5th IAA Symposium on

SEARCHING FOR LIFE SIGNATURES

CALL FOR PAPERS

UNESCO, Paris, France,
March 20-21, 2014

1, rue Miollis, 75015 Paris, Metro: Segur
Web site: http://iaaweb.org/content/view/555/739/
The Fifth IAA Symposium on Searching for Life Signatures is organized by the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA) and is co-sponsored by RadioNet and ASTRON.

**Conference Rationale**

SETI (the “Search for ExtraTerrestrial Intelligence”) refers to the experiments intended to find either radio or optical signals from extraterrestrial societies situated on planets around other stars. The largest radio telescopes world-wide have occasionally pursued SETI searches since 1960, in most cases hunting for signals near in frequency to 1420 MHz (the emission line of neutral hydrogen). Optical SETI searches have been pursued since the 1990s. These attempts to detect extraterrestrial signals are called “Passive SETI”.

In recent years, a new kind of SETI, called “Active SETI”, has been discussed by radio astronomers and has been attempted in a few cases: it consists of deliberately transmitting signals to enhance the probability of making contact with other hypothetical galactic technological civilizations. In addition, the discovery since 1995 of more than 2000 extrasolar planets makes it clear that both Passive and Active SETI may now be “targeted” towards exoplanets that are situated within habitable zones, further increasing the probability of a SETI success.

In conclusion, it is now timely to gather a large conference of experts in SETI, biosignatures, the search for terrestrial exoplanets and related disciplines from all over the globe to openly discuss the strategies of both Passive and Active SETI. These are the goals of the “Searching for Life Signatures” Conference that will take place at UNESCO in Paris, March 20-21, 2014, at the occasion of the Spring Meetings (March 17-20) of the IAF, IAA, IISL and COSPAR in view of the 2014 International Astronautical Congress (2014 IAC) that will be held in Toronto, Canada, September 29th thru October 3rd, 2014.

**Tentative Program**

**Thursday, March 20:**
- Morning: Registration and Opening Session with Invited Talks.

**Friday, March 21:**
- Morning: Space missions, Exoplanets, Future SKA SETI.
- Afternoon: Meeting of the SETI Permanent Committee of the IAA, open to all Symposium Participants.
- Evening: Symposium Dinner at a Restaurant in Paris (TBC)

**Saturday, March 22:**
- 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. - Technical Visit to Nançay Observatory near Orléans, 3 hours ride by bus. Visit to the grand radio telescope at which SETI searches were conducted in the 1980s and 1990s by Drs. Jill Tarter, François Biraud et al. Advanced registration required.
Call for Papers

Papers are solicited on the topics of radio astronomy and SETI. Related aspects about planets orbiting the Sun and other stars, habitability and life signatures, as well as on the technological and societal aspects of finding extra-terrestrial life and establishing “contact” are acceptable also.

The Scientific Organizing Committee invites you to submit an abstract (no longer than 400 words) by email to searchforlife@iaamail.org. The deadline for receipt is **Saturday, February 19, 2014.**

More details and registration will be available on [http://iaaweb.org/content/view/182/301](http://iaaweb.org/content/view/182/301).

Scientific Program Committee

Co-Chairs: Mike Garret, Jean-Michel Contant, Claudio Maccone.
Members: Frank Drake, Jill Tarter, Michel Mayor, Geoff Marcy, Dan Werthimer, Andrew Siemion, Steven Tingay, Tim O’Brien, Joe Lazio, Ian S. Morrison, Philippe Zarka.

Registration Fee

Early bird registration fee: 150 Euros (until March 06, 2014 deadline)
Regular registration fee: 200 Euros.

The registration fee includes the 2 days conference, conference bag and memory stick, coffee breaks and lunches. Conference Dinner and technical visit are not included (separate registration will be requested).

Hotel Accommodation

The conference venue, UNESCO, is located in central Paris (Metro: Cambronne station on the line #6 or Segur station on the line #10). Each participant will be responsible for booking and paying for his or her hotel room. A modest but efficient hotel at walking distance from both UNESCO and the Cambronne Metro station is Hotel Ibis Paris Tour Eiffel Cambronne, website: [http://www.ibis.com/gb/hotel-1400-ibis-paris-tour-eiffel-cambronne-15eme/index.shtml](http://www.ibis.com/gb/hotel-1400-ibis-paris-tour-eiffel-cambronne-15eme/index.shtml)

Early booking is strongly advised.