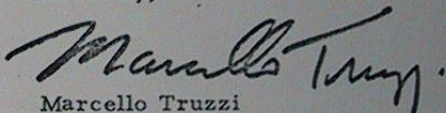


among those of us with a commitment to scientific method and its true spirit of inquiry. (Though the first issue of ZS contains little directly on UFOs, the second issue out next month will contain several pieces of relevance to them.) Scientific method demands that the burden of proof be placed on the claimant and that extraordinary claims be evidenced by extraordinary proof. Thus, science is by its essential character quite skeptical; but such skepticism is not to be confused with dogmatic denial.

When I was editing the Committee's journal, its title was THE ZETETIC (a Greek word meaning skeptical inquirer). They have since changed the name of their journal to THE SKEPTICAL INQUIRER. (The name THE ZETETIC had originally been used by me for my newsletter on the paranormal which I published for several years prior to the formation of the Committee.) In my view, mine is the true zetetic position because my own position also includes a degree of skepticism towards established science as well as towards strange new claims. I see the role of the Committee now as a kind of lawyer for the scientific establishment whereas my own position is more like an amicus curiae or friend of the court more interested in the emergence of truth than either side "winning."

I hope this answers your questions. If not, perhaps the journal itself will clarify things further for you. I hope you like it.

Sincerely,



Marcello Truzzi
Professor of Sociology
Editor, ZETETIC SCHOLAR