

Zetetic Scholar

An Independent Scientific Review of Claims of Anomalies and the Paranormal

Marcello Truzzi, *Editor*

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(UP-DATED)

ANNOUNCEMENT

The ZETETIC SCHOLAR is an attempt to enhance communication between critics and proponents of claims of the paranormal. It is concerned not only with adjudication of such claims but also with the sociology and psychology of the disputes themselves. The ZETETIC SCHOLAR will seek a balance between science's proper skepticism towards extraordinary claims and its need for objectivity and fairness of inquiry.

The ZETETIC SCHOLAR's central concern is not advocacy but a desire to help the scientific community reach sound judgements based upon the empirical facts. Both advocates for paranormal phenomena and their critics have all too often failed to engage in reasoned and responsible dialogue; both sides have largely communicated only with their own supporters. The ZETETIC SCHOLAR will seek to build bridges between those willing to engage in scientific discourse on the issues. We agree with C.S. Peirce that our first obligation as scientists is to do nothing that might block inquiry.

The ZETETIC SCHOLAR will establish a network of serious and responsible researchers into claims of the paranormal. The nucleus of this network consists of a panel of distinguished Consulting Editors representing a wide spectrum of opinion and thus far includes: Theodore X. Barber (psychologist); Milbourne Christopher (author-magician); Harry Collins (sociologist); Richard de Mille (psychologist); Persi Diaconis (statistician); Martin Ebon (author); Robert Galbreath (historian); Martin Gardner (author); Michel Gauquelin (psychologist); C.E.M. Hansel (psychologist); Bernard Heuvelmans (zoologist); Ellic Howe (author-historian); Ray Hyman (psychologist); J. Allen Hynek (astronomer); David M. Jacobs (historian); Joseph G. Jorgensen (anthropologist); Seymour H. Mautsopf (historian); Edward J. Moody (anthropologist); Robert L. Morris (psychologist); William Nagler (physician); William F. Powers (aerospace engineer); Charles T. Tart (psychologist); Roy Wallis (sociologist); James Webb (historian); and Ron Westrum (sociologist). Whatever the differences between them, all are committed to rational inquiry into and responsible discourse on claims of the paranormal.

The ZETETIC SCHOLAR is being initiated as a newsletter but seeks to expand into journal format when adequate support can be found. Subscription to the ZETETIC SCHOLAR is \$10 per year. At least three issues will be published the first year.