

## **Charles Grob, M.D., Alicia Danforth, MA Harbor-UCLA Study of Psilocybin Treatment for Anxiety in Advanced-Stage Cancer Patients**

### **Biography of Presenters:**

**Charles S. Grob, M.D.**, is the Director of the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, and Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics at the UCLA School of Medicine. He conducted the first government-approved psychobiological research study of MDMA, and was the principal investigator of an international biomedical- psychiatric research project in the Brazilian Amazon of the plant hallucinogen ayahuasca. Over the last several years he has conducted a comprehensive research assessment of the safety and efficacy of psilocybin in the treatment of advanced-cancer patients with existential anxiety. Dr. Grob is the editor of *Hallucinogens: A Reader* (Tarcher/ Putnam, 2002) and the co-editor (with Roger Walsh) of *Higher Wisdom: Eminent Elders Explore the Continuing Impact of Psychedelics* (SUNY Press, 2005). He has published numerous articles in medical and psychiatric journal and collected volumes. He is a founding board member of the Heffter Research Institute.

**Alicia Danforth, Ph.D.** candidate, is a clinical psychedelic re- searcher and writer. Since 2006, she has coordinated and co- facilitated treatment sessions for Dr. Charles Grob's Harbor-UCLA cancer anxiety trial with psilocybin. She also oversees a nationwide web-based recruitment effort for a similar trial currently underway at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Inspired by the results of this work, Alicia began a Ph.D. program in Clinical Psychology at the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology (ITP) in Palo Alto. She was a speaker on the Rising Researchers panel at the World Psychedelic Forum in 2008. She has also given talks and workshops related to her research and the broader psychedelic community at Burning Man, Horizons, Symbiosis, and the Women's Visionary Council Salon. She also published an original manuscript on using Focusing-oriented psychotherapy techniques as part of preparation for psychedelic therapy sessions in the spring, 2010, edition of the *Journal of Transpersonal Psychology*.

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[Charles Grob, M.D. & Alicia Danforth, Ph.D. student, Cancer/Psilocybin](#) from [MAPS: Psychedelic Science](#) on [Vimeo](#).

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