCEPTION IN 1998, THE BECKLEY FOUNDATION HAS HAD A DUAL PURPOSE: TO EXPAND OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES WORK IN THE BRAIN, AND TO REFORM GLOBAL DRUG POLICY.

The Scientific Programme designs, initiates, funds, and carries out research in collaboration with leading institutions, using the latest developments in neuroscience and brain imaging technology in order to explore how psychedelics act upon the human brain. The purpose of this research is to increase our scientific understanding of consciousness, and to explore new avenues for the treatment of diseases. When Amanda established the Beckley Foundation, she set up the *Beckley Foundation Scientific Advisory Board* with the leading international scientists on these topics, including Albert Hofmann, Alexander Shulgin, Colin Blakemore (later Chair of the *Medical Research Council*), David Nutt and Les Iversen (both later Chairs of the *UK Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs*), David Nichols, VS Ramachandran, and other notable scientists.

The Policy Programme was the first to start developing drug policy built on a scientific evidence base. The Programme brings together leading international scientists, politicians, and other experts to discuss the taboo issues around this complex subject, and to explore new regulatory models which would aim to protect health and reduce the disastrous collateral harms caused by the policies of prohibition.

Photo by Nick Cozzi

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Over the last 17 years, the Beckley Foundation's Scientific Programme, led by Amanda Feilding, has undertaken pioneering research and produced ground-breaking results on currently-controlled psychoactive substances. Over 35 papers have been published in influential, high-impact, peer-reviewed scientific journals. Amanda has been a pioneering force initiating, developing, and conducting scientific research projects in collaboration with partners at leading institutions, such as *Imperial College London*, *University College London*, *King's College London*, *Johns Hopkins University,* the *Sechenov Institute*, and many others. The aim has been to build our understanding of how these substances work, how they affect the brain and consciousness, and how they can be used for the betterment of humankind, in the treatment of illness, the expansion of awareness, and the enhancement of openness and creativity.

In order to investigate the hypothesis that changes in blood supply to certain brain regions underlie the psychedelic experience, in 1998, Amanda initiated a collaboration with Dr. Franz Vollenweider of *Zurich University* to investigate the effects of psilocybin on cerebral circulation.

In 2004, Amanda started a long-term collaboration with Prof. Yuri Moskalenko at the *Sechenov Institute of Evolutionary Physiology and Biochemistry* in St. Petersburg, Russia, on cerebral circulation and the development of a non-invasive monitor of 'cranial compliance'. This research has led to important findings, including the relationship between diminished 'cranial compliance' and cognitive decline. This programme also included research into the physiological effects of trepanation, which showed how the procedure increases the index of 'cranial compliance', and hence its possible relevance in the prevention of age-related diseases such as dementia.

In 2007, Amanda, in collaboration with *UC Berkeley*, obtained the first ethical approvals to use LSD in human subjects since prohibition blocked all research.

35

Over 35 papers have been published in influential scientific journals as a result of the Foundation's collaborative research projects.

THE BECKLEY FOUNDATION IS ONE OF THE FEW ORGANISATIONS IN THE WORLD INITIATING & CARRYING OUT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INTO CANNABIS AND THE PSYCHEDELICS

BECKLEY / IMPERIAL
RESEARCH PROGRAMME

In 2005, Amanda persuaded Prof. David Nutt (*University of Bristol*) that they should form a collaborative partnership with the aim of investigating the effects of cannabis and the psychedelics on brain function. Because of her earlier work, Amanda was particularly keen to investigate changes in cerebral circulation brought about by psychedelics, and their effects on brain function and the 'ego'. She also suggested that Robin Carhart-Harris carry out his Ph.D. under David Nutt's supervision, and he later became the programme's lead investigator.

- In 2009, David Nutt moved to *Imperial College London* and the collaborative programme with Amanda became the *Beckley / Imperial Research Programme*, with David Nutt and Amanda as co-directors. In 2012, the first results of their brain imaging study with psilocybin were published in the prestigious journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (*PNAS)* and achieved world-wide publicity, becoming the most downloaded scientific report in *Imperial College*'s history. The study explains the changes in the function of the Default Mode Network in psychedelic-induced states of consciousness, and paves the way for therapeutic applications. Eight further papers were subsequently published, probing various aspects of brain connectivity, neural correlates of consciousness, and their relevance to psychotherapy. The work led to the Programme receiving a substantial grant from the *Medical Research Council* to study the effects of psilocybin in the treatment of depression. The pilot study has just been completed and achieved amazingly positive results.

- In 2012, the *Beckley / Imperial Research Programme* carried out the first brain imaging study on individuals under the influence of MDMA ('Ecstasy'), as part of the Channel 4 programme *Drugs Live: The Ecstasy Trial*. This was the first detailed study to map the neural underpinnings of MDMA's effects, and to explain why it is so valuable for psychotherapy. The TV programme was presented by Jon Snow and was viewed by over 2 million people.

- In 2014, the *Beckley / Imperial Research Programme* started the first-ever brain imaging study with LSD - a long-standing ambition of Amanda. The results have proved to be as ground-breaking as those of the psilocybin studies. To supplement the funding to complete the study, the Beckley Foundation launched a successful crowdfunding campaign with the website Walacea. The study is the first in a series investigating LSD, and we are now developing a study comparing the effects of LSD to those of DMT.

OUR PSILOCYBIN STUDY BECAME THE MOST DOWNLOADED SCIENTIFIC REPORT IN IMPERIAL COLLEGE'S HISTORY.

WE HAVE ALSO JUST COMPLETED THE FIRST-EVER BRAIN IMAGING STUDY ON LSD.

SELECTION OF PAST COLLABORATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

From 2007, Amanda worked with Dr. Paul Morrison at *King's College London* to investigate the effects of cannabidiol (CBD) and its relationship to THC. These were among the first studies to explore CBD's anxiolytic and anti-psychotic properties.

In 2008, the Beckley Foundation co-sponsored the MAPS-led trial of LSD-assisted psychotherapy for end-of-life anxiety. The study was carried out by Dr. Peter Gasser in Switzerland, and investigated the potential of LSD to help manage 'existential stress' associated with terminal illness.

In 2010, Amanda collaborated with Dr. Torsten Passie (*Hanover Medical School, Germany*) in a pilot study that demonstrated how 2-bromo-LSD, a non-psychoactive analogue of LSD, stopped or reduced the frequency of cluster headaches, a disease characterised by debilitating pain with almost no treatment options.

Other past work includes a collaborative study with Dr. Celia Morgan (*University College London)* on cannabis and creativity (2012), and a study initiated by the Beckley Foundation with *Harborside Health Centre* and *UCL* investigating the efficacy of different strains of cannabis in the treatment of illnesses (with particular attention to the THC/CBD ratio) in comparison to pharmaceutical alternatives.

In 2014, a pilot study co-initiated by Amanda Feilding and Prof. Roland Griffiths, and carried out by Dr. Matthew Johnson at Johns Hopkins University, showed outstanding results in **overcoming tobacco addiction with psilocybin-aided psychotherapy**. The trial achieved unprecedented levels of success - an 80% abstinence rate after 6 months. A larger follow-up trial is now underway.

Photo by Scott Darbey

A SELECTION OF CURRENT STUDIES

- As part of the *Beckley / Imperial Research Programme*, we have recently completed data collection on the first-ever brain imaging study with LSD. It explores the effects of LSD on changes in cerebral circulation and brain function at rest and during various tasks, and reveals much about the neural mechanisms underlying the effects of LSD, as well as teaching us about consciousness itself.

  We also investigated the effects of LSD on the perception of music, and found that LSD and music work synergistically to enhance personal memories, visual imagery, and the release of emotion.

  Another major breakthrough of the *Beckley / Imperial Research Programme* is that we have completed data collection for the pilot study evaluating the use of psilocybin as an aid to psychotherapy in the treatment of depression. The preliminary results have been very successful showing a significant reduction in depression ratings.

- With *University College London*, we have recently collaborated on the first brain imaging study to compare the effects of two different strains of cannabis – one high in THC, and the other containing a balanced THC/CBD ratio – on cerebral circulation and brain function. This study was featured in the Channel 4 documentary *Drugs Live: The Cannabis Trial*, which aired in March 2015. The research demonstrates that CBD helps to counteract some of the negative effects of THC, such as deactivating the *salience network*. This network is important when changing focus, and underpins switching from one cognitive state to another, switching between daydreams and action.

- In 2014, Amanda started an ongoing collaborative programme with Prof. Jordi Riba at *Sant Pau Hospital* (Barcelona), which has initiated a series of studies investigating the effects of ayahuasca, DMT, and 5-MeO-DMT (found in Colorado River Toad venom). The studies investigate the molecular sites of action and effects on neurotransmitters and brain plasticity, as well as changes in blood supply and brain function, using fMRI, spectroscopy, PET, and EEG. These studies will also throw light on the experience of 'entities', which are reported anecdotally by many users of these substances.

- With Prof. Jonathan Bisson, Dr. Mat Hoskins, and Dr. Ben Sessa at *Cardiff University,* we are working on a clinical study investigating the effects of MDMA in treating war veterans (and others) suffering from treatment-resistant post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). It is a brain imaging study to investigate the acute effects of MDMA on the amygdala and related brain regions that may underlie treatment success.

- Amanda is continuing to work with Prof. Yuri Moskalenko at the *Sechenov Institute of Evolutionary Physiology and Biochemistry*, St. Petersburg, further investigating cerebral circulation and the relationship between the changes in 'cranial compliance' and dementia. We have developed a non-invasive *Cranial Compliance Monitor*, which will track the health of cerebral circulation and can give early indications of the effects of the ageing process.

- In collaboration with Prof. Roland Griffiths and Dr. Matthew Johnson at *Johns Hopkins University,* we are further developing the very succesful original study on psilocybin-aided psychotherapy as a means to overcome tobacco addiction.

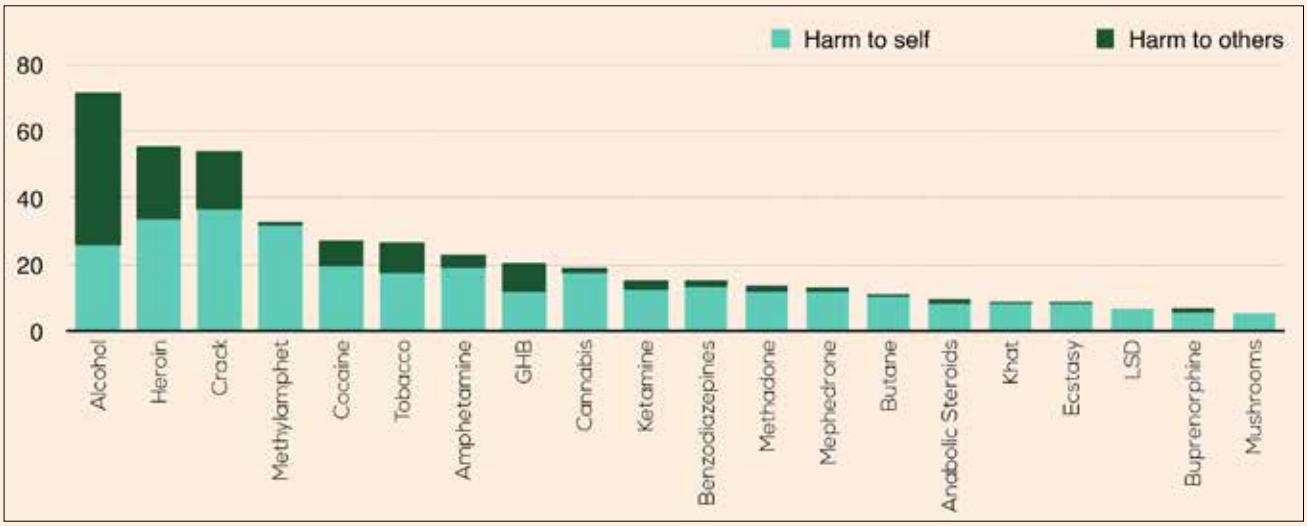
- The Beckley Foundation is collaborating with Profs. Manuel Guzman and Guillermo Velasco at Madrid Complutense University, in investigating the efficacy of *cannabinoids in the treatment of brain cancer.* This study will include an MRI brain imaging component.

- Amanda is working with Dr. Michael Bogenschutz at *New York University* in preparing a double blind, placebo-controlled study of *LSD-assisted treatment for alcoholism*. This study has the potential to be of great importance for those affected by alcoholism around the world.

POLICY PROGRAMME

Since 2000, Amanda Feilding has organised and hosted a series of groundbreaking Beckley Foundation Seminars under the title *Drugs & Society: A Rational Perspective*. The 11 seminars, mainly held at the *House of Lords*, have been highly influential, and were the first to bring together leading international scientists, politicians, and thought-leaders in order to share knowledge, foster collaborations, and debate ways forward in the reform of global drug policy.

- In the effort to form a scientific evidence base for drug policy, in 2003, Amanda invited Prof. Colin Blakemore to present the concept of a *Scientific Scale of Harms for Psychoactive Drugs, Licit and Illicit*. This *Scale of Harms*, which was further developed for the Beckley Seminar in 2004, then led to the seminal 2007 Lancet paper: *Development of a Rational Scale to Assess the Harm of Drugs of Potential Misuse*, by David Nutt, Colin Blakemore, *et al*. (See below)



- At its 2004 Seminar, the Beckley Foundation inaugurated and launched two influential organisations, the *International Drug Policy Consortium (*IDPC) and the *International Society for the Study of Drug Policy* (ISSDP), both now thriving independent organisations.

- In 2006, Amanda convened the *Beckley Foundation's Global Cannabis Commission*, as she realised that although cannabis constituted 80% of illicit drug use, it was almost never mentioned at international fora such as the UN. The subsequent report, *Cannabis Policy: Moving beyond Stalemate*, written by the leading academics in the field, recommended **decriminalisation** and **regulation**, and has been highly influential in the USA and around the world. The Report was later published in collaboration with *Oxford University Press*.

- The Beckley Seminars led to the publication of over 40 books, reports, and briefing papers, and in 2007, the Beckley Foundation was granted *Consultative Status* by ECOSOC, becoming an UN-accredited NGO.

The Beckley Foundation has produced over 40 authoritative books, reports, and briefing papers on key drug policy issues.

THE BECKLEY FOUNDATION'S
GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR DRUG POLICY REFORM

In November 2011, as part of the *Beckley Foundation's Global Initiative for Drug Policy Reform*, and in partnership with the *All-Party Parliamentary Group on Drug Policy Reform*, which was founded to support the Beckley's Inititative, the Foundation brought together political leaders from 14 countries interested in alternative policies, as well as members of the *Global Commission on Drug Policy Reform*.

For this initiative, Amanda Feilding commissioned two reports:

- The first, *Roadmaps to Reforming the UN Drug Conventions* (2012), explains in detail how the UN Drug Conventions could be amended to give countries greater freedom to adopt policies better suited to their individual needs, such as decriminalisation and regulation.
- The second, *Licensing and Regulation of the Cannabis Market in England and Wales: Towards a Cost-Benefit Analysis* (2013), was the first report to quantify the fiscal and social benefits of a regulated and taxed cannabis market.
- In order to support the BF's *Global Initiative for Drug Policy Reform*, Amanda helped establish the *All-Party Parliamentary Group for Drug Policy Reform* as a leading voice on drug policy from the Houses of Parliament.
- In 2011, to coincide with the launch of the *Global Initiative for Drug Policy Reform*, Amanda launched the *Beckley Foundation Public Letter*, which calls for the reform of failed drug policies, and encourages an open debate on **alternative approaches**. It was signed by **9 Presidents, 13 Nobel Laureates,** and a host of other international luminaries.
  The letter is considered one of the key milestones in the history of drug policy reform.

ADVISORY WORK

FROM GUATEMALA

In 2011, Amanda was invited by President Otto Pérez Molina of Guatemala to advise him and his government on drug policy reform. The *Beckley Foundation's Latin American Chapter* was launched at a ceremony in the Guatemalan Presidential Palace in July 2012, at which the President was the first acting Head of State to sign the *Beckley Foundation Public Letter*. At his request, Amanda and the Beckley Foundation produced two key reports: '*Paths for Reform'* and '*Illicit Drug Markets and Dimensions of Violence in Guatemala*'. *Paths for Reform* included many recommendations that the President incorporated into his speeches at Davos and the UN, and that the Government has subsequently started implementing. These recommendations included the regulation of the poppy crop in order to produce pain medication for the region.

In 2013, Amanda remarked to President Pérez Molina and his Foreign Secretary that there was no hope of ending violence in Latin America without *opening the debate on the regulation of the coca/cocaine market*, and suggested that she convene a Beckley report to tackle this taboo issue. He responded enthusiastically, and the ensuing report, '*Roadmaps to Regulation: Coca, Cocaine, and its Derivatives*', is now nearing completion. It is the first time that this taboo, but vital subject has been addressed. There are over 25 leading experts contributing to the Report.

The other Report, which was also commissioned as part of the *Global Inititative for Drug Policy Reform,* is entitled: *'Roadmaps to Regulation: Cannabis, Psychedelics, MDMA, and New Psychoactive Substances'.* This work develops best practices for approaching the regulation of these substance-types, and also ways to analyse the likely outcomes of a move towards a strictly regulated market.

TO JAMAICA

Mark Golding, Jamaican Minister of Justice, has invited Amanda Feilding and the Beckley Foundation to support him and the Jamaican government in forming a balanced policy for the regulation of the new cannabis industry in Jamaica. Amanda is working with the government and has organised a conference in Jamaica where leaders in the field will discuss how best to introduce a fully regulated industry for medical cannabis.The outcome of these discussions will feed into the process for the 2016 UN General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on global drug policy.

Amanda and the Foundation are working with academic and other leading institutions, including Rastafari communities, to cultivate and undertake scientific research on different strains of cannabis. We will particularly focus on strains that have a therapeutic balance of THC, CBD, and terpenes in order to optimise the pain relieving qualities and other medicinal applications. We will also focus on Jamaica's landrace strains, which have become almost extinct in today's cannabis market. We will preserve and study these landraces in order to protect the genetic diversity and its conservation as part of the Rastafari cultural heritage. We look forward to collaborating with the University of the West Indies in the investigation of the biochemical composition of these strains and the identification of those with optimal medical benefits.

SCIENTISTS FOR CHANGE
A CALL TO 'LEGALISE THE TRUTH'

This campaign calls on scientists, medical and human rights leaders, and all reasonable and compassionate individuals to demand that policymakers ***legalise the truth:***

Scientific progress and human rights should never be impeded by political expediency. Currently, 80% of the world's population have little or no access to pain medication because the poppy is a 'controlled' substance. Furthermore, the scientific exploration of the therapeutic potential of 'controlled' substances such as cannabis, psilocybin, LSD, and MDMA has been obstructed by politics, and furthermore, doctors are unable to prescribe these substances as medication where they are appropriate.

The Scientists for Change Campaign, organised by the Beckley Foundation and led by Amanda Feilding, will unite Nobel Laureates, prominent scientists, and other notables worldwide to call for:

1. **Access to 'controlled' essential medicines, such as pain medication, to the billions in need**.
2. **Liberty to research currently 'controlled' substances, and for doctors to be able to prescribe them where appropriate.**

This can be brought about by a rescheduling of cannabis, the classic psychedelics, and other relevant controlled substances. Campaign activities will seek to raise awareness, stimulate debate, and gather support. Moreover, we aim to change the legal framework that currently keeps pain medication out of the hands of those who need it most.

We must be allowed to explore new solutions. We must legalise the truth.

Photo by Théo

SELECTED SCIENTIFIC PAPERS

BECKLEY/IMPERIAL PSYCHEDELIC RESEARCH PROGRAMME

The nature of the LSD experience revealed by multimodal brain imaging. Carhart-Harris RL, ..., Feilding A, Nutt DJ. (2015) (under review)

The entropic brain: a theory of conscious states informed by neuroimaging research with psychedelic drugs. Carhart-Harris RL, ..., Feilding A, Nutt DJ. (2014) *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*.

Homological scaffolds of brain functional networks. Petri G, ..., Nutt DJ *et al*. (2014) *Journal of The Royal Society Interface*.

Enhanced repertoire of brain dynamical states during the psychedelic experience. Tagliazucchi E, ..., Nutt DJ. (2014) *Human Brain Mapping*.

The Effects of Acutely Administered 3, 4-Methylenedioxymethamphetamine on Spontaneous Brain Function in Healthy Volunteers Measured with Arterial Spin Labeling and Blood Oxygen Level–Dependent Resting State Functional Connectivity. Carhart-Harris RL, ..., Feilding A, Nutt DJ. (2014) *Biological Psychiatry*.

Broadband cortical desynchronization underlies the human psychedelic state. Muthukumaraswamy SD, ..., Feilding A, Nutt DJ. (2013) *The Journal of Neuroscience*.

Neural correlates of the psychedelic state as determined by fMRI studies with psilocybin. Carhart-Harris RL, ..., Feilding A, Nutt DJ. (2012) *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Implications for psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy: functional magnetic resonance imaging study with psilocybin. Carhart-Harris RL, ..., Feilding A, Nutt DJ *et al*. (2012) *The British Journal of Psychiatry*.

COLLABORATION WITH JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Pilot study of the 5-HT2AR agonist psilocybin in the treatment of tobacco addiction. Johnson MW, ..., Griffiths RR. (2014) *Journal of Psychopharmacology*.

BECKLEY/UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Harms and benefits associated with psychoactive drugs: findings of an international survey of active drug users. Morgan CJ, ..., Feilding A, Curran HV. (2013) *Journal of Psychopharmacology*.

Investigating the interaction between schizotypy, divergent thinking and cannabis use. Schafer G, ..., Feilding A, Curran HV. (2012) *Consciousness and Cognition*.

COLLABORATION WITH KING'S COLLEGE LONDON

Cannabidiol inhibits THC-elicited paranoid symptoms and hippocampal-dependent memory impairment. Englund A, ..., Feilding A, Kapur S. (2013) *Journal of Psychopharmacology*.

Opposite effects of Δ-9-tetrahydrocannabinol and cannabidiol on human brain function and psychopathology. Bhattacharyya S, ..., McGuire PK. (2010) *Neuropsychopharmacology*.

COLLABORATION WITH SECHENOV INSTITUTE OF PHYSIOLOGY

Biomechanical properties of the human cranium: aging aspects. Moskalenko YE, ..., Feilding A *et al*. (2008) *Journal of Evolutionary Biochemistry and Physiology*.

The effect of craniotomy on the intracranial hemodynamics and cerebrospinal fluid dynamics in humans. Moskalenko YE, ..., Feilding A *et al*. (2008) *Human Physiology*.

Age-related peculiarities of ratio of parameters of functioning of hemo-and liquorodynamics systems. Moskalenko YE, ..., Feilding A *et al*. (2006) *Journal of Evolutionary Biochemistry and Physiology*.

The Beckley Foundation Public Letter 2011

THE GLOBAL WAR ON DRUGS HAS FAILED
IT IS TIME FOR A NEW APPROACH

WE THE UNDERSIGNED call on Governments and Parliaments to recognise that:

Fifty years after the 1961 UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs was launched, the global war on drugs has failed, and has had many unintended and devastating consequences worldwide.

Use of the major controlled drugs has risen, and supply is cheaper, purer and more available than ever before. The UN conservatively estimates that there are now 250 million drug users worldwide.

Illicit drugs are now the third most valuable industry in the world, after food and oil, estimated to be worth over $350 billion a year, all in the control of criminals.

Fighting the war on drugs costs the world's taxpayers incalculable billions each year. Millions of people are in prison worldwide for drug-related offences, mostly personal users and small-time dealers.

Corruption amongst law-enforcers and politicians, especially in producer and transit countries, has spread as never before, endangering democracy and civil society. Stability, security and development are threatened by the fallout from the war on drugs, as are human rights. Tens of thousands of people die in the drug war each year.

The drug-free world so confidently predicted by supporters of the war on drugs is further than ever from attainment. The policies of prohibition create more harms than they prevent. We must seriously consider shifting resources away from criminalising tens of millions of otherwise law abiding citizens, and move towards an approach based on health, harm-reduction, cost-effectiveness and respect for human rights. Evidence consistently shows that these health-based approaches deliver better results than criminalisation.

Improving our drug policies is one of the key policy challenges of our time. It is time for world leaders to fundamentally review their strategies in response to the drug phenomenon.

At the root of current policies lies the 1961 UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs. It is time to re-examine this treaty which imposes a 'one-size-fits-all' solution, in order to allow individual countries the freedom to explore drug policies that better suit their domestic needs.

As the production, demand and use of drugs cannot be eradicated, new ways must be found to minimise harms, and new policies, based on scientific evidence, must be explored.

Let us break the taboo on debate and reform. The time for action is now.

Yours faithfully,

President Juan Manuel Santos
President of the Republic of Colombia

President Otto Pérez Molina
President of the Republic of Guatemala

President Jimmy Carter
*Former President of the United States, **Nobel Prize** winner*

President Fernando H. Cardoso
Former President of Brazil

President César Gaviria
Former President of Colombia

President Vicente Fox
Former President of Mexico

President Ruth Dreifuss
Former President of Switzerland

President Lech Wałęsa
*Former President of Poland, **Nobel Prize** winner*

President Alexander Kwaśniewski
Former President of Poland

George P. Schultz
Former US Secretary of State

Desmond Tutu
*Archbishop, **Nobel Prize** winner*

Mario Vargas Llosa
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Sean Parker
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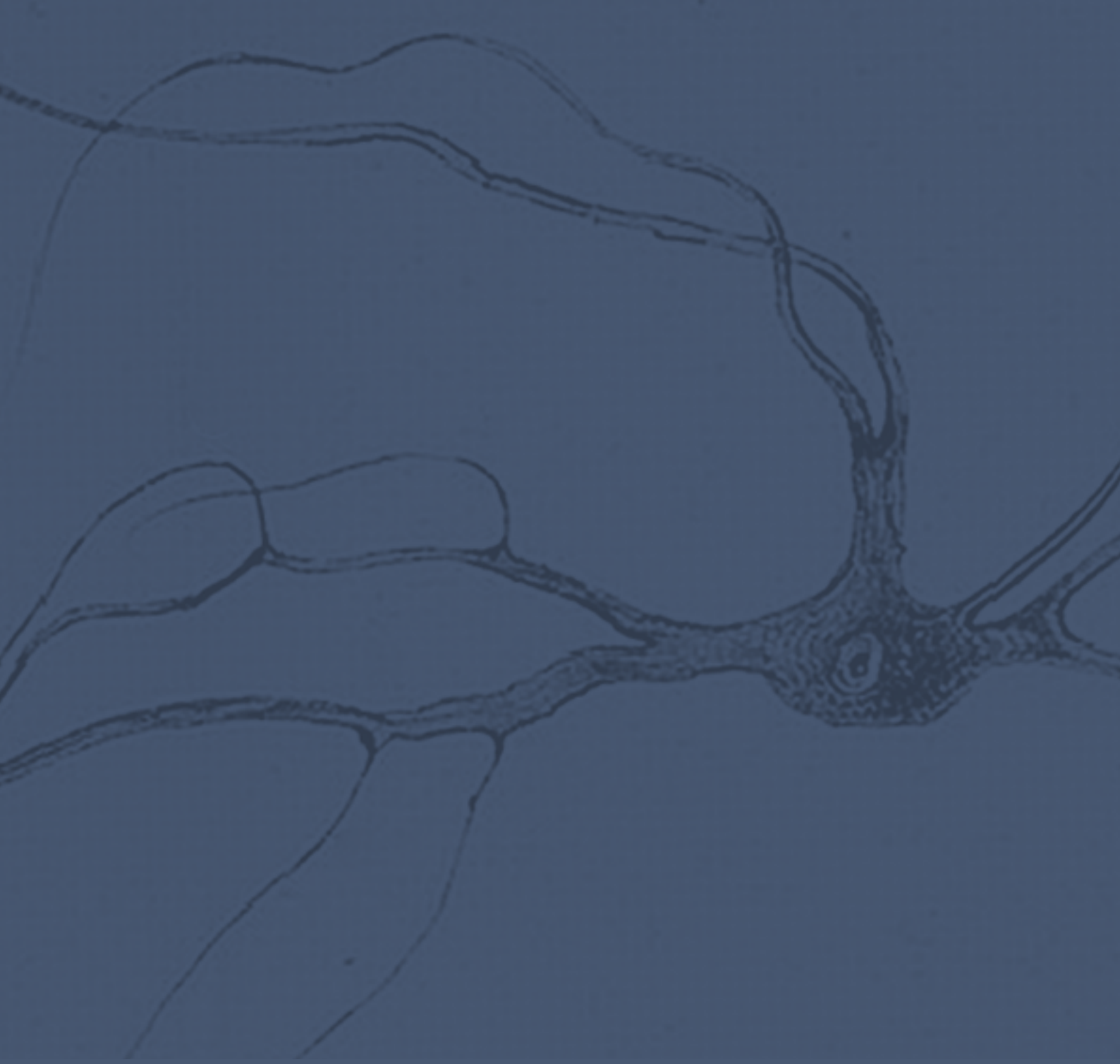

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