

# My Professional Adventure – Overall

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What an extraordinary privilege it has been for me to be able to pursue the nature of our human experience and understanding of reality through social science, art-ritual, and ontology in philosophy – this in the mirror of the major findings of physics, astrophysics, and cosmology. The Big Picture indeed.

Unfortunately this Big Picture must recognize that we have a grasp of only a part of the 4% of reality that makes up our physical world. Imagine what will happen to our current proposals about the nature of reality when we come to understand the zones of that reality that remain “DARK” [dark matter and dark energy] – 96% of reality from our current perspective! Add the probable multiverse into this expectant picture, and we have taken only the first step in the direction of a thousand mile journey to understand the nature of reality. In this context of overwhelming ignorance, I can only offer some best guesses in my work.

We humans are but fleas on the surface of Earth, a planet so small it is nearly invisible in the physical universe. We have made enormous strides in our understanding of this reality in the last couple of centuries, but the overall task is in its early infancy, and we may be so stupid economically, politically, and ecologically that we do not have the option for pursuit much further. Such is the shameful tack we seem to be on presently as we watch egalitarian ideals under threat of national and global scale idiocy. We are on the verge of devouring ourselves while at the same time we have just opened the door to vast opportunities for our species – genetically and inter-planetarily. We humans are mired in the refuse of our own excessive competitiveness and arrogance – while our science and technology have both revealed a vast reality to explore and introduced inadequately regulated information and military capabilities that threaten our collective social and physical existence.

Such Potential.....Such Stupidity

I hope the results of my adventure make a contribution at some level to the positive side of this equation. The specifics of this potential contribution are contained in my writing on my website – [www.dynamic-humanism.com](http://www.dynamic-humanism.com) .

## The Components of My Path to “Enlightenment”

Developing significant visualization skills in childhood; scrambling in high school to acquire increased reading competence; developing independent critical

thinking skills in my college English literature major; learning the research process in my masters in English literature; teaching composition at the college level and simplifying my own writing; pursuing a doctorate studying traditional art, anthropology, linguistics, and American sign language; writing a dissertation on the diversity of psychological function of individual items of expressive culture; teaching a huge range of courses in the PhD program in traditional art at the University of Pennsylvania; exploring the significance of personality, developmental, cognitive, evolutionary, and paranormal psychology for understanding art; being made aware of the core religious experience while conducting ten years of field research in an urban black church community; being personally introduced to meditation; exploring research on the paranormal, creativity and inspiration that leads to the concept of intuitive competence; conducting five years of field research with a psychic healer that demonstrates the practical importance of intuitive mental modes; developing the unification perspective on reality; developing the worldview tool of the material–spiritual continuum; recognizing the paranormal as the bridge between the material and the spiritual perspectives on reality; recognizing the limitation of the rational, secular material perspective in defining reality; recognizing the “spiritual” source and function of art and ritual in human reality; recognizing the critical role of language in defining the human perception of reality; developing the dynamic humanism worldview; recognizing the relevant confirming discoveries in physics and cosmology; discovering the parallel reality principles in quantum mechanics; appreciating the significance of relativity theory and the matter and energy interchange; recognizing energy as primary in the origination of reality in the big bang; appreciating the importance of the universe expanding and the depth of the unknown in dark matter and dark energy; recognizing the total integration and unification basis of both energy and matter in reality; appreciating the role of human perceptual limitations in the human conception of reality; realizing the human assumptions of separation and free will as illusions that large scale system flexibility tolerates; recognizing that all organic species on Earth – including humans – have evolved successfully within this illusion; recognizing the two realities: the real one – total unification of a vast, open reality system and the illusory one – a system flexible enough to tolerate the illusion of separation and free will; recognizing that humans are encountering Earth system limits for the first time in the climate change phenomenon; appreciating the need for humans to adopt a responsible, balanced dynamic perspective on reality to succeed as a species; and highlighting the importance of the art-ritual function in human society to connect humans through their intuitive competence to the unification experience and awareness of reality.

Mine has been an explosive life adventure – and this is just an experiential outline of the intellectual components!