University Near-Death Studies Fund Established

To the Editor:

We are pleased to announce the establishment of the University of Connecticut Foundation Near-Death Studies Fund, a nonprofit fund set up specifically to support near-death research. We believe this to be the first such fund dedicated to near-death studies, and as such marks a turning point in institutional recognition and support of this growing field of research.

Individuals or organizations interested in contributing to the Near-Death Studies Fund may obtain further information by writing to me at the address below.

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Australian Questionnaire Survey of NDEs

To the Editor:

Despite the interest in near-death experiences (NDEs) in countries such as the United States, no one yet appears to have undertaken similar research in Australia. Three years ago, a Melbourne colleague, Gary Little, and I began collecting accounts from within this country in order to partially remedy the situation. Not being in the medical profession, collection was made by public appeal.

We sent letters to the editors of a variety of newspapers asking readers to advise us of NDEs; we also used word of mouth and combed magazines. To date, 33 accounts have been collected: eight recorded on tape, 18 by letter, and the rest coming from scanty magazine articles.