

Bial



FINAL REPORT: BIAL BURSARY # 59/08

"Generating Psi with Optimal Levels of Transliminality – A Critical Replication and Extension"

3. Summary of accomplishments

During this grant period the research team completed the *I Ching* experiment whereby psi outcomes in a spontaneous task environment were manipulated by perceptual-personality trait levels of Paranormal Belief (New Age Philosophy) and Transliminality in both participants and experimenters. The data have been collected and analyzed, and a paper combining the present results with the main findings from bursary #157/06 is being written this month and early December. Thus to date, the present bursaries have yielded the following:

- Houran, J. (in press). A parapsychological perspective on a recent study of "intuitions in the workplace." *European Journal of Parapsychology*.
- Houran, J., & Lange, R. (In preparation). "Flashes of Genius:" An exploration of perceptual-personality variables that produce intuitions in the workplace.
- Lange, R., & Houran (in press). Transliminal view of intuitions in the workplace. *Psychological Reports*.
- Lange, R., & Houran, J. (In preparation). *I Ching* outcomes from experimental manipulations -- further studies.

To summarize, we have learned that psi appears linked to intuitive thinking, which itself is a two-mechanism phenomenon involving a physiological predisposition to heightened sensory and affective functioning that is bolstered by tacit knowledge accumulated through experience and retrieved through pattern recognition. Our findings suggest that physiological predisposition to intuitive thought can be measured or modeled effectively by Transliminality and Paranormal Belief (New Age Philosophy) together. Equating psi functioning with

the psychological underpinnings of intuition predicts that psi should manifest most strongly or consistently under the same arousal states that promote intuition -- namely, situations where people face non-routine decisions or ill-defined problems without existing precedents. Testing this idea, we replicated the *I Ching* test of psi using participants high in predisposition to intuitive thought but where the participants experienced the psi task under more spontaneous conditions than past studies. Analysis replicated key aspects from our past studies and strongly suggests that outcomes on tests of psi can be manipulated by trait levels of perceptual-personality variables combined with experimental setting. The implications for these findings extend well beyond the present context and may help to bridge parapsychological outcomes with mainstream scientific theory.

4. Enclosures

Copies of submitted and accepted works from Bursary # 59/08. Copies of the two (2) "in preparation" papers will be forwarded to Bial as soon as completed.