

A Note from the Chairman of the Board

By Gordon Holder

The leaders of Kepler Space Institute might best be described as dreamers – envisioning a not-too-distant future in which humans expand our world-wide civilization into extraterrestrial space. There is a wide body of science and technology behind a global movement toward that end today, and it will continue to increase rapidly into the future.

This is an extremely interesting and maybe unique consideration given that our board has a quite diversified membership. For example, we have a retired Air Force officer with a PhD, a true scientist with a PhD, a former newspaper columnist, a retired engineer and US Air Force technical sergeant, and a retired Navy Vice Admiral with a specialty in surface warfare. Our other board members are in the supporting roles that allow us to highlight our desires for development and exploration of the space. The unifying aspect of all of these folks is the desire to prepare our future leaders to continue the expansion of space exploration and work on defining and refining those items that are not the province of NASA or other private space exploration agencies. It is most interesting that today's television science fiction deals ever more with extraterrestrials and suggestions that there is life beyond our earth. We want to ensure that our future leaders are ready to deal with the unknowns that will be presented.

There is also a tremendous amount of study and thought about the multiple ramifications of this movement – on economics and governance, international relations, on the human mind and body, and even on our spirituality. Kepler Space Institute is dedicated to providing an educational forum for today's young professionals to become tomorrow's leaders, and aims to combine these disciplines and studies into an educational program. Not only are we working to facilitate this education, but working with other distinguished scientific leaders, we are also exploring domains with other scientists where scientific advances are providing new, exciting areas of research that will complement our ventures into the current unknown of space.

Our ultimate goal is to enhance and enable those that seek to develop this adventure. We will accomplish this through online courses that will be certified in the State of Florida. The *Journal of Space Philosophy* is our first document, and great credit belongs to Colonel Bob Krone, PhD, USAF, Retired, for being the advocate, leader, and creator of the journal. Like our intent with our future educational programs, the journal is an online document, and easily accessible at www.bobkrone.com/node/120. I invite you to review the journal and its back issues, and to add your voice to ours to ensure our future in this great, vast area.