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## Statement of Transition - Editor's Introduction

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## Statement of Transition

Since 2003, IJTS has been owned and published by Saybrook Graduate School. When Saybrook agreed to take over the journal from the University of Hawaii and then managing editors, Sam Shapiro and Philippe Gross, it was explicit in telling us that it would guarantee funding for only three years. At this time, the promised three years of funding are completed and Saybrook has informed us that it is no longer willing or able to provide support for the journal; consequently, this issue of IJTS is the last under the sponsorship of Saybrook. We want to thank Saybrook for its sponsorship in which it fully lived up to its commitment!

Recognizing the promise and importance of IJTS in the transpersonal area, we have explored various options with regards to finding a new sponsor for the journal, such as through talking to many other educational institutions that offer transpersonal studies. The Floraglates Foundation (see <[floraglates.org](http://floraglates.org)>), which was created by one of us (Harris Friedman) to address global issue of sustainability, has now agreed to support IJTS during this transition.

However, we conclude that IJTS, as an international journal, suffers from the fact that subscription cost are a financial burden to those in some parts of the world, especially considering the expenses of international postage. Consequently a strategic decision has been made to transition IJTS into an electronic journal that will be provided with free access to all through the internet. The journal's new website will be at <[transpersonalstudies.org](http://transpersonalstudies.org)>. Our intention is to annually post articles accepted to IJTS as an online issue, as well as to take as many articles as we can from previous issues and archive them online. We also hope that this website might provide linkages to various transpersonal schools and events, as well as an electronic gathering place for various transpersonal groups and individuals throughout the world to interconnect (e.g., we hope to provide a listserv and other means of fostering global communications among transpersonal communities). Submissions of transpersonal papers should be made to [harrisfriedman@floraglates.org](mailto:harrisfriedman@floraglates.org). In addition, we welcome ideas and other contributions to help guide and support the journal during this transition--please feel free to contact either of us.

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## Editors' Introduction

This volume of the *International Journal of Transpersonal Studies* starts with an article we consider extremely important, "Beyond Mind II: Further Steps to a Metatranspersonal Philosophy and Psychology" by Elías Capriles. This article lucidly challenges Wilber's well-known ontogenetic holoarchy model, claiming it is based on a delusion and its complicated gradations are only gradations of delusion; this article also challenges other well-known transpersonal models, such as Washburn's and Grof's. Compellingly, it presents a strong case for an alternative view that could have major impact on transpersonal thought. Much longer than most journal articles, it is included in its entirety to give justice to the powerful perspective it presents.

In the "Phenomenological Study of the Impact of Induction Technique and Instruction on Visual Mental Imagery Associated with Shamanic Journeying to the Lower World," Adam J. Rock explores shamanic journeying imagery through varying different shamanic induction techniques and instructions to explore mental imagery. This study combined an experimental design with phenomenological analysis in a unique way suggesting how methodological pluralism can be used to creatively conduct transpersonal research. Likewise, Nikolai Gruzdev and Dimitri Spivak, in "An Exploratory Investigation into the Association of Neuroticization, Cognitive Style, and Spirituality to Reported Altered States of Consciousness in Women Experiencing Childbirth," employed an interesting quasi-experimental design for studying women's pre- and post-partum experiences of transpersonal altered states of consciousness, using a variety of transpersonal and more conventional psychological measures. Both of these studies show the utility of empirical research for transpersonal studies.

In "Transpersonal Education: Problems, Prospects and Challenges," Paul F. Cunningham presents the need for bringing transpersonal psychology into the psychology curricula at an undergraduate, as well as graduate, level. He argued for the importance of having an authoritative, standard undergraduate textbook that could both introduce undergraduates to the discipline and further facilitate the

discipline's acceptance within mainstream psychology.

In addition, this issue's Special Topics focuses on syncretism in transpersonal studies. It features "Gebser's Integral Consciousness and Living in the Real World: Facilitating its Emergence Using *A Course In Miracles*," by Cornelius J. Holland and Douglas A. MacDonald, "Corporate Perspectives On The Vedic Meditative Practice, *Upasana*," by P. S. Rao and P. N. Murthy, and "Manifest, Hidden, and Divine Self: Introduction to Sefirot Aikido," by Jack Susman. These articles are discussed further in the Special Topics' Introduction.

Finally, this will be the last issue of the *International Journal of Transpersonal Studies* under the ownership of Saybrook Graduate School and Research Center. Future issues will move to an online format, starting with Volume 26 in 2007. For information on this, see the Statement of Transition or visit <[transpersonalstudies.org](http://transpersonalstudies.org)>.

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