

66th International Astronautical Congress 2015

44th SYMPOSIUM ON THE SEARCH FOR EXTRATERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCE (SETI) – The
Next Steps (A4)
SETI 2: SETI and Society (2)

Author: Ms. Lori Walton
Tigerstar Geoscience, Canada, lawalton@telus.net

Mr. Stephane Dumas
SETI League, Canada, jgsdumas@gmail.com

THE HISTORY OF THE SETI PERMANENT COMMITTEE

Abstract

The subject of extraterrestrial intelligence was introduced to the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA) in the 1960s. The first IAA CETI (communication with extraterrestrial intelligence) Review Session took place in 1972 at the 23rd International Astronautical Congress (IAC) in Vienna. The IAA has held annual SETI (search for extraterrestrial intelligence) sessions at every subsequent IAC, generating an astonishing array of papers and presentations on the technological and societal aspects of SETI. The IAA established what is now called the SETI Permanent Committee to organize and conduct SETI sessions at the annual IAC meetings and to select papers for publication. One of the duties of the SETI Permanent Committee is to establish protocols to be followed by SETI scientists in the detection, verification, announcement and response to signals from extraterrestrial civilizations. This paper will present a brief history of the SETI Permanent Committee of the IAA.