

Editor's Foreword

As I noted in our last issue's Foreword, the *Journal of Near-Death Studies* has served as the official scholarly publication of the International Association for Near-Death Studies (IANDS) for the past 22 years. During that time, it has survived changes in title, frequency, and publishers, each change reflecting growth in the field and offering opportunities for reassessing our priorities. This issue of the Journal will be the last one published by Kluwer Academic/Human Sciences Press for IANDS. Our 15-year association with Human Sciences Press has been a fruitful one, witnessing the expansion of our readership base and increasing acceptance by the broader academic community as an authoritative resource in the field of near-death studies. We anticipate continued growth and sophistication in our new publication arrangements, as well as greater fiscal efficiency.

Those readers who obtained the Journal as a benefit of membership in IANDS will see no interruption in their service. However, those readers who obtained the Journal through a subscription from Kluwer Academic/Human Sciences Press should contact IANDS directly in order to continue receiving future issues. IANDS can be reached by mail at P.O. Box 502, East Windsor Hill, CT 06058-0502; by e-mail at office@iands.org; through its Internet website at www.iands.org; or by telephone at (860) 644-5216.

This issue begins with two theoretical articles exploring hyperdimensional models of near-death experiences (NDEs). First, emergency physician Robert Brumblay shows how contemporary physical models of a hyperdimensional universe support NDErs' perceptions of extra dimensions beyond our familiar space and time. Next, independent scholar Gordon Greene elaborates on his previous analysis of a hyperspatial model, using a fractal-scaling scheme, to explain anomalous features of perception during NDEs.

We also include in this issue two reviews of recent books exploring the connection between psychoactive drugs and near-death experiences. First, transpersonal psychologist James Fadiman and attorney and editor Jordan Gruber review psychiatrist Rick Strassman's *DMT: The Spirit Molecule*, a wide-ranging account of Strassman's pioneering work with the psychedelic drug dimethyltryptamine and its relation to NDEs

and other mystical experiences. Then Strassman reviews New Zealand neuropsychiatrist Karl Jansen's *Ketamine: Dreams and Realities*, an exhaustive summary of the dissociative anesthetic ketamine and its ability to induce NDE-like experiences.

We end this issue with two letters. Physicist Philip Reinhart explores the relevance to NDEs of William James' writings a century ago; and psychologist David Lester offers a methodological critique of arguments on both sides of the question of whether NDEs provide evidence of survival.

Bruce Greyson, M.D.