

2021-2022 Annual Report



BECKLEY
FOUNDATION



About the Beckley Foundation

The Beckley Foundation is a charitable organisation set up by Amanda Feilding in 1998 to initiate and carry out pioneering research into the therapeutic potential of psychedelics, and to create a scientific base for global drug policy reform. The work of the Foundation relies entirely on donations.

Our Mission

Our aim is to harness the power of science in order to integrate psychoactive substances into society as safe & effective tools to treat a broad range of health conditions and enhance wellbeing.

“What we have done so far, is open the door. However, there is an immense wealth of knowledge to continue mining.” - Amanda Feilding

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

This last year has been a time of dramatic change and global turmoil, with the world only just beginning to regain its composure after the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Albert Hofmann used to point to the synchronicity between his discovery of LSD and the invention of the atomic bomb, and once again, interest in psychedelics and their ability to bring out the nobler qualities of man is surging at a critical point for humanity, just as society may be most in need. The benefits of psychedelics and related compounds for health and happiness are now beginning to be widely accepted in mainstream medicine, and as the collective trauma of the pandemic, the war, and environmental issues begins to take an effect, healthcare providers will be in urgent need of new approaches to restore hope to those who are struggling.

While it has been a difficult period of time, I have myself found this past year to be remarkably productive, and I have spent most of it laying the groundwork for an exciting new range of collaborations with leading research institutes around the world, details of which will be announced later this year, largely focusing on LSD, a compound which I believe has much to offer but which is being overlooked in favour of psilocybin. We will examine the link between psychedelics, brain blood flow and the mystical experience, as well as the benefits of psychedelic microdosing in elderly patients with dementia.

These new projects will synchronise with my existing collaborations, such as my work with Maastricht University, where we've been continuing our research into microdoses of psychedelics in order to elucidate the effects of this increasingly common practice. We have already found an improvement in mood, cognition, and vitality, as well as an increase in plasma levels of BDNF – a marker of neuroplasticity.

My work with some of Brazil's top neuroscientists, Professors Stevens Rehen and Sidarta Ribeiro, is also now beginning to produce publications after a period of political difficulties, exacerbated by the pandemic. My team there has been investigating the effects of LSD in humans, rodents, and cerebral organoids, a.k.a. 'mini-brains', in order to gain a fuller picture of the effects of LSD on cognitive function.

As the scientific evidence in favour of a positive role for psychedelics in our society begins to amass, drug policy and legislation will need to catch up. With that in mind, I am proud that at the end of January, the Beckley Foundation joined PAREA – the Psychedelic Access and Research European Alliance – as a full and founding member. I will contribute our decades of experience in global psychedelic drug policy to this group of likeminded charities, scientific societies, and medical associations, in order to ensure that necessary European infrastructure and competencies are developed in advance of regulatory approval.

Finally, I am glad to announce that Omar Fayed – an experienced and well-respected entrepreneur, technologist, and publisher, as well as one of the Foundation's most generous supporters – has joined our Board of Trustees in order to help guide us forward at this critical juncture.

I hope you agree that this is an incredibly exciting time to be involved in psychedelic science, as decades of patient toil and cultivation finally sees the field begin to bear fruit, and I am confident that the Beckley Foundation will continue to play a leading role in this area over the coming years.

Amanda Feilding, Founder and Director

SCIENCE PROGRAMME UPDATES

The Beckley/Maastricht University Collaboration

Set up in 2017, co-directed by Amanda Feilding and Prof Jan Ramaekers

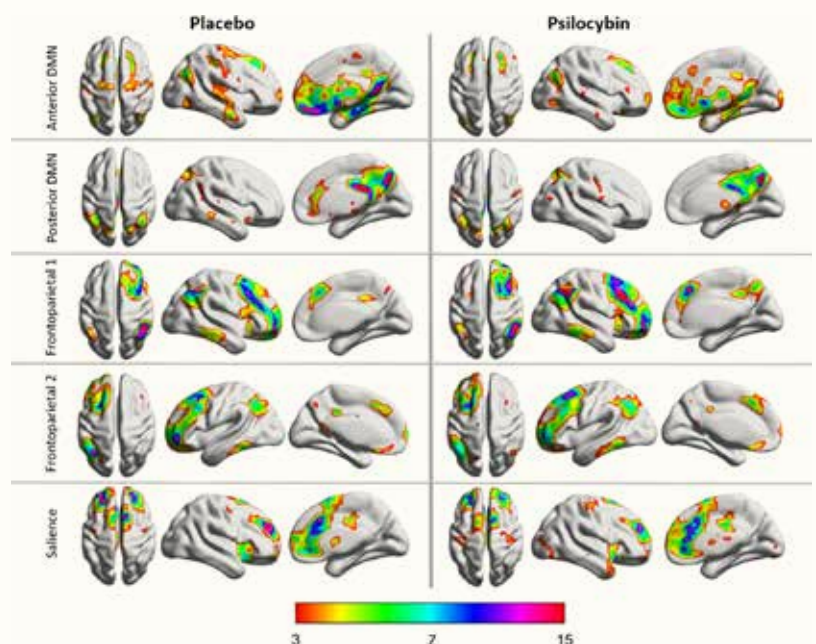
In 2020, the *Beckley/Maastricht* collaboration published the results of an LSD dose finding study, providing ground-breaking results to support the effects of LSD microdosing in increasing BDNF levels (a key marker of neuroplasticity), improving mood and vigilance, and in enhancing tolerance to pain.

To further investigate the analgesic properties of psychedelics, in 2021, the *Beckley/Maastricht* collaboration conducted an online survey study to investigate the analgesic properties of psychedelics in chronic pain sufferers. The results, published in July 2022, confirmed that people suffering from chronic pain experience benefits from psychedelics (both in macro and microdoses), and macrodoses were reported to induce a higher level of pain relief than both microdoses and conventional pain medications. Following this survey, we are now conducting an app-based remote microdosing study to investigate this in more depth.



As part of this research programme, we also explored the link between psychedelics, creativity and cognitive flexibility. A large number of anecdotal reports have suggested that psychedelic drugs can enhance creative thinking, however, an evidence base is so far lacking. Whilst preliminary, our findings, published in April 2021, provided some support to these anecdotal accounts that psychedelics influence aspects of the creative process.

Resting-state networks implicated in creative cognition, for each group (placebo and psilocybin). Translational Psychiatry, 2021, (below).



The anterior and posterior DMN demonstrated significant differences in within-network functional connectivity between groups.

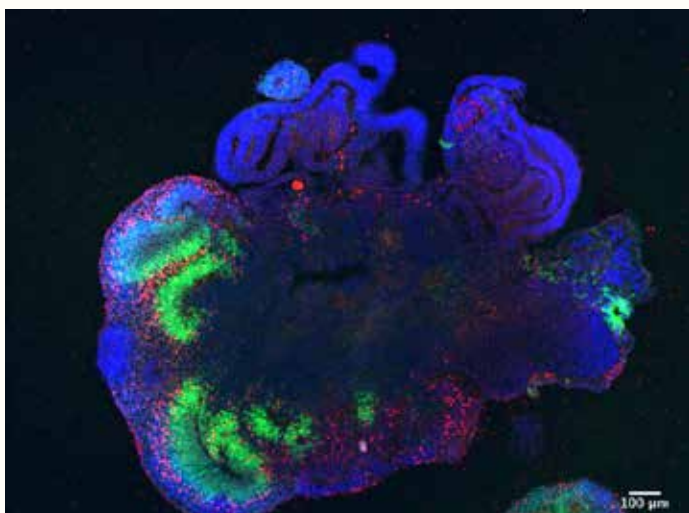
The Beckley/Brazil Psychedelic Research Programme

Set up in 2017, co-directed by Amanda Feilding and Profs Sidarta Ribeiro and Stevens Rehen

After a delay in publication caused by cuts to Brazil's science budget, the *Beckley/Brazil* team were in 2022 able to publish promising findings from three experiments testing LSD's effects on neuroplasticity and memory at a behavioural, molecular and computational level. Our results support the nootropic effects of LSD and could provide the rationale behind using LSD as a cognitive enhancer, which could be particularly important in old age, helping to restore memory and interest in new experiences.

The study, published in *Experimental Neurology* in 2022, found that LSD increased markers of neuroplasticity in human brain organoids, increased novelty preference in rats, and improved memory performance in humans. Some research has indicated that psychedelic substances produce positive impacts, in part, because they promote neurogenesis and neuroplasticity. In this study, we were interested in better understanding whether the neuroplasticity induced by psychedelics could be harnessed to enhance learning and memory.

"My main research topics are the neural plasticity mechanisms underlying the cognitive benefits of sleep and dreaming. In the past decade I became interested in psychedelics because they produce dream-like states with major cognitive impacts," said AF collaborator since 2018, Prof Sidarta Ribeiro, a full professor of neuroscience at the Brain Institute of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte.



Above: Brain organoid

"Our results show that LSD pre-treatment can substantially increase novelty preference in rats several days after dosing, with a significant single dose effect," the researchers said. *"The results imply that LSD-induced plasticity enhanced novelty-seeking."*

"multiple processes involved in neural plasticity," the researchers said. *"Notably, we found significant LSD-induced changes in the mTOR pathway, a protein kinase involved in multiple neural plasticity events, acting as a hub between plasticity, learning, and memory."*

Our collaborators also created brain organoids — brain-like structures grown from human induced pluripotent stem cells — to investigate the effects of LSD at the cellular level. *"The proteomic data from human brain organoids suggest that LSD regulates*

Finally, our collaborators investigated the effects of LSD on humans in a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study. In the cross-over study, 25 healthy volunteers received 50 µg of LSD in one session and 50 µg of an inactive placebo in another session.

The morning after dosing, the participants completed memory tasks. We found that participants tended to have better performance on the memory tests the day after consuming LSD, compared to the day after consuming the placebo. To our knowledge, this is the first study to show that LSD enhances subacute memory in humans. Together, the findings provide evidence that *"even a single dose of LSD can promote neural plasticity and enhance cognition in healthy adults, several days after the LSD administration."* However, we still need to learn more about age differences, potential gender differences and the role of the context (setting) in the modulation of the effects.



Beckley/Brazil Fellowship

In 2020, Amanda Feilding set up the *Beckley/Brazil Fellowship*, awarding £24,000 to two research projects. In November 2021 we received the final report with the findings of the research funded by the Fellowship, a summary of which is detailed below:

Project 1: Effect of lysergic acid diethylamide on neuroinflammation

After technical refinements, they have established and validated a feasible model of neuroinflammation using human neurospheres that recapitulates the cytokine release observed in brain inflammation. LSD was tested in this model and showed a modulatory activity on inflammatory cytokine release comparable to the anti-inflammatory drug Ibuprofen. These results open a promising strategy to further investigate the anti-inflammatory potential of LSD, associated with brain inflammation, in diseases such as depression, Alzheimer's, and other neurodegenerative conditions.



Project 2: Effect of lysergic acid diethylamide on longevity

The results obtained in this project suggest that *C. elegans* is a valuable model to study the effects of psychedelics. In the last few months, we were able to successfully measure LSD inside the animals by LC-MS/MS and start lifespan experiments that suggest a possible effect of LSD on longevity.

The next step of this research is to study aging-related diseases. Besides lifespan, we are interested in understanding whether LSD has an impact not only on extending lifespan but also on promoting Health span. We are now setting up experiments in *C. elegans* to evaluate whether LSD can prevent damage caused by an external insult such as oxidative stress.



Microdosing and Meditation Study in collaboration with Quantified Citizen

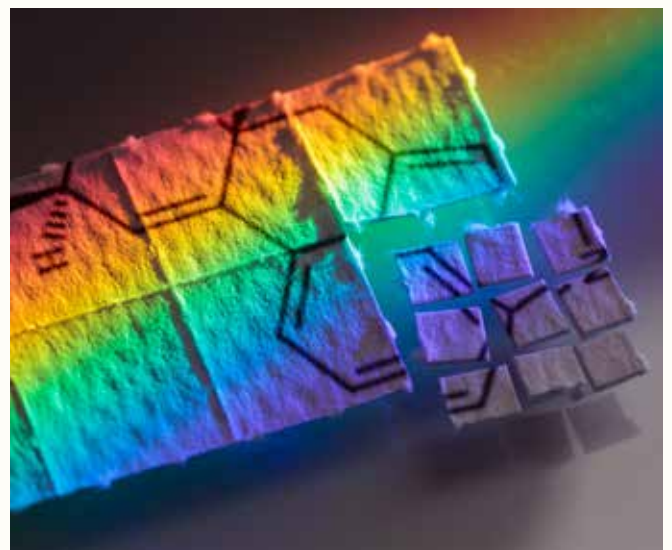
In recent years, the scientific study of meditation and psychedelic drugs has seen remarkable developments, yet few attempts have been made at bridging these two domains of inquiry despite intriguing evidence of overlap between the phenomenology and neurophysiology of meditation practice and psychedelic states.

To close this gap, Amanda Feilding and the Beckley Foundation are leading a remote observational study in collaboration with Quantified Citizen, to explore the effects of regular microdosing (i.e., the practice of taking psychedelic substances – e.g. psilocybin or lysergic acid diethylamide; LSD – in small, sub-hallucinogenic doses) on meditation practice.

“I was introduced to LSD in 1965. In the years that followed, other than the mystical, or peak experience, my aim was to hit that ‘sweet spot’, where vitality and creativity are enhanced, while leaving me in control of my concentration. I grew to love this state. It was, in a way, comparable to what people are doing today with microdosing” – Amanda Feilding



This work forms part of the first international, multi-disciplinary research collaboration dedicated to microdosing, alongside Paul Stamets, Pam Kryskow, Zach Walsh and other researchers from the *University of British Columbia* and *Maastricht University*, in what will most likely be the largest remote microdosing study to date.





The Beckley/ Imperial Research Programme

In March 2021, the *Beckley/Imperial Psychedelic Research Programme* published results from the first naturalistic self-blinding microdose study, which investigated whether the purported ability of microdosing to increase psychological wellbeing and enhance cognition is due to the placebo effect or the pharmacological action of the psychedelic. Whilst the results were equivocal and warrant further investigation, this novel 'self-blinding' design allowed for 191 participants to take part in the study, making it the largest placebo-controlled trial on psychedelics to date.



The acute and long-term psychological and brain effects of psilocybin in healthy volunteers (2018-2020)

Despite the clearly demonstrated long-term psychological changes following psychedelic exposure (e.g. psilocybin was shown to increase the personality trait of openness, psychological wellbeing and life-satisfaction 14 months after administration), the neural basis for these long-term effects are not well studied nor understood. This study investigated the acute and longer-term effects of psilocybin on brain function, anatomy and psychology using a single-blind, fixed-order within-subjects design in 20-25 healthy volunteers. Long lasting changes detected using functional and structural MRI were related to the subjective effects, as well as the acute effects of psilocybin on brain function, with a particular focus on neuroplasticity, as measured using EEG. The results of this study are still being analyzed with the paper forthcoming.





The Beckley/ICEERS Research Programme

Between 2015 and 2019, the Beckley Foundation collaborated with ICEERS – the International Center for Ethnobotanical Education, Research and Service – to conduct research at the *Temple of the Way of Light* in Iquitos, Peru, examining the long-term effects of indigenous Shipibo ayahuasca ceremonies on quality of life, wellbeing, and health, as well as anxiety, depression, grief, and PTSD.

In May 2021, a research paper examining the ceremonial use of ayahuasca to promote wellbeing and quality of life was published using data from this study. We examined Western participants' wellbeing and quality of life over the course of one year following participation in a program of Indigenous Shipibo ayahuasca ceremonies at the *Temple of the Way of Light*. Results showed significant increases in all measures (psychological well-being, subjective well-being, spiritual well-being, and quality of life) at all time points (3 months, 6 months, and 12 months after their stay at the retreat). The extent of these changes was mostly large, with self-acceptance being the subscale which was improved the most. These results suggest that Indigenous healing work with ayahuasca has value for the improvement of long-term wellbeing and quality of life in people from a Western cultural background.



OTHER COLLABORATIONS

In October 2021, in collaboration with Professor Luc Mallet and the *Paris Brain Institute (Institut du Cerveau)*, the Beckley Foundation conducted a pharmaco-epidemiological research study that explored psychedelic use in people with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) in order to characterise the use of psychedelic substances in people with OCD and their possible effects on the disorder.

PUBLICATIONS (2021-2022)

[Low-dose LSD and the stream of thought: Increased Discontinuity of Mind, Deep Thoughts and abstract flow](#), *Psychopharmacology*, 2021. Isabel Wießner, Marcelo Falchi, Fernanda Palhano-Fontes, Lucas Oliveira Maia, Amanda Feilding, Sidarta Ribeiro, Natália Bezerra Mota, Draulio B. Araujo, Luís Fernando Tófoli

[LSD, madness and healing: Mystical experiences as possible link between psychosis model and therapy model](#), *Psychological Medicine*, 2021. Isabel Wießner, Marcelo Falchi, Fernanda Palhano-Fontes, Amanda Feilding, Sidarta Ribeiro, Luís Fernando Tófoli

[The Shipibo Ceremonial Use of Ayahuasca to Promote Well-Being: An Observational Study](#), *Frontiers in Psychopharmacology*, 2021. Debora Gonzalez, Jordi Cantillo, Irene Perez, Maria Carvalho⁴, Adam Aronovich, Magi Farre, Amanda Feilding, Jordi E. Obiols & José Carlos Bouso

[Spontaneous and deliberate creative cognition during and after psilocybin exposure](#), *Translational Psychiatry*, 2021. N. L. Mason, K. P. C. Kuypers, J. T. Reckweg, F. Müller, D. H. Y. Tse, B. Da Rios, S. W. Toennes, P. Stiers, A. Feilding & J. G. Ramaekers

[Self-blinding citizen science to explore psychedelic microdosing](#), *eLife*, 2021. Balasz Szigeti, Laura Kartner, Allan Blemings, Fernando Rosas, Amanda Feilding, David J Nutt, Robin L Carhart-Harris, David Erritzoe

[Analgesic potential of microdoses and microdoses of classical psychedelics in chronic pain sufferers: a population survey](#), *British Journal of Pain*, 2022. Valerie Bonnelle, Will J Smith, Natasha L Mason, Mauro Cavarra, Pamela Kryskow, Kim PC Kuypers, Johannes G Ramaekers, Amanda Feilding

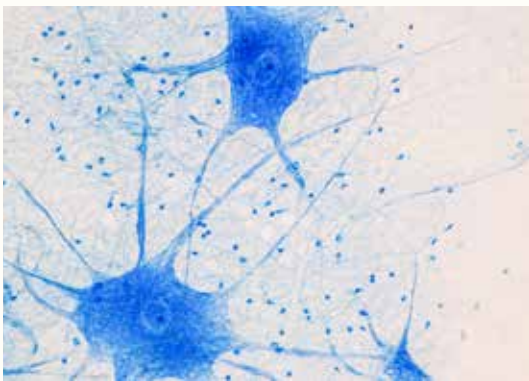
[Nootropic effects of LSD: Behavioral, molecular and computacional evidence](#), *Experimental Neurology*, 2022. Isis M Ornelas, Felipe A Cini, Isabel Wießner, Encarni Marcos, Dráulio de Araújo, Livia Goto-Silva, Juliana Nascimento, Sergio R B Silva, Marcelo N Costa, Marcelo Falchi, Rodolfo Olivieri, Fernando Palhano-Fontes, Eduardo Sequerra, Daniel Martins-de-Souza, Amanda Feilding, César Rennó-Costa, Luis Fernando Tófoli, Stevens K Rehen, Sidarta Ribeiro

[LSD, afterglow and hangover: Increased episodic memory and verbal fluency, decreased cognitive flexibility](#), *Eur. Neuropsychopharmacology*, 2022. Isabel Wiessner, Rodolfo Olivieri, Marcelo Falchi, Fernanda Palhano-Fontes, Lucas Oliveira Maia, Amanda Feilding, Draulio B Araujo, Sidarta Ribeiro, Luis Fernando Tofoli

[LSD and creativity: Increased novelty and symbolic thinking, decreased utility and convergent thinking](#), *J. Psychopharmacology*, 2022. Isabel Wiessner, Marcelo Falchi, Lucias Oliveira Maia, Dimitri Daldegan-Bueno, Fernanda Palhano-Fontes, Natasha L Mason, Johannes G Ramaekers, Madeleine E Gross, Jonathan W Schooler, Amanda Feilding, Sidarta Ribeiro, Draulio B Araujo, Luis Fernando Tofoli

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

During most of 2022, Amanda and the team have been concentrating on setting up the Double-Headed Research Programme - a new programme of research which will make use of cutting-edge neuroimaging tools and novel approaches to produce a much deeper and more precise picture of the brain and its changing states, not only limiting ourselves to neuronal mechanisms as previous research has done, but also exploring the impact of psychedelics on energy metabolism and resource distribution through changes in blood flow. We will also use a new methodological approach called Precision fMRI (or deep imaging) in order to identify, with unmatched detail and precision, the exact neurophysiological correlates of participants' unique subjective experience.



In parallel to this pioneering research, Amanda is planning a study in collaboration with researchers from *Cornell University* to visualise, for the first time, the effect of psychedelics on brain microvasculature, using micro-optical imaging. This work will shed some very important light on a completely unexplored mechanism of action of psychedelics in the brain that may play an essential role in the consciousness-altering effect of these compounds.

The second part of the Programme will investigate our latest therapeutic applications of microdosing LSD: the improvement of mood, cognition, neuroplasticity, and most uniquely, the revitalization of the 'sense of Self' (which can get lost in the fog of Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia). This research will be carried out at the University of Basel under the direction of Prof Reto Kressig, Head of Geriatrics, and we are currently developing the protocol for the first study looking at the effects of LSD microdosing in people with Alzheimer's. In order to set up this collaboration, Amanda travelled to Basel in February 2022.

Complementary to this proof-of-concept study, Amanda is developing a programme of preclinical research to investigate the biological mechanisms underlying the effects of LSD on Alzheimer's in brain cells, minibrains and animal models, work that will be critical to better understand how LSD may benefit patients with Alzheimer's and other related forms of dementia, and optimise its use.

Amanda is also currently discussing a new concept of a psychedelic therapy centre for palliative care with a palliative care clinician she is collaborating with in Switzerland.



EVENTS/CONFERENCES

Education is an important pillar of the Beckley Foundation's mission to raise awareness, not only of the potential benefits of psychedelics, but also to bring the findings of the research to different kinds of audiences. As Amanda Feilding continues to be acknowledged for her role as one of the main instigators of the psychedelic renaissance, she has been invited to take part in several high-profile events and conferences in the past year. Here is a selection of the most relevant events:

10th June: Pi Capital

- Amanda was invited to speak at Pi Capital, a London-based membership club that convenes events with some of the world's most sought-after thinkers, including Bill Clinton, Bill Gates, and Daniel Kahneman, winner of the 2002 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences.

Amanda spoke of her cutting-edge psychedelic Research Programme, and how psychedelics will bring about a paradigm shift in the treatment of psychological disorders such as depression, addiction and PTSD, and how she is also hopeful that with further research we will be able to uncover how these extraordinary compounds can perhaps also be valuable in the treatment and prevention of neurological disorders such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, as well as extending healthy longevity, and increasing creativity and wellbeing in the healthy.

• 20th June: World Psychedelics Day

- The inaugural World Psychedelics Day event aimed to bring people together to inform and publicise how to responsibly use psychedelics, with an inclusive approach, highlighting both cutting-edge frontier science and traditional plant medicine alike, to celebrate a day of intellectual, scientific, therapeutic and spiritual illumination. Amanda spoke with Dr Andrew Weil about breakthroughs in psychedelic science.

• 27th June: The Nature of Drugs: The Pioneering Legacy of Alexander Shulgin

- As a close personal friend of Sasha Shulgin's, Amanda was delighted to feature in an online event to celebrate his life and work. Over one weekend, City Lights Booksellers, in conjunction with Synergetic Press and Transform Press, hosted more than thirty psychedelic

luminaries, including Sasha's wife Ann, who have been a part of the life and legacy of the Shulgins. Alongside Rick Doblin, Hamilton Morris, William Leonard Pickard, Nicholas Cozzi, and Paul Daley, Amanda discussed the progress made in the psychedelic space, where we go from here, and what Sasha would make of it.



- 4th October: The Wisdom of Trauma
 - Amanda was invited to appear on a panel discussion, entitled *Healing Trauma with Traditional Medicine*, chaired by Dr Gabor Maté, for an event organised by Science & Nonduality (SAND) to accompany the rebroadcasting of their film, *The Wisdom of Trauma*, which follows Dr Maté and details his theories on the origins of trauma and how it can be healed. *The Wisdom of Trauma* was premiered online earlier this year and viewed by over 2 million people across 233 countries in six days. Its launch was supported by an online event comprising 17 conversations between Gabor and authors, celebrities, spiritual teachers and trauma experts.

MEDIA

Amanda Feilding's work through the Beckley Foundation continues to attract much attention from the press. This year, several feature articles in high-ranking press outlets, such as the Telegraph, Forbes, Bloomberg, etc., were printed about Amanda as a figurehead of psychedelic research and drug policy reform, while she was also approached for comment in a number of other articles. Podcasts, as a rising media trend, have also been a steady platform for Amanda to be able to spread the word on the breadth and importance of the Beckley Foundation's work. Amanda's highest profile media appearance was in May, when she was invited to appear on the BBC's Newsnight to speak about the *Beckley/Imperial* psilocybin and depression trial.

"Feilding herself has been considered a leader in the field for about 50 years and was a leading force behind the current Psychedelic Renaissance." **Forbes** -16th August 2021

Press:

- 9th February 2022 – [Mattha Busby, VICE: Are Psychedelics the Future of Pain Relief?](#)
- 14th February 2022 – [Yeji Jesse Lee & Catherine Schuster-Bruce, Business Insider: Meet the 16 most influential women shaping the future of psychedelics](#)
- 22nd October 2021 – [Suzanne Moore, Telegraph Magazine: 'LSD is the purest, cleanest drug of all' – Amanda Feilding, 78, is on a mission to explore the new frontier of pharmaceutical research: the health benefits of psychedelic substances](#)
- 12th October 2021 – [Natan Ponieman, Forbes: Is Mysticism Becoming A Problem For Psychedelic Medicine?](#)
- 1st October 2021 – [Natan Ponieman, Forbes: How Science is Making Sense of the Mystical Experience in Psychedelic Medicine](#)
- 13th September 2021 – [Amanda Feilding, Open Access Government: The impact and importance of psychedelic medicine](#)



Forbes



- 27th August 2021 – [*Sian Boyle, Daily Mail: Now that is mindblowing! She’s the way-out aristocrat who drilled a hole in her own head and spent years dabbling in every psychedelic drug imaginable. But Lady Amanda Feilding has turned it all into a healthcare revolution worth £58million*](#)

Daily Mail

- 16th August 2021 – [*Chloe Lau, Forbes German: The Dose Makes the Difference*](#)
- 15th June 2021 – [*Amanda Siebert, Forbes: Queen of the Psychedelic Renaissance: Amanda Feilding Has Been Committed to Cognitive Liberty For 55 Years*](#)

- 20th May 2021 – [*Daily Express: Amanda Feilding on BBC Newsnight: The Psychedelic Drug Trial – 19th May 2021*](#)

DAILY EXPRESS

- 7th May 2021 – [*Amanda Feilding, Health Europa: Psilocybin-assisted therapy for mental health: a new paradigm?*](#)
- 3rd May 2021 – [*The Mail on Sunday, You Magazine: Has this ‘mad hedonistic hippie been proved right 50 years on?*](#)

Other publications which have written articles on Amanda and the work of the Beckley Foundation includes Psychedelics today, Lucid News, and Teen Vogue.

Podcasts and TV:

- 23rd September 2021: [*Sarah Vine’s Femail Half-Hour: Micro-dosing*](#)
- 6th July 2021: [*Dr Richard Louis Miller: Confessions of the Psychedelic Elders*](#)
- 2nd July 2021: [*Women in Psychedelic Science*](#)
 - Amanda was invited to appear in Part 4 of Drug Science’s popular *Women in Psychedelics* series of online events, celebrating the achievements of female psychedelic researchers and campaigners around the world, in a field historically dominated by white males.
- 2nd June 2021: [*Living Mirrors with Dr James Cooke*](#)
- 19th May 2021: BBC Newsnight
 - Following the airing of the BBC’s Panorama documentary, *The Psychedelic Drug Trial*, which covered the follow-up study to the Beckley/Imperial Research Programme’s 2014 Psilocybin for Depression research, Amanda Feilding was invited to appear alongside Ian Hamilton of the University of York to discuss the origins and implications of the new research with the BBC’s Emily Maitliss, and used the opportunity to call for the UK government to urgently



address the issue of psilocybin rescheduling in order to reduce burdensome and costly restrictions imposed on psychedelic research.

- 12th May 2021: [Drug Science #36 – Psychedelic Renaissance](#)
 - Amanda was delighted to catch up with her old friend, colleague and collaborator, Professor David Nutt, with whom she established the Beckley/Imperial Research Programme and released much of the world's most influential psychedelic research from the last two decades. Dave and Amanda discussed her life, work and the future of the field.
- 4th March 2021: [Patrick Holford, Simply Wisdom - What Psychedelics Can Teach us about Mental Health?](#)

STAFF AND DIVERSITY

The Beckley Foundation continues to have a diverse and hardworking team working both part-time and full-time.

During the financial year 2021-2022, we welcomed Matilda Lucas back to the Beckley Foundation. She had worked with us till mid-2020, and joined the team again in Feb 2022. Due to personal reasons, Will Smith switched to remote work and continued to fulfil his role as Researcher and Scientific Assistant to the Director from Wales.

Below we enclose a full list of our employees during 2021-2022:

Amanda Feilding, *Executive Director*

Matias Lopez-Portillo Garcia-Lopez, *Development Officer*

Dr Valerie Bonnelle, *Scientific Assistant to the Director*

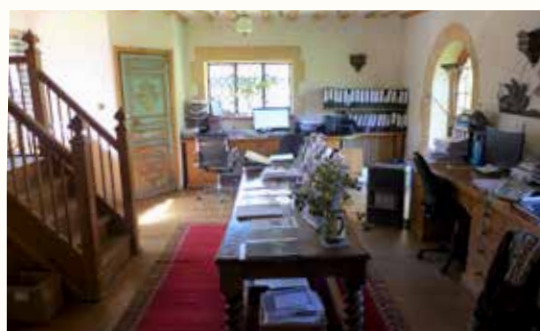
Vivian Kear, *Office Manager*

Jon Sharp, *Science and Communications Officer*

Sasha Frost, *Communications and Content Manager*

William Smith, *Researcher and Scientific Assistant to the Director*

Matilda Lucas, *Team Assistant and Researcher*
(from February 2022)



FUNDRAISING

Thanks to the generous support of philanthropists, we have finally reached a point where the impact of our work is being recognised globally. For the Beckley Foundation to continue to play its crucial pioneering role and to continue to infuse the field with new ideas and concepts, we need, more than ever, the support of visionary individuals who make this work possible.

To complement Amanda's tireless fundraising efforts, our communications team are always trying novel ways to encourage public support and setting up different platforms to increase donations, which we detail below:

- Bicycle Day Fundraiser – 19th April 2021
 - To celebrate Bicycle Day – the anniversary of the world's first LSD trip and Albert Hofmann's fateful bike ride home – we raised over £1600 for psychedelic research through social media, thanks to the generosity of our supporters.
- Greg Dunn Art Auction – May 2021
 - The paintings, etchings and prints of neuroscientist-cum-artist, Greg Dunn, decorate the walls of neuroscientists around the world, and we are grateful that Greg has been a consistent supporter of our work, with some of his pieces gracing newsletters and promotional materials. This year, Greg was generous enough to donate prints of two of his most popular pieces, *Brainstorm* and *Neural Migration*, to be auctioned off in order to raise money for the Beckley Foundation. Each sold for over £250
- Non-fungible Fungi – 5th October 2021
 - The Beckley Foundation has accepted cryptocurrencies for some time, but 2021 saw our first foray into the world of NFTs. A unique digital artwork was auctioned off by Non-Fungible Fungi, raising a fantastic 50 Ethereum (\$174,611) for our psychedelic research.



Other platforms we use to attract donations, and make sure everybody can help in different ways, are Amazon smile, Facebook Giving, and Charity Auctions Today. We also continue to work closely with Long & Elgar, who provide PR support to the foundation.

FUNDRAISING STRATEGY

As the psychedelic sector has opened up to psychedelic ventures and for-profit investment, it has been increasingly difficult to raise philanthropic funding, as more potential funders move away from supporting the sector with purely philanthropic donations to having the option of investing in a range of ventures, with the possibility of a return. Nevertheless, through our director Amanda Feilding's leadership, the Beckley Foundation has sought to diversify its funding strategy, to try to take advantage of the new influx of capital, and to harness the potential of for-profit investment.

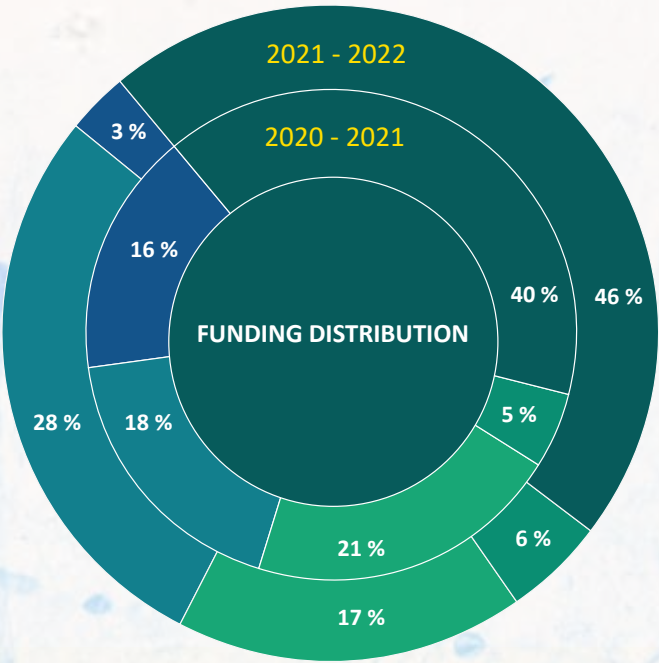
We have hired a new development officer to help build a diverse and sustainable funding model, while continuing with our core fundraising efforts, reaching out to previous supporters of the Foundation, and targeting the director's wide network of potential donors, from charities to HNWIs. During this period, we were able to secure one of the largest single donations to the Beckley Foundation to date by demonstrating the value for money that our funders have received from their donations to the Beckley Foundation, and the disproportionate impact that our director and the Foundation's work has had in bringing about the 'Psychedelic Renaissance' and creating a paradigm shift in the treatment of mental health.

Our director has also been working tirelessly to build what is probably the most exciting programme of research, and associated projects, of any organisation in the psychedelic sector. The Beckley Foundation has worked to communicate this exciting progress through a series of online and offline materials and activities, and we have also hired a new communications officer to build online engagement through our social media channels, through quality content and events, such as art auctions carried out in collaboration with recognised and respected artists in the sector, the creation of an online 'library', and updating our online shop. As always, our director has been involved in a relentless schedule of events, conferences and interviews, which has seen a huge increase in the recognition and visibility, especially in the UK and the US, of the impact that our director's groundbreaking work has had, all of which has resulted in an increase in small donations.

We have also supported initiatives such as the North Star Ethics Pledge to promote ethical behaviour and reciprocity in new psychedelic ventures. Several start-ups and funds which Amanda has been working with, in recognition of her work and the value that she brings as an advisor to any psychedelic venture, have donated a portion of their shares or future profits to the Beckley Foundation, which we hope will bear fruit in the medium term.



ANNUAL EXPENSES



Scientific Research
Policy Costs
Education and Comms
Running Costs
Fundraising





Thank You to Our Funders

We are incredibly grateful to our funders this year. Without their support and heartfelt contributions, we could not continue the good work. This year, we are particularly grateful for the donations received from generous new funders, such as 5D Capital, Beckley Psytech Corporate Responsibility Strategy, and Non-Fungible Fungi. We were also the chosen charity of loyal, long-term supporters, such as the Betsy Gordon Foundation, Limina Foundation (which donated to the BF via the Feilding Foundation US), Omar Fayed, and several individuals who, through the Beckley Foundation website, continue to support us with much appreciated one-off and monthly donations.

The Betsy Gordon Foundation

5D Capital Corp

Beckley Psytech Corporate Giving

Non-Fungible Fungi

Basidium Equilibrium

Individuals:

Manoj Nathwani – Serguei Endrikhovski – Myco Jordan – Carl Adamsson – Jaroslav Kurimsky – Giulia Richard – Jamie Kelsall – Christine Runyon – Hal Furneaux-Gotch – Alistair Spark – Edoardo Camurri – Kameron Stroud – Guillaume Native – Matt Bosanquet – Carl Strom



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