

50th IAA SYMPOSIUM ON THE SEARCH FOR EXTRATERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCE (SETI) –  
The Next Steps (A4)  
SETI 2: SETI and Society (2)

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ON THE NECESSARY ASPECT OF METI.

**Abstract**

Any message we send into space will be, to its recipients, a message from the past; perhaps from very far in the past. It is argued here that, because of this fact, any message we send should have a component that serves as a legacy of humanity; a component that says something about the nature of the intelligent, senescent race that arose near a star in the Milky Way Galaxy. This should serve as at least a partial guide to us in preparing the content of our message.