Center for Indic Studies Announces

Invitation Only Seminar

“Two Dogmas of Materialism”
Tuesday, March 6th, 4pm – 5pm
Violette Bldg., Room 201

David Scharf, Ph.D.
Maharishi University of Management
Fairfield, IA

Please RSVP to mjennings@umassd.edu if you are interested in attending. Seating is limited so please RSVP as soon as possible. Indian Food will be served after the lecture.

Materialism, or physicalism, is the thesis that consciousness and mind are entirely dependent on the physical brain, that they could not exist without it and, in its strongest form, they are reducible to its electro-chemical processes. Yet physicalism cannot account for the fact of consciousness (the so-called “hard problem” of philosophy) nor can it explain the sense of autonomy or moral responsibility. Close analysis shows that the cognitive dissonance inherent in physicalism makes it virtually untenable as a coherent theory of mind. Why, then, has physicalism been so resilient as to continue on as the default in contemporary neuroscience, cognitive psychology and philosophy?

David Scharf, Ph.D., is a physicist and philosopher of physics, having taught philosophy at Johns Hopkins University and the University of Rochester and mathematics and physics at Wentworth Institute of Technology, Northeastern University and Maharishi University of Management. He received his Ph.D. in 1985 from Johns Hopkins. From 1999 to 2003, Dr. Scharf and his wife were co-directors of the Maharishi Vedic Vibration Technology (MVVT) program. His current research is focused on developing a quantum field theory of mind and its interaction with the brain and nervous system.

For further information see www.umassd.edu/indic/, or call Maureen at 508-999-8588