

43rd SYMPOSIUM ON THE SEARCH FOR EXTRATERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCE (SETI) – The
Next Steps (A4)
SETI 2: SETI and Society (2)

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SETI: A TIME TO CONSOLIDATE

Abstract

The search for extra-terrestrial intelligence (E.T.I.) has attracted scholars from a remarkably wide range of disciplines. Several recent publications on the subject contain articles written by physical, biological and humanistic scientists, as well as by philosophers, artists and religious scholars. These articles contain many provocative and insightful ideas. At the present time, with astronomers finding extra-solar planets almost every week, some even in the Goldilocks region around their stars, the chances for the detection of E.T.I. are steadily increasing. It seems that now is the time to consolidate the many ideas spoken of above so as to give the subject of SETI some coherence. There is now sufficient material for a book, written by experts in the various facets of SETI, and structured as a text for a possible university course. Should we detect E.T.I. courses in SETI will proliferate and a book like the one proposed will make known to the larger community the work that has already been done in this area.