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#### COVER:

*The square, turning upon itself, produces the circle equal to itself, and the circular movement of the four equal angles turning around one point, is the quadrature of the circle.*  
Albert Pike (*Morals and Dogma*, p. 771.)

The engraving on the front cover is by Michael Maier (1566-1622), German Lutheran alchemist, physician, Rosicrucian and author of numerous alchemical works. This illustration is engraving 21 from Maier's *Atalanta Fugiens* and is the only one in the collection of 50 that is identified directly with the Philosopher's Stone. Next to the engraving reads:

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## Greetings from Symposium Moderator.

I felt it as my mission to facilitate this gathering of astrologers dedicated to advancing our celestial discipline through research. Welcome! Thank you for participating in this symposium. I have long welcomed this opportunity to put our genius together and begin to develop a body of principles to guide astrological research. We each arrive with our handbag of interests, experience and diverse ideas about the most valid research approaches and methodologies. I feel confident we will enjoy a day punctuated by a dynamic and compelling sharing of information.

There are many motivations for doing research but ultimately the joy of it is in discovery. Even when what we learn is not what we expected to learn and our findings disprove widely acclaimed tenets, we have discovered something meaningful and something that needs to be shared with our professional counterparts. That's what this symposium is all about—sharing the wisdom we've gained investigating astrology. My hope is that we will avoid engaging stale debates and remember that we are united by the shared goal to gain a deeper understanding of the quantum realities that astrology embraces. While we've been living in a universe collectively constructed within the framework of the mechanistic scientific paradigm for two centuries, modern and quantum physics suggest that we exist within a universe that is holographically constructed (the microcosm contains the whole of the macrocosm) allowing for the possibility of acausal principles (such as Jung's principle of synchronicity). Quantum physics grant validity to our basic, all encompassing astrological tenet; the one on which we all agree: observable correlations exist between the cosmos and earthly phenomena. While astrological realities do encompass physical and linear realities they are not limited this way—they also encompass non-linear, multifaceted, interdependent, and often obscure relationships. Astrology encompasses both Newtonian and Quantum principles.

I believe we all agree that we speak a language of acausal correlations. For this reason, it confounds me that we have been sidetracked by engaging qualitative versus quantitative arguments. It bewilders me that some believe that the use of quantitative methods necessitates the assumption of causal relationships. Yes, we must avoid rigid experimental designs founded in reductionist views and linear cause-effect relationships. Astrological research has evolved beyond the naiveté that drove previous investigations using the Gold Standard experimental design. Nonetheless, it does not follow that it is necessary to avoid control groups and statistical analysis to honor the quantum nature of astrology—from my perspective, doing some counting contributes to deepening our understanding of the dynamic interplay and interdependency of the symbols as well as increasing our awareness of astronomical probabilities. The important issue to address is that we really don't know the best way to research astrology. We know what doesn't work. Let us discover together what does provide consistently useful results. It makes sense to me that there must be a multitude of possible approaches to gain a deeper understanding of the multidimensional realities astrology symbolizes.

The all-encompassing vision I hold for this symposium is that we arrive with open minds, a desire to listen and share and that our sharing cultivate compelling and respectful discussions. May each of you walk away inspired with practical, useful information that can be applied to your research activities!

Blessings,  
Terri McCartney