



**FINDING AID TO
THE THOMAS B. ROBERTS PAPERS,
1967-2006**

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Processed by: Kristin Leaman, September 2011

Descriptive Summary

Creator Information	Roberts, Thomas B.
Title	Thomas B. Roberts papers
Collection Identifier	MSP 71
Date Span	1967-2006, predominant 1967-2005
Abstract	The Thomas B. Roberts papers (1973-2005; 0.5 cubic feet) documents his research in psychoactive substances through articles, clippings, correspondence, conference materials, and a course syllabus.
Extent	0.5 cubic feet (1 box)
Finding Aid Author	Kristin Leaman, 2011
Languages	English and Spanish; Castilian
Repository	Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center, Purdue University Libraries

Administrative Information

Location Information:	ASC
Access Restrictions:	Collection is open for research.
Acquisition Information:	December 29, 2008; Thomas B. Roberts; Donation
Accession Number:	20081229, 20081230, 20091001
Preferred Citation:	MSP 71, Thomas B. Roberts papers, Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries
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Subjects and Genres

Person

Roberts, Thomas B.

Topics

Psychedelic drugs

Ecstasy (Drug)

Hallucinogenic drugs and religious experience--Cross-cultural studies

Education

Form and Genre Types

Articles

Correspondence

Flier (printed matter)

Manuscript for publication

Manuscript (handwriting)

Program (document)

Reprints

Syllabus

Occupations

Psychology

Psychiatry

Professor

Biography of Thomas B. Roberts

Thomas B. Roberts graduated with an AB from Hamilton College, an MA from the University of Connecticut, and a PhD from Stanford University. He is Professor Emeritus at Northern Illinois University, where he has taught courses on Psychedelic Studies since 1981. Roberts planned the First Conference on Transpersonal Psychology Applied to Education in 1973 and is a founding member of both the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies and the International Transpersonal Association, as well as a co-founder of the Council on Spiritual Practices. A specialist in psychedelics, Roberts has published works such as *Psychedelic Medicine: New Evidence for Hallucinogenic Substances as Treatments*; *Psychedelic Horizons: Snow White, Immune System, Multistate, Enlarging Learning*, and *Psychoactive Sacramentals: Essays on Entheogens and Religion*.

Sources:

“LEPF Faculty.” *Northern Illinois University College of Education Leadership, Educational Psychology & Foundations*.

http://www.cedu.niu.edu/lepf/edpsych/faculty/roberts/index_roberts.html

Winkelman, Michael J. *Psychedelic Medicine: New Evidence for Hallucinogenic Substances As Treatments*. Edited by Michael J. Winkelman and Thomas B. Roberts. Connecticut: Praeger, 2007.

Collection Description

Scope

The Thomas B. Roberts papers (1973-2005; 0.5 cubic feet) documents Roberts' research and educational activities pertaining to psychoactive substances.

Descriptive Rules Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, 2nd Edition / Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Processing Information

Materials have been housed in acid-free folders and inserts within an acid-free box. The collection has been arranged into correspondence, conference materials, writings, course materials, published materials and correspondence, and articles and correspondence.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

1 Box Thomas B. Roberts papers, 1967-2006

Folder

1. Partial Correspondence, 1977-2005
 - Partial Correspondence [D-F]
 - Partial Correspondence [G]
 - Partial Correspondence [H-J]
 - Partial Correspondence [K-L]

2. Psychoactive Sacraments Conference, 1995
 - Conference program, 1995
 - Conference flier, 1995
 - Conference registration confirmation, 1995
 - Map to the conference, 1995
 - Conference registration form, 1995
 - Rough draft of invitation to the conference, unknown

3. 1st Conference on Transpersonal Psychology Applied to Education, 1973
 - Conference itinerary, 1973

 - Conference program; letter to Stanislav Grof, Joan Halifax-Grof, Paul H. Levine, Barry McWaters, Buryl Payne, Benjamin S. Westheimer, James Fadiman, Frances Clark; letter to Thomas B. Roberts from Hartley Productions, Inc. concerning preview prints; letter to Thomas B. Roberts from Robert J. Maple awarding \$2, 450 to Thomas Roberts for the conference, 1973

 - Receipts from the conference, 1973

 - Hand-written notes on anticipated costs of conference, 1973

 - Letters from Thomas B. Roberts to conference participants, 1973

Correspondence and receipts from the conference, 1973

Hand-written notes on anticipated costs of conference, 1973

Correspondence, 1973

4. Transpersonal Conference, Esalen Institute, 2000

Letter from John Buchanan to Thomas Roberts concerning the conference, 2000

Letter from Stanislav Grof to Thomas Roberts concerning the conference, 2000

Conference itinerary, 2000

Conference participant contact information, 2000

An Exploration of the Quantum/Vacuum Interaction (QVI) Hypothesis by Ervin Laszlo, unknown

Photocopy of "Humanistic psychologists look to revamp their image" by Lisa Rabasca in the *APA Monitor*, 2000

Psychoactive Sacramentals, A Book of Questions by Thomas B. Roberts, 2000

"Near-Death and Out-of-Body Experiences in the Blind: A Study of Apparent Eyeless Vision" by Kenneth Ring and Sharon Cooper, 1997

The Consciousness Research of Stanislav Grof and the Modern Study of Mysticism: A Participatory Perspective by Jorge N. Ferrer, 2000

Addiction, Despair, and the Soul: Successful Psychedelic Psychotherapy, A Case Study by Richard Yensen and Donna Dryer, unknown

NEEDED: PSYCHEDELIC INSTITUTIONS, Foundation, Professional Academic Organization, Healthcare Business by Thomas Roberts, 2000

New Vocation for the Age-Old Market by Mike Arons, unknown

Perinatal Energies in Hitler's Rise and Fall by Thomas Jenden Riedlinger, 2000

5. Writings, 1964-1996

Entheogens – Return of the Ostracized by Thomas B. Roberts and Paula Jo Hruby, 1996

Psychedelics and Religion: An Addendum by Huston Smith, 1988

Copy of Appendix in *Forgotten Truth: The Primordial Tradition* by Huston Smith, 1977

“Do Drugs Have Religious Import?” by Huston Smith, 1964

6. Course syllabus, letter and flier, 1981-1993

Course syllabus for Psychedelic Research at Northern Illinois University for Summer 1981

Letter given to Thomas Roberts from Sue Burch. Written by Diane Kling, R.N. warning parents about stickers and tattoo transfers for children containing LSD and telling parents to monitor their children's Halloween treats, 1981

Flier advertising event for the 50th anniversary of Albert Hofmann's Bicycle Ride, 1993

7. Published materials and correspondence, 1984-2008

Thomas B. Roberts' letter to the DEA concerning MDMA research, 1984

“Multistate and Entheogenic Contributions to the Study of Miracles and Experimental Religious Studies” by Thomas B. Roberts in *Miracles: God, Science, and Psychology in the Paranormal*, Vol. 3, 2008

“La Religion Buiti Y La Planta Psicoactiva Tabernanthe Iboga. Africa Ecuatorial.” by Giorgio Samorini in *Plantas, Chamanismo y Estados de Consciencia*, 1994

Resolution to National (MHA) regarding the assessment of less conventional approaches to treatment of severely mentally ill persons, 1980

Thomas B. Roberts' review of Bridget Murphy's article “Why aren't antidrug programs working?” in the *APA Monitor*, 1997

“Psychedelics: A First Amendment Right” by a Psychedelicist, 1993

“The MDMA Question” by Thomas B. Roberts, 1986

Human Psychedelic Research: A Historical and Sociological Analysis,
undergraduate thesis by Luke Williams, 1999

“*Ayahuasca-like* effects obtained with Italian plants” by Francesco Festi and
Giorgio Samorini, 1994

“When the Drug War Hits the Fan” by Thomas B. Roberts, 1991

“The Economics of Legalizing Drugs” by Richard J. Dennis, 1990

“First Word” by Kurt L. Schmoke, 1989

“Scenes From a Post War America” by Richard J. Dennis, 1992

8. Articles and Correspondence, 1998-2007

Letter from Kevin McCormick enclosing a microfiche copy of Thomas B.
Roberts’ “Entheogens – Return of the Ostracized”, 1998

Letter from Jeffrey J. Kripal to Thomas B. Roberts thanking him for sending a
copy of *Psychoactive Sacramentals*, 2007

From Emerson to Esalen: America’s Religion of No Religion by Jeffrey J.
Kripal, 2007