

Paul Kurtz, Chairman  
Kendrick Frazier, Editor, *Skeptical Inquirer*  
Barry Karr, Executive Director

FELLOWS

James E. Alcock (psychologist, York Univ., Toronto)  
Steve Allen (comedian, author, composer, pianist)  
Jerry Andrus (magician and inventor, Albany, Ore.)  
Marcia Angell, M.D. (former editor-in-chief, *New England Journal of Medicine*)  
Robert A. Baker (psychologist, Univ. of Kentucky)  
Stephen Barrett, M.D. (psychiatrist, author, Allentown, Pa.)  
Barry Beyerstein (biopsychologist, Simon Fraser Univ., Vancouver, B.C., Canada)  
Irving Biederman (psychologist, Univ. of Southern California)  
Susan Blackmore (psychologist, Univ. of the West of England, Bristol, U.K.)  
Henri Broch (physicist, Univ. of Nice, France)  
Jan Harold Brunvand (folklorist, prof. of English, Univ. of Utah)  
Vern Bullough (prof. of history, Calif. State Univ. at Northridge)  
Mario Bunge (philosopher, McGill Univ.)  
John R. Cole (anthropologist, editor, National Center for Science Education)  
Frederick Crews (literary and cultural critic, professor emeritus of English, Univ. of California, Berkeley)  
F. H. C. Crick (biophysicist, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, La Jolla, Calif.; Nobel Prize laureate)  
Richard Dawkins (zoologist, Oxford Univ.)  
L. Sprague de Camp (author, engineer)  
Cornelis de Jager (astrophysicist, Univ. of Utrecht, the Netherlands)  
Bernard Dixon (science writer, London, U.K.)  
Paul Edwards (philosopher, editor, *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*)  
Kenneth Feder (prof. of anthropology, Central Connecticut State Univ.)  
Antony Flew (philosopher, Reading Univ., U.K.)  
Andrew Fraknoi (astronomer, Foothill College, Los Altos Hills, Calif.)  
Kendrick Frazier (science writer, editor, *SKEPTICAL INQUIRER*)  
Yves Gallifret (exec. secy., I' Union Rationaliste)  
Martin Gardner (author, critic)  
Murray Gell-Mann (prof. of physics, Santa Fe Institute; Nobel Prize laureate)  
Thomas Gilovich (psychologist, Cornell Univ.)  
Henry Gordon (magician, columnist, Toronto)  
Stephen Jay Gould (Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard Univ.)  
Susan Haack (Cooper Senior Scholar in Arts and Sciences, prof. of philosophy, Univ. of Miami)  
C. E. M. Hansel (psychologist, Univ. of Wales)  
Al Hibbs (scientist, Jet Propulsion Laboratory)  
Douglas R. Hofstadter (prof. of human understanding and cognitive science, Indiana Univ.)  
Gerald Holton (Mallinckrodt Prof. of Physics and prof. of History of Science, Harvard Univ.)  
Ray Hyman (psychologist, Univ. of Oregon)  
Leon Jaroff (sciences editor emeritus, *Time*)  
Sergei Kapitzka (editor, Russian ed., *Scientific American*)  
Philip J. Klass (aerospace writer, engineer)  
Edwin C. Krupp (astronomer; director, Griffith Observatory)  
Paul Kurtz (chairman, CSICOP)  
Lawrence Kusche (science writer)  
Leon Lederman (emeritus director, Fermilab; Nobel laureate in physics)  
Scott Lilienfeld (psychologist, Emory Univ.)  
Lin Zixin (former editor, *Science and Technology Daily*, China)  
Jere Lipps (Museum of Paleontology, Univ. of California, Berkeley)  
Elizabeth Loftus (prof. of psychology, Univ. of Washington)  
Paul MacCreedy (scientist/engineer, AeroVironment, Inc., Monrovia, Calif.)  
John Maddox (editor emeritus of *Nature*)  
David Marks (psychologist, Middlesex Polytechnic, England)  
Walter C. McCrone (microscopist, McCrone Research Institute)  
Mario Mendez-Acosta (journalist and science writer, Mexico City, Mexico)  
Marvin Minsky (prof. of media arts and sciences, M.I.T.)  
David Morrison (space scientist, NASA Ames Research Center)  
Richard A. Muller (prof. of physics, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley)  
H. Narasimhaiah (physicist, president, Bangalore Science Forum, India)  
Dorothy Nelkin (sociologist, New York Univ.)  
Joe Nickell (senior research fellow, CSICOP)  
Lee Nisbet (philosopher, Medaille College)  
Bill Nye (science educator and television host, Nye Labs)  
James Oberg (science writer)  
Loren Pankratz (psychologist, Oregon Health Sciences Univ.)  
John Paulos (mathematician, Temple Univ.)  
Steven Pinker (cognitive scientist, MIT)  
W. V. Quine (philosopher, Harvard Univ.)  
Milton Rosenberg (psychologist, Univ. of Chicago)  
Wallace Sampson, M.D. (clinical prof. of medicine, Stanford Univ.)  
Amardeo Sarma (engineer, T-Nova Deutsche Telecom, executive director, GWUP, Germany)  
Evry Schatzman (president, French Physics Association)  
Eugenie Scott (physical anthropologist, executive director, NCSE)  
Thomas A. Sebeok (anthropologist and linguist, Indiana Univ.)  
Robert Sheaffer (science writer)  
Elie A. Shneour (biochemist; author, director, Biosystems Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif.)  
Dick Smith (film producer, publisher, Terrey Hills, N.S.W., Australia)  
Robert Steiner (magician, author, El Cerrito, Calif.)  
Jill Cornell Tarter (astronomer, SETI Institute, Mountain View, Calif.)  
Carol Tavris (psychologist and author, Los Angeles, Calif.)  
Stephen Toulmin (philosopher, Univ. of Southern Calif.)  
Marilyn vos Savant (*Parade* magazine contributing editor and CBS News correspondent)  
Steven Weinberg (prof. of physics and astronomy, Univ. of Texas at Austin; Nobel Prize laureate)  
Marvin Zelen (statistician, Harvard Univ.)

Monday, March 5, 2001

Dr. Gary P. Posner, M.D.  
1113 Normandy Trace Road  
Tampa FL 33602-5771

Dear Gary,

May we invite you to deliver a talk at a special convention convened by the Center for Inquiry-International (CFI). This conference is cosponsored by both the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal (CSICOP) and the Council for Secular Humanism (CSH). Both organizations have a long, rich history of convening separate meetings in North America and worldwide. Because this is the first time we have organized a joint convention under the auspices of the Center for Inquiry, we are eager to have only the most thought-provoking, best-known, most effective speakers—and so of course we would like to know if you may be available.

The conference will be held from November 8th through 12th in Atlanta, Georgia. The overall theme is "Science and Religion: Are They Compatible?" with a variety of sessions on topics related to this topic. Most such conferences held have said that they are compatible. We wish to raise skeptical questions pro and con about this important theme. Among the speakers being invited to the conference are the physicists and astronomers Leon Lederman, Paul Davies, and Murray Gell-Mann. The philosophers invited include Daniel Dennett and Adolf Grünbaum. Other scientists that we are inviting are Richard Dawkins, E. O. Wilson, Stephen Jay Gould, and Steven Pinker, among others.

May we invite you to the plenary session, "Prayer at a Distance." Other people being invited to this session are Hector Avalos, Larry Dossey, Randolph Byrd, Nicholas Humphrey, Irving Tesson, and Lev Shapiro. We would like you to read a paper of no more than 20-25 minutes in length. The fuller paper will be published later.

The new Executive Director for CSH, Dr. Ed Buckner, is coordinating the event, in cooperation with Barry Karr, Executive Director of CSICOP. I would appreciate if if you could let Ed know, as soon as possible, whether your schedule will allow you to speak to this convocation in November. Ed can be reached by telephone (716-636-7571 ext. 215) or e-mail (EBuckner@centerforinquiry.net) or by mail at the address above. He can also answer any questions you have about specific dates within the range I've given you, travel arrangements, and so forth.

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I sincerely hope we will have the pleasure of your company in November. We will of course pay for your travel and hotel expenses. Thank you. I look forward to hearing from you.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Kurtz".

Paul Kurtz  
Chair  
Center for Inquiry