Introduction

Hello Everyone!

This special *JCER Feature Focus Issue* is comprised of six different proceedings based on a series of *'Biological Physics and Meaning Mini Conferences'*, held online and hosted by The Embassy of Peace (Whitianga, New Zealand) throughout 2024.

The six mini conferences provided a platform to present and explore relevant and necessary topics pertaining to Biological Physics and Meaning, including: Quantum Physics, Brain Dynamics and Psycho-Physiological Coherence; the Creation of Knowledge and Meaning; Theories and Approaches to Consciousness; Personal Revelation; Spiritual Experience; Character, Identity and Values; Human Potential Development; Inner Peace; Peace Propagation and Social Harmony.

The authors of the proceedings in this issue each presented talks at one or more of the mini conferences, as part of a collective of scientists, academics, scholars, and spiritually awakened people, who in past years have communicated and collaborated to conform a body of scientific wisdom and research via a google group called 'Biological Physics and Meaning' (BPM), that also includes guests to our mini conferences. This is done largely with the aim to advance a better integrated or systemic approach to science, to improve humanity's condition, through deepening our understanding of cognition, consciousness, meanings, values and human potential. This coincides with the aims of the science of inner peace and social harmony in the context of self-governance and self-responsibility, with the possibility of becoming an embodiment and expression of Peace and thereby contribute to a more peaceful and harmonious world, something that The Embassy of Peace in Whitianga, New Zealand aligns with.

Over the years I have had the blessing to meet and share times with many of these authors in person. Alongside being intellectually and academically gifted, these individuals are spiritually endowed and display an endearing and altruistic love for humanity; many of them now getting on in years, with a vast array of wisdom and spiritual experience behind them. Each one is illuminated and esteemed in their own areas of expertise and ever committed to unravelling and articulating a new and sound science, a scientific-spiritual-synthesis, to foster a more integrated education process, that can advance and liberate humanity toward a brighter future; one founded on peace, health, prosperity and higher meanings and values.

To this day, many within this group communicate daily via the online platform that started in 2019 through an interesting sequence of events. Since then, I have quietly watched this collective organically grow in numbers and in trust, synergizing and refining their ideas and efforts through these relationships and communications. The unique nature and value of this consolidation of people and their individual qualities and life experiences became increasingly evident, alongside the blessing and opportunity this convergence and body of science and wisdom presents to humanity.

Initially this group started with a few pioneers from the disciplines of mathematics, physics, cell biology, cognitive science and general systems theory and engineering, amongst others, and with a focus on the integration between biology, physics, meanings and values, as experienced in mystical, religious and spiritually meaningful events. One of the more relevant and initial subjects

of interest, investigation and dialogue, derives from an interest in Freeman Neurodynamics, grounded on Walter J. Freeman's life legacy, as celebrated by many.

When viewed from a bird's eye lens, like a group of illumined minds would, this coming together reveals as a meaningful set of synchronicities that, to my mind, shows that we are an integral part of a divine order, inspired by words of wisdom, visions and dreams, like a collective garden of consciousness bearing the fruit of past sown seeds.

Each person will have their own story and insight about how they came to be part of this growing family of friends, committed to Truth and Consciousness and having the courage to have the hard conversations. Each of these stories will be connected in one or more ways to a thread of other interconnected and relevant stories and events. I am inspired to briefly share a few of these connections, aspects of a bigger picture I am personally conscious of and witness to. It seems appropriate and in the essence and nature of who this expanding greater family is, and that you, as the reader, have a more intimate introduction and insight into the order of events and Higher Hand orchestrating all of this for us as a collective humanity.

To do this, I need to go back in time.

In 1997, while teaching art classes, I had deep insight into the vulnerability that exists in society to support a set of false human identities that undermine confidence through the continuous seeking of external validation, and excessive externally imposed and directed learning strategies that hinder creativity and self-generated initiatives, with an emphasis on materialism that neglects the inner subjective world of the student or individual.

I questioned where truth, peace, freedom and responsibility were to be found in this, everything seemed to feedback on itself in repetitious cycles of habitual patterns of behavior. Although these social behaviors may work in the short term, it seemed to me that this way of existing often proved, with delays, to be limited and detrimental to human development in the long term. "Where was this leading?", "How could we grow and live in a higher consciousness and rise above these ingrained biological and survival driven feedback mechanisms and loops, to a more conscious self-directed and self-governed behavior?"

This willingness to question and look deeper, resulted in my asking deep in the source of my being, to know Truth, for myself and for the children, small and large. Ever vigilant to the still small voice within and following the synchronous flow and order of events that were presented to me in answer to these questions, I left the 'world' I had known and embarked on a journey.

A door miraculously opened to the spiritual dimensions of Existence and Identity. I was 'flying on the wings' of Beauty, Perfection and Divine Order!

One day, within the initial stages of this awakening, I called my parents to share some of this 'new world' I was experiencing. We had a wonderful conversation, and they enjoyed hearing all the synchronicities and spiritual insights that were revealing. However, just as I was about to hang up the receiver, Tony, my dad, uttered the following, "Don't forget Science!"

These words met resistance in me, they meant next to nothing of importance midst the new dimensions of spiritual freedom and deeper aspects of consciousness I was opening to. I was 'in

love with life and talking to butterflies', undergoing a spiritual transformation and with the sense that I had come upon the answers I was seeking. Why would I bother with science?!

Little did I know that Tony's words in that moment were prophetic in nature and that four years later (in 2001), through a truly profound sequence of events, I would meet J. J. Joshua Davis (Yeshua), a main author in this feature focus issue and one of the initiators of the BPM group.

Through this connection and in continuing to trust and follow the flow of synchronous events unfolding, in 2003, I was called to support Joshua at The University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand, as he set about articulating the foundations¹ of a paradigm shift from a purely promissory materialistic science to one founded on the synthesis of science and spirituality, the Science of Peace.

Interestingly and much to my surprise, my search for Truth and what was truly needed for the children and to steer humanity to a more sustainable and advanced way of existing, led to the integration of science and spirituality!

That was over twenty years ago now and much has unfolded since. The short of it being, Joshua and I have hardly left the world of science, we have been immersed in both Quantum Optic and Brain Research labs (EEG), amongst many other endeavors. Parallel and central pillar to this, we remain ever in communion with I AM, our Spiritual Beingness, and continue to experience the synchronous order and flow of life events, what seems to us to be God's Divine Order!

The synthesis and coupling of this journey, and the later emergence of the BPM group, the mini conferences and this *JCER feature focus issue*, to my mind, shed light on the Higher Hand and Author behind the prophetic words, that knowingly or unknowingly, Tony spoke that day!

Looking from a different perspective of the bird's eye view, I recognize the coming together of this BPM group and the manifestation of this body of science, as fruits (responses and effects) of some of the words of wisdom that Joshua spoke in 2003, when sharing with people at the University of Otago. A relevant question that Joshua put out to The Creator and the universe and continuously asked during this time was, "Where are the people in the scientific community who are willing to synergize in a collective work of synthesis between science and spirituality, for the greater good and betterment of humanity?"

Convinced that true freedom lives in what we can do together, rather than in individuals striving alone for advance and achievement (something often seen within the different departments of academia), Joshua consistently posed the question, "What can we do together for the greater good?"

This same year, he sent a letter via email to a collective of people within the scientific community worldwide, inviting their participation in the Science of Peace. Joshua opened the possibility to explore the implications of embodying Universal Spiritual Values and therefore improve our decision-making process, physical well-being, social behavior and communication. He proposed a scientific-spiritual experiment to illustrate and show the benefits of embodying Universal Values

¹ A work that later manifested in the form of a master's thesis called, 'The Brain of Melchizedek: A Cognitive Neuroscience Approach to Spirituality', University of Otago (Davis, 2009).

with long-term memory effect. Amongst the scientists he thought may contribute to explain and validate causal laws governing this domain of reality, were Karl Pribram (Holonomic Brain Theory), Rupert Sheldrake (Morphic Resonance Theory), Gary Schwartz (Systemic Memory Hypothesis), James Austin (Zen and The Brain), Turner and Faucounier (Conceptual Blending Theory) and Rollin McCraty (Psychophysiological correlates of spiritual experience).²

Before signing his name, Joshua closed the letter with this decree from the Source of All Life, I Am:

"I AM The Integration Between Religion, Science, Philosophy and Life."

A couple of people replied to the letter at the time, and some of them showed up years later in our lives.

Another set of meaningful events would happen later with a different group of scientists, each of whom proved fundamental to the work of Joshua, in bringing about a synthesis between spirituality and science, an endeavor that transcends one human being and requires the graceful manifestation of a team that embodies, "I AM The Integration."

The main players in God's Game of Life were Robert Kozma, Grant Gillett, Walter J. Freeman III and Paul Werbos (in order of appearance).

Robert was first, he and Joshua had met some years earlier in fact, in 1998 (in Dunedin). They remained in contact and showed up in each other's lives in very synchronized and opportune moments. Grant was woven into the picture in perfect timing, almost ten years later in 2007, to supervise Joshua's master's thesis, "The Brain of Melchizedek: A Cognitive Neuroscience Approach to Spirituality" (published in 2009). This synergy started in Dunedin also. Joshua shares some stories pertaining to the beginnings of this journey in this feature focus issue, which include the stories of how he met both Robert and Grant.³

Walter appeared through an incredible series of synchronous and meaningful events that occurred in Joshua's and Robert's lives during the times they were working together in Dunedin (~1998). These kinds of events led Robert to work alongside Walter for many years (up until Walter's passing in 2016). Robert in turn introduced Joshua to Walter at 'The International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN) in Brisbane, Australia (2012)' where they were presenting their research work at that time. From then on, the three of them started a fruitful and amazing collaboration.

Paul came next. Robert introduced Joshua and Paul in 2012 in Memphis, Tennessee. ⁴ Joshua often recalls this day and how he attended one of Paul's classes with Robert. During it, Paul explained some of the mathematical equations that are used in relevant security and defense control systems of different kinds. Joshua and Paul had a great set of interactions and conversations about the equations and mathematics Paul had developed, and an inquiry about higher intelligence related to human potential (still dormant for many) and preventive strategies to avoid disasters and wars

² All these scientists are referenced in Joshua's master's thesis (Davis, 2009).

³ See 'On the road to The Brain of Melchizedek – meeting Robert Kozma' and 'Meeting Grant' in Paper Four of Proceedings Three - 'Revelatory Experiences (Part 1)'.

⁴ We start to comprehend how significant the first meeting between Joshua and Robert has been in all this!

which could be associated to the ways we think and mentally influence others locally and non-locally.

Joshua brought attention to the spiritual responsibility to develop the potential we have as human beings. From there, Paul and Joshua's friendship and collaboration toward a spiritual-scientific-synthesis blossomed, and later the notion of Noosphere would come alive and be improved.

Joshua and Paul met again in person in April 2013, at the IEEE Symposium Series on Computational Intelligence in Singapore. They had many deep conversations, putting emphasis on the need to take a shared action to create a network of research to bring about the necessary paradigm shifts in science to better the future prospects of humanity (this was eleven years after Joshua sent the letter to the scientists).

From there, many more conversations and shared actions unfolded, including the co-authoring of two papers, one on brain dynamics and the other on quantum optics and 'entangled' photons.

As a consequence of their friendship and collaboration, in 2019, the 'Biological Physics and Meaning group' was initiated. The group was born with Brian Josephson, Sungchul Ji, Hal Cox and Shiva Meucci, who left another group to create this new BPM group with renewed and aligned focus and intent.

This brings us to today, five years on in time, and to the convergence of this BPM group, comprised of sixty or more individuals, from very diverse walks of life and disciplines, 'who are both sincere about science and mysticism, the soul, as well as being willing to do the hard work that goes along with it, toward creating the kind of network needed to foster an awakening in humanity.' Something both Paul and Joshua envisioned.

Stringing together all these past events and connections, although limited to capture the profound and synchronous nature of the events that had to occur over time to get to here, puts us in a blessed position to start to comprehend the Greater Hand and Perfect Order of Life that is ever moving (within and without), dynamically integrating this scientific-spiritual-synthesis for the greater good of the whole. It allows us to glimpse on the higher purpose behind the coming together of all these people, as if each of them is a neuron in one brain, one Mind that is The Author and Animator of this purpose, and saying to us:

"I AM The Integration Between Religion, Science, Philosophy and Life."

So, in conclusion, yes indeed it is true, we should 'never forget Science' as Tony reminded me, yet essential also is that one never forgets the Source of Life who is leading and guiding this process, The Author of All Existence! The Sciences alone are limited to answer the most fundamental and precious questions a human is privileged to ask and find the answers to, like 'Who am I? Where do we come from? and Where are we going?'

Science can, however, support and point us in the right direction. As Joshua recently said, "Science (the scientist), will have done a poor job if it neglects to pass on and support guide the children of humanity to their choice and responsibility to embody Peace and contribute to a collective social harmony."

A delicate Synthesis and Balance of both Science and Spirituality is required for humanity to truly advance as a collective and fulfil the ancient dream and potential to live in Peace and Social Harmony. It requires a Spiritual-Scientific-Synthesis!

As Paul said some years back in one of our meetings (~2022), "The spiritual awakening and development of humanity may be an even bigger priority than climate; an 'independent top goal', since with the raising of the collective self-understanding and consciousness, we will be able to deal with all the challenges at hand."

It seems to me that we are better positioned and growing toward that possibility and potential, hence why the opportunity to bring together the 'BPM Mini Conferences' was so meaningful to me personally, and why I see pertinent that this body of work is consolidated and made available to you in this JCER Feature Focus Issue, propagating outside the confines of the online meetings and personal conversations.

This special issue is comprised of twenty-three contributions in the form of papers, abstracts and stories. This collective work is a combination, and thus integration, of scientific research, deep philosophy, life stories and what I would call 'true religion'. The proceedings are just a taste of fruits that have, and continue to, come from this order and evolution of events and people, reflecting a very sound Spiritual-Scientific-Synthesis.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge and thank all the presenters and authors for making this happen, particularly within your already full schedules and time constraints, and to also extend an extra thank you to Huping and Maoxin (who we first connected with in 2015) for making this publication possible. The hearts, courage, commitment and work of all of you to expanding the exploration and research of consciousness and building bridges in this scientific-spiritual synthesis is a necessary and commended effort and gift to humanity.

It is my wish that you, as the reader, find value and inspiration in the following writings, findings and explorations, and that they further support the scientific community to journey in a new direction. May these writings also awaken an understanding of the value of meaning in scientific research, together with the valuable contribution and part that each human being potentially plays in the upliftment and betterment of humanity, and ideally in the propagation of peace, and eventually, a lasting social harmony.

Peace be with you,

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